

Friday, 16th March, 1951



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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME VI, 1951

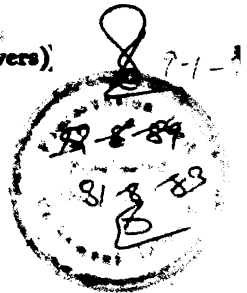
(5th February to 31st March, 1951)

Third Session (Second Part)

of the

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1951



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THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

2300

2310

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Friday, 16th March, 1951

*The House met at a Quarter to Eleven
of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

FOOD GRAINS FOR KASHMIR

***2262. Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kashmir had made a request sometime back to the Union Government for the supply of food grains; and

(b) if so, the nature of the demand made, and the amount agreed to be given?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami):
(a) Yes.

(b) The Jammu and Kashmir Government asked for an allotment of 40,000 tons of foodgrains for the year 1951. The Government of India have decided to allot them 20,000 tons under the basic plan.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, when the request was made and whether any quantity has already been offered to them?

Shri Gopaldaswami: I said that 20,000 tons have been allotted to them.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: How much of it has already gone to them?

Shri Gopaldaswami: Two thousand tons of wheat were expected to be moved to Kashmir during February. I do not know if that quantity has reached there. Further allocations will be made this month.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, whether Government have any

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idea of the total shortage of food-grains from which Kashmir suffers at the present moment?

Shri Gopaldaswami: The Kashmir Government itself asked for 40,000 tons.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether Government is giving food-grains to Kashmir at a concessional rate?

Shri Gopaldaswami: I think they get the food-grains on the same terms as the other States.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Why does the Central Government not treat Kashmir, in the matter of food subsidy, as the other States of India?

Mr. Speaker: That is exactly the question to which he gave a reply just now.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the food-grains are supplied on a cash or credit system?

Shri Gopaldaswami: I think the value of food-grains is added to the total liability of Kashmir.

MANUFACTURE OF RAILWAY SALOONS

***2263. Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many saloons were manufactured by the Railway during the year 1950?

(b) what is the position of the existing saloons?

(c) Are they in use, and if so, how many?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Saanthanam): (a) No new saloons have been constructed during the year 1950.

(b) and (c). The total number of BG and MG bogie inspection carriages is 144 and of the 4 and 6-wheeled carriages is 496; out of which it is proposed to convert 3 BG and 2 MG bogie inspection carriages into suitable carriages for public use. All the

inspection carriages are in use by Railway Officers having touring duties.

Shri Sidhva: What is the lowest rank of officer who is entitled to the use of the saloon? May I also know what is the maintenance cost of these 4 and 6-wheeled saloons?

Shri Santhanam: All officers above the rank of District officers, who have got touring duties, are entitled to these saloons. I am not able to give the maintenance cost of each; it depends upon the particular carriage.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that out of the 496 carriages, five are going to be converted into suitable carriages for public use. May I know whether there is any difficulty in converting the entire lot for public use, after providing for the use of officers where absolutely necessary?

Shri Santhanam: Except the five inspection carriages, which are proposed to be converted all the others are absolutely necessary for the use of the officers.

RAILWAY CENTRAL STANDARDS OFFICE

*2264. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) what researches were carried out at the research branch of the Railway Central Standards office during 1950; and

(b) how many of them were put to use?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). Work was carried out on many items of research by the Central Standards Office for Railways during 1950, and a list showing some of the results achieved and put to practical use is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XV, annexure No. 33].

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, how many experts are employed in the work of research in that office and also whether there is any foreign expert in service?

Shri Santhanam: There is no foreign expert. They are all Indian railway officers employed in the Standards Office.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: How many officers are employed in the Standards Office?

Shri Santhanam: I should like to have notice of that question.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know, Sir, what was the amount spent over it during last year?

Shri Santhanam: I would like to have notice of that too. This question only related to the research work carried on in the Standards Office.

Prof. Ranga: Is it a fact, Sir, that almost all these officers are on temporary appointment and not employed on a permanent basis?

Shri Santhanam: Does the hon. Member mean that they have no substantive jobs?

Prof. Ranga: They may have substantive jobs in their respective railways. But is it not a fact that none of them has been recruited specially for this work on a permanent basis to concentrate on research alone, and not run the risk of having to go back to their railways?

Shri Santhanam: Certain officers of some railways are selected and they maintain their lien on substantive jobs while working in the Standards Office. I am not able to make out what the hon. Member wants.

Mr. Speaker: The point seems to be whether this cadre of officers for research is recruited in view of their special qualifications for research.

Shri Santhanam: They are generally selected from the existing officers owing to their special aptitude.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how many standardisation committees are attached to the Central Standards Office?

Shri Santhanam: There are a considerable number of committees; but I would like to have notice of that question to give the exact number.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether there is any metallurgist in that office?

Shri Santhanam: I have no information.

AMERICAN DELEGATION OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERTS

*2265. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an American delegation consisting of Agricultural experts visited India in March 1950; and

(b) if so, the purpose of their visit?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes.

(b) To discuss plans by which the U.S. Government could give technical aid for agricultural improvement.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether they came at the invitation of the Government of India, or were sent by the U.S. Government?

Shri Thirumala Rao: They were deputed by the U.S. Government under Public Law 402 which was later merged into Point Four Programme.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What specific purpose has this delegation served?

Shri Thirumala Rao: They came with the primary objective of ascertaining the nature of technical cooperation in the field of agriculture that could be extended to India under Point Four Programme.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: I referred to the purpose already served, not the purpose for which they came.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Three of them are now working in India and if the hon. Member wants further information I can give the work done by them.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: I would like to know the results of their work.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Dr. Rambo, an Agricultural Implements Expert is attached to the Central Tractor Organisation. He has organised a training school for tractor technicians;

Mr. Ford Milam, Agronomist, is attached to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research; and

Mr. Horace C. Holmes, Extension Service Expert, is attached to the Ministry.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: What are their salaries, Sir?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Their salaries are met by the United States Government.

ADVISORY COUNCILS IN PART 'C' STATES

*2266. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state in which of the Part C States the Advisory Councils have been set up?

(b) What are the functions and powers of such Advisory Councils and since when are they existing in various Part C States, and what has been the experience of their working so far in various States?

(c) Have the Government of India issued any instructions in writing to the Chief Commissioners in Part C States defining the duties, powers and functions of these Advisory Councils?

(d) If so, do Government propose to place a copy of the letter incorporating such instructions on the Table of the House?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) to (d). Out of the seven Part C States under the control of the Ministry of States, Advisory Councils have been set up in Himachal Pradesh, Kutch and Manipur. The dates from which they are functioning are:

Himachal Pradesh—30th September 1948.

Kutch—1st November 1948.

Manipur—12th September 1950.

The functions and powers of these Advisory Councils are similar to those of the Advisory Councils constituted for Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara. Copies of the instructions sent to the Chief Commissioners and of the notifications constituting the Councils are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XV, annexure No. 34].

The working of the Councils, though in some cases it has been useful in associating representative public men with the Local Administration, has not come up to expectations.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what has been the experience of the working of this Council in Himachal Pradesh and whether there exists harmonious relations between the Chief Commissioner and the Advisory Council there?

Shri Gopalaswami: I can speak about recent months. Those relations have not been satisfactory as borne out by the Members of the Council. They have been sending their resignations.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have there been any cases of difference of opinion between the Advisory Council and the Chief Commissioner in Manipur and may I know how the Council has been working there?

Shri Gopalaswami: Not quite satisfactory. I believe there has been difference of opinion.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has any Member resigned?

Shri Gopalaswami: I believe so.

Shri Chaliha: May I know what is the number of representatives in the Advisory Council from the Manipur State Congress?

Shri Gopalaswami: I should like to have notice.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: In view of the experience of the unsatisfactory working of these Councils has Government any proposal to end or mend them on democratic lines?

Shri Gopaldaswami: We are very actively exploring the question of ending or mending.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: May I know whether there is any Advisory Council in Bhopal, Tripura and also Vindhya Pradesh?

Shri Gopaldaswami: I think in those three States the question of constituting Advisory Councils has been under consideration.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know the reason why the Advisory Council has not been extended to other States?

Shri Gopaldaswami: Well, we have been trying to extend them to every State, but we have got to get the local reactions, and when conditions have become favourable they are established.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether the resolutions passed by the Advisory Councils from time to time are examined by the Government of India? If so, do the Government of India convey their own views about those resolutions to the Chief Commissioners and then they are conveyed to the Members of the Advisory Councils?

Shri Gopaldaswami: My recollection is that we get copies of these resolutions. But so far I have not had occasion to communicate any reactions of mine to those resolutions to the Chief Commissioner concerned.

DARJEELING HIMALAYAN RAILWAYS

*2267. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

- the present condition of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railways;
- whether the repair works have begun; and
- if so, how far they have been completed?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) to (c). Heavy rainfall and cyclonic weather in the Darjeeling and adjacent hills on and about 11th and 12th June, 1950, caused many land slips on the Sevoke-Geillikhole, Siliguri-Kurseong and Kurseong-Darjeeling Sections of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway. Sevoke-Geillikhole Section was also washed away by consequential floods in the Tista River at many places. As its restoration was found impracticable

as well as uneconomic, Siliguri-Geillikhole Section has been abandoned. Repairs on the Siliguri-Kurseong Section and from Kurseong to the Salesian College Siding were carried out and rail services restored. Beyond Salesian Siding an 800 ft. land slide caused complete disappearance of the road and railway. This gap is being repaired by the West Bengal Government for restoring road communication and it would be possible to lay railway track about 6 weeks after the road repairs have been completed. Further repairs on a fairly large scale are required beyond this point before normal train services can be restored.

Dr. M. M. Das: Am I to understand that a portion of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway will not be restored?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir. The Siliguri-Geillikhole Section has been abandoned. The other Sections will be restored in due course.

Dr. M. M. Das: In view of the fact that the whole length of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway has got a special strategic position in the present international set-up, may I know whether the Railway Ministry have ascertained the opinion of the Defence Department about this matter?

Shri Santhanam: It is not a question of ascertaining anybody's opinion, because the whole line has been washed off and we cannot lay the track. The track is non-existing. It has had to be abandoned because it is on the borders of the river Tista.

Dr. M. M. Das: Do Government contemplate to build an alternative line?

Shri Santhanam: It is not now under contemplation.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know what is the estimated loss to the railway?

Shri Santhanam: I remember to have given this in reply to a previous question, but I am afraid I have not got the figure with me just now.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the portion which has been washed away and which the Railway does not intend to repair is connected by some other alternative routes—motorable roads and things like that?

Shri Santhanam: It was both a road and a railway track. Whether the road will be restored I am not in a position to say. That is a matter I suppose for the West Bengal Government. But there are other roads

leading from Darjeeling to Kalimpong. There are roads leading from Siliguri to Kalimpong. There are other ways of reaching Kalimpong.

CENTRAL GROUND WATER ORGANISATION

*2268. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the States that have received assistance from the Central Ground Water Organisation for drilling Tube wells;

(b) what particular types of assistance are generally asked for and given; and

(c) the amounts spent for this organisation during 1949 and 1950?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Tube-wells were drilled by the Central Ground Water Organisation in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Orissa, Delhi and Rajasthan.

(b) In addition to drilling tube-wells in doubtful areas for exploratory purposes, the Organisation used to train nominees of the State Governments in modern methods of construction of tube-wells with mechanical rigs, and arrange for procurement of machinery and stores required for tubewell construction. No such assistance is, however, possible now, as the Drilling Division and the Central Drilling School have been retrenched.

(c) About Rs. 7,73,000 and Rs. 2,89,000 were spent in 1949 and 1950 respectively.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the total number of men trained by this organisation in drilling tube-wells?

Shri Thirumala Rao: 56 nominees were trained.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether these nominees have gathered the required experience and knowledge enabling them to sink tube-wells without the assistance of any foreign experts?

Shri Thirumala Rao: They are nominees from the States. I have no experience of the States with regard to the nominees.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know what are the different systems of exploration which have been adopted by Government for the determination of the existence of sub-soil water?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, I want notice of the question.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it a fact that the Central Waterways organisation is not sinking any more tube-wells in the Centrally Administered Areas which are directly under them?

Shri Thirumala Rao: In Delhi they have successfully bored three wells and unsuccessfully seven.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What time did this organisation take to sink those three tube-wells in Delhi?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It was started in 1944, it started functioning effectively in 1946, but the Standing Finance Committee recommended its abolition in 1950.

Shri Sondhi: Why did it so recommend?

Mr. Speaker: That is not pertinent. The Standing Finance Committee's reports may be read for those reasons.

Shri Thirumala Rao: My hon. friend is a Member of that Committee.

Prof. Ranga: May I know how many applications were received by the Government of India from the States for sinking these wells and how many of them have been answered?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The total number of efforts made in this connection in all the States is 88 of which 69 were successful and 19 unsuccessful.

WIRELESS LINKS

*2269. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme to connect big Indian cities with high power wireless links, has been implemented;

(b) if so, the cities of India that have been so connected;

(c) the total expenditure for this purpose; and

(d) the reasons for which such connections were necessary?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) The scheme to connect the cities of Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta by high power wireless links has been sanctioned and an order for the equipment to be imported from abroad has been placed. The equipment is expected between April and October, 1951.

(b) Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta will be connected under the Scheme.

(c) Rs. 43.58 lakhs.

(d) The wireless network will help in speeding up the traffic between these principal cities. There is one consideration more. Overhead land-lines over these long distances are liable to interruption and breakdown.

When these interruptions or breakdowns occur during busy periods of the day, considerable congestion takes place in telegraph traffic and messages get delayed, causing inconvenience to public.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether these wireless stations are run by our Defence Ministry or by the Ministry of Communications?

Shri Kidwai: By the P. and T. Department.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the total number of transmitters that are proposed to be installed in different cities of India and the capacity of each plant?

Shri Kidwai: Our immediate programme is to have wireless stations for long track transmission at the four cities named.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know what will be the recurring expenditure per year for running these transmitters and what portion of it Government hopes to realize by the transmission of private messages?

Shri Kidwai: I am not in a position to give the figures about the annual recurring expenses, but the scheme will pay itself and will bring some profit to the Department.

INDIAN SHIPPING TRADE

*2270. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state what proportion of our shipping trade is carried in Indian Ships?

(b) Is the coastal shipping trade of India owned, controlled and managed by Indian nationals?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) About 85 to 90 per cent. of India's coastal trade is at present carried in Indian ships. As regards the proportion of the trade carried by Indian ships in the overseas trades, the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given to part (a) of starred question No. 310 asked by Shri Raj Bahadur on the 23rd November 1950.

(b) The bulk of the coastal trade of India is at present carried by Indian shipping which is controlled, managed, and owned or chartered, by Indian nationals. Through the operation of the licensing system introduced in the coastal trade under the Control of Shipping Act, 1947, gradual decrease in the foreign tonnage employed on the coast with corresponding increase in

the Indian tonnage as and when they become available has been effected. The process of reduction in the foreign tonnage employed in the coastal trade has been accelerated by the announcement made by Government on the 15th August 1950 declaring their intention to reserve the coastal trade wholly for Indian shipping, if possible, within a period of one year.

A statement elucidating the position further is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XV, annexure No. 35.]

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know what was the tonnage of shipping carried in Indian ships in 1950?

Shri Santhanam: Over 2 million tons.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: How many Indian shipping companies are there? How many ships each has?

Mr. Speaker: Was this not enquired into a few days back about coastal shipping and general shipping and all that?

Shri Santhanam: I have answered that.

Mr. Speaker: I will allow only this question, if he has got the information.

Shri Santhanam: I have got the information here.....

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid it is a matter of research. Let us have another question.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Is there any arrangement for the training of workers for shipping services?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir. We have got training institutions both for officers as well as for ratings.

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

ELECTRIC TRAINS IN BOMBAY

*2271. **Shri Sonavane:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before Government to extend the electrification of trains in Bombay State?

(b) How many accidents have taken place on the electric trains during the year 1950?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes. The question of extension of electrification of the lines between Igatpuri and Bhusaval on the G.I.P. Railway in Bombay Presidency is under consideration.

(b) There were 748 accidents to human beings on Electric Trains on the G.I.P. and B.B. and C.I. Railways, out of these 88 were fatal and 660 non-fatal. It may be added that all these accidents were ordinary train accidents and not due to electrification.

Shri Sonavane: May I know, Sir, what is the annual saving of coal as a result of this electrification of trains in Bombay at present?

Shri Santhanam: I did not contemplate any such question.

Shri Sonavane: May I know whether there is any proposal to extend the electrification of trains from Poona to Sholapur in the near future?

Shri Santhanam: Poona to Dhond is one of the sections contemplated but it may take a considerable time before we come to that.

Shri Sonavane: In what time in the near future is this extension of electrification likely to be completed or executed?

Shri Santhanam: It depends upon the finance and other circumstances, which I cannot forecast at present.

Shri Deogirikar: May I know how many accidents are due to foot-board many accidents are due to foot-board

Shri Santhanam: I do not think that any of these accidents were due to foot-board travel but I have not got the specific information.

Shri Sidhva: May I know how many of the new coaches to supplement these electric suburban trains to remove overcrowding have been ordered and when are they expected on the B.B. and C.I. and G.I.P. Railways?

Shri Santhanam: All the information was given in the papers supplied at the Budget time.

Shri Sidhva: This matter was not supplied, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: That means that he is not prepared to answer just now. He wants notice.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know how many microphones have been installed for the purpose of stopping these accidents and in which stations?

Mr. Speaker: He need not answer the question. It assumes that the accidents only take place at the stations. Next question.

AGRICULTURAL STUDY IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

*2272. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of candidates who have been sent to foreign countries for special studies in Animal Husbandry, Agriculture and Forestry in 1949-50 and 1950-51; and

(b) what is Government's expenditure on each candidate?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) None in 1949-50. Seven in 1950-51.

(b) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XV, annexure No. 36].

श्री कन्हैया लाल बाल्मीक : क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि इन पिछले दो सालों में जितने कैंडिडेट भेजे गये, उनमें कितने सिड्यूल्ड कास्ट के कैंडिडेट थे ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of scheduled castes candidates among those who have been sent abroad during the last two years?]

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is difficult to make out from the names how many of them belong to Scheduled Castes.

گھائی جی - ایس - مسافر : یہ طلبہ کتنے عرصہ میں واپس آ جائیں گے اور ان کی خدمات کا فائدہ اٹھانے کا کہا پروگرام ہے -

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** How long will it take for these candidates to return and in what manner their services will be utilised?]

Shri Thirumala Rao: Two of them are sent for 2 years' training; one for one year, two for three months and two for 2 years. Those that have gone for three months must have returned.

Shri Sidhva: What are the special studies for which they are sent and how will they be useful in this country?

Mr. Speaker: In Animal Husbandry.

Shri Sidhva rose—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Dr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva: In answer to a question, the hon. Minister said that it was difficult to make out from the names whether they are

Harijans or not. May I know whether he has given due representation for the Scheduled Castes?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. When he does not know about it, it does not arise.

रेलवे की संयुक्त मंत्रणा समिति

*२२७३. श्री जामड़े : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) १ मई, १९५० से ३० जनवरी, १९५१ तक रेलवे की संयुक्त मंत्रणा समिति की बैठकों की संख्या ;

(बी) इन बैठकों पर व्यय होने वाले धन की परिमाणा ; तथा

(सी) इस समिति के सदस्यों को कितना दैनिक भत्ता तथा यात्रा भत्ता दिया जाता है ?

JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR RAILWAYS

[*2273. Shri Jangde: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of meetings of the Joint Advisory Committee for Railways held between the 1st May, 1950 and 30th January, 1951;

(b) the amount of money spent over these meetings; and

(c) what daily allowances and travelling allowances are paid to the Members of this Committee?]

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) 73 days.

(b) Rs. 32,825/-.

(c) Non-official members:

Daily Allowance.—Rs. 20/- per day. Also admissible in respect of one day previous to the commencement of the meeting of the Committee if the member arrived at the place of meeting in the forenoon and one day after the termination if he left the place in the afternoon. In the case of members resident at places where the meetings of the Committee took place only the actual cost of conveyance hire subject

to a maximum of Rs. 10/- per day instead of the daily allowance of Rs. 20/-.

