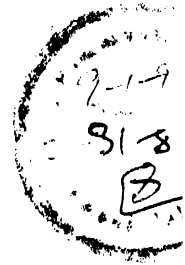


Wednesday, 25th April, 1951



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME VII, 1951

(2nd April to 16th May, 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

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PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Wednesday, 25th April, 1951

*The House met at Half-Past Eight of
the Clock*

[*MR. SPEAKER in the Chair*]

**POSTPONEMENT OF QUESTIONS
DUE TO ABSENCE OF MINISTER.**

Shri Sidhva: Before you start with questions I have to submit that I had sent about four questions for today's list and I find that not one of them appears. On enquiry I found that the hon. Minister is not in the station. I understand that your office communicates to the Ministers the various dates on which their questions are allotted. It is, therefore, unfair to the Members and to the House that they should fix up their tour programme on the dates on which they are supposed to answer questions.

What will be my position in this case? These questions will go on some other day when they will be put last on the list.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member while pointing out this difficulty will agree and appreciate that, when an hon. Minister has to undertake a tour in respect of important matters which cannot be delayed, he will have to adjust his convenience to the convenience of that particular Minister. I think the hon. Minister wrote to me about three weeks back that he had fixed up a tour—I believe in connection with the Damodar Valley Corporation. The House knows how keen they are on having all the information about the Damodar Valley Corporation. So, the Minister wanted to go personally and he said that he had no other time to fix, in view of other business in hand. He, therefore, wanted the convenience of his

questions being not taken up during this week and I saw no other alternative, in the general interest of the business of the House, but to agree to it. I said that,—as a matter of exception, not as a general rule—his questions may not be put on dates during this week. I do not think it is very desirable that each Member should insist upon his pound of flesh so far as rights are concerned. They must adjust themselves to the convenience of the Ministers; mutually the Ministers also must adjust themselves. In a similar request coming to me only for a day, I refused permission, because for a day, things could be adjusted here so far as answering of questions is concerned. But there too, I am more inclined to think that if a Minister is to remain absent on account of unavoidable reasons, the better course would be to have the questions postponed, because the object of putting questions is to elicit further information and in the absence of the Minister conversant with the subject, it becomes difficult for any person who is temporarily in charge, to give information to the satisfaction of Members. It is the experience of this House that such questions are not answered, in the nature of things, to the satisfaction of Members. The Minister in charge has either to ask for notice or decline information. That is what happens.

I have explained the position and I think the course followed in this particular case was the correct one.

Shri Sidhva: With your permission...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order, I am not going to permit any argument.

Shri Sidhva: If your permission has been obtained I have nothing to say.

Mr. Speaker: That is what I say. Had the hon. Member enquired as to how these dates were changed, he would probably have got the information.

Shri Sidhva: I enquired, but I did not get the information that it was done with your permission.

Mr. Speaker: Office itself does not act without the permission of the Speaker.

Shri Sidhva: The Deputy-Speaker in your absence ruled in connection with a question of Prof. Shah that when a statement was not placed in the Notice Office due to the fault of the Minister, in that case he would allow the Member concerned to put a Short Notice Question.

Mr. Speaker: I do not know, but then the position will require some consideration—I cannot say off-hand.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INCOME-TAX INVESTIGATION COMMISSION

*3472. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of income-tax assessed and levied as a result of the cases discovered by the Income-tax Investigation Commission during the period 1st November, 1950 to 31st March, 1951;

(b) the amount actually realised during this period;

(c) how much of the unpaid amount is realisable;

(d) how many cases were compromised and the amount levied and realised as a result of the compromise so effected during this period;

(e) how long it will take to recover the balance due; and

(f) the expenses incurred by Government during the above period on the salary of the members of the Income Tax Investigation Commission and their staff and expenses incurred on the realisation of the amount as a result of the cases decided by the Income Tax Investigation Commission?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) The amounts of income-tax, supertax and excess profits tax actually assessed and levied between 1st November 1950 and 31st March 1951 as a result of the Income-tax Investigation Commission's report aggregate to Rs. 287 lakhs.

(b) Rs. 70 lakhs approximately.

(c) The Government expect that the entire tax involved will be realised in course of time.

(d) The number of cases settled on compromise between 1st November

1950 and 31st March 1951 was 101, involving a tax of Rs. 263 lakhs. A sum of approximately Rs. 49 lakhs has been collected during the said period in respect of cases settled on compromise upto 31st March 1951.

(e) No definite time limit has been fixed to recover the balance. The Commission has, after taking into account the facts of each case, fixed appropriate instalments in settlement cases. The instalments usually fixed are quarterly, half-yearly and yearly extending over two to three years and in exceptional cases, some more years. In the cases not settled on compromise, proceedings for recovery of the full tax are commenced immediately on the completion of the assessment or re-assessment proceedings but in such cases the progress of recovery is slow due to various reasons.

(f) The expenditure incurred on account of the working of the Income Tax Investigation Commission during the period 1st November 1950 to 31st March 1951 is Rs. 3,76,107. This figure includes the expenditure incurred on enquiries and investigation in respect of cases referred to the Commission. Realisation of taxes determined by the Commission is effected through the normal channel of the Income-tax Department and therefore separate figures of the costs connected with such realisation are not ascertainable.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister is in a position to give the figures of assessment and realisation for the entire period since the Investigation Commission was appointed?

Shri Tyagi: My hon. friend has surprised me with this question. The figures are as follows:

Amount of settlement cases	Rs. 813 lakhs.
Amount of investigation cases	Rs. 237 lakhs.
Total	Rs. 1,050 lakhs.

Amount actually assessed and levied
Rs. 763 lakhs.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What is the amount of realisation?

Shri Tyagi: I have given that in my reply.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister is in a position to give the number of cases settled provincewise?

Shri Tyagi: It is very difficult, unless my hon. friend gives me notice.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that two members of the Investigation Commission are due to retire this month?

Shri Tyagi: Yes, it is a fact.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know the names of those two members?

Shri Tyagi: One is Mr. Mazumdar and the other is Justice Chakravarty.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: And also who are going to be appointed in their place?

Shri Tyagi: It has not yet been decided; but appointments shall be made.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether it is a fact that mostly due to language difficulties interpreters are employed by the Investigation Commission to translate statements made in Hindustani when cases from northern India come before them?

Shri Tyagi: If some of the members do not understand Hindi naturally they will have to understand through interpreters.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it a fact that all the members are going to be such as would not understand Hindi or Hindustani?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

EMPLOYMENT OF OFFICIALS FROM PAKISTAN

*3473. **Shri A. C. Guha:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether there has ever been any plan or scheme to give employment to the officials who were previously serving in the territories now forming Pakistan and who have migrated to Indian Union?

(b) If so, how far the officials who were serving in territories now forming East Bengal have been affected by that plan?

(c) Are Government aware that a large number of officers of East Bengal and Sylhet have not been able to find any alternative employment in India?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) The hon. Member is referred to a statement laid on the Table of the House on the 21st April 1951, in connection with starred question 3332.

(b) The Government servants of the three partitioned Provinces of

Punjab, Bengal and Assam had the option to elect to serve under the Governments of East Punjab, West Bengal and Assam respectively. The responsibility for providing employment for those who so opted rested with the Governments of these Provinces.

Government servants in these areas who preferred to stay on in Pakistan but later came to India as displaced persons were eligible for employment assistance through the Employment Exchanges along with all other displaced persons. In order to give employment assistance to displaced persons from East Pakistan orders were issued by the Central Government providing that in filling vacancies through the Employment Exchanges in the Central Government offices located in the region covered by West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Assam an over-riding preference would be given to displaced persons from East Pakistan including officials who had previously opted for Pakistan as well as non-officials.

(c) All Government servants from East Bengal who opted for India at the time of Partition have been provided with employment by the Government of West Bengal. The great majority of officers from Sylhet who opted for India have also similarly been absorbed by the Government of Assam.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have any cases come to the notice of the Government that some of the officers of Sylhet who opted for India have not been subsequently re-employed by the Assam Government?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Yes, Sir, Government is aware of the difficulties in respect of the Assam employees. With regard to the State employees who belong to Sylhet who had opted for Assam, the State Government issued an order immediately after partition that Government servants belonging to Sylhet and serving in that district should remain there irrespective of their option. They also offered a second option to government servants in Sylhet without consulting the Government of East Bengal. The Government of East Bengal refused to recognise the second option. For a time the Government of Assam pleaded their inability to absorb the employees belonging to Sylhet in their service. The Government of India tried to persuade them to absorb as many of the Sylhet employees as possible. I can give the latest figures. They show that out of a

total of 1,496 employees from Sylhet who had opted for Assam, 1,020 have definitely been absorbed, 168 are found to be definitely unabsorbed. The remaining 300 are unaccounted for. Perhaps they obtained employment outside government. I must assure the hon. Member that we have asked the Assam Government to give us further information and have pointed out that the responsibility for absorbing them rests with the State Government.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have any officers serving in Pakistan come out to India from East Bengal during the year 1950 and, if so, how many of them have been re-absorbed by the Government of India or by the State Government?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Sir, if any more figures are wanted I would like to have notice.

Shri A. C. Guha: I am asking about those who have come to India during 1950, after the last riots.

Mr. Speaker: He is referring to the exodus.

Shri Rajagopalachari: As I have already said, if more figures are wanted I would like notice to be given.

Shri A. C. Guha: This is only about 1950, after the last riots.

Mr. Speaker: But he has not got the figures with him.

Shri Rajagopalachari: Sir, such an analysis would require attention and investigation.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether in considering cases of promotion the services of the officials rendered in territory now in Pakistan are also taken into consideration?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I would ask the hon. Member to read the statement that I have placed on the Table already.

Shri Chattopadhyay: Of the number of people unabsorbed in Assam may I know how many are women?

Shri Rajagopalachari: Whether men or women, the trouble is whether they are Bengalis or Assamese.

Shri A. C. Guha: In view of the fact that the hon. Minister has stated that instructions have been issued to the departments of the Central Government situated in the Eastern part of India to give preference to displaced persons, may I know how many of

the displaced persons have been taken in those offices of the Central Government now situated in the Eastern parts of India?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have given the assurance and the facts as to what we have done. If figures are wanted as to how many have been absorbed in a particular department or office, I would ask the hon. Member to give notice.

SYMPOSIUM OF WORLD'S THINKERS

*3475. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to hold a symposium of World's thinkers and philosophers in New Delhi to discuss the concept of Man in Eastern and Western cultures; and

(b) if so, what steps have so far been taken?

منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد):

(اے) ہاں - گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا نے

یونیسکو کی یہ دعوت منظور کر لی ہے

کہ دسمبر میں ایک سیمپوسیم یہاں بلایا

جائے - یہ اس بات پر سوچ بچار

کرے گا کہ پورب اور پچھم کی فلاسفی

میں آدمی کی جگہ کیا سمجھی

گئی ہے اور تعلیم کی فلاسفی کیا ہے -

(بی) کاروائی کس تہلگ پر ہو گی

اور کس کس ملک کے کون کون

فلاسفوس اور تھلکوس بلائے جائینگے -

اس پر گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا اور یونیسکو

ابھی سوچ وچا کر رہے ہیں -

[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) The Government of India have accepted the invitation of UNESCO to hold a symposium on 'the Concept of Man and the Philosophy of Education in East and West' in New Delhi in December 1951.

(b) Details regarding themes of discussion and participants to the

symposium are under consideration of the Government of India and UNESCO.]

श्री ऐस० ऐन० दास : क्या भारत सरकार के पास ऐसी कोई लिस्ट तैयार की गई है जिसमें दुनिया के और और मुल्कों के दार्शनिकों और विचारकों के नाम हैं ?

[Shri S. N. Das: Has any such list been compiled by the Government of India as may be containing the names of the philosophers and thinkers of other countries?]

मोलाना آزاد : نہیں اس موقع پر
ہم کو اس طرح کی لسٹ بنانے کی ضرورت پیش نہیں آئی۔ ارادہ یہ کیا گیا ہے کہ کھارہ-بارہ ملکوں کے تھلکرس بلائے جائیں جن میں آدھے پچھم کے مونکے آدھے یورپ کے۔ جہاں تک ایسٹرن ملکوں کا تعلق ہے انڈیا۔ سیلون۔ جاپان وغیرہ اور اگر ہو سکا چھن کے یہاں کے چلے ہوئے فلسفیوں کو بلاوا بھیجا جائیگا۔

[Maulana Azad: No, we did not feel the necessity of preparing any such list at this time. It has been planned that thinkers of eleven or twelve countries may be invited, half of whom would be from the eastern countries and the other half would be from the west. So far as the eastern countries are concerned it is proposed to send invitations to some selected thinkers of India, Ceylon, Japan and if possible of China as well.]

श्री ऐस० ऐन० दास : इसका क्या कारण है कि बारह मुल्कों के ही फिलॉसफर्स को वह निमन्त्रण देने जा रहे हैं ?

[Shri S. N. Das: What is the reason that philosophers of only twelve countries are being invited?]

मोलाना آزاد : اس طرح کے موقعوں پر کچھ نہ کچھ حد بندی کرنی ہی پڑتی ہے۔ یونیسکو نے اس کا نقشہ بنایا اور خیال کیا کہ اگر ہم ایشیا

اور یورپ کے کھارہ - بارہ ملکوں کے فلاسفرس کو اکٹھا کر لہکے تو یہ کافی ہو گا۔

[Maulana Azad: As a matter of fact some sort of restrictions have got to be imposed on such occasions. The UNESCO has prepared the outline and they thought that if philosophers and thinkers of eleven or twelve countries of Asia and Europe are invited then the purpose would be served.]