Travelling Allowance.	} In respect of 1½ of the journey by air standard air fare.	Free 1st Class pass and daily allowance at Rs. 20/- per day.

Official Members:

Allowances admissible under the departmental rules by which they were governed.

Shri Jangde: Has this Committee been abolished?

Shri Santhanam: It has terminated its labours and therefore it has ceased to exist.

Shri Jangde: What are the reasons for abolishing it?

Shri Santhanam: There is no question of abolition. It was an ad hoc Committee appointed for a particular purpose. As soon as the purpose was fulfilled, the Committee came to an end.

Shri Jangde: What are the specific functions that were performed by the Joint Advisory Committee?

Shri Santhanam: The Committee was appointed to consider the question of anomalies arising out of the application of the Central Pay Commission scales to Railway workers.

Shri Jangde: Are the decisions of the Committee on any matter binding on the Railway Ministry?

Shri Santhanam: They are not strictly binding, but most of the recommendations were accepted by the Railway Ministry.

Shri Alagesan: Here the question refers to the Central Advisory Council for Railways and the answer seems to relate to the Joint Advisory Committee for Railways. I would like to have a clarification.

Shri Santhanam: That has been corrected by the Parliament office.

Mr. Speaker: The question as printed requires correction. The question relates to the Joint Advisory Committee.

Shri Jangde: Who were the Members of the Joint Advisory Committee?

Were there any non-official Members in it?

Shri Santhanam: The Committee consisted of an independent Chairman, four representatives of the Railway administration and four representatives of Railway workers.

RICE FROM THAILAND

*2277. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of rice that was imported from Thailand in the year 1950; and

(b) the price at which the rice from Thailand was purchased?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The quantity of rice imported from Thailand in 1950 was 111,000 tons.

(b) Prices vary from Rs. 16-6-3 to Rs. 18-7-11 per maund ex-mill in bulk for broken and Bangkok Special qualities and Rs. 19-14-3 to Rs. 22-2 per maund ex-mill in bulk for whole rice qualities.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: Is it a fact that the agents purchased rice in the Thailand market at Rs. 10/- per maund and sold it to the Government at Rs. 23/- a maund?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have no information.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know whether the procurement price of rice in Thailand is higher than the procurement price in India?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The hon. Member can compare the prices I have given: Rs. 16-6-3 per maund. The procurement price of paddy in India is Rs. 8-12-0.

Shri Chattopadhyay: I want to know the procurement price of rice; I did not want to know the procurement price of paddy.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want time to calculate.

Shri T. N. Singh: Will the Government kindly inform the House what is the market rate at present in Thailand for rice, and whether any rice is being imported in the year 1951?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Our officers in Thailand negotiated the price of this large quantity of rice through Government agencies there. I have no information as to what the actual market price now is. We are negotiating at the cheapest possible price.

With regard to the second part of the question, for the year 1951, we are getting 300,000 tons of rice from Thailand.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know whether the procurement price of rice in some parts of India is only Rs. 12-12: from the mills?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Rice or paddy?

Shri Chattopadhyay: I mean rice.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I think so.

Shri Kamath: Was any officer deputed from here to Thailand specially for this purpose and if so what were his qualifications and experience in this line of examining rice?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not aware of any officer specially deputed now.

Shri Kamath: You had better make sure.

Mr. Speaker: We will now proceed to the next question.

बकरी पालन केंद्र

*२२७८. श्री बी. ऐस. आर्य : क्या साहब

तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) भारत में मैरिनो तथा अंगोरा बकरी पालन केंद्रों की संख्या तथा उन राज्यों के नाम जहां यह स्थित हैं; तथा

(बी) इन भेड़ पालन केंद्रों से प्रति वर्ष प्राप्त होने वाले ऊन की परिमात्रा ?

GOAT BREEDING CENTRES

[*2278. **Shri B. S. Arya:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Marino and Angora Goat breeding Centres in India and the names of States where they are situated; and

(b) the quantity of wool obtained from these sheep breeding centres per year?]

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Farms only for breeding of Marino sheep and Angora Goats have not been established in India but as an experimental measure Marino are being used for cross-breeding with local ewes at sheep-breeding research stations set up by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in Bombay and Kashmir.

With the object of evolving a Punjab type Angora goat, cross-breeding:

of indigenous hill goats with the imported Angora bucks was carried out at Hissar Farm in the Punjab. As proper facilities were not available in the hills of the Punjab the work has been shifted to Pipalcoti Farm in U.P.

(b) A statement showing the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XV, annexure No. 37].

श्री बी० एस० आर्य : क्या यह बात सही है कि सरकार पीपलकोटी के शीप फार्म को कालसी बदलना चाहती है ?

[Shri B. S. Arya: Is it a fact that the Government want to shift the Sheep Farm from Pipalkoti to Kalsi?]

Shri Thirumala Rao: No; there is no such proposal at present.

CARRIAGE OF MAIL TO LUNGLEH via PAKISTAN

*2279. Shri Saprawaga: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to refer to part (c) (iv) of the answer given to starred question No. 1128 (c) of 20th December, 1950 and state:

(a) what arrangement the Government of India have made with the Pakistan Government in regard to mail and parcel bags carried to Lungleh via Pakistan, and who will be responsible for any pilferage or loss of bags during transit through Pakistan;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that, during the last three years, Postal Services to Lungleh via Pakistan have become so irregular that parcels sent from Calcutta take two or three months to reach destination;

(c) what are the reasons for such delay; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to improve the situation?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Mails from and to Lungleh to and from other parts of India pass through East Pakistan in closed bags. They are transit miles whose conveyance through foreign territory is regulated by the Universal Postal Convention.

Pakistan Administration is liable, under the terms of the convention, for any pilferage or loss which occurs while the mails are in its care.

(b) and (c). During the last three years there has been no serious delay to first class mails. Occasionally parcel mails have been subjected to some delay, which is due to very heavy booking of parcels from Calcutta for Lungleh and due to floods on the mail line.

(d) Prompt action is taken to provide more staff particularly runners to clear the accumulation.

Shri Saprawaga: May I know what is the daily lifting capacity of these services and to what extent that capacity falls short of the actual requirements?

Shri Kidwai: In the past two years, occasionally, there were heavy bookings in Calcutta for mails to Assam both via Pakistan and otherwise. Also there were accumulations for other parts of India, for want of accommodation. Both in India and Pakistan, the parcels were delayed till special arrangements were possible.

Shri Saprawaga: What is the amount of money paid to the Pakistan Government for the carrying of mails?

Shri Kidwai: The figures are not yet available.

AIR CARRYING SERVICES IN CALCUTTA

*2281. Shri Barman: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 30 Air Carrying Services have started in Calcutta, offering to arrange transport of goods by Air;

(b) whether it is a fact that these Services have put in a condition in the consignment note purporting that they shall be exempted from all liabilities under the Law in any case of loss, damage, pilferage or detention from any cause whatsoever;

(c) whether it is a fact that this condition has resulted in loss and harassment to the consigning public of Calcutta; and

(d) if Government are aware of the above, whether they propose to take steps in the matter?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Many firms have recently sprung up in Calcutta for booking of freight for transport by air; but their precise number is not known.

(b) The conditions under which these private firms undertake such business are not known to Government or regulated by them

(c) No complaints have so far been received from consignors about loss and harassment.

(d) Apparently the terms on which these private booking agencies offer to act are subject to acceptance by the consignor. It is not proposed to interfere in the matter unless these

firms indulge in any activity prohibited by law.

Shri Barman: Sir, in view of the fact that the prestige of Government is involved in the good or bad service rendered by these firms that have been started, do Government not think it desirable to enquire into the matter and set right anything that may require correction?

Shri Kidwai: No complaint by any consignor has been made to Government.

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. Minister said that the actual number of the firms that have recently sprung up in Calcutta is not known. Then am I to understand that no licensing is necessary for carrying on this service?

Shri Kidwai: Individuals accept goods from the consignors for transmission and they transmit them to the operating services. Therefore it is only the operating services which are given licenses, but any agent can work in a private capacity to supply goods to be transmitted.

Shri Chaliha: May I know, Sir, whether these private air-freighters overload the planes and cause trouble?

Shri Kidwai: But the complaint is not against the private operators but it is against the booking agents.

Shri Barman: Have Government enquired whether the consignee is the actual consignee to whom the goods are sent?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid, that is trying to make out a case.

HIGHWAYS IN CHOTA NAGPUR

*2282. **Shri Ansari:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state how many Highways in Chota Nagpur are under the Government of India?

(b) What is the amount annually spent on their maintenance?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Four.

(b) Separate figures of the amounts spent annually on the maintenance of National Highways in Chota Nagpur are not available as the accounts are not kept district-wise. On the basis of average mileage rate of maintenance expenditure in Bihar of which Chota Nagpur forms a part, annual maintenance expenditure works out to about Rs. 11.0 lacs.

Shri Ansari: Sir, May I know how many miles of road are covered by these National Highways?

Shri Santhanam: There are 418 miles of National Highways in Chota Nagpur.

Shri Ansari: What is the estimate in 1949-50 for their maintenance?

Shri Santhanam: The average rate for maintenance is at Rs. 2,000 per mile.

Saikh Mohiuddin: Sir, may I know whether any repair work was done to these roads during the year 1949-50?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, every year the Government makes a grant to the Bihar Government for maintenance and they maintain these National Highways.

SURVEY OF RANCHI-GAYA RAILWAY LINE

*2283. **Shri Ansari:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state what was the amount of expenditure incurred in the survey of the proposed Ranchi Gaya line on East Indian Railway?

(b) Why was the proposal abandoned?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Rs. 3,40,000 approximately.

(b) The project was abandoned as it was not financially justified.

Shri Ansari: Sir, may I know whether the Government contemplate re-starting this work in the near future?

Shri Santhanam: No, Sir. The Central Board of Transport considered this on 30th August, 1949 and they decided to drop the project for the present.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Sir, do Government propose to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the report of the Central Board of Transport which recommended the abandonment of this scheme?

Shri Santhanam: Sir, the Central Board of Transport considers these questions on the basis of survey reports and other materials supplied by the Railway and in this case, after consideration, the Board came to the conclusion that it should be dropped.

CARRIAGE OF MAIL BETWEEN KALIAGUNJ AND BALURGHAT

*2284. **Shri S. M. Ghose:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether Government are aware that in the district of West Dinajpur, West Bengal, it requires two

or three days for Mail bags to be carried by runners from Kaliagunj to Balurghat (the district headquarters), a distance of about 52 miles, and thence to Hili (an important trade centre), a distance of about 13 miles, requiring another day more?

(b) Do Government consider it desirable to introduce the system of carrying Mail bags in Motor Vans instead of carrying them by runners to remove the great inconvenience to the public of those places?

(c) Is there any definite proposal before Government to open Telephone line connecting Hili with Calcutta in the near future?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) The facts are as follows: Mail bags which reach Kaliagunj Railway Station at 6-56 P.M. are despatched from there at 0-8-00 A.M. through runners arriving at Balurghat at 12-15 P.M. next day. Thence they are carried to Hili by motor vehicles, the journey taking two hours.

From 27th July, 1950 to 11th January, 1951 first class mails for and from Balurghat were given air transmission through a non-scheduled daily service. In connection with the reconditioning of the air strip at Balurghat, this aerodrome has temporarily been closed to passenger carrying planes and the air service has, therefore, been suspended with effect from the 12th of January, 1951.

(b) It is not possible to carry mails between Kaliagunj and Balurghat by motor vans as the present road connecting the two places is not motorable.

(c) No. But the question will be re-examined if local subscribers are prepared to provide necessary funds either by subscribing under the "Own Your Telephone" Scheme or by deposits.

Shri S. M. Ghose: Arising out of part (b) may I know whether Government are prepared to explore the possibilities of using motor bicycles for this purpose?

Shri Kidwai: This will be examined, and if that is possible, I will be glad to introduce the system.

SUGAR PRODUCTION AND SUGAR CANE PRICES

*2286. **Shri M. Naik:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the manufacture of power alcohol out of molasses has in any way affected sugar production and if so, to what extent?

(b) Is it a fact that Government are actively contemplating reduction in basic prices of sugarcane in order, ultimately, to bring down the manufacturing cost of power alcohol?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):

(a) Manufacture of power alcohol out of molasses does not seem to have in any way affected sugar production.

(b) No.

Shri M. Naik: May I know whether substitutes have been tried for the production of power alcohol?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, I have no information, and I don't know how that arises.

Shri Shiv Charan Lal: Sir, how many factories have been set up for the manufacture of this power alcohol?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, I have no information.

Mr. Speaker: I think this question was put quite recently.

Shri Shiv Charan Lal: Sir, in view of the fact that large quantities of molasses are produced in the different factories in the country, do Government contemplate the starting of more factories to produce power alcohol?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, these are situated in the States and the State Governments will do whatever is necessary to utilise the molasses.

CONSTRUCTION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

*2287. **Shri M. Naik:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the up-to-date progress in the construction of the Calcutta-Bombay and Calcutta-Madras National Highways falling within territorial jurisdiction of Orissa State;

(b) in how many cases of the fourteen major bridges to be constructed in Orissa, actual construction has been started; and

(c) what is the estimated period within which construction of all these bridges is proposed to be completed?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Calcutta-Bombay National Highway—(N.H.No. 6) 22 works estimated to cost Rs. 104.11 lakhs are in progress.

Calcutta-Madras National Highway—(N.H.No. 5) 24 works estimated to cost Rs. 119.16 lakhs are in progress.

(b) Two bridges have been completed and work on 8 others is in progress.

(c) As quickly as funds become available.

Shri Kesava Rao: Sir, may I know which are the two bridges which the hon. Minister says, have been completed?

Shri Santhanam: They are the bridges over the Mahanadi and the Koakhal.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether Government are not thinking of a bridge across the Godavari?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, but that is a different question

Shri T. N. Singh: Sir, to what extent is the progress of construction of these roads behind the schedule?

Shri Santhanam: Only to the extent that the entire national programme is behind the Nagpur Plan.

Shri M. Naik: Sir, arising out of part (b), did the hon. Minister refer to the bridge over the Mahanadi at Sambalpur or at Cuttack?

Shri Santhanam: It is the Sambalpur bridge that has been completed.

Shri M. Naik: May I know whether any construction work has yet been taken up over the Brahmani and Baitarani rivers?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, the work in connection with bridges over the Brahmani, the Baitarani, the Subarnarekha and two more rivers has been started.

Shri M. Naik: What is the progress so far?

Mr. Speaker: They have been completed, I suppose?

Shri Santhanam: No, Sir, they are under construction.

Shri M. Naik: What is the progress?

Mr. Speaker: To say about the progress is a difficult matter. We go to the next question.

POLITICAL PENSION-HOLDERS

*2289. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to refer to his answer to starred question No. 1910 asked on 5th March 1951 and state the number and names of political pension-holders, who, or whose ancestors, were granted such pensions by the British Government for the help rendered to

them during India's First War of Independence of 1857?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): The required information is not readily available and the collection of such information would involve time and labour hardly commensurate with its value. As already stated in this House earlier, the cases of Political pensions are already being reviewed to decide which of them can be discontinued or restricted to the life-time of the present holders.

Shri Kamath: Sir, from the answer, am I to understand that the number of cases is far too numerous for the labour to be undertaken?

Shri Gopalaswami: The cases are too numerous and the information will have to be collected from a number of scattered units.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact then that among these political pensioners are a large number of people whose ancestors were granted pensions by the British Government for having assisted them, that is the British Government in India's first War of Independence?

Shri Gopalaswami: There were some cases of that sort. I can give the hon. Member the number of cases that have been actually re-examined if that would interest him.

Shri Kamath: Yes, how many continue?

Shri Gopalaswami: The total number of cases disposed of is 42. The number of pensions which have been discontinued after this examination was 11. The number of pensions restricted to the life-time of the present grantee is 31.

Shri Kamath: What, Sir, is the total amount of pension per annum so granted?

Shri Gopalaswami: That is covered by the first part of my answer.

Shri Kamath: Total amount?

Mr. Speaker: Total amount of all the political pensioners?

Shri Kamath: Of this category.

Mr. Speaker: How can the category be selected.....?

Shri Kamath: Of all the cases?

Shri Gopalaswami: I am not in a

position to give the information off-hand.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the fact that landed property of certain leaders of the first War of Independence was confiscated by the British Government and re-settled by those who had helped the British Government at that time, may I know whether the Government of India would consider the desirability of returning that landed property to the original owners?

Mr. Speaker: It is a clear suggestion.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know what is the total of these 11 cases which have been decided, and of the 31 in which the pensions are limited to the actual holders?

Shri Gopaldaswami: The annual saving which has been effected by the discontinuance of the 11 pensions is Rs. 6,000. I am afraid I have not the figure for the 31 others which have been restricted to the life-time of the present holders.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know how many persons were granted land after 1857 in view of their services?

Shri Gopaldaswami: That is also covered by the first part of my answer.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS OFFICES IN HYDERABAD

*2290. **Shri S. V. Naik:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many Posts and Telegraphs offices were opened in urban and rural areas in the State of Hyderabad during 1950; and

(b) how many Posts and Telegraphs offices are proposed to be opened during 1951, in rural as well as urban areas?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai):

Urban areas—
Post Offices . . . 1
Telegraph offices . . . 5

Rural areas—
Post Offices . . . 7
Telegraph offices . . . nil

(b) Posts and Telegraphs Offices proposed to be opened during 1951—

Urban areas—
Post Offices . . . nil
Telegraph offices . . . 39

Rural areas—
Post Offices . . . 60
Telegraph offices . . . nil

Shri S. V. Naik: In view of the fact that Hyderabad was one of the last States to accede to Indian Union, will any particular consideration be shown to Hyderabad?

Shri Kidwai: The figures that I have given show that particular attention is being given to Hyderabad.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know how many post and telegraph offices were there before these new offices were opened in 1950?

Shri Kidwai: I will require notice.

Dr. Deshmukh: Has the hon. Minister examined what is the average area covered by every post office in Hyderabad as compared with other States?

Shri Kidwai: It covers a smaller area than that covered by post offices in Madhya Pradesh.

Mr. Speaker: We will now go to those questions in respect of which authority has been given to Mr. B. K. Pani.

Shri Rathnaswamy: My question No. 2274 has also to be answered, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member was not present when his question was called. Now after I have called the other questions if there is time his question may be taken up.

MANUFACTURE OF WAGONS

*2275. **Shri B. K. Pani** on behalf of (Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi): Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of workshops and factories in India which manufacture wagons;

(b) the capacity of manufacture in respect of each;

(c) what orders if any, the Railways placed in the past with the said workshops or factories; and

(d) whether the orders were executed in full and in time?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) There are four workshops in India which manufacture wagons, but without wheels and axles, and their names are—

- (i) Messrs. Burn and Co. Ltd., Howrah.
- (ii) Messrs. Indian Standard Wagon Co. Ltd., near Asansol.
- (iii) Messrs. Jessop and Co. Ltd., Calcutta.
- (iv) Messrs. Braithwaite and Co. (India), Ltd., Calcutta.

(b) and (c). Two statements containing the information required are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XV, annexure No. 38].

(d) Orders placed on these firms in the past have generally been executed in full, but there have been some delays in completing them due to difficulties in procurement of materials and labour troubles.

DISMISSAL OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*2276. **Shri B. K. Pani** on behalf of (Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi): Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of Railway employees who were dismissed from service during 1950-51 on charges of theft, pilferage and bribery?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): The number of Railway employees who were dismissed from service during 1950-51 on charges of theft, pilferage and bribery is 437.

Shri B. K. Pani: May I know the number of such employees from B.N. Railway?

Shri Santhanam: Fifty-nine.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know the saving effected on pilferages and thefts as a result of these dismissals, that is, the number of thefts that have decreased as the result of these dismissals in the Railways?

Mr. Speaker: Saving in the payment of compensation?

Dr. Deshmukh: Have thefts gone down as a result of these dismissals?

Mr. Speaker: I could not follow the question at all. The question hour is over.

Short Notice Questions and Answers

LOCUSTS IN WEST BENGAL

Dr. M. M. Das: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that locusts have made their appearance in some districts of West Bengal, recently; and

(b) if so, (i) the last date when Bengal or other neighbouring States were invaded by locusts;

(ii) the extent of damage done by locusts by their present invasion in West Bengal;

(iii) the measures taken by Government for fighting off the locusts in West Bengal?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes.

(b) (i) On the 20th February, 1951 a swarm visited Fulkusma of Raipur Thana in the District of Bankura. On the 28th February, a swarm had passed over some villages of Midnapore District. On the 1st March, a locust swarm visited the Diamond Harbour area near Calcutta, and it passed over that city on the 2nd March. A small section of this swarm is reported to have visited Midnapore District the same evening.

(ii) The damage is reported to have been negligible.

(iii) Since the swarm had settled down for a short period only, control measures on a regular scale were not necessary, but the Government of West Bengal undertook suitable control measures.

Dr. M. M. Das: In view of the fact that the locust menace is very, very uncommon in West Bengal, may I know whether the West Bengal Government has at their disposal trained men and material to fight the locusts or whether they applied to the Central Government for help in these respects?

Shri Thirumala Rao: These swarms of locusts have taken the West Bengal Government by surprise. They have at present at their service all the resources and they have at their disposal also the services of the Public Health Department to meet the menace immediately. This is an experience which has not been within the knowledge of experts during the last several decades. Steps will be taken hereafter to see that the menace is warded off.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether it is a fact that locusts are eaten as delicacies in some parts of the world and is it a fact that the Food and Agriculture Department of the Central Government in collaboration with a certain women's organisation are attempting to prepare suitable menus from locusts?

Shri Thirumala Rao: If the doctor gives his own experience about it we shall consider it.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: At what height do these locusts fly?

Shri Thirumala Rao: They fly at a great height which cannot be easily reached even by aeroplanes. I think, but they are however visible.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I may invite the attention of hon. Members

to one of our rules which says that questions should be put with reference to facts within the special knowledge of the Minister. So details regarding scientific investigations and other technical questions are not matters within the special cognizance of the Minister. Enquiries may be made outside the House.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know what help the Central Government has sent to the West Bengal Government or other parts of India which have been invaded by locusts, through the Central Locust Organisation? What has been the form of that help?

Shri Thirumala Rao: With regard to West Bengal the time at our disposal was not enough. Before any help could be sent the locusts should be seen. With regard to other particulars in the case of the Punjab, which is the usual victim of the locust menace all the available resources of our organisation with regard to locust destruction were placed at the disposal of the Punjab Government. Our locust expert and others were sent immediately to the scene.

Shri Kamath: With regard to the locust invasion this year, is there any pincer movement in East the West and if so, what is the position today? Is the invasion retreating or advancing?

Shri Thirumala Rao: There is no pincer movement. They have been proceeding from the West to the East and their movement could not be further traced now.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the Central Locust Organisation advise the various States about the life cycle and habits of these locusts? If so, was the West Bengal Government aware of this matter?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Within the experience and knowledge of the Central Locust Organisation there is a belt within which these cycles proceed and West Bengal was not within the belt to receive any timely warning.

MOROCCO

Shri Joachim Alva: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state what is the latest information at the disposal of the Government of India in regard to the situation in Morocco?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The Government of India is not in a position to give any precise information about the present situation in Morocco, as that situation is, apparently, a changing one. In Morocco, as elsewhere in North

Africa, there have long been demands for freedom and National Parties have been built up voicing these demands. The National Party in Morocco is the "Istiqlal Party" which has been in existence for a quarter of a century or more. In 1912, a treaty was signed by the French Government and the then Sultan of Morocco. Under this treaty a large part of Morocco became a French Protectorate. A much smaller part of the country is under the Spanish Government, and there is the international territory of Tangier. The Istiqlal Party has aimed at the abrogation of this treaty of 1912.

In the course of the last World War various assurances were given by the Allied Powers promising freedom to Morocco. President Roosevelt, in the course of a visit to Morocco, met the Sultan and gave him this personal assurance. At the end of the War, it was natural for the people of Morocco to expect fulfilment of these promises. The Sultan had associated himself with the popular party and demanded that Morocco must be united and liberated from Foreign control. Recently some conflicts have occurred between the French authorities in Morocco and the popular party, as a result of which there is widespread feeling and excitement in Morocco.

The Government of India earnestly hope that there will be a satisfactory settlement between the French Government and the popular movement in Morocco which will ensure freedom to that country.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CATERING ON RAILWAYS

*2274. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the intention of Government to re-organise the Western style of catering on railways; and

(b) if so, whether any officers have been deputed to investigate into the whole matter and make necessary recommendations?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Saasthanam): (a) Yes.

(b) An ad hoc committee was set up and the committee has submitted its report, which is under consideration of Government.

URS OF HAZRAT KHAWAJA SAHES

*2285. **Masulvi Wajed Ali:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture

be pleased to state whether in last April, about 40,000 pilgrims from different parts of India visited Ajmer, for the Urs of Hazrat Khwaja Saheb?

(b) Is it a fact that the Urs is going to be celebrated this year during the second week of April and the number of visitors will be the same, if not more, this year?

(c) Is it a fact that there was some notification asking the intending pilgrims to Ajmer to bring rice and sugar with them, and that on the intervention and request of some, Uttar Pradesh Government were pleased to arrange for extra food stuff for Ajmer, during that time?

(d) If so, are Government prepared to place extra quantities of rationed food stuffs in Ajmer, for the use of the intending pilgrims during this year's celebrations?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):

(a) The number of pilgrims who visited Ajmer during the Urs of Hazrat Khwaja Saheb in 1950 was about 30 to 35 thousand.

(b) Yes.

(c) The pilgrims were advised to bring their rations with them. The Government of India have no information about extra foodstuffs being arranged by the U.P. Government for the Urs of 1950.

(d) The Chief Commissioner has asked for an additional quota of 10 tons of rice and 15 tons of sugar and these have been sanctioned.

RADIO LICENCES

*2288. **Maulvi Wajed Ali:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to refer to the replies to starred question No. 1922 asked on 5th March 1951 and to state:

(i) the number of Radio Licences issued for possession of wireless receiving sets State by State during the years 1949 and 1950;

(ii) the fees realised on this account from each such State; and

(iii) the number of licences issued for community sets in the State of Assam during the years 1949 and 1950?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (i) and (ii). State-wise figures for 1949 are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XV, annexure No. 39].

State-wise figures for 1950 are being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House when received. Meanwhile Circle-wise figures are being furnished in the statement.

(iii) 1949	100
1950	100

EXPANSION OF CIVIL AVIATION

137. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many States have prepared or are implementing schemes for the expansion of civil aviation; and

(b) whether any assistance has been sought for by any State from the Centre?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) Civil Aviation is a Central subject, and the Central Government, which prepares and implements schemes for the development of civil aviation, is not aware of any civil aviation development scheme of any State. But some State Governments make grants to Flying Clubs in their areas, and some have also constructed air strips for internal communication purposes.

(b) Yes, Sir. Apart from technical advice sought from the Civil Aviation Department by some State Governments in connection with the development of air strips in their territories from within their own resources, the Governments of Assam and Tripura asked the Central Government to undertake the construction of aerodromes urgently required in their States.

Friday, 16th March, 1951



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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(5th March, 1951 to 30th March, 1951)

Third Session

of the

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1950-51



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THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers.)
OFFICIAL REPORT

4674

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Friday, 16th March, 1951

*The House met at a Quarter to Eleven
of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

11-52 A.M.

**RESOLUTION RE. DESTITUTE
FAMILIES OF POLITICAL
SUFFERERS—contd.**

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the further discussion of the following Resolution moved by **Shri Kamath** on the 23rd November, 1950:

"This House is of opinion that suitable arrangements should be made by Government for the maintenance of destitute families of political sufferers in the national liberation movement including those that participated therein during the first two decades of this century."

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta (Delhi): Before the House proceeds to discuss this resolution, I beg to move:

"That further discussion on **Shri Kamath's** resolution be adjourned."

My reason for making this motion is the second Resolution which has been balloted luckily for the Part C State and which is an important resolution. On the present resolution we have had enough discussion already and in view of the fact that Government gave certain assurances that some Bill is likely to be brought forward before this House to deal with the subject matter of the second resolution, if the

377 P.S

4675

second resolution is not reached or discussion on that resolution is not concluded today, the result will be that there will be no time left for Government to take note of the views of this House and then bring forward their proposed Bill. I would appeal therefore to the Mover of this resolution to accommodate us in this matter and agree to the postponement of further consideration of his resolution, to some other date, so that the second resolution may be taken up today.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): Sir as regards the statement of my hon. friend **Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta** I do not wish to pronounce any judgment upon the view he has expressed as to which is more important and which is less important. But there are one or two other points which I would like to submit to you, Sir, and to the House.

As the House well knows the resolution was taken up in the last session in November and postponed to this session. I think a resolution of this nature, though it may not be as important in my friend **Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta's** view as the second one, yet it has aroused considerable interest in the country, more interest perhaps than in the House.

A resolution like this, if it is needlessly delayed, is practically defeated. I am agreeable to the suggestion made by **Mr. Gupta** on the distinct understanding that my resolution will be taken up today after resolution No. 2 is disposed of or on the next non-official day during this Session, whether it is the 4th April or some other day. I only plead that my resolution should not be held over till the next Session. I hope that my hon. friend **Mr. Gupta** and his friends are agreeable to this course.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: I have only suggested adjournment. I am not opposed to the idea of **Mr. Kamath's** resolution being taken up later on.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): As regards the second suggestion of Mr. Kamath to give him preference on the next non-official day during this Session, that would in my opinion be against the rules. When I moved the Societies Amendment Bill, the hon. Law Minister made a similar suggestion and you were good enough to say that it was not possible. However, the Law Minister was kind enough to say that he would take out time from an official day and give me an opportunity. Therefore, if you give an assurance to Mr. Kamath, you have to give me also an assurance.

Mr. Speaker: I think Mr. Sidhva's objection is well founded. If Mr. Kamath's resolution is postponed, it will come up again in the ordinary way and nobody is in a position to give an assurance. If it is postponed, the position would be that it may even come in the ordinary ballot. The same fate suffered by Mr. Sidhva will have to be suffered by Mr. Kamath. I cannot make a distinction between one Member and another.

Shri Kamath: Is that the position even if the resolution is part-discussed?

Mr. Speaker: Last time the hon. Member's resolution came up as the first resolution. Because the matter was part-discussed and it was not finished at the end of the last non-official day, it has therefore come up again first today, which is the next non-official day. But that does not mean, that if the House takes a decision to postpone its consideration and take up Resolution No. 2 all other matters would be set aside on the next non-official day and the hon. Member's resolution would be given precedence. The position is different there.

Shri Kamath: Then may I request my hon. friend Mr. Gupta to agree to this course—that my resolution may be taken up straightaway and disposed of by 3 or 4 o'clock and then Resolution No. 2 may be taken up immediately after that?

Pandit M. B. Bhargava (Ajmer): Is it not possible to postpone discussion on Mr. Kamath's resolution with the consent of the House to the 4th April? There is no bar to that under the rules.

Mr. Speaker: I will just see the rules. The point that I have to consider is this. What will be the position of Mr. Kamath's resolution, if per-chance resolution No. 2 is not finished by this evening? Does he want that even if that be so, his resolution should come up again first on the 4th?

Shri Kamath: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: That is difficult. Only resolution No. 2 must continue.

Shri Kamath: In that case, may I request that mine may be taken up and disposed of today?

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: I have made a formal motion and I would request you, Sir, to consult the wishes of the House.

Mr. Speaker: Then, I shall put the motion to the House.

An Hon. Member: Can that be done under the rules?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri Kamath: You said with regard to the point made by Mr. Sidhva that this places my resolution in the same position as his. If by the consent of the House my resolution is postponed to the 4th, where is the objection?

Mr. Speaker: The difficulty is that the hon. Shri. Gupta does not agree to Shri Kamath's resolution being first taken up on the 4th if resolution No. 2 is not disposed of today.

12 Noon

Shri Kamath: But my resolution can be taken up on the 4th by the common consent of the House.

Mr. Speaker: The common consent of the House includes the consent of the hon. Member who is moving the adjournment. He himself does not agree to a part-postponement of the resolution in case this resolution is not finished today.

Shri Kamath: I am sure he is agreeable.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: I have made my object quite clear; I only want that precedence should be given to resolution No. 2 and on this the wishes of the House may be consulted.

Mr. Speaker: I think the best course is that I put the motion to the House, whatever be the consequences. Resolution moved:

"That further discussion on Shri Kamath's resolution No. 1 in the List of Business for the 16th March 1951 be adjourned."

Shri Kamath: May I speak on this?

Mr. Speaker: He has spoken on this already.

Shri Kamath: No, Sir. I have not spoken on this specific motion before the House.

Shri Sidhva: A formal motion was moved and speeches were allowed.

Mr. Speaker: A formal motion was moved but not placed before the House. The hon. Member is in perfect order. He may speak.

Shri Kamath: The procedure suggested in my hon. friend Shri Deshbandhu Gupta's motion is very extraordinary. This is the first motion of its kind. I believe, which has been brought before this House so far as private Members' resolutions are concerned. We have been sitting in this House for over three years now, first as the Legislative Assembly and then as the Parliament, but so far as I am aware this kind of motion has not been brought forward so far by any of my colleagues here.

Shri Sidhva: May I state, on a point of information, that only yesterday the Demand for Rs. 30 lakhs, in respect of collieries was postponed on a motion of adjournment moved by my hon. friend Shri Gokulbhai Bhatt? It was accepted by Government.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member Mr. Kamath refers to non-official Bills.

Shri Sidhva: Official or non-official—my point is that adjournment was moved and accepted.

Shri Kamath: I am surprised to see my friend Mr. Sidhva raise an argument of that nature. The distinction between private Members' legislation and official legislation is quite clear. Private Members' legislation always suffers from a handicap and only one or two days are allotted for such resolutions in this House. If Shri Deshbandhu Gupta's motion is accepted by the House, the position would be that my part-discussed resolution which involves in my judgment an important matter of principle will be practically discarded by the House. It will be shelved and I am sure that hon. Members who have already taken part in the discussion of this resolution of mine including the Prime Minister will agree with me that the House will be stultifying itself if they allow a resolution of this nature to be shelved. The suggestion made by Shri Deshbandhu Gupta in the motion moved by him is to my mind very unfair to the House which has already discussed this resolution on political sufferers. My first reaction to this motion was that it was more or less a dilatory motion so far as my own resolution is concerned. But even on merits as regards which you have been pleased to rule and on which therefore I need not dilate upon, the importance of the

first resolution is in no way less than that of the second. My hon. friend says "much more". I will not enter into a dispute as regards that. The House is seized of my resolution and so far as I can understand, judging by the number of amendments received and the number of Members who wish to take part in the discussion on my resolution, I feel that a motion of this nature is highly derogatory to the dignity and the privileges of this House. It will create a bad precedent, which I hope, will not be followed in future. But a precedent is a precedent and God alone knows what will happen to other important resolutions that may come up in future. If we set up a bad precedent of this nature we will be hampering the growth of healthy parliamentary traditions and sound parliamentary practices in this House, in this first Parliament of our Free Republic. I am aware that my hon. friend Shri Deshbandhu Gupta is keen—in fact, all of us are keen—about the second resolution. I would, therefore, once again plead with my hon. colleagues here and appeal to them and to the House to see that this resolution of his is taken up today straightaway, but disposed of either today, or even by, say twelve o'clock, or before lunch, on the next non-official day, so that on the next day at least my resolution will come up for discussion and the rights of the House will be adequately safeguarded.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, both the resolutions are before the House.

Mr. Speaker: I may say that we need not take a long time over discussions as to which of the two resolutions should be postponed; nor need hon. Members go into the merits of either resolution.

Shri Sidhva: As I said both the resolutions are important. But the point is which of the two is more urgent. That is the main point which my hon. friend Mr. Kamath and the House should bear in mind. Now, Sir, Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava's resolution reads:

"This House is of opinion that popularly elected Legislatures, and Ministries responsible to them be set up in all States in the Union of India where they do not exist, and particularly in Part C States, and to implement this, necessary steps be taken before the General Elections in the country."

Now, Sir if the House does not pass this resolution you do not give Government an opportunity to establish machinery for the establishment of

[Shri Sidhva]

popularly elected Legislatures and Ministries responsible to them in Part C States before the General Elections.

Dr. Deshmukh (Madhya Pradesh): What stops the Government from doing so?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is a different matter.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Member may as well address that question to Government. But here is a non-official resolution. We do not know what line Government is going to adopt on it. I, therefore, consider that this resolution is far more urgent and important than....

Shri Kamath: Question.

Shri Sidhva: My hon. friend Mr. Kamath may question. But I may tell my hon. friend that everyone of us has real sympathy for the political sufferers who have made sacrifices for a great cause. But my hon. friend Mr. Kamath will at the same time appreciate that they have not suffered in the expectation of any gain or return. Therein lies the greatness of their suffering.

My point, therefore, is, that this is a matter which can be held over. If the political sufferers could wait so long, I see no reason why they cannot wait a little longer. The resolution of Shri Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava should, I suggest be taken up first. My hon. friend Mr. Kamath may say that this resolution may be disposed of by lunch time and his taken up afterwards. But there are many hon. Members who wish to participate in the discussion and what is the certainty that it will be over by that time?

For these reasons, Sir, I support the amendment.

Shri Naziruddin Ahmad (West Bengal): Sir, I have an important point to make. Mr. Kamath's resolution was before the House during the last session. It was again debated on another day and I think, with respect to the House, that ample debate has taken place.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It was not debated for two days. The hon. Member will see that it was taken on the 31st of November and including Mr. Kamath and the hon. Prime Minister, eight Members have participated. So, that argument does not stand.

Shri Naziruddin Ahmad: I think there has been ample debate, because it is a matter on which there is general agreement.

Mr. Speaker: But considering the small number of hon. Members who have participated and the views expressed, it is not fair to say that there is no scope for further discussion.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Punjab): Sir, I beg to move an amendment to the motion of Shri Deshbandhu Gupta, "That Resolution No. 1 may be postponed to the 4th April 1951" so that the second resolution may be taken up first. I am anxious that both the resolutions should come up for discussion before the House. It is difficult to say which of the two is more important. I think this House is within its right to say that it may be postponed to the fourth. No rule of procedure is likely to be infringed thereby.

Dr. Deshmukh: I oppose this amendment for the reason that it will come in the way of resolutions, notices of which have already been given and which will be ballotted; I am prepared to allow my hon. friend Mr. Kamath to fight his domain so far as today is concerned. But so far as taking chances for the 4th is concerned, I am strongly opposed to it. We have taken the trouble of giving notices of resolutions which should not be stopped in the manner suggested in the amendment of Pandit Bhargava.

Mr. Speaker: I myself wanted to make that point clear. There will be a separate ballot for the 4th. The only point I was considering was, what the effect of the decision of the House would be. But I wanted to warn that nobody need be under the impression that it will be necessarily permissible for this resolution to be kept for the 4th, even if the House decides like that.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: I wish to make it quite clear that I do not in the least want to stand in the way of the passage of the first resolution which has been already discussed. All of us have got our sympathy with it. I only want that precedence may be given to the other resolution. If by any arrangement, therefore, it is possible that the first resolution can be taken after this resolution, I would be only too glad.

श्री मट्ट : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं यह सुझाव रखना चाहता हूँ कि दूसरा प्रस्ताव आज लिया जाये, लेकिन उस प्रस्ताव की बहस साढ़े चार बजे खत्म हो जाये और फिर मिस्टर कामथ का रिजोल्यूशन साढ़े चार बजे के बाद आ सकता है।

[**Shri Bhatt (Bombay)**: Sir, I propose that the second resolution may be taken up today but the discussion on that resolution should be concluded before half past four. At half past four **Shri Kamath's** resolution may be taken up.]

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu (Madras): While I am in agreement with the hon. Member for the postponement of the resolution on political sufferers, I wish to make an emphatic protest against the reasons adduced by **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta**. He said that there was no urgency,— or rather that the second resolution was more urgent than the first. My hon. friend **Mr. Sidhva** said that the political sufferers have waited for years and can afford to wait a little longer. May I say that the representatives of Part C States would not have been here to ventilate their grievances had not the political sufferers put them in such a position. This remark therefore comes with ill-grace or rather bad grace from such experienced legislators as Messrs. **Gupta** and **Sidhva**. Therefore, without adducing any reasons for the postponement, may I ask my hon. friends to simply ask for a postponement without giving reasons.