Mr. Speaker: I find several Members are anxious to put questions. Let the proposal materialise.

DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT

*3476. Shri Sonavane: (a) Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state whether there is a proposal before Government for the dissolution of Parliament in view of the ensuing general elections in November-December 1951?

(b) If so, when will Parliament be dissolved, whether before or after the results of elections are known?

The Minister of Law (Mr. Ambedkar): (a) and (b). The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to article 379(1) of the Constitution. By virtue of this article, this provisional Parliament will continue until both Houses of the new Parliament have been duly constituted and summoned to meet for the first session. Accordingly, there will be no dissolution of this Parliament before the general elections take place in November-December next, or even after the results of these elections are announced. It will automatically cease to function as soon as the new Houses of Parliament have been summoned to meet for the first session.

Shri Sonavane: Sir, may I ask.....

Mr. Speaker: There is nothing to ask. Next question.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND MEETING

*3477. Shri A. C. Guha: (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether India was represented in the International Monetary Fund meeting which recently decided the par value of the Pakistan rupee?

(b) If so, what opinion was given by India?

(c) Did that meeting of the International Monetary Fund also consider the question of the revaluation of Indian rupee or of sterling?

(d) How far is this par value of Pakistan rupee being recognised by the International Monetary Fund likely to affect our financial relations with Pakistan?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Our Executive Director informed the Board that, in the context of changed economic conditions in the world, the Government of India did not wish to press their objection to the acceptance of the par value of Pakistan currency, by the Fund.

(c) No, Sir. The Fund does not consider these matters except on an intimation by the country concerned of a proposed change in par values.

(d) As the hon. Member is aware, on the conclusion of the Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement in February last, financial transactions between India and Pakistan were resumed on the basis of the par value of the Pakistan rupee as declared by the Pakistan Government. The subsequent acceptance of this par value by the International Monetary Fund is, therefore, unlikely to affect our financial relations with Pakistan any further.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know if according to the terms of the Indo-Pakistan Trade agreement our acceptance is only conditional, limited to the matters connected with the trade and whether the International Monetary Fund's acceptance makes the par value deligatory on all our transactions with Pakistan?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The statement that it was conditional is not correct.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know how the Reserve Bank assets and Pre-partition dues will be affected by this Monetary Fund decision?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not think they will be affected. If we are entitled to any payment in Indian rupees, it will be received in Indian rupees.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know what was the attitude of the Government of India in regard to the recognition of Pakistan rupee rates in the last meeting of the International Monetary Fund?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is the whole question and the whole answer.

Mr. Speaker: He has said that

Shri Hussain Imam: What will be the effect of this acceptance on payment by the Reserve Bank for the notes withdrawn from Pakistan?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is a question of the transfer of assets to Pakistan. It will have no effect. The claim would be for transfer of Sterling securities and rupee securities according to the proportion in which they were on the date of partition. I do not think that this rate of exchange has any bearing on that.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the opinion expressed by the Director before the Monetary Fund was made before the agreement with Pakistan or after?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: After, because the matter came up after the agreement.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it true that pensions and other payments are adjusted periodically and if so, how will they be affected by this decision of the Monetary Fund?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am not quite clear about the question. Pension and other payments as between India and Pakistan are settled from time to time according to agreements entered into between the two countries. But if payment is to be made in any currency, it is made at the rate which is now the sanctioned rate.

Shri A. C. Guha: How much will be the difference?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The difference will be the difference that will be made by the exchange rate from the previous exchange rate. It is a matter of arithmetical calculation.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

HINDUSTAN AIRCRAFT LTD.

*3478. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the sales during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 in the Hindustan Aircraft Limited;

(b) the profits (actually or provisionally calculated) during these years; and

(c) the nature of works done and undertaken by the unit?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) The sales during 1948-49 were Rs. 160 lakhs, during 1949-50 Rs. 182 lakhs and in 1950-51 the amount was Rs. 247 lakhs.

(b) Profit for 1948-49 amounted to Rs. 1.14 lakhs, for 1949-50 Rs. 5.78

lakhs and for 1950-51 the amount is estimated at Rs. 6.31 lakhs.

(c) The main activities of the factory are as follows:

- (i) Aircraft overhaul and repair including engines, propellers, radio, instruments, accessories and conversion of Dakotas to VIP airline and utility standards.
- (ii) Aircraft assembly and manufacture under assistance arrangements with foreign firms.
- (iii) Aircraft design and development work in connection with the manufacture of prototype.
- (iv) Manufacture of all-metal railway coaches.
- (v) Manufacture of all-metal double and single decker bodies.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know why the estimated profit in 1950 has not been proportionate to the increase in sales?

Major-General Himatsinhji: The small margin of profit for 1950-51 is mainly the result of the labour strike in the factory which lasted for nearly 20 days in September-October. There was a loss of about Rs. 4 lakhs in profits directly due to this strike.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know what was the amount received by this factory for orders executed on behalf of the Railways of India?

Major-General Himatsinhji: I gave that answer three weeks ago. The Hindustan Aircraft Limited undertook to manufacture an improved type of all-metal third class railway coaches for the Ministry of Railways. The first order of 100 such coaches was completed in July 1950. A second order for 150 coaches of the same type with slight modifications, had been placed on the Company during 1950. Of these 33 coaches have been delivered by the end of March 1951.

Shri Kamath: Arising out of answer to part (c) of the question, is it a fact that some months ago three planes manufactured at the Hindustan Aircraft Works crashed within 5 or 10 minutes of their taking off, owing to disintegration in mid-air, and was an inquiry held with a view to finding out whether there were any defects in the manufacture of the planes?

Mr. Speaker: How does it arise?

Shri Kamath: The hon. Minister definitely mentioned 'manufacture'.

Mr. Speaker: It is going too far. I believe some other hon. Member has tabled a question on this. I do not know whether it will be reached.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know if the Board that has been set up is able to undertake this kind of work?

Mr. Speaker: Which Board does he refer to?

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: There is a Board under which the Hindustan Aircraft factory is working.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister need not answer that question.

Next question.

GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES

*3479. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Punjab University and some other educational institutions which were disrupted owing to partition of the country will be given grants by the Government of India?

(b) If so, have these grants been fixed?

مستتر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد):

(اے) ہاں۔

(بی) گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا کی

مستتر آف ریہیبیلیٹیشن نے ۱۴

لاکھ روپیہ گورنمنٹ پنجاب کے حوالے

کیا ہے تاکہ پنجاب یونیورسٹی اور

دوسرے ایجوکیشنل انسٹیٹیوشنوں کو

دوبارہ بسانے اور چلانے کے کام میں

مدد دی جائے۔

[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India in the Ministry of Rehabilitation have placed at the disposal of Punjab Government a sum of Rs. 14,00,000 for disbursement to the Punjab University and other disrupted educational institutions which have now re-established themselves in India.]



डा० राम सुभाष सिंह : इस १४ लाख रुपये में से पंजाब विश्वविद्यालय को कितना रूपाया दिया जायगा ?

[Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Out of this sum of Rs. 14 lakhs how much will be given to the Punjab University?]

مولانا آزاد : مستری آف

ریہیلیمیشن نے یہ پوری رقم گورنمنٹ پنجاب کے حوالے کر دی تھی۔ گورنمنٹ پنجاب نے جس طرح مناسب سمجھا خرچ کیا۔

[Maulana Azad: The Ministry of Rehabilitation had placed the entire money at the disposal of Punjab Government. The Government of Punjab spent the money in the manner they liked.]

मि० स्पीकर : इस में सवाल यह है कि पंजाब यूनिवर्सिटी को कितना रूपाया दिया गया है ?

[Mr. Speaker: The question is, what amount of money was given to the Punjab University?]

مولانا آزاد : پنجاب گورنمنٹ سے اس بارے میں دریافت کیا گیا تھا۔ معلوم ہوا کہ انہوں نے اس طرح بتواریہ کیا ہے۔

پنجاب یونیورسٹی ۴ لاکھ ریڈک ریسیچ انسٹیٹیوٹ ہوشیارپور ۷۵ ہزار۔

چند کالج جو بیگھر ہو گئے تھے ان کو بسنے کے لئے ۵۷۱۵۳۰۔ اسکولوں کے لئے ۳۱۲۸۳۰۔

باقی ۳۰۶۲۰ روپیہ اس لئے رکھا گیا تھا کہ دو انسٹیٹیوٹس اور کھولے جائیں گے۔

[Maulana Azad: Information was sought from the Punjab Government in this connection, and it was learnt that they had distributed this money in the following manner:

Punjab University: 4 lakhs.

Vedic Research Institute, Hoshiarpur: Rs. 75,000.

For the establishment of some displaced colleges: Rs. 5,71,540, schools: Rs. 3,12,840.

The balance of Rs. 40,620 was kept for opening two more institutions.]

سردار سوچت سنگھ : کیا وزیر صاحب فرمائیں گے کہ پنجاب یونیورسٹی کا مستجزہ محل وقوع کہاں ہو گا ؟

[Sardar Sochet Singh: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the proposed location of the Punjab University?]

مولانا آزاد : یہ صوبہ کی گورنمنٹ بتا سکتی ہے۔

[Maulana Azad: This information can only be given by the local Government.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Has any grant been given to the Calcutta University as that University is also disrupted due to partition?

مولانا آزاد : نہیں لکھتے یونیورسٹی کے لئے یہ سوال نہیں پیدا ہوا۔

[Maulana Azad: No, this question does not arise with respect to the Calcutta University.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any proposal before the Government?

مولانا آزاد : نہیں ابھی اس طرح کا کوئی پروپوزل گورنمنٹ کے سامنے نہیں ہے۔

[Maulana Azad: No, at present there is no such proposal before the Government.]

पंडित मुनीश्वर बत उपाध्याय : क्या पंजाब गवर्नमेंट ने भी कुछ दिया है अपनी तरफ से या यह जो ऐमार्चट दिया गया

हैं वह सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेन्ट की तरफ से ही है ?

[Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Have the Punjab Government also contributed anything towards this fund or the entire amount has been given by the Central Government?]

مولانا آزاد : یہ میں نہیں کہہ سکتا۔ پنجاب گورنمنٹ سے پوچھا گیا تھا کہ کس طرح یہ روپیہ خرچ کیا گیا۔ انہوں نے یہ فیکرس دئے ہیں۔ خود پنجاب گورنمنٹ نے اس بارے میں کتنا خرچ کیا ہے یا نہیں کیا ہے۔ اسکا جواب میں نہیں دے سکتا۔

[Maulana Azad: I cannot give this information. An enquiry was made from the Punjab Government regarding the manner in which this money was spent. They have given these figures. I cannot give the information as to how much money the Government of Punjab have spent. or not, on this account.]

श्री टी० ऐन० सिंह : मैं यह जानना चाहता था कि यह १४ लाख की रकम सिर्फ नानरिकरिंग ग्रांट में खर्च की गई है या रिकरिंग ग्रांट के लिये भी इस का इस्तेमाल हुआ है ?

[Shri T. N. Singh: I would like to know whether this sum of Rs. 14 lakhs has been spent as non-recurring grant alone or has been used as recurring grant as well.]

مولانا آزاد : قطعی طور میں نہیں کہہ سکتا۔ جو فیکرس گورنمنٹ پنجاب نے بھیجے ہیں ان سے معلوم ہوتا ہے کہ یہ نان ریکرنگ گرانٹ ہی پر خرچ کی گئی ہے۔

[Maulana Azad: I cannot give exact information. From the figures that have been sent by the Government of Punjab it appears that this money has been spent on non-recurring accounts alone.]

MEDICAL LABORATORIES

*3480. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some of India's leading medical laboratories have been invited by W. H. O. to serve as influenza centres?

(b) If so, what are the names of those laboratories?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) and (b). No. None of the medical laboratories in India have been invited by W.H.O. to serve as an influenza centre. The Government of India were, however, asked by W.H.O. to co-operate with the World Influenza Centre in London by appointing an observer to collaborate in all aspects of influenza work in this country.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the World Health Organisation proposes to open any Influenza Centres in India?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The World Health Organisation does not propose to open any Centre; but we have opened three centres here, in Bombay, Madras and Coonoor. W.H.O. has given equipment for two of them

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether India gives any contribution to the W.H.O. for fighting influenza in India?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Not specifically for any one purpose.

Dr. M. M. Das: What is meant by an influenza centre?

Mr. Speaker: It is clear; I think it does not require any explanation.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

*3481. Dr. Deshmukh: (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether the recommendations of the Estimates Committee (2nd Report) with regard to the re-organization of the Central Secretariat have been considered and decisions taken thereon?

(b) If so, what are the recommendations which have been accepted and which are rejected?

(c) Is any action being taken on the recommendations which have been accepted?

(d) Do Government propose to lay a statement on the Table of the House stating the economies expected to result from these recommendations in the course of the year 1951-52?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) to (d). The recommendations are under active consideration and a report on the action taken on the recommendations will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

Dr. Deshmukh: How long would this examination last and when it is likely to be completed?

Shri Rajagopalachari: It depends on the importance of the subject.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CENSORS

*3482. **Dr. Deshmukh (a)** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the expenditure incurred on the Central Board of Film Censors since it was established?

(b) What is the number of films the Board has examined upto this time?

(c) What is the number of films they have refused to certify?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar):

(a) The expenditure incurred on the Central Board of Film Censors upto 31st March 1951 was Rs. 28,577/9/0.

(b) 1,003 films were examined upto 31st March 1951.

(c) No films in their entirety were refused certification but in a number of cases certain cuts were suggested which were accepted by the producers.

Dr. Deshmukh: What is the membership of the Board and what is the maximum salary paid to them?

Shri Diwakar: The Board consists of seven Members of which Mr. C. M. Agarwala, the Chairman, is the only one who is paid. The others are honorary.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know the salary?

Shri Diwakar: I would like to have notice.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know whether the hon. Minister knows the length of the films cut as a result of the answer to part (c)?

Shri Diwakar: I do not know.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: What was the income received as fees for certifying?

Shri Diwakar: The fee charged is as follows:

For 35 mm. 2,000 feet or below—Rs. 5 per thousand feet or fraction thereof.

For 35 mm. exceeding 2,000 feet—Rs. 40/- per thousand feet or fraction thereof.

For 16 mm. 800 feet or below—Rs. 5/- per 400 feet or fraction thereof.

For 16 mm. exceeding 800 feet—Rs. 40/- per 400 feet or fraction thereof.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: What is the total received?

Shri Diwakar: I would like to have notice.

Shri Joachim Alva: Amongst the films which have not been certified, how many films are there which have been noted for their blatant and sordid exposure of love scenes?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Diwakar: I cannot reply to that.....

Mr. Speaker: He need not go into those details.

Shri B. K. Das: How many of these films have been given 'A' Certificates and how many 'U' Certificates?

Shri Diwakar: I would like to have notice.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Is it a fact that Mr. Agarwala, the Chairman of the Board, gets Rs. 4,000 as salary?

Shri Diwakar: I said for the correct figure, I would like to have notice.

EXCHANGE OF STUDENTS

*3483. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Carnegie Corporation of U.S.A. has made a grant of \$150,000 for exchange of students for study;

(b) if so, whether this grant is available for Indian students also; and

(c) what portion of this grant would be available for Indian students and for the study of what subjects?

مستتر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد):

(اے) اس بارے میں گورنمنٹ آف

انڈیا کو کوئی خبر نہیں ملی ہے۔

(ہی) اور (سی) سوال کے یہ حصے

پیدا نہیں ہوتے۔

[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) We have no information.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.]

ENTERTAINMENT TAX

*3484. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of entertainment tax realised each year upto 31st March 1951 in the State of Delhi since it was first imposed;

(b) whether it is a fact that at the time of levying this tax Government had agreed to earmark and spend the proceeds of this tax on the building of quarters for poor men; and

(c) if so, how much of this amount has been actually spent on that object and how has the balance been utilised?

...The Minister of State for Finance (**Shri Tyagi**): (a) A statement containing the information is laid on the Table. [See Appendix XXII, annexure No. 61.]

(b) No, Sir. But it was intended that from the net proceeds of the entertainment tax which was to be a source of General Revenues, annual grants would be made to the Delhi Improvement Trust for a period of 20 years sufficient to cover the loss incurred by the Trust on the provision of houses at concessional rates to poor-class tenants cleared from slums.

(c) Upto the 31st March, 1951, the Trust has been given grants-in-aid totalling Rs. 4,46,453/-. As stated above, the entire proceeds of the entertainment tax form part of the General Revenues.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether it is not a fact that this tax was imposed at the instance of the Delhi Municipality for a particular purpose, that is building houses for the poor?

Shri Tyagi: My information is that in 1939, the Chief Commissioner of Delhi made a proposal that slums be cleared and some cheap type of houses be put up to be given to these poor people to reside at cheaper rates, the loss being borne by the State.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know what is the total amount realised by the Entertainment tax so far?

Shri Tyagi: The total realisation so far was Rs. 85,49,198.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know why the balance of these 80 lakhs has not been spent on slum clearance?

Shri Tyagi: The problem got involved after the influx of the refugees. Therefore, this work did not actually proceed. It stopped in 1942. Upto the year 1942, houses were built. After that, the scheme has remained at abeyance. It could not progress.

...**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Do the Government propose to spend the balance of 80 lakhs on slum clearance or on putting up houses for the poor?

Shri Tyagi: I would like to take notice.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the Local Finances Committee appointed by the Central Government have recommended that the Entertainment tax should be handed over to the municipalities and if so, what is the decision taken on that?

Shri Tyagi: No decision has been taken to hand over this amount to the municipalities. It is a tax which goes to the central revenues.

Shri Kamath: Among the Centrally Administered Areas, which State proportionately to its population, yields the largest revenue to Government from the Entertainment tax?

Shri Tyagi: I have got information about the Delhi State alone just now.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know, out of the four lakhs grant given to the Trust, whether the entire sum is earmarked for the building of houses or is it also utilised for slum clearance purposes?

Shri Tyagi: For building purposes, a loan was given to the Improvement Trust to the tune of Rs. 5,12,000. This sum of Rs. 4,46,453 which is given to the Trust is just to compensate the loss because the houses yield a lesser rent than what it should get according to the rules. Therefore from the Entertainment tax only the loss to the Improvement Trust is made good.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if there is any proposal before the Government to see that at least a portion of the realisation of this tax is spent on the improvement of entertainments and facilities for entertainees?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether any representations have been received from the Delhi Municipality in this behalf demanding that this amount be spent on removal of slums and not on other things?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): We are not aware whether any representations have been received. Obviously, payment out of this fund will depend on the celerity with which the Municipality carries out its Improvement schemes. We are bound by certain conditions to give capital grants as well as grants to reimburse certain losses. If there are no schemes, we cannot give money. By the agreement, we are bound to find the money whenever it is payable under the scheme.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Will the hon. Minister.....

Mr. Speaker: I am going to the next question.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: The hon. Minister stated that no representations have been received.

Mr. Speaker: That is not material; he has said that he is not aware of it.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: I wanted to know whether there is any co-ordination between the Finance Ministry and the Health Ministry on this subject.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order; that question is not permissible. Next question.

INCOME FROM EXCISE DUTY

*3485. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the income derived by Government during the five years ending 31st March 1951 in the State of Delhi from Excise duty and licensing of liquor shops;

(b) the number of liquor shops where country-made liquor is sold at present and the number of licences granted for the sale of foreign liquors in Delhi;

(c) whether it is a fact that unauthorised sale of liquor has been on the increase during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the estimated amount of income which Government is losing on that account every year?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) A statement is laid

on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXII, annexure No. 62.]

(b) Shops for sale of country-made liquor: 7 Licences for the sale of foreign liquors: 46

(c) There is reason to believe that there has been some unauthorised sale of liquor.

(d) The loss which the State Government incurs from the unauthorised sale of liquor cannot be accurately stated, since the extent of such sale is not ascertainable. The State Government's estimate of such losses based on the probable volume of such sales is as follows:

Year	Rs.
1948-49	4,68,200.
1949-50	11,56,500
1950-51	8,53,500

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What steps are being taken by Government to check this illicit distillation and unauthorised sale of liquor which results in such loss of revenue to Government and encourages corruption?

Shri Tyagi: Employment of increased excise staff is one step taken by the Government. The other is the posting of pickets at strategic points. A third is the employment and rewarding of informers. A fourth measure is the enlisting of the co-operation of the police in this work and the fifth the opening of licensed shops in areas of illicit distillation and the organizing of occasional raids on dry days.

GRANTS-IN-AID TO MYSORE

*3487. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of the grants-in-aid payable to Mysore during the transitional period of 10 years to cover the revenue-gap which has been finally fixed;

(b) whether account has been taken in fixing the revenue-gap of the reduced expenditure to be incurred by the Government of India in respect of the Mysore State Forces now integrated into the Indian Army, and if so, the extent to which the grants-in-aid have been increased; and

(c) how these grants-in-aid as finally fixed compare with those recommended by the V. T. Krishnamachari Committee?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The reimbursible revenue-gap for Mysore has been

settled at Rs. 345 lakhs. This amount will be paid in full for the first 5 years and thereafter will be reduced by 8 per cent. each year to 60 per cent. in the tenth year.

(b) No, Sir. The grant to cover the revenue-gap is not intended to take into account variations in expenditure either way after integration. It is intended to cover only the actual dislocation in the States finances caused at the time of the integration.

(c) The Indian States Finances Enquiry Committee did not recommend any specific amount as the grant to be made to any State. It merely recommended the basis on which the grant should be worked out.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: What has been the reduction in the expenditure over the State forces which have been absorbed into the Indian army?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Since that is not relevant to this settlement, I do not know that it is necessary to answer that question. I understand that the hon. Member wants to know what has been the gain to the Centre by the reduction in the State Forces and my answer is whether there is any reduction or increase either in the expenditure or revenue are matters which are not relevant to the purposes of this settlement.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know whether provision is made for the rehabilitation of the forces dispensed with out of the State forces consequent on the integration?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think these questions ought to be addressed to the Defence Minister by means of a separate enquiry.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know how this figure of revenue and expenditure gap was arrived at? Was it arrived at at the time when the State merged with India or was it after the merger?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: A committee, as the House is aware, presided over by Shri V. T. Krishnamachari was appointed and that was, I think prior to integration or when integration was in the air, and these settlements are based on the recommendations made by that Committee.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know, Sir, whether the sum of Rs. 345 lakhs includes or excludes any provision for the rehabilitation of the State forces now dispensed with?

Mr. Speaker: That question is covered by the previous reply. They

did not take into consideration these various items of loss or gain.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is the answer, Sir. The idea was to take care of the actual dislocation caused at the time of the integration. Therefore it cannot apply to any subsequent variation.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN DELHI

*3489. **Shri V. K. Reddy:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state what is the number of traffic accidents in Delhi during 1950-51?

(b) How many of the persons involved were punished for negligent driving?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) Total number of accidents in Delhi:

1950	658
1951 (up to 18-4-51).	207

(b) Total number of offenders prosecuted for negligent driving:—

1950	337
1951 (upto 18-4-1951)	91

The offenders were, in most cases, tried by a special Magistrate deputed for the purpose. A very great majority of the cases ended in conviction. Figures of convictions are being ascertained and will be laid on the Table of the House.

I am sorry that could not be automatically collected.

Shri V. K. Reddy: May I know whether there has been an increase or a decrease over the figures for previous years and if so what are the reasons?

Shri Rajagopalachari: The number as recorded has greatly increased. For 1948 it was 281; for 1949 it was 293; in 1950 it is 658. I am informed that some of the minor cases of accidents were not included in the previous figures and registers maintained. The procedure now has been changed and every minor case of accident is duly entered and investigated. That accounts for the big number in 1950. Figures are not always safe to follow.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether the hon. Minister is in a position to state whether the absence of traffic control has been responsible for accidents in recent months near the University Gate and, if so, may I know what steps are taken or arrangements made to prevent such accidents?

Shri Rajagopalachari: At the instance of the hon. Member I did make enquiries about the particular case she has in view; and as far as I could see it was not due to any absence of traffic control there. But every step is being taken to improve the position there as well as in other places. The population and the traffic also as the hon. Member knows, have very much increased now.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know how many of these 600 cases were due to negligence on the part of drivers of military trucks?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I do not think that it is possible to answer that, nor is it right to assume that the position is as stated by the hon. Member. I think there are a large number of contributory causes whenever any accident occurs.

Shri Hussain Imam: Sir, may I know how many of these accidents were fatal ones?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I am not able to answer that straight off.

Shri Shiva Rao: Does the hon. Minister contemplate any action against cyclists who cycle without lights and who are the main cause of these traffic accidents?

Shri Rajagopalachari: I have been observing not absence of light, but the common practice of cyclists filling up the whole road abreast. But I hope that most of these cyclists being our own employees and intelligent enough and public-spirited will themselves see to it and improve the position.

HIGHER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

*3490. **Shri V. K. Reddy:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state what is the amount sanctioned by the Government of India to various universities for promoting higher technical education in 1951-52?

(b) Which Universities have been given such grants and what is the amount given to each of them?

مستتر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد):

(ا) ۶۱ لاکھ سات ہزار روپیہ کی ایک

رقم بھرت میں رکھی گئی ہے تاکہ

انجینئرنگ اور ٹیکنالوجیکل انسٹیٹیوٹوں میں

کو گرانٹ دی جائے۔

(بی) سوال یا یہ حصہ ابھی پیدا نہیں ہوتا کیونکہ بھرت کی منظوری کے بعد اس کا فیصلہ کیا جاتا ہے۔

[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) A sum of Rs. 61.07 lakhs has been provided in the budget estimates for the purpose of grants to Engineering and Technological Institutions including three non-university institutions.

(b) Does not arise as the budget has not yet been sanctioned.]

Shri V. K. Reddy Sir, I could not follow the answer.

Mr. Speaker: He said that a sum of about Rs. 61 lakhs has been provided for in the Budget. As regards (b) he said that the matter is for consideration after the Budget is sanctioned and duly passed.

Shri V. K. Reddy: What is the amount granted to the Andhra University for 1950-51?

Mr. Speaker: That does not arise, he said.

HISTORICAL SECTION OF DEFENCE DEPARTMENT

*3491. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) when the historical section of the Defence Department was first started; and

(b) the total expenditure incurred on this section during each of the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) In March 1946.

(b) 1948-49 about Rs. 4,04,000.
1949-50 about Rs. 4,90,000.
1950-51 about Rs. 4,49,000.

Dr. M. M. Das: What are the aims, objects and functions of this historical section?