Shri P. Y. Deshpande (Madhya Pradesh): I do not want to speak on the merits of the resolutions—both are important. But the point is that under rule 122 of the Rules of Procedure, which deals with withdrawal of resolutions and amendments, "a Member who has moved a resolution or amendment to a resolution shall not withdraw the same except by leave of the House". So long therefore as the resolution is not withdrawn...

Mr. Speaker: It is not a question of withdrawal.

Shri P. Y. Deshpande: Then this motion for postponement, I respectfully submit, is out of order for the simple reason that the resolutions are tabled under a certain procedure, then a ballot is held and a resolution is put on the list of business. That list of business is to be followed rigorously. If despite the resolution being there a postponement is to be made at any time, then the Rules of Procedure lose all meaning. I would therefore suggest to both the hon. friends to arrive at some compromise whereby **Mr. Kamath** can gain his point and **Mr. Gupta** also may gain his point.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think any further discussion is now necessary over that. I should like only to refer to one observation of the hon. Member **Mr. Deshpande** as regards his plea

about the motion for postponement being out of order. The logical conclusion of upholding his point means that this House must always come to the end of any business that is placed before it. It is not so.

Shri P. Y. Deshpande: Or there has to be closure.

Mr. Speaker: It is not closure. It is competent for the House, and we have followed that procedure many times, to postpone a matter. That is the only observation I wish to make.

As regards the attempt at compromise, I have no objection and I shall be very happy if there is an agreed solution. But the question is how long shall we wait without business to await the compromise. Seeing the extremely divergent views, I do not have any hope of a compromise or an agreed solution.

The other observation which I made about the fate of the resolution, in case it is postponed was only as a measure of extra caution so that the Members may not take my remarks as meaning that necessarily the resolution will be coming on the 4th. It is not that I have decided the thing myself, I shall have to consider it again. But I may not be construed as having given an assurance, so that when the resolution comes again and I find that it cannot be placed before the House, nobody may carry an impression and say, "Well, Sir, you promised this thing and now you are going back upon it". Therefore I promise nothing that way. Whatever will happen under the Rules will take place. I merely place this position before the House.

Shri Kamath: Twenty minutes may be given for a compromise—or fifteen minutes.

Mr. Speaker: Is the House substantially agreed on the question of postponing the question for some time? I do not see any desire on the part of at least a substantial section of the House to postpone it. And I do not think **Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava's** amendment will be quite in order, as pointed out by some hon. Members.

Shri Kamath: The House may agree.

Mr. Speaker: The House is no doubt supreme, but it has to go through the procedure of changing the Rules. If the House takes it into its head to change any Rule at any time, it suits it and is convenient to it, there will be no fixity of procedure at all.

Shri Kamath: Rules are made for the House, and not the House for the Rules.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever it may be. The hon. Member may want it now to suit his purpose.

Shri Kamath: I protest against it.

Mr. Speaker: He is too much in the habit of protesting. (*Interruption*) Order, order. Suppose a thing which he does not like goes on and some Rule comes in.....

Shri Kamath: I will not come in the way.

Mr. Speaker:.....and some other Members do not like it. what procedure would he like me to follow? There must be a unanimous vote of the House for changing a particular procedure. If Rules come in the way it is not in the interests of observance of Rules, fixity of procedure and the best parliamentary traditions that we should go on changing the Rules without following the procedure of first changing the Rules.

Shri Kamath: It was done in the old Assembly.

Mr. Speaker: In the old Assembly, I know the Standing Orders were there but then the House was authorised to suspend the Standing Orders; and the first resolution that used to be carried was that Standing Order No. 50 and so be suspended. In exercise of the powers vested in it, the House used to suspend the Standing Order and the procedure.

Shri Kamath: Mr. Bhatt's amendment is that.....

Mr. Speaker: He need not interfere.

Shri Kamath: I am not interfering. I am only bringing it to your notice...

Mr. Speaker: He is interfering. (*Interruption*) Order, order. I am sitting in the House, and at a more advantageous position, to be able to see the whole House. Whatever that may be.....

श्री भट्ट : अध्यक्ष महोदय, क्या मैं अपनी बात समझा सकता हूँ ?

[**Shri Bhatt:** May I explain my point?]

Mr. Speaker: अभी समझाने की जरूरत नहीं है (It is not necessary.)

The question is:

"That further discussion on Shri Kamath's Resolution be adjourned."

The Motion was adopted.

RESOLUTION RE. ELECTED LEGISLATURES AND POPULAR MINISTRIES IN PART C STATES.

Mr. Speaker: We will now proceed to the next Resolution standing in the

name of Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava (Ajmer): Sir, I am extremely obliged to you and the House for giving priority to this motion. I beg to move:

"This House is of opinion that popularly elected Legislatures, and Ministries responsible to them be set up in all States in the Union of India where they do not exist, and particularly in Part C States, and to implement this, necessary steps be taken before the General Elections in the country."

[**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair**]

Sir, this resolution is wide enough to include all those States which at present do not have Legislatures and Ministries responsible to the Legislature. Therefore one part of this resolution says that in the opinion of the House, it is extremely desirable that elected Legislatures and Ministries responsible to the elected Legislatures be set up in all the States. So far as the particular emphasis of this Resolution is concerned, it refers to those States which come within the category of Part C of Scheduled I of the Constitution. So far as other States are concerned, I am aware that with the exclusion of one or two, there are Legislatures functioning in the various States, or at any rate, there are Ministries formed with the representatives of public opinion, who are in charge of day to day administration in either Part A or Part B States. With the exclusion of perhaps Hyderabad or Rajasthan, there are Ministries functioning in all the Part A and Part B States. (*Interruption*). My friend reminds me of PEPSU and with the exclusion of PEPSU, Rajasthan and Hyderabad in all the other Part A and Part B States, the popular Ministries are already functioning. So far as Rajasthan is concerned we have been promised a Ministry and the popular Ministry is to come into existence very soon. So far as PEPSU and Hyderabad are concerned, I would press upon the Government that the time has come when the Ministries should be re-shuffled on democratic lines and real and genuine representatives of public opinion should be associated with the day-to-day administration in these States. Whatever may be the difficult situation in Hyderabad—we know the Communist activities are a great menace and threat there—my submission is that if the administrative set-up is democratized, if popular representatives of public opinion are in charge of the Administration, they would be in a much better position to cope with the situation than if the

Administration is on autocratic lines or is run by those who do not command public opinion in the State. My submission, therefore, is that the Government should before the General Elections in the country and as soon as possible take up this matter because PEPSU as also Hyderabad are very important territories and also because there are undesirable activities carried on in both the places. We have recently seen what is the complaint in PEPSU. Consequently I press upon the Government the urgency and necessity of reshuffling the administrative set-up in these two States. The main emphasis of the resolution is in respect of the States which fall within the category of Part C of Schedule I of the Constitution. These are the States which have been consistently and continuously treated in a very step-motherly manner. The Part C States are again divisible into two categories. In the first category fall Ajmer, Coorg and Delhi. States which are deep-rooted in the past and which have got a history behind them. Ajmer stands on a slightly different footing from the other States which have seen the light of day very recently. These three States, i.e., Ajmer, Delhi and Coorg, as is quite obvious, were created by an irresponsible foreign bureaucracy in this country to suit its own political and strategic exigencies. They were the creation of history to suit the ways and means of the foreign Government to keep its grip and control over the surrounding areas. It was with this purpose that Ajmer was seized from Scindia in 1818 and till 1871 it formed part of the North West Province now known as Uttar Pradesh. For the purpose of having a Centre wherefrom all the neighbouring States in Rajasthan could be controlled it was bifurcated from the Province and made into a minor administration and kept under the suzerainty of the Agent to the Governor-General who acted as an *ex-officio* Chief Commissioner. Similarly Coorg was carved out as a separate principality and was then taken over by the British Government to suit the exigencies of the situation. As far as Delhi is concerned, it was for the purpose of shifting the capital from Calcutta to Delhi that it was bisected from the Punjab and made into a minor administration. These three States, which stand by themselves in a category have been controlled and governed by an autocratic system of administration which has remained intact in spite of so many constitutional changes in other parts of the country. In the Morley-Minto Reforms of 1909, Montague-Chelmsford Reforms of 1919 and in the Constitution Act of 1935, their position was kept as they were from the very

beginning. Coorg, of course got a Legislature in 1924 and the other two States got a representative in the Central Legislature. The Legislature in Coorg was a Legislature only in name; it was a purely advisory body and it is the Chief Commissioner who reigns supreme there and can very easily flout, reject and ignore the unanimous decision of the Legislature. No one should be deluded in thinking that it functions like a Legislature there. So far as Ajmer and Delhi are representative in the Central Legislature concerned, they were only given one tier Assembly. We know that the Central Legislative Assembly had to keep itself busy with questions of All India importance; it had neither the time nor the leisure to look to the administration of these two places. Consequently they have remained continuously as conclaves of bureaucratic and autocratic regime up to the very dawn of the national Government. But the treatment meted out to these territories at the hands of the National Government is in no way better than the treatment meted out to them by the British Bureaucracy. We know that in 1946, soon after the advent of the Muslim-Congress Coalition Government, Advisory Councils were established. No one believed in the advisability of our participating in these toy Advisory Councils but we were prevailed upon by our leader, the veteran Sardar, who was then in charge of Home Affairs to accept it as an experiment. We did it. We were assured definitely and positively that these Advisory Councils will in themselves form the nucleus for responsible Government in these areas, that the decisions of these bodies will be respected and acted upon by the Chief Commissioner, who in due course of time was to function only as a constitutional head of the Council, that the main responsibility of the administration was to be shifted from the Chief Commissioner to the hands of these bodies. It was on this assurance that we agreed to give the Advisory Councils a trial, and we participated in the elections. But, our actual experience has proved that the assurance was a hollow one and that it was only a net to entangle us to participate in these Advisory Councils. What has been their fate? So far as Ajmer is concerned, we heard from the hon. Mr. Gadgil holding a brief from the hon. Home Minister, saying that there has been a complete deadlock from the 4th May, 1950. The experience of the Advisory Council in Delhi as far as we know from the Papers and as far as we know from our friends is no better. They have not come to a deadlock; but to all intents and pur-

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poses, the decisions of the Advisory Council are thrown into the waste paper basket. My submission therefore is that notwithstanding the advent of national popular Government at the Centre, these territories have remained the citadels of reactionary, autocratic, irresponsible administration and the time has come when the administrative set-up in these areas should be democratised on popular lines.

This question was taken up by the Constituent Assembly which appointed a Sub-Committee consisting of seven distinguished Members of the Assembly including the hon. Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar and Mr. Santhanam. It is the pen of the hon. Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar that drafted the report which came to be known as the Pattabhi Report. It may be that by the change in the position, the hon. Minister has now changed his opinions. But, so far as that Committee was concerned, it drafted a constitution which was applicable to all the three areas. It laid down that popularly elected legislatures should be established in these areas and Ministries should also be formed which should be responsible to the elected legislatures. Keeping in view the size of these areas keeping in view that the financial responsibility was of the Central Government, the only restriction recommended was that the Central Parliament was to have concurrent legislative jurisdiction in all subjects in these areas, and secondly, the Budget to be passed by these legislatures was subjected to the approval of the President and would come into operation only after such approval. Similarly, any measures in the legislative field adopted by these legislatures will also be subject to the approval of the President. In a nutshell, the recommendation of the Pattabhi Committee was that these areas should be granted limited provincial autonomy with responsible Government, subject, of course, to the legislative and financial control of the Centre.

At the time when the report came for consideration before the Constituent Assembly of India, mainly due to the rapidly changing circumstances, because of the fact that a number of other areas which were to be integrated into the Union of States, or merged with provinces, came to be included in the category of Chief Commissioners' Provinces, and because of the difficulty of evolving a common formula that may apply to each and every area included in that category, the Constituent Assembly shelved the question of accepting the recommenda-

tions of that Committee and left that business to Parliament. It was with this background that articles 239 and 240 found place in the Constitution. Article 240 lays down that Parliament may create or continue in any of the Part C States, administered through a Lieutenant-Governor or Chief Commissioner, a body elected or nominated or partly elected and partly nominated to function as a legislature or a Council of Advisers or Ministers, or both, and the powers, constitution and functions of these bodies were to be laid down by law by Parliament.

It was expected that soon after the coming into force of the new Constitution, this Parliament would, on the lines already adopted by the Pattabhi Report, bring forward legislation which will democratise the administrative set-up and which will enable these areas to establish legislatures on adult franchise, and form Ministries responsible to the legislature. But, Sir, more than a year has passed and our patience has almost dried up; we have not seen that legislation which we had expected so long. In the last session of the Assembly in October-November, this matter was agitated in connection with the Peoples Representation Bill. Then, it was the hon. Prime Minister who assured the House that the matter will receive early consideration at the hands of the Government. We were expecting that at least in the beginning of this session, there will be an appropriate legislation piloted on behalf of the Government which will lay down the form of the democratic set-up in these provinces. But, we were disappointed. Hence this resolution.

Under the second category fall the different States which have newly been brought under the administration of the Centre and are being administered by Chief Commissioners: Himachal Pradesh and Bilaspur in the north, Tripura and Manipur in the eastern frontier, Cutch in the western frontier, Bhopal and Vindhya Pradesh in the centre. These new States have been carved out by some of the Native States having been taken over, like Bhopal, as Chief Commissioners' Provinces, and in other cases, in the process of integration and fusion, in a number of States where autocracy prevailed, new administrations have been formed. So far as Vindhya Pradesh is concerned, it was in Part B; it was only on the eve of the Constitution that the popular Ministry was dissolved and it was brought into Part C. The population of these areas ranges from 40 lakhs in the case of Vindhya Pradesh to 1½ lakhs in the case of Coorg. The smallness of size need not stand in the way

of the grant of responsible Government to these areas.

I have already drawn the attention of the House to the past history of these areas. What is the present state of affairs? We had very recently a Convention attended by a very large number of delegates from all these States. The hon. Deputy-Speaker was in the Chair. We heard from the representatives of these areas a tale of woe and the sorry state of administration that prevails in each of these States. They are hot beds of corruption, inefficiency, nepotism and favouritism. This sentence can be applied to all of them without exception, whether big or small. It is therefore essential and obligatory that the Government should feel its responsibility in the matter and sponsor legislation under article 240 of the Constitution, laying down a separate constitution on democratic lines for each of the areas. That can only be possible if legislation is piloted in Parliament at an early stage and brought on the Statute book. It is only then that it would be possible, at the time of the General Elections in the country, when representatives are elected to Parliament, to elect representatives also to the provincial legislatures. That is why it is mentioned in the resolution that necessary steps should be taken up well in time so that these areas may also be able to elect their own legislatures at the time of the general elections in the country. But that does not by itself, solve the problem. The next problem remains as to what is to be done to democratise the administrative set-up in these areas during the interim period, that is, during the period between now and the time when the new legislatures will come into existence according to the new Constitution. These areas cannot be allowed to go on in the present bureaucratic and autocratic fashion, because these areas are seething with discontent and dissatisfaction. The people in these areas naturally aspire for self-government. May I ask, Sir, in all humility whether the Republic that we have established, whether the splendid and magnificent structure of Republican India that we have carved out in the Constituent Assembly has no place for these areas? What does a republic mean? In my humble opinion, Sir, it means a government of the people, by the people and for the people. If that is to be achieved, can these areas be now allowed to be governed by foreigners who have no stake, who have no affinity, who do not know the people, who have no sympathy nor knowledge of the problems of.....

Shri Chalhha (Assam): Who are the foreigners?

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Any person who comes from outside as our Chief Commissioner and who acts in an irresponsible manner, without taking the opinion of the representatives of the people into account, without giving the elected and responsible representatives of the public opinion of the place, in the day to day administration of the province chance to shape, enunciate and implement administrative policy in matters connected with the day to day administration of the Province. Unless these facilities are immediately given, there is no hope of any improvement or any amelioration of the conditions of the teeming millions living in these areas. The total population of these ten States is about 10 millions or one crore, and what fault have they committed that they are being deprived of these elementary rights of citizenship, these rights of equality, of equal political justice and of enjoying the same status of equality and equality of opportunity, those rights which are held out to every citizen of every State in the Preamble upon which the entire structure of the Constitution of Free India is based? Sir, my submission is that there is absolutely no justice and there is absolutely no reason why any decision on this question should be delayed. The attitude of the Government has been an attitude of indecisiveness, and attitude of vacillation, in respect of these areas, and I submit that the time has come when no further delay should be allowed. The cup of patience and perseverance of the people of these areas is almost full to the brim. They are also aspiring for self-government and by no reason or logic or cause can they be further deprived of their valuable rights. My submission, therefore, is that the Government should not only by sponsoring appropriate legislation allow a constitution and democratic set-up for these areas, but the Government, the Minister of Home Affairs and also the Minister for States should take immediate measures to so democratise the existing administrative set-up so that the Chief Commissioner or the Lieutenant-Governor, by whatever name you may call him, may not be an autocrat of the previous British regime, though he may not be white, but brown instead of white, but only a constitutional head who is bound to take into consideration the voice of the representatives of the people, and the administration in these areas even during the interim period till the new legislatures are formed should be shifted from the autocratic hand of the Chief Commissioner to the representatives of the people who may be given a voice, and an effective voice in the day to day administration and who may be chiefly instrumental in

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shaping and implementing the policies of the administration from time to time.

Sir, may I also submit that there is no paucity of disgruntled political elements in these areas also and they are making capital out of the failure of our Government to concede the elementary rights of the people there and if no timely action is taken and if the administrative set-up is allowed to remain as it is, my submission is that there is bound to be trouble ahead, and it will be impossible for us to check the people and keep them patient any further. Therefore, this resolution that I have moved is a resolution which incorporates the hopes, ambitions and aspirations of ten million people who have been subjected to autocratic rule for centuries and the time is come when the Government should unhesitatingly announce its decision to accept this resolution and to announce that it will be possible for it to set up democratic institutions in these areas and, during the interim period it can take up the question of democratising the advisory councils or whatever they may be called, so that the representatives of the people may be responsible for the carrying out of the day to day administration in those areas.

Sir, this is all that I have to submit.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall place the resolution before the House.

Resolution moved:

"This House is of opinion that popularly elected Legislatures, and Ministries responsible to them be set up in all States in the Union of India where they do not exist, and particularly in Part C States, and to implement this, necessary steps be taken before the General Elections in the country."

There are the amendments. There is an amendment by Shri Sivan Pillay and another by Shri Damodara Menon. But they are not in their seats and so the amendments fall through. Then there is the amendment of Shri Kashinathrao Vaidya. Does he want to move it?

Shri K. Vaidya (Hyderabad): I beg to move:

For the original resolution, substitute the following:

"This House is of opinion that popularly elected legislatures and ministries responsible to them be set up forthwith in all Part B States, where they do not exist at

present, and particularly in Part C States, before the General Elections in the country, and to implement this, necessary steps be taken as soon as possible."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The amendment of Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay does not fit in with the language of the original Resolution.

Shri A. C. Guha (West Bengal): Sir, I move:

For the original resolution, substitute the following:

"This House is of opinion that while recognising the inherent rights of the people to be intimately associated with the administration of their lands and territories and also while recognising basic democratic principles of our constitution, the Government should take immediate steps so that popular elements and representatives may be associated with the administrations of all the States—where that has not yet been done and particularly in the Part C States."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then there is the amendment of Dr. Parmar of which notice was received only at 11-15 a.m. That also may be moved.

Dr. Parmar (Himachal Pradesh): I beg to move:

After the words "Part C States" insert the words "where definite commitment had been made by Government".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Amendments moved:

For the original resolution, substitute the following:

"This House is of opinion that popularly elected legislatures and ministries responsible to them be set up forthwith in all Part B States, where they do not exist at present, and particularly in Part C States, before the General Elections in the country, and to implement this, necessary steps be taken as soon as possible."

For the original resolution, substitute the following:

"This House is of opinion that while recognising the inherent rights of the people to be intimately associated with the administration of their lands and territories and also while recognising basic democratic principles of our

constitution. the Government should take immediate steps so that popular elements and representatives may be associated with the administrations of all the States—where that has not yet been done and particularly in the Part C States.”

After the words “Part C States” insert the words “where definite commitment had been made by Government”.

Now the general discussion on the Resolution and on the amendments may begin. I will first give an opportunity to those who have moved amendments. Mr. Vaidya.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay (Uttar Pradesh): Although the language of my amendment did not fit in with the resolution I hope I will be given an opportunity to speak.

Shri Dwivedi (Vindhya Pradesh): I hope I will be given an opportunity to speak after the Movers of the three amendments.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Under the rule the time allowed for speeches on a resolution is fifteen minutes, except in the case of the Mover and the hon. Minister, who will be allowed thirty minutes.

Shri Dwivedi: I hope you will kindly give more time to Members from Part C States. They are labouring under many difficulties which they are unable to represent during the course of the General Discussion on the General Debate. This is the only occasion when they can do so and I hope some more time will be allowed to them.

Thakur Lal Singh (Bhopal): At least one Member from each State should be given an opportunity to speak.

Capt. A. P. Singh (Vindhya Pradesh): Members from the bigger States should be given more time.

Shri K. Vaidya: The resolution before the House is a very important one. The people in these States are large in number. When the adjoining States are enjoying responsible government in many States like Hyderabad there is no responsible Government at present. I am particularly referring to Hyderabad, because it is a great unit in a sound economic position and administration can be carried on through competent men. But the privilege of responsible government has been denied to it. This resolution is intended to give responsible government to those Indian States. There must be a cabinet, which should be

responsible to the legislative council. In Hyderabad there is no legislative council. Formerly there was one which consisted of 19 members, out of which four were only elected—two from the pleaders and two from the mercantile class. The rest were nominated by the Government. The legislature was such that even the Budget was not presented to it: they were only informed of the Budget and it never came up for discussion. This continued for some time and in 1946 this legislative council was abolished. The present government is responsible to none, not even to the Nizam. Formerly the Nizam was all-in-all but after the Police Action the Nizam is nobody there. If at all the present administration is responsible to anybody, it is to the Government here. At the time of the escape of Laik Ali when the question was raised here the answer was given on the floor of this House that the Hyderabad administration was responsible to the *Rajpramukh*, namely the Nizam and that the Centre was not responsible. The present administration has been there for 2½ years but not much improvement has been made in it. It is going on in the old fashion. There is as much corruption as before and there has not been much change. There is a great fault in the administration. People from outside are not acquainted with local conditions and the other difficulty is that all official records are in Urdu. Most of the people from outside holding important posts cannot read these records and they have to depend on their personal assistants to give them a correct note or otherwise. But generally it is found that they do not get complete information, because they cannot read the records in Urdu.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member can continue his speech after Lunch.

The House then adjourned for Lunch till Half Past Two of the Clock.

The House re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair].

[**Shri K. Vaidya:** Sir, I was drawing the attention of hon. Members to the fact that the administration of Hyderabad is practically responsible to none there. Legally, it is said that it is responsible to the *Rajpramukh*, and it is so, to a certain extent, under the Constitution. But the position of the *Rajpramukh*, particularly of H. E. H. Nizam in Hyderabad State, is very peculiar. Practically, he does not exercise his

[Shri K. Vaidya]

power, he does not exercise his discretion, so much so that at the time the new Ministers from the people were appointed he did not even care to administer to them the oath of office, nor had a word with them regarding the offices which they were accepting. He is so indifferent to the administration. Therefore, though the administration is legally responsible to the *Rajpramukh*, he is not taking any interest whatsoever.

This leads me to mention another thing, what we call there the dual system. There are a number of officers there who have been taken from the adjoining States and appointed in Hyderabad. Their difficulty is that they are not acquainted with local circumstances, they do not know who is who. They do not know the local laws, they are not acquainted with the official language which is Urdu and cannot read the records and find out what is what. And the Hyderabad Government has to bear an additional burden of more than Rs. 40 lakhs. There is a *taluqdar* and a Collector, and a second *taluqdar* and an Assistant Collector. In this way there is a dual system. Apart from the fact that there are two officers to do a job, the result of it is that nobody thinks he is responsible for the administration. The old *taluqdar* thinks that he has to act according to instructions given by the Collector and he waits for his instructions, and the Collector coming from outside thinks there are two or three departments entrusted to him and he looks only to these.

There is one other point about these officers who have come from outside. They come there with a superiority complex. The people there say in ordinary parlance that they have come there as 'victors' after the Police Action. I would not go to that extent, but anyhow there is a difference and these officials consider themselves superior to the people of Hyderabad. This is another reason why they cannot enjoy the confidence of the people. The officers of the Civil Administration do not enjoy the confidence of the people, and that is a very important matter so far as administration is concerned. The people there cannot approach them. Therefore, what we require is an elected cabinet. Under an elected cabinet the popular Ministers would be there and as they enjoy the confidence of the people the people will approach them for getting redress.

There is the communist menace in Hyderabad. At the time at my dis-

posal I cannot dwell on it in detail. But, Sir, I doubt whether those who take part in these terrorist activities, who call themselves communists, know anything of communism. In fact they are terrorists. Before the Police Action there was the *Razakar* regime and all the anti-social elements in the State joined the *Razakars*. After the Police Action they continued under a different garb. They have taken full advantage of the circumstances. The police officers who have come from outside do not care much, or probably they cannot do much—of course, I do not say they are inefficient, what I emphasise is that the circumstances are such that though they may be efficient they cannot prove themselves quite useful there. But we have to bear this additional expenditure of Rs. 40 lakhs without any substantial result. Regarding police we have incurred an additional expenditure of more than Rs. 5 crores every year. Our usual expenditure on the police department in Hyderabad was about Rs. 71 lakhs. Now we have to spend Rs. 5 crores. And what is the result? It has got some effect, but at the same time I am not prepared to say, and many of us are not prepared to say, that it is completely satisfactory. Terrorism still goes on. If anybody were to report to the police that communists are hiding at such-and-such a place, immediately, or at the most the next day, he is shot dead. There is an instance of a doctor being shot in his own verandah while taking tea. Nobody's life is safe. This condition has now spread within fifteen miles of the City of Hyderabad. The only remedy is to have elected, popular Ministers, enjoying the confidence of the people who will be able to manage the situation. So far as the police department is concerned, may I say that Laik Ali escaped not only with his family but with his bag and baggage. There was another case of a man, with a death sentence hanging on his head, who managed to run away from the hospital. Every week we hear reports of prisoners escaping from jails or hospitals. Even recently, hon. Members must have read that another man involved in the Laik Ali case has escaped. Sir, these things encourage the anti-social elements there.

One other point which I wanted to bring to the notice of the House was the matter of subvention. The other day I spoke something on it. Sir, when the federal subjects were taken away, the income as well as the expenditure relating to those federal subjects came over to the Centre. Now in

regard to Hyderabad, the Indian States Finance Enquiry Committee said that the income is Rs. 557.40 lakhs and expenditure Rs. 336.01 lakhs. The difference comes to Rs. 221.39 lakhs. But what has been granted to us is only Rs. 135 lakhs, or Rs. 116 lakhs according to the Indian currency. And we suffered on that account. The calculations were made wrongly. The revenue from the Railways was not properly calculated—revenue for one year alone was considered. There were so many things which were brought to the notice of the Government, and they are specifically mentioned in the report of the Economy Committee, known as the Gorwalla Report. On page 86 of that report it has been said that the military expenditure has been taken as Rs. 2 crores. After giving reasons, the report says that it can never be more than Rs. 80 lakhs. But here it is claimed that the expenditure is more. We have placed the matter before the Hyderabad Government. Instead of Rs. 80 lakhs, they have claimed an expenditure of Rs. 2 crores. The difference should be returned to the Hyderabad Government. Similarly, income-tax has not been properly calculated. If all items had been, we would have been entitled to get Rs. 5 crores as compensation from the Central Government on that account. We have suffered very heavily during the last five years. There was the *Razakar* menace and more than Rs. 18 crores were squandered away by the Laik Ali Ministry. The new administration has spent more than Rs. 5 crores on the Police Department. For the civil administrators who have come from outside more than Rs. 40 lakhs have been spent. Thus, our expenditure has increased. We are short of money. We have our own nation-building schemes, development schemes, big river valley projects, hydro-electric schemes etc. For them, we require money. The point I want to make out is that if there had been responsible Government, if there had been popular Ministers in the Cabinet, then the present figures would not have been arrived at and our subvention would not have been curtailed. I had put a question in this House and was informed that the amount of income was so much and the expenditure so much and that all this had been done with the consent of the Hyderabad Government. Now, I want to know what this 'consent' means. Whose consent? Are these people the representatives of the people? They are the nominees of the Central Government. I am not in the know of things, but I do not think that they will be above the influence of the Central

Government. If the Central Government asks them to do a certain thing, naturally they will carry it out.

These are the points which necessitate the establishment of popular Government. There are several others, but looking to the time I shall confine myself in the rest of my speech to Communism. Communism is an all-India menace. It is not a local problem. It has come to us from Madras. If any province is liable to it, it is Madras, and also the Central Government. Why should we people be asked to spend Rs. 5 crores or more on this account? In fact, these people are not communists. They are mere looters and anti-social elements. They commit violence but want to go under the patriotic name of 'Communists'. If you want to bring Communism under control, you can do so easily provided the local people are interested in it and powers are given to them. When there is an elected legislature, this is possible. That is why I urge the establishment of popular Government at the earliest possible date.

The demand for popular Government has been there for a long time and I am sure my amendment would be acceptable to the House because the representatives of Part A States cannot deny this right to their brothers in Part B States. We are sympathetic with the people of Part C States and the resolution includes them also. Therefore, I hope that every Member of the House will accept my amendment. The only point is how far Government would accept it. It is for them to decide. But if pressure is brought upon Government by all Members they will accept the proposition put forward by me.

Dr. Parmar (Himachal Pradesh): I rise to support the resolution moved by my hon. friend Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava. It is time that this House took notice of the fact that large areas of this country which had been expecting to play their part in the Government of the country with the introduction of the new Constitution have been denied that opportunity. A number of States which previously used to be under the Home Ministry or the Political Department are now Part B or Part C States and there is great distrust and natural dissatisfaction in those areas because they find that with the coming elections they are unable to go before the people with any message. What is it that they will go before the electorate for? For a few seats in Parliament, or for real amelioration of the conditions of the people and raising of their standards, so as to bring them up to the level of

[Dr. Parmar]

people in other parts of the country? I am glad, Sir, that at this opportune moment this resolution has come.

Part B States like Rajasthan and PEPSU have been denied a proper share in the administration. In Rajasthan there has been news that a Ministry is likely to be set up shortly, but affairs in PEPSU are causing misapprehensions in the minds of so many people and the conditions prevailing there and the way the administration has been deteriorating are a source of great concern to the residents of PEPSU. We have heard with close attention what Prof. Yashwant Rai had to say the other day. A Ministry should be brought into existence which commands the confidence of the people and which will be able to manage the affairs of PEPSU and also face the electorate at the time of the elections. We have been particularly interested in Part C States and the democratisation of the set-up there has been under the consideration of this Government and the House. Assurances have been given from time to time. The matter was left to the Parliament to decide by the Constituent Assembly because it was not that Government was against us or that it did not approve the Pattabhi Report, but because more areas were coming in and there was a desire to provide for the process of getting more areas under the Centre. It was because of that that it was thought better to leave the matter in the hands of Parliament. Thereafter, attempts have been made to take a step forward. In the interval, the Administrations have been running under Chief Commissioners. The Chief Commissioners have established themselves and their regime has been causing very great concern to all those who have had experience of them. Autocracy has increased and while in the rest of the country people have taken charge of their own affairs, at least for Himachal Pradesh it was thought proper that an Englishman should be our Chief Commissioner. The effect of this we have fully realised and felt. In the White Paper on Indian States, 1949-50 an assurance was given that advisory councils would be set up in all these States. The advisory councils were supposed to represent the feeling of the people of those areas and that their recommendations would have due consideration at the hands of Government. But in many of the States no advisory councils were set up. In States like Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara or Himachal Pradesh, where they have been set up, the experience has been none too happy. When this council was about to be set up in

Himachal Pradesh, we had our own apprehensions about its utility and the Himachal Congress Committee brought it to the notice of the All India Congress Committee that this advisory body, with its limited functions, and its advice not binding on the Chief Commissioner, was not likely to prove successful. We therefore suggested that while the process of integration or consolidation of the administration was going on, the Congress should be allowed to carry on its own work and should not be associated with the Council in this manner. But our suggestion was not accepted. We are trying our best from our side to give all co-operation to the administration. But our experience has been that it is absolutely impossible to work with the Chief Commissioner and that it is a sheer waste of time and money. Not only that it is deceiving the people whom we are supposed to represent in those advisory councils. The people think that with the association of people's representatives, the whole machinery of Government is in their hands and any act of commission or omission on the part of the administration is done in consultation with or on the advice of the members of the advisory councils. The fact is that nothing that the non-official representatives suggest on matters of importance is ever implemented. Anything which the administration feels should be handled in their own way is never brought before the councils. Therefore, while the non-official representatives have to face all public criticism and earn a bad name when something goes wrong, they in their turn are not able to do anything good, because their voice is never heard.

I am glad that the Ministry of States have at last admitted that these advisory councils are not functioning and that there are complaints from all sides.

Sir, we are now faced with a serious proposition. You cannot leave the States as they are. Every time this matter was brought up, some excuse or the other was trotted out—that the future set-up of these States may undergo a change, that some of them may be merged, and so on. The submission I want to make is that Part C States are there. They are a part and parcel of our country and our Constitution. Whether you merge them, or whether you do not merge them, one thing is positive and that is that no part of India can go without representation in its administration when the new Constitution really comes into force. That is a fact which has to be

recognised. Keeping these areas without representation and leaving the whole administration in the hands of officials, would lead to our failing to win the confidence of the people, giving rise to very grave consequences and difficulties. The people of these areas have waited long enough. Realising the difficulties facing the Government they did not want to force the issue. But now that the whole country is about to go to the polls on the basis of adult franchise with joint electorate, what do you propose doing? Can you still think that these areas can remain without any representation? Do you think that the people of these areas can be denied a chance to go to the polls for electing representatives for their own areas? Will they remain content with electing a few Members to the Parliament and jointly electing one person to the Council of States? Do you not think it will be too much of a farce to appeal to the imagination of the people of these States under these circumstances?

In this connection, Sir, I may be allowed to refer to a few matters concerning particularly my State of Himachal Pradesh. It is not just a matter of our having our own legislatures or popular ministries under the Constitution. So far as we in the Himachal Pradesh are concerned, there is something much more than that. There is a definite commitment on the part of the Government of India, and for that matter this House, to provide for a popularly elected Government for Himachal Pradesh. The House would be aware that Himachal Pradesh consists of some twenty-eight States. They used to be called Simla Hill States, or Punjab Hill States. They used to be under the Resident of the Punjab Hill States. It was the object of the people of these States, western *Pahari* speaking people as they are, to form a province of their own with Jammu and Kashmir on the one side and Garhwal on the other. For that purpose we had to launch a *satyagraha* movement, because the rulers especially of the Simla Hill States, except Sirmur, Mandi and Chamba had tried to form a Union of States which was also called Himachal Pradesh. I have got documents with me—I am sorry the time at my disposal is short—whereby I could show that the princes and some of our workers, had agreed,—in fact decided—to oppose any type of merger, whether it be with any province, or with the Centre. We opposed that move and wanted to come under the Centre, of course, on the understanding that as soon as the Constitution came into force we would become a full-fledged province with a

Lieutenant-Governor and popularly elected legislatures. That was an assurance given to us by Dr. Pattabhi and the Congress as such and by Sardar Patel. This is embodied in the Covenant which the Government of India drew up with the Himachal State Rulers. Thereafter a clarification was given by Sardar Patel to Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya as President of the States' Peoples Conference, under which we were then working, that there need be no misgiving about the future of Himachal Pradesh and that it would first be a Chief Commissioner's province to begin with and then become a Lieutenant-Governor's province with a Legislature and finally an autonomous province

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reasons for it, for allowing an autonomous State to be evolved in due time. That commitment is clear and unambiguous. There can be no doubt about it. When my friends asked me whether I have any commitment I said I have got one. I actually have it with me here. The States Ministry is aware of it and the Government of India knows it. The Government has stood by the agreement made with the Princes. Is it that you are prepared to stand by the agreements which you have made only with the princes and that in the case of a State where you have made an agreement not only with the Rulers but with the people according to their desire and put it into writing, there can be a question of delaying that event? I fail to understand it. Delay in this matter means negation as far as we are concerned. Any delay in this matter would be negation, for who knows when the next Parliament is coming and what they will do? It is this Parliament which is wedded, on the authority of the Government of India and subject to the decision of the Constituent Assembly, to the establishment of a Lieutenant-Governor's Province with a Legislature and a Ministry there. It is for this House to consider this matter and to do justice not only to Himachal Pradesh but to the whole of the Part B and Part C States. Particularly with regard to Himachal Pradesh this is what I wanted to bring to the notice of this House.

Shri A. C. Guha: I support the spirit and purpose of the resolution moved by Shri Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava, but I have moved an amendment to it which leaves the language somewhat elastic and flexible, as I do not like to bind the hands of the Government to a particular and definite procedure or step. My purpose is—and I hope the whole House will agree

[Shri A. C. Guha]

with me—to see that democracy is introduced in those parts of our country where it has so long been denied. We take pride in, and I think we can be rightly proud of, our Constitution being one of the most democratic Constitutions in the world. When we have a Constitution on a democratic basis we have no justification, moral or legal, to deny the benefit of that democracy to quite a large number of our compatriots or certain units of our country. It seems the Government have been working under something like a suspicion and an apprehension of the popular elements. It has not been possible for them to withhold some scope to the popular elements here, but they have been unnecessarily cautious and unnecessarily timid about introducing democracy in certain other parts of the country which have often been called as backward tracts. I cannot understand when certain small States immediately on their integration with the neighbouring Provinces have been given democracy, the rights of representation and the privileges of popular democratic institutions, what purpose there can be to deny similar rights to other States similarly advanced or being in the same status and having the same social, economic and political advancement as those States that have so far been integrated with neighbouring bigger Provinces or States.

Sir, I do not come from any Part C State, but I have some intimate connections with the conditions prevailing in Tripura and Manipur. What have we been seeing in these two territories? The Government have decided that the old order of things should continue in these two States. But we see that there has almost been a complete collapse of law and order there. It has been stated in this House on two or three occasions that anti-social elements and subversive political groups have been working in these two States almost with impunity and the only step that the Government have taken is to deprive the people of any means of self-defence. They have taken away all arms and arms licences from the peaceful citizens, while the anti-social elements have been getting arms even from police stations, from the hands of constables, and from government armouries.

These two States are frontier States. Manipur is adjoining Burma and Tripura is surrounded on almost three sides by Pakistan. These two States have practically no communications with the outside world. The other day

the Transport Minister was pleased to say that there is no railway connection and no motor road to and from Tripura. Then on a supplementary question of mine, he was further pleased to state that the only available means of communication for the people is the airlift—as if that could be availed of by each and every citizen of the State. If this Government, through a Chief Commissioner, had brought about any progress and had been able to stabilise the conditions in those two areas, or similar other areas, then there might have been some justification—if not moral and ethical, at least administrative justification—for the retention of the Chief Commissioner's administration. But we have not been able to see that too. Tripura and Manipur have been under the administration of the Central Government for over three years. We have hardly seen any social progress in matters educational, hygienic or economic. There has been no expansion of educational facilities; there has been no extension of medical facilities in Tripura. It has only one improvised hospital at Aggartala, and the interior has no facilities for medical treatment—no hospital, not even a dispensary. As for postal communications: in the greater part of Tripura State, any postal communication has to pass through Pakistan territory. Even postal communications from one part of the State to another part have to pass through Pakistan territory. There are certain regions in the State where people have to go and post their letters in some Pakistan post office and purchase their postage stamps from some Pakistan post office. This is the state of affairs which the administration by the Chief Commissioner has been able to produce in that State.