Major-General Himatsinhji: About three-fourth or slightly more of the total work has been finished. The section is divided into two main parts, one dealing with the historical aspect of the narratives, and the other, the medical, which would have a research and scientific interest inasmuch as it would give an indication of the nature and types of diseases contracted during the war, their treatment and

avoidance. Another sub-section deals with the photographs and films. The proportion of staff and expenditure between the historical and medical portions is about 2/3 and 1/3, while the expenditure on the Film and Photo section is about one-fourth of the total expenditure.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the present activities of this section are confined to the exploits of the Indian armed forces in the last war or they are also taking up the exploits of the Jammu and Kashmir forces and the field ambulance sent to Korea?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Yes, Sir. Though, for the present, it is engaged in writing the History of the Indian Armed Forces in the last war, it may carry out later similar work on subsequent exploits.

Dr. M. M. Das: What are the special qualifications of the officers carrying out these duties—qualifications which will enable them to interpret military history properly?

Major-General Himatsinhji: There is a Director, Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad, M.A., D.Litt., a civilian historian, whose services have been loaned by the Allahabad University.

Dr. M. M. Das: What special qualifications has he got to interpret military matters?

Major-General Himatsinhji: He has now worked with a section which was composed of British military historians during the war, and with the experience he has as a historian he is well qualified.

CHIEF SCIENTIST TO INDIAN NAVY

*3492. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether there is any post as the "Chief Scientist to the Indian Navy" and if so, what are the functions of the incumbent; and when was the post first created?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): The appointment of the Scientific Adviser to the Indian Navy has been sanctioned very recently, and the first incumbent took up his post in March 1951. His main function will be to advise Naval Headquarters upon all scientific problems confronting the Indian Navy and to initiate research and development programmes in connection therewith.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether he is an Indian or non-Indian?

Major-General Himatsinhji: He is on loan from the British Navy (Admiralty) and therefore he is a non-Indian.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the other two branches of the Indian armed forces, namely the land forces and the Air Force got their own scientific departments?

Major-General Himatsinhji: This question has been answered recently. We have a scientific adviser section which is composed entirely of Indian personnel.

Dr. M. M. Das: I wanted to know whether the two other arms, land forces and the Air Force, have got their own scientific departments like the Navy?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Yes, Sir, but the Navy section co-operates closely with this department.

Shri Kamath: What is the machinery for co-ordination between the Scientific Adviser section of the Indian Navy and that of the U.K. Navy?

Major-General Himatsinhji: It is done through the scientific adviser section of the Armed Forces, and a Commonwealth Defence Science Organisation Conference was held recently in U. K.

Shri Kamath: Has a permanent machinery been set up for this purpose?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Yes, Sir. They expect to meet once in two years.

INDIAN SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND AIRMEN'S BOARD

*3493. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) when the "Indian Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen's Board" was first constituted;

(b) the aims and objects of the Board;

(c) whether the Board has any special fund; and

(d) the sources of revenues to the fund?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) The Board was first constituted on 7th February 1919 when it was called the Indian Soldiers' Board. On 1st April 1944, it was reconstituted as the Indian Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board and assumed the same functions in relation to all three Services as were being performed in relation to Army personnel only, till that date.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix XXII, annexure No. 63.]

(c) Yes. The Indian Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board Fund.

(d) The Fund was formed in 1922 out of an amount of Rs. 10 lakhs received from the Imperial Relief Fund which was wound up. The present income of the Fund is Rs. 35,331/- per annum representing interest on the capital of Rs. 11,97,700/- which has been invested in Government Securities.

Dr. M. M. Das: What is the number of members of this Board and how have they been selected?

Major-General Himatsinhji: They have been appointed by the Defence Department. The Defence Minister is the President and there are about 15 members of the Board. Shall I read out their names?

Mr. Speaker: Not necessary.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the services rendered by this Board to the defence personnel have increased after Independence?

Major-General Himatsinhji: They have increased very much. The number of Soldiers' Boards has increased from 87 to 174, just double, which itself shows the improvement.

Dr. M. M. Das: What are the different States that have shared prominently in this increase in number?

Major-General Himatsinhji: From the expenditure incurred in some of the States one can imagine the amount of work they have done:

	Rs.
Punjab	56,936.
U.P.	1,48,304.
Bombay ...	78,230.
Madhya Pradesh	19,044.
Assam ...	11,532.
West Bengal	21,506.
Bihar ...	32,990.
Orissa ...	4,944.
Delhi ...	3,944.
Ajmer ...	3,404.
Himachal Pradesh	480.
Rajasthan ...	20,461.
Vindhya Pradesh	2,196.
Bilaspur ...	2,808.
Travancore-Cochin ...	3,590.
Madras ...	Not known.

That shows the amount of work each State is doing.

REQUISITION OF CULTIVABLE LAND

*3494. **Shri Alagesan:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether 6,000 acres of cultivable land and buildings near about Gummidipoondi (Madras) were requisitioned during the War for construction of ammunition depot on the assurance that they would be returned after the termination of War and that equitable compensation would be paid to the owners thereof?

(b) If so, were the lands returned to the owners after the War and if not, why not?

(c) What is the compensation given to them per acre per year?

(d) What is the total amount of compensation so far given?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) Yes; about 5,960 acres.

(b) No; the land is still required for Defence services and continues to be occupied under the Requisitioned Lands (Continuance of Powers) Act (Act XVII) of 1947 as extended from time to time.

(c) Varying compensation ranging from Rs. 5/- to Rs. 30/- per acre per annum.

(d) Rs. 6,56,000/- up to and including the 31st March 1951.

Shri Alagesan: Is the entire area of cultivable land required for defence purposes?

Major-General Himatsinhji: No, Sir. The army authorities are going into the question with a view to releasing the land not required by them?

Shri Alagesan: Will Government consider the advisability of shifting the depot to the Avadi base nearby?

Major-General Himatsinhji: The question has been taken into consideration and they have decided to remain there.

Shri Alagesan: Will Government consider the question of paying compensation based on the prevailing prices instead of the prices that prevailed at the time the lands were taken over?

Major-General Himatsinhji: The compensation payable was fixed by the Collector, after taking into consideration the situation, the nature of the soil, the kind of crop grown, land cess and tax, to the satisfaction of the owners.

Shri Alagesan: Since the prices have gone up very much will Government consider the feasibility of making *ex-gratia* payments pending the question of acquisition?

Mr. Speaker: That would be making a suggestion.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know whether a representation was made to the Defence Department by the parties concerned stating that the compensation paid to them was very low and not in conformity with the market value prevailing at the time when the compensation was paid?

Mr. Speaker: He said that it was settled by the Collector.

Shri Alagesan: Will the Government be able to return the land before the cultivation season begins?

Major-General Himatsinhji: Most of the land which is not required has already been returned. But some of the tenants have started building houses near the factory which have to be removed sooner or later for security reasons.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ADULTERATION OF FOODSTUFFS

*3474. **Shri Lakshmanan:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases charged for adulteration of foodstuffs in Delhi during the years 1949 and 1950;

(b) the number of cases which ended in conviction during each of these years; and

(c) the total amount of fine collected during each year?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) to (c). A statement containing the information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Number of persons prosecuted, convicted and fine collected for adulteration of foodstuffs in Delhi.

	1949	1950
(a) Total number of persons prosecuted for adulteration of foodstuffs.	2109	2201
(b) Total number of persons convicted for adulteration of foodstuffs.	1066	382
(c) Total amount of fine collected.	Rs. 57,191	42,550

REGISTRATION OF DENTISTS

*3495. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether registers have been published under the Dentists Act, 1948 and the work of Registration tribunals completed in the various States;

(b) whether any unregistered dentist is practising in any of the States;

(c) if so, where and how many; and

(d) what action Government propose to take against such dentists under Sections 47, 48 and 49 of the Act?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes, except in Bihar, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh.

(b) to (d). The hon. Member's attention is invited to my reply to stated question No. 3362 on the 21st April, 1951.

NURSES

*3496. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state how many nurses were recruited for the Indian Military Nursing Service in the years, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(b) What is the minimum educational qualifications fixed for I.M.N.S. and were relaxations made in deserving cases?

(c) Is it necessary for the recruited nurses in the I.M.N.S. to enter into a contract and if so, for how many years?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXII annexure No. 64.]

(b) To be eligible for recruitment into the Military Nursing Service, a candidate must be in possession of a certificate of not less than three years' training in an approved hospital and be State Registered as a fully trained nurse Medical and Surgical nursing and midwifery.

No relaxation of these qualifications has been made in any case.

(c) Officers of the temporary cadre of the Military Nursing Service are at present required to enter into an initial contract of service for one year in the first instance, renewable yearly thereafter until their services are required.

REQUIREMENTS OF GOLD AND SILVER

*3497. **Shri M. Naik:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the average annual requirement of gold and silver in India?

(b) How much of it is used for industrial purposes?

(c) What are the average imports as against local production?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). It is not possible to make any reliable estimate.

(c) The imports and production in 1949, which may be taken as an average year under present conditions, were as follows:

(in ozs.)

	Gold	Silver
Import ...	589	94,969.
Production ...	163,871	11,275.

TEACHERS IN PART C STATES

*3498. Shri Kishorimehan Tripathi: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the basic minimum and maximum salary as also the comparative dearness allowance of Primary School teachers in Part 'C' States?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table in due course.

भारत में आदिवासी

*३४९९. श्री ओरांव: क्या गृह कार्य मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे:

(ए) वर्ष १९३१ तथा १९४१ की जनगणना रिपोर्टों के अनुसार भारत में आदिवासियों की संख्या क्या है, तथा राष्ट्रपति की घोषणा के अनुसार उन की संख्या क्या है; तथा

(बी) वर्ष १९३१ तथा १९४१ की जनगणना रिपोर्टों के अनुसार क्रमशः बिहार, मध्य प्रदेश तथा आसाम राज्यों में से प्रत्येक में आदिवासियों की संख्या क्या है तथा प्रत्येक राज्य में राष्ट्रपति की घोषणा के अनुसार उन की संख्या क्या है?

ABORIGINALS IN INDIA

[*3499. Shri Oraon: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aboriginals in India according to the census reports of 1931 and 1941, and their number as given in the President's Declaration; and

(b) the number of aboriginals in each of the States of Bihar, C. P. and Assam according to the census reports of 1931 and 1941 respectively and their number in each State according to the President's Declaration?]

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information asked for is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXII annexure No. 65.]

हिन्दी साहित्य सम्मेलन

*३५००. श्री द्विवेदी: (ए) क्या शिक्षा मंत्री १० मार्च, १९५० को, पूछे गये मेरे तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ७७५ के सम्बन्ध में दिये गये उत्तर को निर्दिष्ट करने की कृपा करेंगे और यह बतलायेंगे कि क्या सरकार ने अपने आधीन पदों पर सीधे ही अथवा संघ लोक सेवा आयोग की आयोजित प्रतियोगीय परीक्षाओं द्वारा नियुक्ति करने के लिए हिन्दी साहित्य सम्मेलन की विभिन्न नपाधियों को मान्यता देने के प्रश्न पर कोई निश्चय किया है?

(बी) यदि किया है, तो वह कब तक कार्यान्वित होगा?

HINDI SAHITYA SAMMELAN

[*3500. Shri Dwivedi: (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the answer given to my starred question No. 775 asked on 10th March, 1950 and state whether Government have since arrived at any decision regarding the question of recognition of the various degrees of the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan for purposes of employment to posts under them either direct or through the competitive examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission?

(b) If so, when will it be implemented?]

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) and (b). The matter is under the consideration of an

ad hoc Committee set up by the Government of India for examining the standards of degrees and diplomas awarded by private institutions in India for purposes of employment to posts under them.

PUBLICATIONS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

*3501. **Shri Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether Government propose to bring out in Hindi and other Indian languages the various publications of the Archaeological Department that were till recently published in English only?

(b) If so, how long will it take to make these publications available to the public?

(c) What extra expenditure will Government have to incur for this purpose?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): a) Several Guides to monuments have been published in Hindi and other Indian languages. The question of publishing the scientific journals of the Department of Archaeology in Hindi has not yet been taken up by the Government of India.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

FILM DOCUMENTARIES

*3502. **Shri Baiwant Saha Mehta:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state how the private enterprise of films documentaries is encouraged by Government?

(b) Are such documentaries purchased or leased on royalty basis?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar):

(a) Provision is made in the Budget of the Films Division for the purchase of documentary films from private producers. Five films were purchased and orders were placed for another five in 1950-51. It is proposed to purchase 12 films in 1951-52.

(b) Films which have so far been obtained from private producers have been purchased; such purchases include full distribution rights in India and non-commercial distribution rights abroad.

UNESCO RELIEF FOR ASSAM VICTIMS

*3503. **Shri Sanjivayya:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Executive of the UNESCO have sanctioned an amount of 15,000 dollars towards the relief of Assam Earthquake victims;

(b) if so, the form in which the Government of India are going to receive that amount; and

(c) the manner in which the Government of India propose to spend it?

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes.

(b) \$10,000 have been allotted to Governor's Assam Earthquake Fund and the balance viz., \$5,000 has been paid by UNESCO to Service Civil International.

(c) \$10,000 have been earmarked for school and class-room equipment and textbooks for schools, and \$5,000 are being utilized by Service Civil International in the organization of work camps in Assam.

CONTRACT FOR JEEPS

*3504. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the firm with whom the new contract for the supply of 1007 new jeeps has been signed;

(b) the date of the contract the price of a new jeep in the open market in U. K. and U. S. A.;

(c) the customs duty and freight payable on each jeep landed at Bombay; and

(d) the penalty clause in the Agreement for the non-fulfilment of the contract by the firm?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinghji): (a) The name of the firm is S.C.K. (Agencies) Limited.

(b) The date of the contract is 2nd March 1951.

The price of a new jeep in the open market in U.K. and U.S.A. is not available here, but the price of a new jeep assembled at Bombay is roughly Rs. 11,200.