In these three years there have been four changes in the Chief Commissionership in Tripura and I am told that there is likely to be another change. I do not like to drag in the individual question of an administrator or any officer. I have never done so, but at least in one case, I would like the hon. Minister to enquire about his antecedents and his activities while he was enjoying a similar position in another native State now merged with West Bengal. I do not like him to enquire from agitators and political workers. Let him make the enquiry from two succeeding officers. One is, I think, Mr. Nanjappa and another is Mr. Hazra. Let him make enquiries from these two officers about the mischievous activities of that official. He has again been posted to another very difficult State as Chief Commissioner.

I can say that these two officials who succeeded him in that previous State would testify to the hon. Minister that there he was engaged in activities which were inimical to this Country. Even then, that officer has been enjoying the confidence of the Government. But this Government has not been able to show any confidence in the popular element of people who have been fighting for the liberation of the country in those territories. At least in Tripura, I can say that there is a well-organized Congress Office and there have been quite a large number of Congress workers who are as responsible and as efficient as most of us. Sir, the whole administration is being run by keeping those Congress people in aloofness and in suspicion.

Sir, if the Government decides to continue the post of Chief Commissionership, I would urge upon this House to see that the Chief Commissioner may not be recruited from the Services but as in the case of Governors may be taken from public life. Let them be nominated by the President as in the case of Governors for States; but let them be recruited from public life. Let the Government take courage and show some confidence in the people who have brought about the independence of this country and let them not pathetically depend upon the officials, whose antecedents I do not like to rake up here.

Today during the Question Hour the matter of Advisory Councils came up before this House. Sir, from these papers (circulars of the Government in this connection) it appears that there have been 4 Advisory Councils each differing from the other. I do not know what principle they have been following. In Himachal Pradesh there are 3 representatives of the rulers of States out of 7 and 4 are representatives of the people. In Manipur there will be 14 members. They are all to be nominated by the Central Government in consultation with the Chief Commissioner. This practically means that the 14 will be nominated by the Chief Commissioner and the Central Government will simply put their stamp of approval and this has resulted in troubles and resignations. Parliamentary form of democracy means Party Government. Why should you be ashamed that the Congress Party is running this Government and why should you not openly and boldly try to associate the Congress elements in those States in the administration of the regions? You have always been anxious to collect fossils who have the stamp of respectability on

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their forehead. Let the Government give up this fad for respectability and experience; let them try public workers who have been doing Congress work and who have been carrying on the fight of liberation in those Part C States. Sir, among the Part C States like Manipur and Tripura the people are linguistically and ethnically different from those in the adjoining States. These are States which have their borders surrounded by some other foreign States. These two States particularly may be treated as separate units. The States like Bhopal and Coorg are surrounded by Indian States and I do not understand why these States should be kept separate and not integrated with the adjoining areas. The British in the course of their conquest have made administrative arrangements to suit their own exigency and there does not seem to be any necessity to continue those arrangements. Coorg is ethnically and linguistically the same as Mysore and I cannot see any harm will be done by integrating Coorg with Mysore. Bhopal can similarly be integrated with either Madhya Bharat or Madhya Pradesh.

I hope the Government will take immediate steps so that before the next elections there may be popular elements in the States and not the so-called Advisory Councils whose function is simply to advise the Chief Commissioner and the Chief Commissioner is free to reject their advice. Let there be real and effective elements introduced into the administration of these States. Lastly I would again urge that if the Chief Commissioner's post is to be retained at all, it should either be filled by some one from public life. If nomination is to be continued, let the nomination be made by the President and let men from public life be taken. There are men even in those States who would be able to manage the affairs of those small territories. With these few words I commend that the spirit of the resolution of Pandit M. B. Bhargava be implemented immediately.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): It is true that the Members from Part C States have a greater right to express their views but to enable Government to know what other Members also feel about this, Members other than of Part C States should be given an opportunity. I say this not only in their interest but also of the Government that they should know what we feel about it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would like to give an opportunity to those people who know where the shoe pinches.

Shri Dwivedi: I appreciate Mr. Sidhva's approach, but as a matter of fact, the Part C Members never get an opportunity to express their view points and it is the only occasion when they can ventilate their ideas. As such I think it is our legitimate claim to say something. If hon. Members other than those from Part C States want to speak they have got an opportunity to say anything they like at any time and on so many occasions.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, first of all I want to bring fresh into the memory of the House the golden ideals, and principles which have been laid down in the Constitution and the equality of every description which has been aimed at. At the same time I want also to bring into the memory of the Government the objective of the Indian National Congress where also, equality of every description is aimed at. If in the light of these, the initiative had come from the Government in putting forward a piece of legislation to give some democratic set-up in these States, I would have been glad but it is a matter of regret that the Government has not come forward and we had to go from door to door for getting the signatures of some Members on a resolution so that it may be balloted and get an opportunity to ventilate our ideas here. I am glad the occasion has come and we are able now to say something about these Part C States. I may tell you that these Part C States, as they have been constituted, have got serious setbacks so far as the administrative machinery is concerned. The Chief Commissioners in these States are acting to all intents and purposes as autocrats. They are under the Centre. What happens is that the Centre is not interested in the local affairs and the Chief Commissioner sends reports only in fitness of things that he likes best and there also the reports are not very true. They do not represent the popular points of view. He thinks that if he acts in a manner which is best suited to himself, by representing which in his own manner, he can please the Government, that is his only best way and he does not care for the popular view and therefore things happen like that. The Chief Commissioner who is a Government employee is never afraid of any action worth the while being taken against him. Whatever may be his actions, whether it is good or bad, all that may happen is that he might be transferred from that place. That is all.

I would like to remind the House of one instance of this nature. Last

time when Mr. Shri Nath Mehta was the Chief Commissioner in Vindhya Pradesh, he did two things which were highly objectionable. Firstly, when a number of refugees or displaced persons were marching towards Rewa from Satna to voice their grievances, they were ordered to be stopped at a certain place. They were given ten minutes time to withdraw from the place. When they insisted upon telling the things and going to Rewa, they were ordered to go back. When they did not go back, they were tear-gassed, and chased at the point of the bayonet to a distance of seven miles from the place where they were, without any regard for the age or sex of the people. I may tell you frankly, Sir, that many children and women suffered injuries. This is not the way of doing things. If the Chief Commissioner had asked any of the public workers, we would have gladly appeased those displaced persons and they would not have insisted on marching to Rewa. In the same way, when there was agitation against the merger, the Chief Commissioner or the Magistrate did not resort to section 144 Cr.P.C., nor to lathi charges, but downright ordered firing. Some students were fired against with fatal casualties. When we requested the Government to institute an enquiry into the matter, it was stated that no enquiry was necessary as the Chief Commissioner and the Magistrate had acted in good faith.

Sir, we belong to the place. We have seen things for ourselves and we feel for certain that things are being done in a manner which is not justified by the Government we have at present at the place. I feel that the Chief Commissioner's regime is not in any way suitable to this place. Some sort of popular touch is necessary; otherwise, things cannot improve. Since the advent of the Chief Commissioners, there has been no improvement in law and order. When the popular Ministry was functioning there, gangs of dacoits were arrested. But, when the Chief Commissioner came to power, those dacoits escaped from the place where the Magistrate was holding the trial. Not only that; those dacoits, with fetters on, went away with the rifles of the policemen who were guarding there. Besides a good number of prisoners escaped from various jails in the Vindhya Pradesh. These things never occurred before, neither during the regime of the rulers, nor that of the popular ministers. What happens is this. The police does not get sufficient power from the Centre. They have always to look to the Centre for orders. In the absence of

proper orders, it results in the public being terrorised by the police themselves. I may say frankly that when a person goes and informs the police about the whereabouts of a gang of dacoits, the police informs the dacoits that such and such persons are informing them, and the result is that their noses and ears are chopped off and red hot iron thrust into their eyes. There is terror prevailing in Bundelkhand and gangs of dacoits are looting and plundering without being arrested. This is going on for the last 8 or 10 months, and Government is not able to bring them to book even at a very great expense. I have heard that one or two persons have been arrested recently; but they are not the very important persons. This is the condition of law and order.

As regards the judiciary, Vindhya Pradesh was a province where Hindi language was in use in the courts. Since the advent of these Chief Commissioners what has happened is this. The Constitution lays down that English shall remain in force for 15 years. Now, judgment and everything is written in English. If the Constitution says that Hindi should come in after 15 years, I do not see any reason why in places where Hindi was being used, English should be forced on the people. I think it is going back. If there was a popular Ministry, they would have exercised their judgment in these matters.

Besides this, Government is interfering with the judiciary. I asked a question the other day in connection with the prosecution of a certain Minister who was charged with having embezzled 60 per cent. of the proceeds of the Gandhi National Memorial Fund collections. It was replied that high level legal opinion was taken and the case has been withdrawn. I may ask the hon. Minister concerned why that high level legal opinion was not taken when the case was instituted and why the authorities of the Gandhi National Memorial Fund were not consulted before the case was withdrawn? The fact remains that 60 per cent. of the proceeds of the Gandhi National Memorial Fund collections has not yet been returned by the Minister. He is at large. If this sort of favouritism continues, I think this country cannot get on better.

These are the circumstances in which the Part C States are suffering. My hon. friend Mr. Parmar emphasised the difficulties in the Himachal Pradesh. There are difficulties in Coorg; there are difficulties in Ajmer; there are difficulties in Delhi and there are

difficulties in so many other States. It is high time that we give at once a democratic set-up to these Part C States also. The Constitution guarantees equality of status and equality of opportunity to every citizen of India. These Part C States have a population of about a crore of people. They should not remain deprived of those rights. Therefore I stand to support this resolution. I would request the Government, as soon as this resolution is discussed, to introduce a Bill in this House providing for a legislature, and Council of Ministers responsible to the legislature in these Part C States. In the interim period, the popular elements in the State should be associated with the day to day administration in full measure. Unless this is done, the condition of the Part C States is not going to improve. We the public workers, not only Congressmen, feel a sense of frustration and disappointment all round in the country. Wherever you go, you find nobody is in agreement with the Government which is going on, particularly, when no improvement is visible in any direction.

So far as the administration is concerned, bribery is rampant; corruption of all description has been let loose. There is nobody to control all these things. The Chief Commissioner does not so much care for all this.

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): May I, Sir, draw your attention to the wholesale charges that my hon. friend has been levelling against all officials and sundry. He has, no doubt, the privilege of a Member of Parliament to say what he likes. But, I think it is unfair to the officers that they should be attacked in this way. If I had to meet every one of his accusations, I shall take three days. But, I can assure the House that I will prove that his statements are of the most exaggerated description, if some of them are not unfounded. It is unfair to the officers that they should be dragged in this fashion into the debate, because Members of Parliament have got a privilege of free speech but it should not be abused and they can fling anything that comes uppermost to their lips at officers.

Shri Dwivedi: I do not want to accuse everybody. There are honest persons and they are working faithfully also. I do not want to accuse the Government of all these things indiscriminately. Corruption in big scale is on the increase; that is what I wanted to point out. If there is anything

[Shri Dwivedi]

objectionable in what I have said which I do not think there is, I am prepared to withdraw that. I may only state that if the hon. Minister enquires into these things, he will find that my statements are not exaggerated and that there is truth in them. If there is no truth, I will be the first person to come and say that it is so. At the same time, I do not want to accuse the Government or the officers. I know that there are very honest persons also and very capable too and they have been helping the administration of the country and co-operating with the Government. I have all praise for them. But at the same time, there are certain grievances and it is my legitimate duty to voice those grievances here. I must say that those Part C States which are big enough and which can afford to have a popular set-up must be given an opportunity to have their say in the day to day administration of the country. That is the only way of running the Government. We would then also be fulfilling the promises which we have been giving from time to time. You can well imagine, Sir, howsoever capable and howsoever efficient the Chief Commissioner may be, he alone cannot discharge all the duties and responsibilities. He may not be able to understand the difficulties that the people have because he is not one with them. Therefore, it is necessary that the representatives of the people of those States must have their say in the day to day administration so that irrespective of the Chief Commissioner we may run the administration on better lines. With these words, Sir, I support the resolution with all the zeal that I command.

ठाकुर लाल सिंह : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आप ने आज सी पार्ट स्टेट्स के रहने वालों को (वहाँ के मेम्बरों को) आज इतना अधिक समय दिया कि हम सब अपनी स्थिति जो सी पार्ट की रियासतों में है (और प्रत्येक रियासत की अपनी एक अलग स्थिति है) की एक प्रकार की नहीं है) हाउस के सामने रख सकें, और इसी कारण वह सब मुसीबत में है । विशेष कर विन्ध्य प्रदेश तथा हिमाचल प्रदेश इतनी बड़ी रियासतें हैं कि उन की समस्या सामने आते ही

हमारे अधिकारियों का ध्यान इस तरफ़ गया और जल्दी ही उन के भाग्य का निर्णय हो जायेगा और उन को शायद वह सब हकूक मिल जाय जो ए. स्टेट्स को प्राप्त हैं ।

अब रह जाती हैं दूसरी रियासतें, उन की स्थिति जो बतलाई गई है, कुछ ऐसी पेचीदा है कि उन के बारे में शायद कबिनेट (Cabinet) अभी कोई जल्द फ़ैसला नहीं कर सकता । मनीपुर, त्रिपुरा और कच्छ की सरहदी रियासतें कही जाती हैं, जो शायद बाउन्डरी (boundary) पर होने पर उन की स्थिति में शायद कुछ खतरा हो, और इस कारण से सेन्टर (Centre) को उन पर अपना कुछ न कुछ अधिकार रखना ही चाहिये । लेकिन भोपाल रियासत तो मध्य में हैं, यह न तो सरहद पर ही है, जिस के लिए कहा जाये कि वहाँ कोई खतरा हो सकता है, न इतनी ही बड़ी रियासत है, जैसे कि विन्ध्य प्रदेश और हिमाचल प्रदेश हैं जिन के लिए सेन्टर फ़ौरन ही बग़ैर ज्यादा तहकीकात के यह फ़ैसला कर दे कि इस को हम फ़ौरन ही लेजिस्लेचर (legislature) या मिनिस्ट्रियल सेट अप (Ministerial set-up) दे देंगे । इसलिये इस की समस्या क्यों झमेले में डाली जाती है, यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता । यह बात बताई जाती है कि नवाब साहब ने जिस वक्त एग्रीमेंट (agreement) पर दस्तखत किया उस वक्त यह शर्त रख दी थी कि कम से कम पाँच वर्ष तक तो आप को इसे अलग ही रखना पड़ेगा । मैं आप को यह अलफ़ाज़ बताता हूँ जो एग्रीमेंट में है और जिस में दो बातें कही गयी हैं, सिर्फ़ यह नहीं कि पाँच वर्ष तक उसे चीफ़

कमिश्नर की मातहत में रखा जायेगा ।
फहली बात उस में यह है :

"That the administration of the State of Bhopal shall be taken over and carried on by the Government of India and that for a period of five years next after the date of transfer, the State shall be administered as a Chief Commissioner's province."

एक बात तो यह है, दूसरी बात जो उस में कही गयी है और जिस की तरफ बहुत कम ध्यान दिया जाता है और जो सब से ज्यादा परेशान करने वाली है, वह यह है ।

(English translation of the above speech)

Thakur Lal Singh: Sir, I am grateful to you for affording ample time today to those of us who come from Part C States enabling us, thereby to place before the House the conditions, which are peculiar in each case, actually prevailing at present in our respective States. This peculiarity in these conditions is verily the root cause of all their troubles. In particular Vindhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh among them happen to be States of considerable size and perhaps this explains the reason why they have been able to attract attention of the Government and now a decision regarding their future is expected to be taken shortly and possibly they may get all the rights as have been conceded to Part A States.

Now as for as the rest, their conditions, as stated, are so complicated that the Cabinet cannot be expected to take any hasty or early decision in regard to them. Out of these, Manipur, Tripura and Kutch are known to be frontier states and being situated on the boundary, the situation prevailing in them is apt to give rise to certain apprehensions. The Centre, as such, must exercise certain overriding powers in their case. But as for Bhopal, it happens to be a centrally situated one and, as such, no apprehensions can be entertained in its case which normally come up for consideration in case of a frontier state. Neither it is so big as Vindhya Pradesh or Himachal Pradesh as may require the Centre to undertake any detailed investigation before proceeding forth with the introduction of a legislature or a ministerial set-up

there. Why then make matters complicated in this case? I simply fail to see any justification for it. It is said that while entering into an agreement, the Nawab of Bhopal had laid down a condition that for five years at least, the state will have no legislature or a ministerial set-up. I may quote the actual words occurring in the agreement. Two things have been stated therein and the matter does not end with the statement that the state shall be administered as a Chief Commissioner's province for five years. The first thing that has been stated is:

"That the administration of the State of Bhopal shall be taken over and carried on by the Government of India and that for a period of five years next after the date of transfer, the State shall be administered as a Chief Commissioner's province."

This is one thing. Another thing which attracts very rare attention but which, however, is most embarrassing is as follows:

[Followed by speech in English].

"It is further agreed that on the expiry of this period of five years, the future administrative arrangements for this State may have to be reviewed."

Now, who will review it? It does not say that the Central Government will have to review the position. I think I should go on in English so that the hon. Minister may understand me better. His Highness has expressly made our Central Government to sign this agreement according to which for the first five years this State of Bhopal will not be merged with any other area. And after this period of five years has elapsed, the state of affairs will be reviewed. But who will review it?

Shri Sidhva: By the Central Government.

Thakur Lal Singh: Why not by His Highness the Ruler?

Shri Gopaldaswami: The hon. Member will realise that the Ruler whom he refers to is no longer the Ruler except by designation. He is really an ex-Ruler. The actual ruler is the Chief Commissioner under the authority of the President of the Republic. If anybody has got to review the arrangement, it must be the Centre.

Thakur Lal Singh: Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Minister for clarifying this point: that is why I brought this point here. He is the ex-Ruler and

[Thakur Lal Singh]

not the Ruler as we used to regard him.

Well, then even as regards this period of five years, I am at a loss to understand why His Highness or the ex-Ruler, whatever you may call him, the Nawab Saheb was so insistent that this State of Bhopal should remain apart for five years. All the one hundred and odd States of Central India, including the big States of Gwalior and Indore have merged and have become one whole and are slowly improving. It is said that they have not improved as much as the Part A States. That may be true, because we are only learning now how to administer ourselves. This process takes time and it will take some time for us to come up to that standard. But if we are kept aloof and are not given a chance to run the administration and learn, how can we ever improve? There will never come a time when we will be able to administer our own affairs, Sir. There is a difference between *Swaraj* and *Suraj*. It may even be *Duraj* in a *Swaraj*. But there may come a time when this *Duraj* is turned into *Suraj*. France is changing its cabinet after every three months; but does it mean that there should be a Chief Commissioner's rule over the whole of France set up by the other States of Europe? Can they all say to France that as she cannot manage her own affairs properly they would take over the management and administer it for her sake. Therefore people in Part C States must be given a chance to come up to the mark.

Sir, Bhopal is a very small State and in my opinion it must be merged with the adjoining province of Madhya Bharat. Some of my friends have told me it must be merged with Madhya Pradesh. I would even suggest that some portions may be taken from Vindhya Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Madhya Bharat and added to Bhopal and the State be made big enough for setting up a proper administration there. As an alternative, I suggest that it may be merged with the adjoining State of Madhya Pradesh as soon as possible.

Some hon. friends have here been speaking of Chief Commissioners. Now we have nothing to do with personalities. Some Chief Commissioners may be good and others may be bad. My friend from Kutch says that the Chief Commissioner there is a very good one. May be. But others may be bad. The question is whether these States are to be managed by

one single person who comes from outside the area without any local knowledge and who cannot administer the affairs of the State as well as a local person can. In this small State whenever a post falls vacant generally people are recruited from outside and they have no sympathy with the local population. Even though they may have some sympathy they have no knowledge of the local state of affairs and so they generally make a mess of things.

Parts A and B States have local popular Ministers while in Bhopal and other Part C States there are only Chief Commissioners.

There are Ministers of Agriculture, Education, States and Rehabilitation etc., at the Centre and they say "We are your Ministers and therefore we will administer your State from Delhi". How can they administer our affairs from here? They can only do the things which their officers there tell them about and it is very difficult for them to understand the real state of affairs there. Besides our own qualified local men have no chance of getting any good posts anywhere else. A local person may hold a degree in law, engineering or agriculture but he cannot get a job in Bhopal if there is no post vacant there suitable for him, and when he goes elsewhere they say he is an outsider. Even with regard to college admissions our students could not often get admission outside and they generally admit students only from their own States. Though our Minister of Health once said that they, students from Part C States, would be given admission everywhere it is not so in practice.