(c) The customs duty and freight work out to roughly about 70 per cent. of the value of the jeep.

(d) The contract includes the normal penalty clause of the standard conditions of contract of the India Store Department.

PURCHASE OF FOODSTUFFS FOR DEFENCE FORCES

*3505. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on account of purchase of foodstuffs for the Defence Forces in 1950-51;

(b) whether all the foodstuffs purchased were in accordance with the A.S.C. specifications;

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons for purchasing food stuffs not according to specifications, but paying the full price;

(d) the number of samples conforming to specifications and accepted, and the cost of consignments represented by those samples;

(e) the number of samples not according to specifications, but accepted at contract rates and their cost;

(f) the number of samples not according to specifications, but accepted on price reduction and their cost,—at full rate and after price reduction; and

(g) the number finally rejected?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) Rs. 15,77,97,301.

(b) and (c). Yes, except in respect of a relatively small quantity in which deviations had to be accepted for the following reasons:

(i) The deviation was not very material and was not likely to affect in any appreciable manner the nutritive value of the foodstuffs;

(ii) there was no possibility of getting goods exactly of the rights specifications.

The Ministry of Food is responsible for making purchases of food grains, green vegetables, tinned articles etc. required by the Armed Forces. Where a deviation from the specifications is accepted by the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Food decides, in consultation with the Ministry of Finance, what, if any, reduction in prices is called for.

(d) The figures at present available are only for the period from 1st March, 1950 to 21st December 1950.

No. of samples	...	1416.
Cost.	...	Rs. 8,68,83,960.

(e) The figures available for the same period are—

No. of samples.	...	79.
Cost	...	Rs. 29, 70, 969.

(f) The figure available for the same period are—

No. of samples.	48.
Cost at full rate	... Rs. 83,88,085.
Cost at reduced rate....	Rs. 83,17,291.

(g) 28 samples were rejected during the same period.

STRIKE OF CIVIL EMPLOYEES OF ORDNANCE DEPOTS, KIRKEE, DEHU ROAD AND TALEGOAN

*3506. Shri Venkataraman: (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether there was a strike of the civilian employees in the ordnance depots at Kirkee, Dehu Road and Talegoan on the 10th of April 1951?

(b) If so, how many workers were involved?

(c) What was the cause of the strike?

(d) How has the strike been resolved?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Major-General Himatsinhji): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 11,850.

(c) The civilian employees were advised by Ordnance Depot Workers Union, Kirkee, to go on strike to secure acceptance of their demand that retrenchment in Ordnance Depots at Dehu Road, Kirkee and Talegaon Dabhade should be stopped, and no persons should be discharged unless alternative employment had been provided.

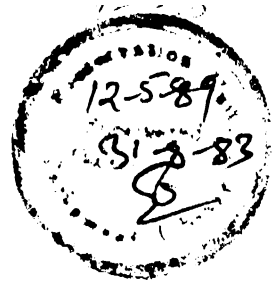
(d) The strike was called off on the evening of the 12th April, 1951, as a result of discussion between the Union leaders and the Regional Labour Commissioner, Bombay.

AGRICULTURAL FINANCE CORPORATION

*3507. Shri Chandrika Ram: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether Government propose to set up an Agricultural Finance Corporation in the near future?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): No, Sir. I would in this connection invite the attention of the hon Member to the reply which I gave on the 22nd November 1950 to the debate on the Reserve Bank of India (Amendment) Bill.

Wednesday, 25th April, 1951



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME X, 1951

(31st March, 1951 to 20th April, 1951)

Third Session
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PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1950-51

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

7422

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PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Wednesday, 25th April, 1951

The House met at Half Past Eight of the Clock

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

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

9 30 A.M.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

STRIKE OF THE PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK EMPLOYEES

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of an adjournment motion on the subject of the strike and lock-out of the Punjab National Bank employees and of failure of the Government to control and conciliate it, which may lead to widespread strike of bank employees of India.

Prima facie, this is a small and ordinary matter, but if the hon. Member wants any information in respect of this I think the better course will be to table a question to the Home Minister, and if that is admissible. . .

Shri Hussain Imam (Bihar): Short notice question?

Mr. Speaker: May be—whatever he chooses. I cannot guarantee the admission of a short notice question, because, this question of bank employees, the bank award, etc. has already been before the House. . . .

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): It has also been answered once.

Mr. Speaker: Therefore, it is for him to put any sort of question, but I do not think I am inclined to admit this motion.

Shri Hussain Imam: But may I point out, Sir, that on this question Government in the Labour Department are concerned?

Mr. Speaker: Whatever it may be, Government is one whole.

113 P. S. Deb.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REPORT OF REHABILITATION FINANCE ADMINISTRATION

The Minister of Finance (**Shri C. D. Deshmukh**): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration for the half-year ended the 31st December, 1950, in accordance with sub-section (2) of Section 18 of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration Act, 1948.

[Placed in Library. See No. P-163/51]

FINANCE BILL

The Minister of Finance (**Shri C. D. Deshmukh**): I beg to move:

“That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the year beginning on the 1st day of April, 1951, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration”.

I do not propose at this stage to say much on this motion. In the course of my reply on the previous reading I said that I hoped that the Bill will emerge a much-improved Bill from the Select Committee. I believe that has happened. Now I shall await the observations of the Members of the House on the Bill and would reserve to myself the right of reply at the end of the debate.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

“That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the year beginning on the 1st day of April, 1951, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration”.

The House is already aware that today and tomorrow have been allotted for consideration and passing of the Finance Bill, as reported by Select Committee. We shall now proceed

[Mr. Speaker]

with the first stage of the consideration motion involving general discussion, which will conclude today subject to the right of reply of the Finance Minister which he will give tomorrow and for which he will have about one hour. The remainder of tomorrow will be devoted to the clause by clause consideration of the Bill and all outstanding questions in connection with the Bill shall be put at 1 P.M. tomorrow.

As regards the time-limit on speeches, I should like to fix a time-limit of, say fifteen minutes and would request hon. Members to restrict their remarks to that time-limit.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): May I remind the Leader of the House of the assurance that he gave some time ago that the Elections Bill would be taken up soon after the Finance Bill was disposed of, and, if so, may I know whether that Bill would be taken up soon after this or some time later?

The Prime Minister and Leader of the House (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Yes, I hope it will be taken up very soon.

Shri Shiva Rao (Madras): Sir, before I make my observations on the Finance Bill as it has emerged from the Select Committee, I would like with your leave to modify a statement which I made when I spoke on the estimates of the Defence Ministry. On that occasion, referring to certain transactions in London made on behalf of the Defence Ministry, I had referred to a visit paid by certain high-placed officials of the Government of India included among whom was the Finance Secretary. I have since been informed, Sir, that the Finance Secretary, although he visited London at the time, did not look into those transactions and, in fact, was not even aware of those transactions until almost the end of 1949. I had intended to cast no reflection on this officer or on any of the other officers, but in fairness to the Finance Secretary I feel it necessary that this statement should go on the records.

Coming to the Finance Bill, I am sorry that the Finance Minister did not disclose the all-important fact that the cash balance position of the Government of India was, in fact, very much better than he had estimated when he presented the Budget on the 28th February. I recognise that not all the sixty crores constitute a genuine improvement in the financial position of the Government, but a substantial portion certainly does. It seems to me

that if he had stated this at the beginning of the debate on the motion to refer the Finance Bill to a Select Committee it is possible that the House would have taken a very different view of the proposals he placed before us and the Select Committee might have adopted a more liberal attitude towards those taxation proposals. However, let us be thankful for the concessions that have been made in the course of the discussion of the Finance Bill by the Select Committee. All that I would say at the present moment is that with the improved position which he disclosed to the House, he should be more liberal and more generous in his treatment of measures intended to stimulate the social progress of the country.

When I spoke at the stage of the general discussion of the Budget I laid special stress on much greater attention being paid to industrial housing. So far as I am concerned, I can see little meaning in introducing health insurance measures in industrial areas as long as we have slums which breed both disease and vice. Last year when I spoke on the Budget I ventured to suggest to the then Finance Minister the preparation of an economic survey to be presented with the Budget papers on the same lines as the Chancellor of the Exchequer does in the House of Commons. I had also suggested that the time had come for the revival of the practice of having annual administration reports of public health, of education and of agriculture, reports which we were familiar before the war. Unfortunately, Dr. Matthai was not in a particularly responsive mood on that occasion. But I hope Mr. Deshmukh will be more receptive.

We have had during the last four years three Finance Ministers each of whom, if I may say so in all humility, very able and with a considerable knowledge of finance. But I am also bound to add that their approach to the financial problems of the country has been different, and their treatment of problems has also been different. One does not know who will be the occupant of the Finance Minister's post this time next year after the General Elections. We cannot always be sure of having a Finance Minister as well equipped as the ones that there have been during the last four years; and for that reason it seems to me more essential now than ever that the personnel of the Finance Ministry should be strengthened in every possible way. There is at the present moment an Economic Department in the Finance Ministry and also a Planning Section, and I would ask the Finance Minister to

take every possible step during this year to strengthen both these Sections in order that in future, at any rate, Parliament may have an economic survey of the kind to which I have just referred. I am aware of the fact that it is very largely a question of personnel, and in this connection I would like to say a word. It seems to me a matter of great regret that Government should have permitted experienced officers to retire before their due time and take up attractive jobs in private business, and I say this particularly in regard to officials of the Finance Ministry. I think that the conditions for releasing such officers should be made much more stringent at the present moment.

Sir, I would like to turn now to another aspect of this problem of personnel. I am referring to the multi-purpose river projects. Last week, when the Minister for Natural Resources was answering a question put by Shri Bali Ram Bhagat in regard to the Kosi project, he said that he was contemplating the constitution of a Board of Engineers who would examine the soundness of that project. As the House is aware, the Damodar Valley Corporation too has a Board of Consultants consisting at the present moment of four Engineers, of whom three are Americans and one is an Indian. I would like to see a Board of Advisers attached to the Ministry of Natural Resources, consisting of Indian Engineers with considerable knowledge and experience of dam construction and of hydro-electric and thermal stations in order to provide the Minister and the Ministry with expert knowledge and assistance in regard to all these huge projects. I have not at the present moment precise figures, but I do believe that all these different river projects will cost the tax-payer something in the region of Rs. 300 to 400 crores.

After all, what does Government do in the field of industry? The Minister of Commerce and Industry has, associated with his Ministry, panels of industrialists who advise him from time to time in regard to the progress of the industries in which they are experts; and my suggestion is only for an extension of that principle to the Ministry of Natural Resources in regard to river projects. I feel that at the present moment there are in the country many competent Indian Engineers who have to their credit very considerable schemes both of irrigation and of hydro-electricity, and I would like the Board of Advisers constituted by the Minister for Natural Resources to review from time to time the progress of these different

river projects, not only the Damodar Valley Corporation but of the Bhakra-Nangal project, the Hirakud project and also other projects which have not yet been taken up. I feel certain that Government would profit by the association of competent Indian Engineers with the Ministry for Natural Resources.

In this connection, I am bound to say that I was somewhat disappointed with an observation which was made by the Finance Minister when he replied to the general debate on the Budget. In reply to suggestions made by some hon. Members, including myself, that in undertaking these projects there should be some insistence on a fair return as early as possible, the Finance Minister observed that it was captious criticism: I think he said that it was 'very captious' criticism. I would like to ask whether it is really captious to demand economies at every stage in regard to these large projects entrusted. I regret to say, in one or two cases to men with inadequate knowledge and experience of such projects? And after all, whatever Members of the Government may feel or say, so far as we in this House are concerned, we can have only one standard to apply to all Government expenditure. Our loyalties must primarily be to the interests of the taxpayer, and we are bound to say this at all stages, no matter what Government Members may feel.

I must now turn to another aspect of the administration which does not receive adequate attention in this. I think I may claim that I know something more than most other non-official Members of this House in regard to the quality and volume of work that is turned out by the Secretariat. I referred to this matter two or three years ago and I bring it again to the notice of the House because I am convinced that both in respect of quality and volume of work in the Secretariat, there has been steady and even serious deterioration. Again, I would turn in this connection to the field of industry so as to give us some guidance in regard to this matter. When production goes down in an industry or in a factory, this House takes almost immediate notice of the fact, as we did recently in the case of the railway collieries. What does Government do when it notices a drop in production? It is now the practice to have joint Production Committees and Works Committees representing both management and labour, so that those who are actually employed in the industry or in the factory may get together periodically to discuss problems of common concern and overcome the obstacles that there are in the way

[Shri Shiva Rao]

of greater production. I would like to suggest that the same thing might be done in the Secretariat. I am not suggesting anything that is new or revolutionary.

Pandit Maitra (West Bengal): I rise to a point of order. I have not the least desire to interrupt the very interesting speech of my hon. friend Mr. Shiva Rao, but I was considering, Sir, whether you would give your ruling as to whether these observations on the strengthening of the personnel in the Secretariat, the Damodar Valley Corporation and the like are relevant at this stage, as they have no bearing on the sections of the Finance Bill as reported by the Select Committee.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is a very old Member of the Legislature and he knows the wide scope of discussion on the Finance Bill.

Pandit Maitra: At this stage?

Mr. Speaker: The point is: It is a question of supplies, and when they come into the House for voting on supplies, think it is not merely a question of being limited down to the particular proposal of taxation: it is a question of supply of funds.

Then there is the limitation of time also. The hon. Member has already taken fifteen minutes.

Shri Shiva Rao: I am grateful to you, Sir, your ruling. I shall also abide by your decision on the time-limit—I will only take one or two minutes more.

I was going to point out to the House that in England they have what are known as Whitley Councils in Whitehall representing the various Ministries, from the permanent Under Secretary down to the messenger boys. Recently, Sir, I gave a copy of a pamphlet descriptive of the work and functions of these Whitley Councils to the hon. Minister of State for Finance and I think he found it both useful and interesting. I am making a reference to this, because it seems to me that the Government should take serious and immediate notice of the fact that the work in the Secretariat has deteriorated a great deal. I would like to suggest the constitution of similar Councils, first in each Ministry and then an overall Council to represent the whole of the Secretariat from Secretaries down to the *chap-rassis*. And I say it particularly, because the Secretariat as it functions at the present moment works in almost water-tight compartments.

[SHRIMATI DURGABAI in the Chair.]

Cabinet Ministers do not usually see anyone below the ranks of Secretaries and Joint Secretaries; Secretaries and Joint Secretaries do not take notice of anyone who is not a gazetted officer and so it goes on down to the *chap-rassis*. It seems to me that this class distinction in the Secretariat is one of the chief causes for the lack of human touch which would improve the administration a great deal.

Sir, I will take only one point as an illustration. When work goes down in a factory, people look into the various aspects of the deterioration and try to find out the remedies. I would like any one of the Ministers to appoint a statistician for a few mornings to watch the long queues which stand on the Lodi Road waiting for buses. I would like someone to work out the loss to the Government in man-hours as a result of the lack of adequate transport for these thousands of lower paid staff in the Secretariat.

We have staff cars for the Secretaries and higher paid officials, and I would seriously suggest that some of these staff cars might be scrapped and you might have staff buses working—if you like—on a no-profit-no-loss basis. I feel that the advantage to the Government would be immense, as a result of the introduction of such a service. I stress this fact because at the present moment the Secretariat is one vast, soulless machine and it is the lack of the human touch which is so responsible for the deterioration in the standards of the Secretariat. After all Government may lay down their policies; but for their execution we depend upon this large army of lower-paid officials who lead frustrated lives, who have to live very often on the verandahs of someone else's tenements and who spend much more than they can afford both as regards rent and transport. I say it would pay the Government to devote some attention to these vast human problems of those who work for it.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): Arising out of Mr. Shiva Rao's suggestion of staff buses, may I request the hon. the Finance Minister to bear in mind the utilisation of the aeroplanes which meant for the use of officials and which at present cost Rs. 20 lakhs.

Mr. Chairman: The Finance Minister is making notes of suggestions made by hon. Members in the course of their speeches.

Dr. K. V. Thakkar (Saurashtra): At the outset I should like to congratulate the hon. the Finance Minister for providing one crore of rupees for the tribal people in the new year's budget. This provision follows closely the appointment of a Chief Commissioner for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I consider it a red letter day for the Scheduled Tribes.

But it is necessary to know why this provision is made for the Scheduled Tribes only. What about the Scheduled Castes, which number five crores? Their population is double that of the Scheduled Tribes, which according to the Census of 1941 is nearly 2½ crores.

What about the other backward Classes? There is no provision made, as such, for these classes.

How is this amount of one crore to be distributed? What is the basis for the distribution?

Who is to examine the schemes of different States and recommend the amount of grant to each State?

The sum of one crore seems to be inadequate, looking to the magnitude of the problem. The Scheduled areas have to be developed and their administration brought in line with the administration of the rest of the areas in the same State. The welfare of the Scheduled Tribes—of the 2½ crores of them have to be promoted.

The Scheduled Castes will be dissatisfied as no provision is made for them. In Part B and Part C States the condition of these poor people is very miserable. And the Finances of these States may not permit them, even if they so desire, to make adequate provision in their own budgets.

The Commission which is to be appointed by the President according to Article 340 of our Constitution, to investigate the condition of socially and educationally backward classes and to make recommendations may take more than a year to complete its work. And we have as yet no idea as to when this commission will be appointed by the President. During this uncertain and undefined interval, it is not proper that the Scheduled Castes and the backward classes be altogether neglected.

I would, therefore, recommend to the Government to advise the President for the appointment of this Commission (Article 340 of the Constitution) so that it may commence its work soon. This is the next logical step, after the creation of the post of the

Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, according to the Constitution.

And lastly, I would draw the attention of the Government to the glaring and deliberate injustice done to the Scheduled Tribes, by certain States, in under-estimating their population. The Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have been the greatest offenders in this respect. According to the 1941 Census, the tribal population in Madhya Pradesh was 45 lacs, whereas the figures given by the Madhya Pradesh Government show a population of only 25 lacs. Similarly in Rajasthan the tribal population in 1941 was 15½ lacs, whereas the figures supplied by them now in the year of grace 1950 are 4½ lacs. I am quoting these figures from the President's Order, dated 5th October, 1950. Taking the 1941 Census figures there should be at least to present increase in the tribal population of both these States, as has happened in all other parts of the country. Evidently these states are afraid that if the true figures of population are given their legislatures would be flooded with tribal members. It is most unfair, Sir, to deprive these people of their legitimate share of seats in the State legislatures—they are actually being robbed of their seats by under-estimation of their population. What we have given them with the right hand is thus being taken away with the left hand.

10 A.M.

The argument that even though the population has been estimated less as per the President's Order other facilities will be given to all, over and above those mentioned in the President's Order, cannot compensate for doing away with the benefits of reservation provided for in the Constitution. Therefore, under-estimation of the population means depriving these people of a right granted by the Constitution. To put it very modestly, it is in a way flouting the Constitution to some degree in an open manner. If this House cannot correct this injustice, I think no one else can.

Now I come to the question of Health Insurance about which recently there has been a talk. There has been a talk latterly about a move towards a system of health insurance for the entire community. This is welcome, so far as it goes, but my complaint is that even the small scheme envisaged in the Employees' Insurance Act of 1948 has not yet been implemented. It is a pilot scheme, meant to benefit the three million workers in factories. One excuse or another has been offered in

[Dr. K. V. Thakkar]

this House for its non-implementation. I cannot understand how we can talk of a system of health insurance for the entire community when we cannot implement a small scheme for the thirty lakhs of our factory workers. The Bhole Committee's plans are still on paper. I would request the Health Ministry to first think of rural medical relief schemes before talking of schemes for the entire community. These large schemes for the entire community in the United Kingdom cost the British people as much as Rs. 4,000 crores. And U. K.'s population is only 5½ crores. We are nearly 35 crores. Our finances cannot afford these schemes for the entire community. We have to wait for that millennium. But small schemes of an intensive kind in certain selected areas to start with would be more practicable.

As regards taxes on tobacco, I would congratulate the Select Committee and the hon. the Finance Minister and the hon. Mr. Tyagi for the very good adjustment they have made in the scale of taxation as regards the tobacco used for various purposes. I am still more glad that the surcharge on the poor man's kerosene has been done away with.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras): I wish today to touch on one or two aspects of the financial administration of this country, namely the question of administration of the Income-tax department, the problem of prices and inflation. There is a third matter on which I would like to touch if there is time, namely the provisions of clause 4(d) of the Finance Bill on which subject a lot of promises were made last year about this time in this House—promises which, in the usual way, have not been implemented even to a degree.

On this question of Income-tax administration I must say that while many Members of this House and I in common with them feel that the administration should be tightened up so as to avoid evasion by the bigger people, I do not share the feeling that the administration should adopt a punitive attitude towards assesseees. There is a considerable difference of outlook in the matter of this administration between a country like the United Kingdom and our own country. In the United Kingdom the honest assessee is nursed, so that honesty in the matter of submitting returns is a thing which is more or less rewarded. It often happens in that country that

heavy and does not leave in the case of large incomes a surplus of perhaps more than 6 pence in the pound, it is made worth while for people to earn money because of the allowances that are given in order to help them to earn: so much so that some of the people who earn large amounts, well, think there is a way of life, and even though they do not have a surplus it would not matter. On the other hand in our country we have yet to imbue the Income-tax department with a spirit that they should approach the assessee, the smaller assessee, the honest assessee, with an offer of help, help him to tide over his difficulties, help him to tide over his difficulties, correct manner by offering him technical advice where necessary. On the other hand my experience has been that the honest assessee, the smaller assessee is penalised by vexatious restrictions and harassing assessments—whereas the dues from the large assessee, as is disclosed by my hon. friend Mr. Tyagi today, is compounded for his having cheated the Government successfully over a period of years of the tax that is due from him. And often times I have heard that people who have earned crores of rupees have their dues compounded for Rs. 20 lakhs and are given a period of two, three or four years to pay that money. Therefore, I think that unless at the top the Minister himself takes the matter in his hand and directs his officials to encourage people to submit returns honestly made up and to encourage officials to help these people, I am afraid it will become increasingly difficult for the Government to administer this tax department. For if one class of people successfully evade taxes I do not think the men with lower classes who have to pay taxes would pay it, at any rate willingly.

I would like to mention in this connection a statement made by my hon. friend Mr. Shanmukham Chetty when he was Finance Minister here, that the Income-tax administration would recognise the law of the land in their dealing with the assesseees. I think that statement, though I believe a circular was issued in respect of Hindu joint families subsequent to that statement, is more honoured in the breach than in the observance. My hon. friend Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, the champion of the Hindu joint family has raised this question a number of times. But I do wish that any privilege given to the Hindu joint family is taken away completely rather than be allowed to be used as a weapon of oppression by the Income-tax authorities merely in order to augment the income that they might get from the assesseees. At any rate in my State

the joint family is almost a thing of the past and while some benefits are conceded in the operation of the Income-tax Act to this category the recognition of the Hindu Joint family or the perpetuation of it by the Income-tax authorities really acts detrimentally to the assessee. Again there is another matter of the same nature in which assessee are harassed. A partnership might be recognized by law. Partner might be liable in certain matters for being members of a partnership; they may be liable because they are members of a partnership firm, but the Income-tax authorities have got a totally different law for themselves. Often they refuse to recognize the firms; they refuse to register them and even though the legal liability of the partners in respect of the transactions towards the public and business institutions remain, the Income-tax people refuse to recognize them and they go on assessing one of the partners as an individual arbitrarily.

Another matter came to light the other day. I heard that the Finance Department sent a notification that they proposed to amend the form of return so as to include a provision for assessee to disclose their non-taxable incomes. After the issue of that notification, the Income-tax Administration in one circle at any rate issues a circular to their assessing officers that all credits to the account of the assessee must be taxed as income and the assessee must be left to go to a court of appeal and get a redress, if necessary. It may be that I am not able to produce the circular but I have been assured on very good authority that that circular has been issued. What happens? It happens that the Appellate Assistant Commissioner...

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): Can the hon. Member give the approximate date?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: My hon. friend, Mr. Tyagi is new to the Department. If it is possible for us to get the date and the circular, I would exhibit it, but it is rather difficult.

Shri Tyagi: Did it happen 2 or 3 months ago?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have been told about it and on very good authority and my hon. friend must rest content there. If he does not believe me, it is my misfortune.

What happens is that thereafter the matter has to go to the Appellate Assistant Commissioner. Today as things stand, it takes about a year

before the Appellate Assistant Commissioner can decide and in nine cases out of ten, the Appellate Commissioner decides against the assessee. In the one case that he decides in favour of the assessee, the Department appeals to the Tribunal. The Tribunal takes about two years to dispose of matters, as the pendency is today. As in matters of law, similar to the one I mentioned either in the case of Joint family or in the case of non-recognition of a partnership firm or otherwise, the question will go to the High Court and then to the Supreme Court by reason of the provisions of the Constitution. It happens in the case of a person who is affected, he has got to wait probably 6 or 7 years, before the assessment is finalised spend large sums of money and pay lawyers and that is his reward for being honest. I might also state in this connection that an audited account has absolutely no value in the eyes of the Income-tax Department. I remember on one occasion a high officer of the Income-tax department while considering the provisions of a Bill for regulating the profession of auditors said that he cannot recognize their association because he said that he will not recognize an association of shopkeepers as having any particular status. There is the attitude of the Department to audited accounts. That is what I would like to say briefly to the hon. Finance Minister and if he wants to encourage people to be honest, then I say the honest people must be nursed and unless the outlook of the Income-tax Department radically changes the category of honest assessee would undoubtedly become less and less because we are putting a premium on dishonesty by the manner we treat honest people.

The other matter that I would like to mention is a very wide subject but one about which I am very perturbed and though the hon. Finance Minister had dealt with this subject on previous occasions, I would like again to draw his attention to it and that is the problem of price inflation. Every time that the Finance Minister makes a statement here, the succeeding weeks makes the problem more grave, if any. Today the problem of prices is getting progressively worse. It may be that in comparison with the position of prices in other countries where inflation has almost assumed galloping proportions, we are probably not worse off but one fact has to be remembered and I would like to bring to the notice of the Finance Minister this matter though he himself must be in the know of things. In our country any additional momentum added to inflation is superimposed on inflation which

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has been existing in this country for 7 or 8 years. If prices go up in the U.K. today—they have considerably advanced over the prices during war-time—it must be remembered that inflation during war-time with regard to prices in England was only of the order of 30 to 60 per cent. whereas in our case, it has been in the order of about 200 per cent. Therefore any addition to this momentum affects a certain class of people with fixed incomes and I must say, I do not mind confessing, though I do not like to make any personal references that people like myself who in the past used to be characterized as upper middle class are now definitely in the lower middle class category and if the present state of prices continues, we shall very soon be out of it. What is the remedy? I think people in this House have made reference to monetary inflation, the augmentation of money in circulation. That is a matter in which I would approach with great trepidation particularly because of the standing that the hon. Finance Minister possesses in the banking world by reason of the fact that he was a very successful Governor of the Reserve Bank in the past. But the fact nevertheless is that we are adding to the amount of money in circulation. It may be that as my hon. friend put it the other day it is to meet the seasonal demands, but some portion of the increase does remain at the end of the measure and I think his estimate is not correct because the amount of money which will remain ultimately will be more than Rs. 10 crores. I agree that there are certain justifying circumstances. For one reason the prices of commodities have gone up so much that the money demands are naturally greater and to some extent the inner meets the demands of the market.