It is said in this agreement that Bhopal cannot be merged with any province for 5 years because His Highness desires so. But I say that this agreement has already become void. On page 341 of the White Paper it is said:

"Whereas the Central Government has full and exclusive authority, jurisdiction and power over and in relation to the governance of the enclaves forming part of the acceding States..."

It means that Centre has power to merge such and such villages of one State with another State. A number of villages belonging to the Ashta, Piklon, Jawar and Sehore tahsils of Bhopal have been merged with Madhya Bharat. A hundred or a thousand villages make no difference. When you have already broken the

entity of the State by merging some villages, that agreement is no agreement now. Therefore I press the Central Government and the House for the merger of the State. Perhaps hon. Members may take a deputation there and request His Highness not to be so obstinate and sign an agreement that Bhopal should be merged or our Cabinet Minister may ask him to sign the deed of merger. That would be a good thing for us. If it is not merged now, I say, it would be very difficult for the Centre to merge it after three years. I do not want to go into details but conditions are deteriorating there and so for the good of the people the State should be merged as soon as possible. If not with parts of Madhya Pradesh and Madhya Bharat, Bhopal should be made a bigger State and a Ministry should be set up there.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta (Delhi): I am very grateful to the House for having shown us the indulgence of giving preference to this resolution over the other. I can assure the House that in doing so they have done nothing wrong. If the other resolution concerned the political sufferers, this concerns over ten million "political orphans." (*Hear, hear.*) As has been rightly said Part C States can be compared to C class prisoners and therefore I had not the least compunction when I moved on behalf of the Members from Part C States that this Resolution might be given preference. This does not mean that persons coming from Part C States are any the less enthusiastic about the resolution relating to political sufferers. In fact, even in respect of political sufferers Part C. States are the worst sufferers, because whereas in some other States something has been done by the Government for them in Part C States nothing has been done so far.

Coming to the resolution before the House, Sir, the demand contained in the resolution moved by my friend Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava is not a new one. If you read the recommendations made by the Pattabhi Committee, to which reference has been made by more than one Member, you will find that this resolution merely seeks to implement those recommendations, which were the unanimous recommendations, of that Committee. It is a matter of great satisfaction and pleasure that one of the distinguished signatories to that report happens today to hold the portfolio which deals with most of the Part C States and that it lies in his power to implement recommendations to which he had put his signatures three years back, with another stroke

of the pen. I hope it will not be said in his case that persons when they cross the floor of the House forget the promises, assurances or ideologies they held dear at one time.....

Shri Gopalaswami: Are there two floors in the House now?

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: I said crossing the floor. If my hon. friend says that he has not crossed the floor, because he has been there from the beginning, he is right.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Crossed the portfolio!

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: That is one better. As I said, the question really is whether Government today is prepared to implement those recommendations or not.

Sir, I do not wish to cover the ground which has already been covered by other friends. All the arguments that could be given in support of the demand which has been put forward in this resolution, namely the democratisation of the administrative set-up, have already been produced. Moreover, it would be presumptuous on my part or on the part of any Member to rise and try to convince the Treasury Benches today that ten million people living in Part C States deserve better and that they must also in terms of our Constitution be given equal political status. I know that there is no want of will on their part. I am also sure that they appreciate the sentiments expressed from this side of the House. They are also sympathetic towards them but the only difficulty so far has been that they either have not had the time to apply their minds to find a solution of this problem or they have been taking it for granted that even the present rule is a democratic rule. I would not, therefore, take the time of the House in giving arguments in favour of democratization. I presume my hon. friends are equally enthusiastic about it, and therefore I need not take the time of the House on that question. I would like to analyse the question inasmuch as this is almost the last opportunity for hon. Members of this House to express an opinion and call for a definite assurance from the Government, so that the Government may know what we feel, and the House may appreciate what the magnitude of the problem is.

Part C States can be divided into two categories: one, those lying on the borders of some other States and which can today or tomorrow be merged into bigger neighbouring States, and, then there are others which might form

[Shri Deshbandhu Gupta]

big enough units by themselves and may deserve to be treated like other States. There is yet another category, and that category is known as the Part C State of Delhi. Delhi is a category by itself. The Prime Minister has more than once told us that the question of Delhi alone is one which baffles a solution, and that Delhi stands on an altogether different footing. I quite realise that Delhi is differently situated. Delhi being the metropolis of India does not fall in the same category as Ajmer, for instance, or Coorg, or Bhopal. So, let us examine whether the problem of Delhi is really so difficult, I would like to confine my remarks to Delhi alone and would request you, Sir, also to give me a little more time because the case of Delhi deserves special consideration. But I would try to be brief.

In his speech in the Constituent Assembly, commenting on the recommendations of the Pattabhi Report, the Prime Minister had said:—

“May I indicate in a few sentences the attitude of Government in regard to this important matter. Obviously, the question of Delhi is an important point for the House to consider. It was for this reason that over two years ago this House appointed a Committee for the purpose, and normally speaking.....”

I would like my hon. friends on the Treasury Benches to mark these words,

“.....and normally speaking, the recommendations of the Committee appointed by this House would naturally carry great weight and would possibly be given effect to. But ever since that Committee was appointed the world has changed, India has changed and Delhi has changed vitally. Therefore, to take up the recommendations of that Committee, regardless of these mighty changes that have taken place in Delhi, would be to consider this question completely divorced from reality.”

On another occasion also very recently, the Prime Minister was pleased to lay great emphasis on the changes which have come about since this report was presented to the Constituent Assembly. If that is so, it would become simpler if we can examine what changes have really taken place. I have tried hard to understand what changes have taken place in Delhi since 21st October, 1947 when this report was presented to the Constituent

Assembly. To my mind the only change that has come about in Delhi is that the population has gone up to twenty lakhs. Delhi was the metropolis of India at the time when these recommendations were made. A large number of diplomats were also present in Delhi at that time when this report was made. I see no other change. In fact, even the displaced persons, at least most of them, whose presence constitutes a new factor, had shifted to Delhi by that time. The question, therefore, boils down to this. Do these changes, that is a larger population, justify a reconsideration of the recommendations which were made by the Pattabhi Committee? It would be appropriate in this connection to remind my hon. friend, Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar, of the recommendations which this Committee had made, particularly in respect of Delhi. The special position of Delhi was thoroughly examined by this Committee and I want this House to remember that this is the recommendation which this Committee had made in respect of Delhi:

“We are fully alive to the circumstances which led to the formation of the Delhi Province in 1912. We also recognise the special importance of Delhi as the capital of the Federation. We, are, however, of the opinion that the people of the Province which contains the metropolis of India should not be deprived of the right of self-government enjoyed by the rest of their countrymen living in the smallest of villages. We have accordingly placed the Delhi Province on a par with Ajmer-Merwara and Coorg and have recommended responsible government subject to the limitations already indicated. Our detailed recommendations are given below.”

I want to know what change has come about after this recommendation was made which would justify a going back on this recommendation. I have tried hard to understand the point of view of the Government, the point of view of the Prime Minister and come to the conclusion that unless these recommendations were unacceptable to the Government even at that time there has been no new element and no new factor since then which would justify a going back on these recommendations. Therefore, the only argument now given by the Prime Minister and by other hon. Members on the Treasury Benches does not really hold water.

After giving this background, I would like my friends to examine the

real difficulties from which the two million people of Delhi suffer on account of the non-democratization of the State. It is being said that Delhi is a small place and it is a luxury to ask for responsible government for Delhi. I want my friends to be convinced—and I am out to convince them if only they have the patience and the time to listen to me, by giving examples of what is happening in Delhi—that it is no political luxury that they ask for when they demand responsible government. The people of Delhi today are the worst sufferers in many respects and I assure you, Sir, that if they make a demand of this kind they do so because they feel that without the grant of responsible Government their existence would not be a happy one. To give one instance; last week we were listening to the Budget proposals of the hon. Finance Minister. And what did we find in the Budget proposals? The hon. Finance Minister is going to levy a sales-tax in Delhi which would bring him a revenue of one crore. I do not on principle oppose the sales-tax. I know it is being levied in other States and if Delhi is an exception there must be some good reasons for it. But I want the House to realise, that it is essentially a measure to be adopted by the States to get additional revenue for their own purposes. The Delhi Advisory Council opposed it and the business community opposed it. Why? Not because they thought that there was anything wrong on principle about it, but they did so because of the peculiar circumstances of Delhi. In that very speech of the Finance Minister, it is stated that because U.P. and Punjab felt that in the absence of the sales tax in Delhi all the custom was being driven to Delhi from those parts, therefore it was necessary to impose a sales-tax in Delhi. Thus, it was not only a revenue measure but a measure that is being brought forward because U.P. and Punjab want it. This is not the occasion to go into the details of this question and explain how it is going to injure the trade and prosperity of Delhi. But one fact which I would like this House to realise is that this being done under pressure of neighbouring States because they insist on something, the Government of India accepts it in the teeth of opposition from the local people.

4 P.M.

Now, I come to another point. There has been a persistent demand from the people of Delhi for the last four years that there should be a Circuit Bench. I have raised this

question many a time in this very House. Facts and figures have been given. As many as 35 per cent. of the cases go from Delhi to the Punjab High Court which now meets at Simla. Our friends ought to realise what an amount of inconvenience and unnecessary expense and hardship it means to the litigant public from Delhi to go to Simla where they have to reach a day earlier, because there is no train which reaches there before 1 o'clock. In winter also, they are required to go there regardless of the inclemencies of weather. The Government of India saw the justice of this demand and agreed to have a Circuit Bench here, but up till now it has not been possible for them to find accommodation for a Circuit Bench of two or three Judges and their staff. Sir, the Government of India is an ever-expanding organisation, with so many new Departments being opened every month. They can find accommodation for all these new Departments but when the question of Circuit Bench comes up they put forward this difficulty. I am told Kapurthala House has been reserved for the Court, but now my hon. friend Shri Gadgil is finding it difficult to allot a few quarters for the staff and on this ground the question is again being postponed.

I would try to be very brief. I would now like to give another instance. The House perhaps is not aware that Delhi today is being administered by officers who come from the Punjab and U.P. Let us examine what this means to us. Today there are 8 Superintendents of Police in Delhi. Where do they come from? They come from East Punjab, which has a cadre of only 22 Superintendents of Police. Now, think of it, Sir, that a place like Delhi—the metropolis of India—where police efficiency should be of the highest order is manned by Superintendents of Police who are drawn from a place which has got a total cadre of only 22 S. Ps. and if you look at the post-partition personnel you will find that a large number of these S. Ps. were first recruited as Head Constables. They got quick promotion and rose from the posts of Head Constables. Is this fact being realised?

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA in the Chair]

Then take the case of Magistrates. There are 16 First Class Magistrates in Delhi. Of late, a decision was taken that there should be half and half from U.P. and Punjab. It is more than a year now since this decision was taken and I understand U.P. has not been able to give more than 4 Magis-

[Shri Deshbandhu Gupta]

trates. Why? They say, "There is no special attraction for them in Delhi. Delhi is a costlier place. It is a dearer place". Moreover, it is not for us to choose the officers we like but it is for them to send such of them as they can spare and they are generally those that are not wanted there. This is the lot of Delhi.

Then, Delhi people are not trusted even in the municipal sphere. The powers given to the Municipalities are very limited. My hon. friend Rajkumariji, the Health Minister, is in charge of the Delhi Improvement Trust which is an independent body today. She knows better, I think, what has been the achievement of the Delhi Improvement Trust during the last twelve or thirteen years. Then there are so many autonomous bodies being founded here, such as the Delhi Joint Water and Sewage Board; the Delhi Transport Authority; the Delhi Electricity Authority; and so on and so forth. This shows that there is complete distrust of the local people even in the municipal spheres.

Old Delhi, Sir, is being given a step-motherly treatment whereas New Delhi has been built at the cost of crores of rupees. Old Delhi is being altogether forgotten. The Delhi Central Electric Power Authority for instance, has given a licence to New Delhi Municipality to distribute electricity and thereby make a profit of lakhs of rupees annually but the Old Delhi Municipality is not considered good enough even to have the licence for distributing electricity. That is how the Old Delhi Municipality is being treated.

Similarly, Delhi tram cars are also being taken over by the Delhi Transport Authority. Buses, tram cars—everything that ordinarily are the concern of the Municipalities and constitute a source of income—are being run by independent bodies formed by Government. Why is it that the Bombay Corporation runs the transport of the city? Why is it that the Kanpur Municipality does the same? Why is it that the Calcutta Corporation is allowed to run their transport? Are the people of these towns heaven-born? Have they been endowed with extraordinary capacity to manage their affairs? The fact is that Government does not trust the Old Delhi Municipality even to administer their municipal affairs but

they are prepared to do everything possible to suit New Delhi, which they probably think is a heaven which they have created on earth. The convenience of rich people living in New Delhi or the presence of diplomats or the presence of so many Government officials and Ministers perhaps accounts for this partiality.

Mr. Chairman: I do not want to interrupt the hon. Member, but I may give him a warning beforehand that he may have to close his speech abruptly, because he has already taken twenty-three minutes.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: I would request you to give me five minutes more and I will conclude.

This, in short, is the sorry tale of Delhi. I can enumerate many more such instances. Although the population has gone up, no new colleges and schools have been opened by Government to meet the increasing need. On the other hand the municipal grant for primary education has been reduced. The efficiency of the police has also gone down. Dacoities are becoming the order of the day. This is the kind of administration that we have in Delhi. In view of all this, I ask: is it really too much for the people of Delhi to ask that they should have some voice in the administration? When we make that demand we are told, "All right. You have been a very obstinate. You have been making demands in season and out of season. The Government is very generous and is pleased to give you something like a Corporation." Yesterday Sir, on another occasion when I had the privilege of hearing some of the Government Members, I asked them what this 'Corporation' meant. "Of course, a municipal Corporation" was the reply. (An Hon. Member: Undoubtedly.) Undoubtedly? If that is all that Government propose to give I wonder if it was worth while taking the time of the Constituent Assembly or this House on this question. Is this democratisation of the administration? Then, Sir, even this Municipal Corporation is not going to be a Corporation for the whole of Old Delhi, New Delhi and other areas of Greater Delhi, but it will be a truncated Corporation just for Old Delhi. I want to know: Sir, is it not a cruel joke? Is it not adding insult to injury? If the Government does not mean business, if my hon. friends who occupy the Treasury Benches today feel that the people of Delhi do not deserve anything better, let them at least

be frank and say that the people of Delhi shall not be given any voice in their administration. I shall be happy at least to know that this chapter has been closed. But to go on playing with the sentiments of the people and offering them toys—and then to say that you are being very generous to them I repeat is a cruel joke and is adding insult to injury.

Sir, let me tell those who want to divide Old and New Delhi that one partition is enough. The country has seen the result of one partition and known what has followed in its wake. Let there be no more partitions. I would be the last person, Sir, to be a party to the partition of Old Delhi from New Delhi. I want to make it quite clear that we would prefer to live under the present bureaucratic rule, than be partitioned between Old Delhi and New Delhi. Therefore, Sir, if that is the intention of Government let them once and for all tell the people of Delhi that they will continue to be governed as at present. The Constitution has been made for the rest of the country; Swaraj has come for the rest of the country, "but not for you, don't make any such demand." We will be content with it. We have suffered in the cause of the country for the attainment of freedom; we will suffer again for maintaining that freedom for the rest of the Country. Sir, we at least have the proud privilege of frequently welcoming our leaders here and giving them send-offs! That is no small thing! We will be quite content with it. We will continue to give them *phool malas* every time they come and go and be content with that. But let them at least say so. It hurts our feeling when in reply to our demand for a voice in the administration they say: "We are giving you a Corporation." They are careful not to use the word "municipal" but it is now clear that they mean nothing more than a "municipal corporation". It will be a municipal corporation". It Old Delhi, New Delhi being separated from it.

One thing more, Sir. If there is any purpose in separating New Delhi from Old Delhi, and you are serious about it, I make a constructive proposal for your consideration. If you think your difficulties are insuperable, and that you cannot treat Old Delhi and New Delhi alike, that you cannot trust the people of Delhi to have a voice in the administration of New Delhi—if you cannot trust them at all then you can very well keep this Heaven to yourself. But then revive the old proposal which was made by the citizens of

Delhi for a separate Province many years back. You are going to revise the Constitution. Let Meerut Division from U.P. and the whole province of East Punjab be amalgamated with Old Delhi at the Centre and let us have a new Province. (*An Hon. Member*: Why not the whole of it?) I say the whole of Punjab. Punjab has already been divided. Let Punjab have the feeling that some areas have also been added to it. And U.P. is an ever-expanding province, which is almost becoming Bharat! They have recently got another Part C State, namely Rampur added to it; they may have Bhopal also. They can certainly afford to cede some territory to this new province.

Therefore, if you are serious about solving the problem of Delhi, and give its people a voice in their administration, and you cannot do so without separating New Delhi from Old Delhi, it would be fair to partition New Delhi and make it into a new enclave and let Old Delhi be the capital of a new province which should be an autonomous one.

Sir, I am not making any extravagant demand. I have made this proposal out of desperation. I know it is not easy for you to accept it. But there is nothing difficult also. If you are keen, if you appreciate the feelings of the people of Delhi, then I am sure you will be able to find some solution. I do not wish to take any more time of the House. I hope that if any Bill is coming before this House it will be the last, and we will not be told when the hon. Minister rises to make a statement that it is a difficult problem and therefore Government will take more time. I say either they must say here that they want to give nothing to Delhi, or if they want to give anything to Delhi, let them not be afraid that if they give the people of Delhi a voice, New Delhi will be ruined.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar will begin his reply at 4-20. So there are five minutes left. (*Some Hon. Members*: It was fixed at 4-30.) I understand that the hon. Shri Gadgil is also going to speak. We must also give him sufficient time. I propose calling on Shri Gopalaswami at 4-20.

Shri Poonacha (Coorg): This problem of Part C States in my opinion seems to be enjoying the paradoxical value of the zero. Whenever Government propose to do something, this value of the problem is reduced to a large extent in saying that "These areas do not merit or qualify certain types of treatment." Whenever they want to shelve or postpone the issue.

[Shri Poonacha]

probably they find more convenient arguments, to magnify the problem in various manners of strategic values, administrative difficulties and what not.

It has been my experience, Sir, that in spite of our demands in problems connected with Part C States, there has been a policy of drift in Government attitude. I am really sorry to mention that. But that seems to be the trend of affairs.

Coming as I do from a small Centrally administered area known as Coorg, I have to inflict on this House my explanations of certain minor problems, but very great problems to us, for which I crave the indulgence of this House as well as that of the hon. Ministers.

Now, Sir, Coorg is the only Centrally Administered Area which has a Legislative Council given to it as far back as 1924, and we have 25 years of experience of having worked with this legislative council, whose powers are purely advisory. The advice tendered by this Council, I may say from personal experience, is in most cases not accepted by the Administration and it is only when it suits the convenience of the administration that certain pious resolutions are accepted. The constitution of this council itself is so confused that it is difficult to locate the precise authority. The Chief Commissioner to whom this Legislature is supposed to tender advice is not an authority by himself because oftentimes he puts the blame or the responsibility on the Central Government. But when we come to meet the Central Government and explain the difficulties, the argument is the other way about. They point their finger and tell us: "You have your legislature; you have your separate budget; you are more or less a province, this is your own affair and nothing can be done from here." In this manner the day to day problems of Coorg are being shifted from one side to the other and we are not able to find a remedy.