There are other considerations as well which make the momentum of monetary inflation greater because willy-nilly some portion of the black market money which is underground slowly comes out every year. Either the money is converted into bullion, silver or gold as the case might be, by the people who have the money underground or they spend it. As it happens in many cases, people who have made money during the war and kept it underground, many of them have spent large portions of it, so much so, we cannot say that there is any progressive diminution in the quantum of monetary inflation but rather the aggravation of it, whether it is by the Government adding to the note issue or by the money that is

released from the underground. Therefore, it seems to me that this is a matter which has to be considered from two angles. I am not able within the short time at my disposal to elaborate this particular point. (Interruption). I, therefore, feel that this is a matter in which the Finance Minister must pay immediate attention. I do not know as my hon. friend Mr. Shiva Rao put it whether the personnel at his disposal is adequate for the day to day consideration of this problem and I know the problem is being considered by the Reserve Bank but the situation is so grave today that we are in the position of a camel who is overladen, who is being day to day fed by that psychological incentive namely the throwing the last piece of burden for the camel to get up and do its work. Sometime this economy will break because the camel cannot go on being treated psychologically and the physical factors would no doubt tell on him. I do not know if my hon. friend has seriously thought of the problem. The physical problem of price control is being objected to by the general public and in fact today the problem is not being handled properly administratively for various reasons. Dealing with it from the monetary aspect is in his hands. Other countries in Europe have done it and whether we have to deal with the problem from the monetary angle as a whole while the physical controls are not adequate is a matter to which I think my hon. friend must give his attention almost immediately I cannot ask my hon. friend to give an answer to this question because the Finance Minister's making a commitment in this regard would probably give rise to speculation and unhealthy movements in this country but I think we have come to a stage today when if we are going to tackle this problem, we have to tackle it effectively only from the monetary angle. This is all that I would like to say. I am grateful to the House for having given me this indulgence to this extent to voice my views, however, inadequate they may be.

Dr. Parmar (Himachal Pradesh): A welcome change has been brought about by the Select Committee by the abolition of the surcharge on kerosene and by reducing the duty on *biris* etc. But, even after that, I feel that a welcome tax or measure, which is badly needed has not found a place in the Bill. As far as the sharing of the common burdens by the common man is concerned, he is prepared for it. The Finance Minister has introduced a new principle and in that he will have the support of the common man. But, there is a great necessity, in fact,

an urgency to bring about a proper distribution of wealth and an equality has to be introduced: the sooner the better. What I mean is, the abolition of institution of property. As it is, it stands where it was. The hon. Finance Minister did mention that the Estates Duty Bill was under consideration and may be brought in some time. There is, however, a just feeling that it is not enough that the Estates Duty Bill or Death Duties be introduced, but a comprehensive inheritance law which is of prime necessity. For, unless this main source of inequality, the institution of 'property', is handled, there is going to be no relief to the common man. It will be realised by this House that as things stand, the whole of our social order, the whole economic structure is so made that all the professions, which need long training, which need experience, which need money are in the hands of a few people who have collected wealth, collected property, and thereby can afford to go through that expenditure which all this entails. The result is that in spite of all that this Government is trying to do, in spite of all the big projects we have in hand, which will have the co-operation of the whole country, and which are certainly going to change the whole economy of this country, the common man will find it very difficult to have equality of opportunities with those who are placed in a definitely privileged and better situation, not because of their talents, not because of any merit, but because they have inherited huge wealth, and property from their fathers, and so can undergo all that experience and training, be it for medicine, be it for law, be it for Engineering, be it for managing big industries or banking concerns or anything. All that is limited to just a few. It is in that regard that I want to bring this matter to the notice of the House and the Government to see that something positive is done in that direction.

I will say a few words regarding the Bill as it has emerged from the Select Committee, particularly sub-clause (d) of clause 4. My hon. friend Mr. Rama Rao has appended a note of dissent on this matter. The duty on a number of articles which were paying an *advalorem* duty of 90 per cent. or thereabouts have been scaled down and there is going to be a loss of roughly Rs. 67,50,000 out of this re-classification. I will not go into the details of what Mr. Rama Rao has said, except to say that I agree with him in his comments. But, I am interested in this matter from another point of view.

The matter of giving protection to the automobile industry in this country

has been before this House and this sub-clause relates to that. In actual practice, it will be found that only two concerns the Premier Automobiles and Hindustan Motors have received the benefit under this protection. The question is, are we interested in giving protection to the Automobile industry as a whole so that this country is in a position to compete with other countries in the world; not only to produce enough automobiles, but also to be able to export to other countries. I feel that the manner in which this protection is being given only to two concerns, who take up the manufacture of the whole process of these motor vehicles, right from the beginning till the end, is becoming too expensive in this country. Is it possible, I ask, for these two or three concerns to take up the manufacture of these automobiles and do it cheaply and economically? I would suggest that the matter may be reconsidered from the point of view whether it will not be really economical and beneficial to the consumer and save him from the high prices which he has to pay to-day, if this were distributed over a number of concerns which will specialise in particular parts, which will produce *en masse*. What has actually been happening? As this statement will show, those who know have seen that it is not a very great number of cars or trucks that these two concerns have been able to produce. I do not know for how many years we are going to give protection just to enable these two concerns to produce enough cars or trucks for use in this country and for export also. My humble submission is that a few parts ought to be produced by each concern. Today, not even all the parts are produced here; most of them are imported. They are only assembled here. What we require is that the policy should be that the whole thing will be manufactured here, not by one concern, but by a number of concerns, which will produce *en masse*. Let there be one model of motor car or truck which is produced *en masse*, so that you can meet the requirements of the country and also be able to export. In the meantime, let us see that luxury cars are not imported. That is the main point, regarding these two concerns and the policy regarding the automobile industry that I wanted this House seriously to consider.

Pandit Kunzru (Uttar Pradesh): I am glad that the Select Committee has improved the Bill in many respects. I should particularly like to refer to the exemption of smaller incomes from the surcharge on Income-tax and the withdrawal of the proposed tax on kerosene. This increased

[Pandit Kunzru]

duty on kerosene was to produce only about 60 lakhs; but as it is used by the poorest sections of the population, it seemed to me very unfair that this should be regarded as a legitimate source of revenue by the Government. I do not want to say anything with regard to the tobacco duties because there will be a full discussion on them in the course of the debate. But I feel that the surcharge of 5 per cent. on all items of the import schedule is not very happily conceived. Had such articles been selected for the enhanced surcharge as do not enter into the poor man's budget, as was done in 1950, the increased surcharge would probably have been unobjectionable. But as it now applies to all the items on the import schedule, I am afraid, that it might lead to further inflation by causing a rise in prices of the articles required by the common man. The rise may be small, but so is the income of the ordinary man in relation to the price; and I do not know why the Select Committee did not go into this matter. I cannot help expressing my regret that this provision has been left unchanged.

I should like after these few remarks with regard to the taxation proposals, to say a few words about the situation that has made the hon. Finance Minister to come before us with his staggering taxation proposals. Before the Finance Minister comes to us asking for more money, he should be in a position to satisfy us that the existing sources of revenue are being made the best of by the authorities. But can he say, for instance, with regard to the income-tax that its evasion is still being properly checked? This subject has been considered repeatedly in the Central Legislature during the last twenty five years and as a result of it the Income-Tax Department has been strengthened. But can it be said that it is still adequately staffed and that it is even now in a position to discharge its duties adequately? The appointment of an investigation commission will not be necessary if there is a stronger Income-Tax Department which can prevent the evasion of income-tax on a large scale. To appoint investigating commissions after the evasion of the tax is very much like locking the stable door after the horse has bolted off. I should, therefore, like to know from the hon. Finance Minister what Government proposes to do now to strengthen the Income-tax Department. I know the injury done to it by the stoppage of recruitment during the war; but that makes it all the more necessary that Government should

take up the question of adequately staffing the Income-tax Department as soon as possible and deal with the matter vigorously.

Another question that I should like to deal with in this connection is the failure of our borrowing programme. Had the Government been able to float their loans successfully during the last three years, I am sure that the Finance Minister would not have asked us to agree to the imposition of further taxation in order to strengthen the closing balance. Various reasons have been given for it. I have no doubt that the rise in commodity prices and in the prices of raw materials and semi-manufactured goods requires the businessman to invest more capital in his undertakings that was formerly necessary. But does this explanation suffice to explain the present situation fully? I have had talks on this subject with a few people interested in industry and commerce, and I gather that one of the reasons why people hesitate to subscribe to government loans is that they are doubtful, seriously doubtful, whether the commercial undertakings that are being managed by Government are, to say the least, a credit to them. They want money for rapidly increasing agricultural and industrial production. But the facts that have come to light with regard to the Damodar Valley Corporation, the Sindri Fertiliser factory, and the housing factory, are not such as to enable the ordinary investor to have the confidence that the money that he lends to Government would be properly utilised. I could extend my remarks to apply to the Food and Agricultural Ministry also. This Ministry is trying sincerely to improve agricultural production; but I am not certain that its plans are not still open to criticism and that the standards by which it is guided are such as to be accepted by us without question. If Government want their borrowing programme to succeed, besides attending to other things, they will have to create confidence in their ability to manage commercial undertakings. It is only when the investor feels that his money will be properly utilised that there would be some chance of persuading him to lend money to Government.

Another point in this connection I should like to refer to is the future policy of the Government with regard to taxation. My hon. friend has imposed taxation to the tune of 31 crores this year. He has told us repeatedly that this money is required for the development of the country. The Government schemes with regard to the

economic development of the country during the next six years are contained in the plan known as the Colombo Plan. The money required for the execution of the plan is to be obtained to the extent of about 380 crores from additional taxation. If we are to get so much money in the course of six years, it is clear that the additional annual taxation must be 64 crores. I should like to know from the Finance Minister what the policy of the Government is in regard to this matter. . . .

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I would just like to point out that it is both for the Centre and the States together.

Pandit Kunzru: It is for the Centre and the States together but two thirds of it was for the Centre, I believe. So the taxation to be imposed by the Central Government would have to be over 40 crores. I know that my hon. friend stated in the course of his reply to the debate on the reference of the Finance Bill to the Select Committee that it would be difficult to carry out that plan. Nevertheless we should like to know what plan they have in view and what extra taxation it will involve. My hon. friend has tried to explain his policy several times but I hope he will forgive me if I say that I still see no policy in his Government or to put it differently, his policy seems to me to be without a beginning and without an end. If he told us what steps he and the Government of which he forms part propose to take in the near future in order to finance this plan—I may say here that the State Governments will not be able to play their part fully in carrying out the development schemes that they have in view without the help of the Central Government—it would enable us to know where we stand and what we might expect in the future.

Madam, if you will permit me I should like to say just one word more. I should like to ask the Finance Minister whether the expenditure incurred by us in England is audited by the Auditor General? If it is, I should like to know when he audited these accounts last? Did he visit England for the purpose? If so, did he submit a report on the accounts of the High Commissioner's office and any other offices that we may have there? This is a matter of particular importance this year.

During the debate on the budget estimates certain disclosures of a serious character were made. I was shocked to find that the Prime Minister made light of them and said that

the only scandal in his opinion was the use of the word scandal in connection with the matter. I think that the matter ought to be taken more seriously and the House has a right to get fuller information on the subject than has been vouchsafed to us so far. One of the ways in which we can get information is by having the report of the Auditor General and I want to know before I sit down when that report will be placed before us. I trust that it will not be withheld from us, for we have a right to examine the Auditor General's report. The sooner the Government placed it before us the better both for them and the country.

Shri Raj Bahadur (Rajasthan): There are certain Members who have made a minute of dissent to the report of the Select Committee. I hope you, Madam, will be good enough to give them an opportunity to express themselves.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava (Ajmer): Why should they be given any preference?

Mr. Chairman: The report of the Select Committee is in the hands of all hon. Members. The points of view of those Members who have made their minute of dissent have already been made clear. Those Members who have never had any opportunity of expressing their views may be treated liberally.