Apart from this constitutional aspect let me also explain the other curious position of this Legislature. So far as passing of Resolutions is concerned this House is purely advisory. So far as the preparation of the budget is concerned, it is purely an administrative matter and whatever is prepared will have to be accepted. So far as Bills are concerned, well, this Council enjoys certain amount of power in respect of our own provincial matters. Bills are sponsored and brought before this

Council. But look at this position that the Bills which are brought before this Council can never be amended by the Members of the Legislative Council! It is the funniest thing that you can ever think of. Suppose a Member wants to move an amendment to a Bill that has been introduced by the Government, that amendment will have to be sent up to the Central Government and their approval for moving the amendment will have to be sought before it could be placed for discussion in that House. Let me tell you that not one amendment has so far been accepted by the Central Government in respect of the various legislative measures that have been passed from time to time by that Council. Of course there is provision for reference to Select Committee. But after it emerges from the Select Committee, or at any other stage, no private Member of this Legislative Council is empowered to move an amendment to any of the Bills that come up for discussion. May I submit to you that when Members give notice of amendments to certain legislative Bills, those amendments are forwarded up to the Central Government with a note by the Chief Commissioner as to whether they should be accepted or not. Here the different Ministries concerned examine. It might go to the Ministry of Agriculture or to any other Ministry. And one Ministry might say, "This amendment could be accepted", whereas the other Ministry or the Home Ministry would say, "No, this should not be accepted because the Chief Commissioner has said that it should not be accepted." Under such circumstances I want to know the quality of democracy that is going to be enjoyed under a set-up of such false and useless legislative bodies. I am informed that there are certain proposals to extend similar Legislative Councils to some of the other Part C States. Well, I could only at best sympathise with my other colleagues of these Part C States if they ever happen to get such legislative bodies, because we have personal experience of this kind of legislative bodies. Let me hope that they will not be given such rare privileges which we enjoy!

Look at the other side of the administrative system. Coorg is a Province of a single district. We have the gazetted officers, permanent fixtures, being there all their life-time. And we know what it is when these gazetted officers become permanent fixtures. I am not here to narrate the various things because the moment I might start giving instances it might be asked whether I could do so in the absence

of these officers here. I therefore do not want to extend my arguments to that extent. I can only say this. There it is not possible according to the Home Minister, who on a previous occasion stated in reply to my question that it has not been possible to find a solution for transferring these officers. If you are not able to associate non-official opinion in the day-to-day administration, where can there ever be any kind of justice so far as administration is concerned? That would be the very reason, and the strongest reason, for a demand for some kind of association of non-official opinion in the day-to-day administration. I hope the Government will not find, or try to develop, other unnecessary arguments with a view to shift or shelve this problem for ever.

There is the other problem and it is being said times without number that there is difference of opinion in the political circles so far as the future of Coorg is concerned. There is, it is bound to be, and it shall ever be so, till the Government takes a final decision. If there has been this difference of opinion persisting very strongly, I should say it is because of your hesitancy to give a clear-cut decision on this. It is because you have been drifting on this and not taking a decision over this. You should not come forward with the plea, "You are not united in this respect and therefore we are not able to find a solution".

I would urge the hon. Minister to give effect to the resolution in the light of these few points that I have raised. I hope that a happy solution would be found.

Shri Gopalaswami: I wish to be as brief as possible at this late hour. Most of my speech will be confined to indicating what Government propose to do in connection with the problem that has been debated in the House today.

There is absolutely no difference of opinion between Government and their critics as to the need for the democratisation of the administration in these Part C States. But before I proceed to deal with that, I think I should say a word or two about the references that have been made to Part B States. The one State to which particular reference was made was Hyderabad. It was also suggested that as far as possible it should be the endeavour of Government to put through elections in these Part B States so that you could establish a legislature and, on the top of it, an executive responsible to the legislature. We have the gen-

eral elections coming on towards the end of the year, and I have during the last few days been making enquiries as to the feasibility of holding advance elections in Part B or Part C States—elections which might take place some substantial time in advance of the general elections. I take it the House will agree with me that if the interval between those advance elections and the general elections in November-December is not long enough to justify all the trouble and the expense involved, it is hardly wisdom to go in for advance elections. My own information, collected both from the authorities in these respective States and from the Election Commissioner, is that it would not be feasible with convenience to hold elections in any of these States until about October next. That led me to the conclusion that we should rule out the possibility of holding advance elections and constituting Legislatures in any of the States in advance of the General Elections. Now having ruled out that particular thing, I had to consider what would be the best method of democratization. We have got to consider it in two aspects. Democratization as a permanent measure and democratization of the administration during the interim period between now and the General Elections. With regard to the first point, several hon. Members and particularly my hon. friend, from Delhi referred to the Pattabhi Committee Report and to the fact that I was one of the distinguished signatories to that report. He perhaps forgets that he was amongst the distinguished signatories as well and I believe the hon. Mover of this Resolution was another distinguished signatory. Perhaps they might take refuge in the fact that what they are now asking for is what this Committee recommended. When they said that I was trying to back out of what I put my signature to in that document, I was reminded of something that I read years ago in John Morley's *Life of Gladstone*. He has described in most vivid terms the ebb and flow of the debate on the Irish Home Rule Bill. In the course of it there was one sentence which is perhaps apposite to the present occasion. He said Ministers were bombarded with inconvenient quotations from their old speeches. Well, my friends could not get a quotation from any speech of mine—my critics here in this House—but they referred to a signature which I had affixed to a particular document.

I wish to draw the attention of the House to the circumstances in which that Committee produced this report. As my hon. friends will remember that

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Committee dealt only with Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Coorg and they made certain recommendations. I might perhaps invite the attention, if not of my hon. friend, Shri Deshbandhu Gupta, of Pandit M. B. Bhargava to the fact that in respect of Ajmer-Merwara and Coorg what they are asking for now is not exactly what that Committee recommended. That Committee recommended generally responsible Government. I believe it was my hon. friend the Mover of this Resolution, who appended a note to the report of the Committee and he insisted very much on including a provision in the Constitution which would make it easy for both Ajmer and Coorg to extinguish their own separate existence and to merge with some neighbouring State or other. I do not know if my hon. friend still sticks to that position...

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: On a point of explanation, Sir, the note does not say that I had stated that after ascertaining public opinion of the constituency concerned.

Shri Gopaldaswami: Whatever it is, I think he sympathized with that point of view and insisted on that being put on. So far as those two States are concerned, I might say at once that the present position of the Government is that sooner or later each of those two States should merge in the neighbouring State, whatever that may be. So in the case of those two States the problem would simply be what we would provide for the interim period between now and their merger.

As regards Delhi that Committee did make a recommendation. It is unfortunate that my hon. colleague the Home Minister is not here to deal with that particular matter but I think I would leave it to my hon. colleague Mr. Gadgil to deal with the Delhi problem. I do not propose to say anything about it on this occasion.

Now I come to my own States, the States under the States Ministry. There are seven of them and I have given very serious thought to the question of how to democratize the administration in these States. I have had discussions; I have examined all the facts in this connection. As hon. Members representing those States in the House will remember, I have had consultations with them also; as a result of all this, the conclusions which the Government have arrived at are these.

These States are in different stages of development. Their geographical

and other conditions vary from State to State. Some are of strategic importance. A good many of them require special help in the matter of the development of their resources. Some of them are certainly States which could exist permanently as separate States and which could afford a set-up which may eventually lead them to the responsible Government which this Resolution envisages.

Now, I have mentioned to you these various categories. I think without losing much time or losing myself in trying to answer various criticisms that have been put forward, I shall indicate what exactly we propose to do. First of all with regard to Vindhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh we propose that the set-up after the elections should be a Chief Commissioner or Lieutenant-Governor, whatever it may be with a Legislature and a Council of Ministers based upon that Legislature. This Council of Ministers will be immediately responsible to the Legislature. The Chief Commissioner or Lieutenant-Governor will function more actively than the Governor of one of the major Part A States is expected to do. That is necessary, because I want the House to remember that these are after all Part C States. I do not think I am in a position to lift them from Class C to Class A, or to Class B for that matter. That would require an amendment of the Constitution.

Shri Sondhi (Punjab): We are amending the Constitution.

Shri Gopaldaswami: But so long as we have this Constitution, the person responsible for the administration of these States is the President, that is to say, the Government at the Centre. He has got to use an instrument of his own in these States, whom he will hold responsible to himself. The Chief Commissioner or Lieutenant-Governor is that intermediary. In order to make that Lieutenant-Governor's or Chief Commissioner's administration as acceptable to the public of the area as possible, in these two States, we propose to set up a Legislature plus a Council of Ministers. Generally, they would function in the same way as in Part B or Part A States. But I should mention one thing. In matters of executive administration there would be greater control from the Centre than for instance, what we are allowed to do for a period of ten years in regard to Part B States. Secondly though they might legislate as regards practically all subjects in the State List and the Concurrent List, the over-riding legislative power of Parliament in regard to

those subjects will not be removed. In other words, practically, the State Subjects will also become Concurrent Subjects. That is a thing which I want to impress upon the House with regard to these States. I will come to the interim arrangement later on.

With regard to the other States, we have put Cutch, Manipur and Tripura in one category. They are border States having a long border with Pakistan, and in the case of Manipur, also with other countries. Their problems are peculiar both internal and external. In Cutch, we have schemes of development on a very large scale, on which the Central Government is spending money. The country has got to be opened up in all these three different States. Until they reach a stage of development which would justify us in putting them as regards political machinery at a higher level than we possibly can today, we would defer action so far as the establishment of legislatures is concerned. I want to disabuse hon. Members of anything sticking at the back of their minds that I am one of those who subscribe to the proposition.....

Babu Ramnarayan Singh (Bihar): May I know one thing? Before these Part C States came into the Indian Union, they had Governments of their own. Having come into the Indian Union, have they disqualified themselves?

Shri Gopalaswami: My hon. friend knows what sort of Government they had, and I think he would be one of the foremost in contending for the position that the autocratic, irregular kind of rule to which all these areas were subjected, has been happily ended and it is for us to lift them up further. We are not altogether denying democratic institutions to them. We are setting up a machinery which will be responsible to us if it is not responsible to somebody locally. We propose to enforce efficient, honest, good administration in those areas. That I think **sought to justify what we propose to do with regard to these areas.**

With regard to these three States, what I wish to point out is this. While we do not propose to set up legislatures immediately, we do propose to set up an administration in which the people of the locality will share some power to make them feel that they are also responsible for the things that are happening in the way of administration in these areas.

Dr. Tek Chand (Punjab): Will they be in Advisory capacity?

Shri Gopalaswami: I am talking of sharing in power.

Then, I come to the tiny little State of Bilaspur. I do not know how much of it will be above water after the Bhakra dam has been built. We propose to leave it alone. When the Bhakra dam is built and we are able to find out how much of the land that is on the surface requires to be provided for by political institutions, we shall devise some suitable arrangement.

Then, we have got the State of Bhopal. Bhopal has been a state for quite a long time. As has been pointed out, when it was fashioned into a Chief Commissioner's province, word was given to the Nawab of Bhopal that for the first five years, it will be a Chief Commissioner's province and after five years, the change in the administrative set-up that may be required will be investigated and a review made so that we may arrive at a proper conclusion with regard to that matter. If you want to change that within the period of five years, it is only right that, if we are going to conform to the obligations that we have entered into, we should get the consent of the Nawab of Bhopal to making a change. I might tell hon. Members of this House that I have not been quite idle in respect of this matter. I have had discussions with His Highness the Nawab of Bhopal and I have his assurance that if, after exploring and investigating this matter, we consider that merger in a neighbouring State is the best solution in the best interests of the people of that area, he for one would fully cooperate with us. It is a question of our being able to convince him, and I do not see why we should not be able to do so, if the merger is required in the best interests of the people of Bhopal. If that happens, probably Bhopal will merge in Madhya Bharat as suggested. It will get representation in the Madhya Bharat legislature, and it will have the benefit of some representation probably in the Madhya Bharat Cabinet. But, that is a matter for the future. I am not quite sanguine that this sort of thing could be accomplished and all the details put through before we hold the General Elections. That is with regard to the permanent set-up of these areas.

Then, I come to the question of the interim arrangements. I am willing to concede the position that the present system of Chief Commissioners who exercise the power themselves without reference to the local people does not satisfy the aspirations of the people in those areas. That is a fact which every one of us will concede. I, of course, repudiate everything that has

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been said by way of wholesale condemnation of the work of these Chief Commissioners and other officers, persons who have been very carefully selected by the Government of India and sent over to these areas for the purpose of introducing some kind of good Government in these areas. I repudiate all that. If I had the time, I should like to go into many of the allegations that have been made and refute them: practically all of them.....

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: To that extent, you are wrong.

Shri Gopaldaswami:...to the satisfaction of the House. But, I concede the position that however efficient and good administration of that sort may be, it is necessary that it should be brought into unison as much as possible with the opinion of the public in the locality. If we cannot have a legislature in some of these areas, either as far ahead as we can see or between now and the General Elections, we should devise some method by which we associate the people in the locality with the actual administration. The other part of the Government scheme with regard to these States is that while there will be an appointed Head of the particular State, Chief Commissioner, he will share his power with a minimum of two persons taken from the locality, who will share the administration of the whole State with him. They will administer certain subjects. In regard to other subjects and in all matters of importance, the Chief Commissioner will take them into consultation. So that, instead of the Chief Commissioner or Lieutenant-Governor as the sole Head of the State, you plant there what you might call the Chief Commissioner in Council or Lieutenant-Governor in Council. These people will be drawn from public leaders who command, to the extent the President can judge a matter of that sort, public confidence. That is what we propose to do.

Dr. Tek Chand: Nominated by the President?

Shri Gopaldaswami: Of course, they will be nominated by the President. These are the main ideas. The details will have to be filled up. We will take in hand immediately the drafting of a Bill which will give effect to these ideas and that Bill, I propose to introduce as early as possible in this Session. I would ask hon. Members to stay long enough in Delhi to see this Bill through.

Shri K. Valdya: Sir, what is the interim position regarding Hyderabad?

Shri Gopaldaswami: Well, Hyderabad has got an administration of its own which is composed partly of officials and partly of representatives of public opinion. I think the set-up as it is working well. I know that there is a certain amount of discontent amongst the members of the State Congress in the State. One set of opinions is that it should be wholly popularised, another set of opinions is that we should add two or three more to the present set-up. But I might at once say what I feel about Hyderabad. The position in Hyderabad is so delicate, so difficult and so full of complications that I will not easily agree to any radical change of the present system. We have got a problem in Hyderabad which has not occurred anywhere else in the country and that problem is being tackled fairly satisfactorily, by the present administrative set-up, I would not disturb it though I might be willing to consider any slight modification of it.

Padit M. B. Bhargava: Sir, I have not been able to follow whether the interim arrangements referred to by the hon. Minister will apply to all the Centrally administered areas or not.

Shri Gopaldaswami: I am sure my hon. colleague will clear that matter.

Capt. A. P. Singh: As regards Vindhya Pradesh, may I know whether it will not be possible for the hon. Minister to take into his confidence the representatives of that area when the proposed Bill is framed to give effect to the ideas which the hon. Minister has just placed before the House?

Shri Gopaldaswami: I could not quite follow the hon. Member, Sir

Capt. A. P. Singh: I will repeat it. I want to know whether it will be possible for the hon. Minister to take Members coming from Vindhya Pradesh into his confidence when the Bill concerning Vindhya Pradesh is being framed?

Shri Gopaldaswami: My hon. friend knows that it is for that very purpose that I called him and others for consultation a few days ago. I have given them a set of principles. What remains is the translating of those principles into the form of a Bill which will contain many details; and the Bill is going to come before the House for the purpose of discussion. If I now start consulting the representatives of each State again for the purpose of drafting the Bill, then you are disabling me from introducing the Bill in this session as soon as I can. You

can criticise whatever I produce; the House will deal with it.

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): I propose to deliver a separate but concurrent speech. I adopt all those arguments on the general aspect of the question which have been so ably and effectively advanced by the hon. Shri Gopalaswami.

I propose to deal with the problem in the alphabetical order. So I take the case of Ajmer-Merwara first. Sir, history, geography and the logic of recent events all go to show that the real solution lies in the merger of Ajmer-Merwara with Rajasthan. Till that becomes a fact, it is the intention of Government to associate popular elements with the executive; in other words, the formula which has been proposed for the States of Tripura, Kutch and Bhopal will also be made applicable to Ajmer-Merwara.

Then I deal with Coorg.

Shri Sidhva: When will the merger come?

Shri Gadgil: Soon.

Well, having heard my hon. friend Mr. Poonacha, I think most of us have got the impression that he has made out a case for its immediate merger either with Madras or with Mysore. The intention of the Government is that till that event happens, although there is a Legislative Council there and a Chief Commissioner, the Chief Commissioner will also act as a Chief Commissioner in Council. In other words, the same formula will be made applicable to Coorg.

Now, I come to the last and that is a hard nut, namely, Delhi. I want to assure my hon. friend Shri Deshbandhu Gupta that I appreciate his feelings and I can assure him further that it is not the intention of anybody to hurt the feelings of Delhi people, at any rate they have been very hospitable throughout the many years of my life here.

Now, it is admitted on all hands that in a federal constitution, the area in which the federal capital is situated is always under the direct control of the Federal Government. That is so in America. That is so in Australia. Keeping that in mind, and also knowing that if there is a departure from this well-known principle there is bound to be a crop of difficulties, it has been decided to go as far as possible to meet the wishes of the citizens of Delhi, at any rate their representatives in this House. It is proposed, therefore, that

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as at present New Delhi is already separate from Old Delhi in the matter of municipal affairs, so there will be a corporation for New Delhi and a corporation for Old Delhi. And the rural Delhi will, as far as municipal functions are concerned, have the District Local Board. And all these activities of these three different authorities will be coordinated by what we propose by way of a sort of executive government in which the Chief Commissioner will be acting in Council. In other words, we adopt the same formula which has been proposed for the other States by the hon. Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar.

Then, so far as Delhi State is concerned, the Chief Commissioner in Council will be executive authority and so far as the discharge of federal functions are concerned, the same authority will act. This, in short, is the proposal of the Government and will be embodied in a suitable legislative form. I want to assure my hon. friend Shri Deshbandhu Gupta that even in this, Government has taken risk, but Government thinks that it is worth taking.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Sir, may I seek some elucidation? I want to know what exactly is meant by corporation for Delhi. It means, I suppose, a municipal corporation with municipal functions. If that is the case, how can a municipal corporation discharge the executive work of administration? Will it not be the same set-up as is given to Ajmer-Merwara and other places? I would like this point to be cleared further and know what it exactly means.

Shri Gopalaswami: So far as I have been able to understand my hon. colleague, I think his idea will work out as follows: to have a corporation for New Delhi and to have another for Old Delhi.....

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Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Nominated corporation for New Delhi?

Shri Gopalaswami: It may be an elected corporation and there may be some nominated people. That is a matter of detail. You will have a corporation for Old Delhi. Both these corporations will be municipal corporations with the widest possible municipal functions, that is to say you will add to the ordinary municipal functions: you may add education, you can add even the police if you like, if it comes to that. These will be linked up in a coordinating authority, which will be the Chief Commissioner in Council: that is to say, the Chief Commissioner

[Shri Gopaldaswami]

will be the head of the show. He will have as his colleagues sharing power with him certain people who will be his Councillors. And these will discharge the duties or any reserve powers vested in its hands, of a State Government. They will also exercise other powers which an ordinary State has to exercise even in municipal areas. They will further act as the agent of the Central Government for central functions. That, I take it, is the set-up.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Does the hon. Minister mean that this executive authority in council will also have law and order and every thing else so far as the administration side is concerned? Will it be also for the interim period or will it come into effect after the elections?

Shri Gopaldaswami: I thought he meant it as a sort of permanent solution.

Shri Poonacha: I would like to know whether the Minister meant to say that the resolutions of the Coorg Legislative Council will be made binding on the administration. What did he actually mean when he said that the Chief Commissioner will be made the Chief Commissioner in Council? Did he mean to say the resolutions passed by the Coorg Legislative Council would be made binding on the Chief Commissioner and the Administration?

Shri Gadgil: The position has not been properly understood by my hon.

friend. The legislative council remains but with the Chief Commissioner will be associated not less than two councillors to share in the executive power of the Chief Commissioner.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: How will these two councillors be selected and who will select them?

Shri Gopaldaswami: The hon. Member must remember the manner in which members of the executive council in provinces were selected in the old days. Something like that will happen.

Mr. Chairman: I shall first put the amendments to the House.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Sir, I have a right of reply. Many controversial points have been raised during the debate and I have a right to reply to them.

Some Hon. Members: He has no right of reply.

Mr. Chairman: Does he propose to make his reply now or on the next day?

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: On the next day, Sir. I have to study the points raised and then make my reply.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Monday, the 19th March, 1951.