श्री घुले : अध्यक्ष महोदया, इस सिलेक्ट कमेटी (Select Committee) की तरफ से जो रिपोर्ट पेश की गई है उस पर विचार प्रकट करते वक्त मैं यह जाहिर करना चाहता हूँ कि वर्तमान शासन की नीति के बहुत से मामलों में डावांडोल होने की वजह से इस मुल्क की जनता को बहुत सी तकलीफें उठानी पड़ रही हैं, और ऐसी जो डावांडोल नीति शासन की तरफ से बरती जाती है उसमें प्रमुख नीति जिसकी वजह से इस देश की जनता को बहुत सी तकलीफें उठानी पड़ रही हैं और जिसकी वजह से शासन के बहुत से कार्यक्रम में बाध आ रहा है वह नीति यहाँ के जमीन के बटवारे के सम्बन्ध में है देश

[श्री बुले]

मेरा ब्याल है। मैं पाटं बी स्टेट का रहने बाका हूं। विरोधतया पाटं बी स्टेट्स में बहां की गवर्नमेंट की इस सम्बन्ध में एक निश्चित नीति होते हुए भी केन्द्रीय शासन की तरफ से कौसी अड़चनें डाली जा रही हैं और डाली जाती हैं इस पर भी प्रकाश डालना चाहता हूं।

मध्य भारत में जागीरदारी प्रथा वर्षों से रायज है। कांग्रेस एक आरगेनाइजेशन (organisation) के तौर से जमींदारी और जागीरदारी प्रथा का खातमा करने की नीति आज वर्षों से जाहिर कर चुकी है और पाटं ए स्टेट्स में इस सम्बन्ध में सन् १९३७ और १९३८ से प्रयास जारी है। कुछ रियासतों में, पाटं ए स्टेट्स में, जमींदारियां खत्म की जा रही हैं और कुछ में हो भी चुकी हैं। हमारे यहां भी मध्य भारत में भी इन दोनों प्रथाओं, जमींदारी और जागीरदारी को खत्म करने के सिलसिले में उसी समय से प्रयत्न जारी हैं और उसी समय से कांग्रेस की तरफ से लोगों को यह आश्वासन दिया जा रहा है जिस समय से कि पाटं ए स्टेट्स में और दीगर इलाकों में दिये जा रहे थे जब हम लोगों के हाथ में शासन आया तो शासन आते ही हमने जो पहला काम अपने हाथ में लिया तो वह इस जमींदारी और जागीरदारी प्रथाओं को खत्म करने का काम लिया। अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं आप को बताना चाहता हूं कि इस काम में अगर केन्द्रीय शासन ने हाथ न डाला होता तो यह काम कभी का खत्म हो कर पूर्ण रूप से समाप्त हो जाता। लेकिन हमारे यहां के जमींदारी और जागीरदारी अबालीशन (Zamindari abolition) के बिल को केन्द्रीय शासन ने रोक रखा है और

इस में यह भी खूबी है कि जब कि हमारे यहाँ मध्य भारत शासन की तरफ से कोई भी रैफरेंस (reference) नहीं किया गया था, कोई भी राय नहीं मांगी गयी थी तब भी जमींदारी और जागीरदारी अबालीशन की एक कमेटी बैंकटाचार कमेटी हमारे मध्य भारत शासन के ऊपर जबरदस्ती थोप दी गयी। मध्यभारत ने कभी भी यह मांग नहीं की थी कि जमींदारी और जागीरदारी प्रथा को खत्म करने के लिए आप कोई कमेटी बनाइये या अपना कोई वेशक्रीमती मशविरा दीजिये। मध्य भारत ने कभी भी यह ख्वाहिश जाहिर नहीं की थी। लेकिन अफसोस की बात है कि जो क्वेश्चनेयर (questionnaire) बैंकटाचार कमेटी की तरफ से जारी किया गया उस में यह गलत तौर से लिखा गया कि चूंकि मध्य भारत शासन ने वह ख्वाहिश जाहिर की है कि जमींदारी और जागीरदारी प्रथा मध्य भारत में किस तरह से खत्म की जाय इस बारे में एक कमेटी बनाई जाय इस लिये यह कमेटी बनी है और यह क्वेश्चनेयर जारी किया जा रहा है। अब उस का नतीजा क्या हुआ उस का नतीजा यह हुआ कि बैंकटाचार कमेटी का काम मुकम्मिल होने में महीनों लगे गये और उस कमेटी की रिपोर्ट निकली। फिर उस कमेटी की रिपोर्ट निकल जाने के बाद भी आज एक साल का अरसा हुआ तो भी यह बताया जाता है कि अभी भी उस कमेटी की रिपोर्ट जेरेगोर है। अभी भी मध्य भारत के एक सदस्य की तरफ से एक सवाल पूछा गया था कि मध्य भारत में जागीरदारी प्रथा समाप्त करने के सिलसिले में आपकें यहाँ क्या तय हुआ तो पांच सात दिन पेशवर होम मिनिस्टर साहब (Minister of Home Affairs)

ने जबाब दिया था कि अभी उस पर विचार हो रहा है, उस के बारे में चर्चा चल रही है। तो इस सम्बन्ध में मेरा यह कहना है कि अगर दर असल हुकूमत ग्रो मोर फूड (grow more food) चाहती है तो इस बारे में एक निश्चित नीति तय करके चलना बहुत आवश्यक है। मैं यह नहीं कहता हूँ कि जागीरदारी आज ही आप खत्म कर दें। आप ने यह सवाल नहीं उठाया होता तो यह खत्म हो ही जाती। और अभी नहीं होती और चार पांच साल बाद भी खत्म होती तो भी काम चल सकता था। लेकिन आप ख्याल नहीं कर सकते कि इस का क्या असर होता है। जब कि मध्य भारत में जमींदारों और जागीरदारों को मालूम है कि आज नहीं तो कल उन की जायदाबें खत्म होने वाली हैं तो जितना अरसा भी उन को मिलता है उस में यह जनता पर जितनी मुसीबतें हो सकती हैं वह ढाते हैं और उस का अन्दाजा आप नहीं कर सकते। उस की वजह से आज काश्तकार कितने परेशान हैं इस का भी अन्दाजा आप नहीं लगा सकते। हर तरफ से, डंडे के जोर से, कानून के जोर से जो भी ताकत उन के हाथ में है, उस के जरिये जमींदार और जागीरदार जुल्म डाल रहे हैं। आप को मालूम है कि किस तरह वह जंगलात दगैरह को खत्म कर रहे हैं।

मिस्टर चेरमैन : आनरेबिल मेम्बर को मालूम होगा कि आज का प्रस्ताव जमींदारी का नहीं है, अभी तो टैक्स प्रपोजल्स (tax proposals) हैं। तो अगर चाहें तो आप इन पर बोलियेगा।

श्री धुले : मेरा वह ख्याल था कि यह बिल इतना व्यापक है, इस बिल की

इतनी अहमियत है कि इस पर इस विषय में भी विचार हो सकता है और पार्ट बी स्टेट्स से यह बहुत ही सम्बन्धित मामला है, इस लिए मैं इस विषय पर प्रकाश डालना चाहता हूँ ताकि गवर्नमेंट जो कुछ आवश्यक कार्रवाई इस सम्बन्ध में हो करे।

मैं कह रहा था कि आज उस जनता के ऊपर क्या मुसीबतें गुजर रही हैं उस का अन्दाजा आप यहाँ से नहीं लगा सकते। आज आप के एक निश्चित कदम न उठाने से क्या हो सकता है इस का भी अन्दाजा आप नहीं लगा सकते। सँकेहीँ बीघा जमीन वहाँ बेकार पड़ी हुई है जिस को कि जमींदार खुद नहीं जोत सकते। लेकिन वह काश्तकार को भी नहीं देना चाहते क्योंकि अगर काश्तकार को दें तो उस का परिणाम यह हो जायगा कि काश्तकार के नाम वह हो जायगी। इस लिए उस को वह बेकार डाले हुए हैं, महज यह बताते हुए कि यह जमीनें उन के पास हैं और वह जोत रहे हैं। इस का परिणाम यह है कि वहाँ कितना गल्ला पैदा हो सकता है इस का अन्दाजा आप नहीं लगा सकते। तो मेरा ख्याल है कि इस में कोई निश्चित नीति गवर्नमेंट को करनी होगी। अगर आप को बस साल तक जमींदारी अवालिशन नहीं करना है तो ऐसा ऐलान आप कर लीजिये। हालाँकि इस मामले में ऐसा ऐलान करने से भी काम चलने वाला नहीं है। आप को जल्दी से जल्दी इस को खत्म करना होगा। आप अगर ऐसा ऐलान कर देंगे तो भी जमींदार और जागीरदार यह समझ लेंगे कि आज नहीं तो कल, साल दो साल बाद उन की जायदाबें खत्म होने वाली हैं, इस

[श्री घुले]

लिये वह अपने जुल्म से बाज आने वाले नहीं हैं।

दूसरी बात में यह निवेदन करना चाहता था कि अर्भा वजट के सिलसिले में किसी प्रस्ताव के जवाब देने के सिलसिले में हमारे स्टेट्स मिनिस्टर साहब (Minister of States) ने यह बताया था कि पार्ट बी स्टेट्स के जो रोजमर्रा के काम हैं उन में स्टेट्स मिनिस्ट्री की तरफ से दखल नहीं दिया जाता है। मैं आप के सामने एक ऐसी बड़ी मिसाल पेश करने वाला हूँ कि जिस दखल देने की वजह से आज पार्ट बी स्टेट्स में कितना बड़ा गजब हो रहा है और वहाँ के शासन को कितनी तकलीफों का मुकाबला करना पड़ता है। अध्यक्ष महोदय आप को मालूम है कि पिछली ९ अगस्त को ग्वालियर में एक गोलीकांड हुआ था जिसमें विद्यार्थियों पर गोली चलाई गई थी। आप को यह भी मालूम है कि इस घटना का इतना बड़ा असर पड़ा कि रूस के रेडियो में और अमरीका के रेडियो तक में इस की खबर को प्रकाशित किया गया था और इस का खूब प्रचार हुआ था। उस घटना की जांच करने के सिलसिले में वहाँ के मिनिस्टर लोग मानते थे कि किसी हाई कोर्ट जज (Judge of the High Court) द्वारा, किसी एक निष्पक्ष आदमी के जरिए से, उस की जांच कराई जाय। लेकिन हम पार्ट बी स्टेट्स वाले हैं। अगर ए स्टेट्स की गवर्नमेंट होती और वहाँ के मिनिस्ट्रों की राय होती कि हाई कोर्ट के जज द्वारा जांच हो, तो वह हाई कोर्ट जज नियुक्त कर के उस की जांच कराती। मगर चूँकि हम लोगों को

हर एक महत्वपूर्ण मामले में केन्द्रीय शासन की राय पूछनी पड़ती है, इस लिए इस का परिणाम यह हुआ कि यहाँ की स्टेट्स मिनिस्ट्री ने यह मशविरा दिया कि अगर कोई ऐसी जांच कराई जायगी तो पुलिस में डीमॉरैलाइजेशन (demoralisation) फैल जायगा।

श्री सिधवा : ऐसा कहा था ?

श्री घुले : जी, हाँ। और ऐसा कह कर उन्होंने हाई कोर्ट के जज की जांच महीने दो महीने तक नहीं होने दी। हाई कोर्ट जज की नियुक्ति एक महीने दो महीने तक नहीं हो सकी। इसलिए उस का क्या परिणाम निकला इस का अन्दाज़ा आप यहाँ बैठे बैठे नहीं रूज सकते।

श्री जे० आर० कपूर : हम लोगों को ले चलिये।

श्री घुले : अब तो आप को ले चलने से कोई फायदा नहीं निकलने वाला।

मिस्टर चेरमैन : मगर आप को दुनिया भर की सारी बातें इस मामले में बोलने से बहुत कम समय मिलेगा।

श्री घुले : तो जितना मिलेगा उतने में ही बोलूंगा।

मिस्टर चेरमैन : अब आप के पास दो ही मिनट बाकी हैं।

Dr. Deshmukh: This morning only the Hon'ble Speaker has given a ruling that there is no limit on the subjects of discussion.

मिस्टर चेरमैन : अच्छा तो मैं आप को बता दूँ कि आप के पास अब दो ही मिनट और हैं।

श्री धुले : अच्छा। तो उस के बाद ९ अगस्त की गोलीकांड की घटना के बाद हाई कोर्ट जज की नियुक्ति आखिर में आप को करनी पड़ी। महीने डेढमहीने तक वहां क्या हालत रही कि कांग्रेस के लोगों की सफ़ेद टोपी देख कर लोगों के मन में खून उबलने लगता था यहां तक कि सफ़ेद टोपी को जला दिया जाता था। तो यह सब होने के बाद, महीने डेढ महीने बाद यहां की गवर्नमेंट राजी हुई कि हाई कोर्ट के जज की नियुक्ति की जाय। और उस का परिणाम क्या निकला? हाई कोर्ट के जज ने भी यह निर्णय दिया कि पुलिस का फायरिंग अनजस्टीफ़ाइड (unjustified) है और उस ने कहा कि पुलिस की जो शहादतें गुजरी हैं वह झूठी गुजरी हैं। तो इस तरह हमारे मिनिस्ट्रों की राय में देखल दे कर, इस तरह से हमारे यहां के शासन के सामने अड़चने पैदा कर के, केन्द्रीय शासन ने पार्ट बी स्टेट्स के शासन को मदद करने के बजाय उन के काम में रोड़े अटक देने का काम शुरू कर दिया है। इस लिये हमारा निवेदन है कि ३७१ दफा में या और जो भी अस्तियारात आप के पास हैं उन को आप सम्भालिये और मेरा तो यह कहना है हम पार्ट बी स्टेट्स वाले किसी भी तरह पार्ट ए स्टेट्स वालों से शासन चलाने में कमजोर नहीं हैं।

तीसरी बात मैं आप के सामने एक मिनट में कह देना चाहता हूं। हमारे यहां पार्ट बी स्टेट्स की फ़ौजों में तमाम में रिडक्शन (reduction) हो रहा है और यह फ़ौज के लोग बन्दूक चलाने वाले लोग हैं, बहादुर लोग हैं, यह लोग अगर नौकरी से निकाल दिये गये, और बेकार कर दिये गये, तो यह सामोश

हो कर बैठने वाले नहीं हैं, और अगर आप ने इन लोगों के लिये ठीक तौर से जरिया माश पैदा नहीं किया, तो यह बन्दूक हाथ में ले तर डकैतियां, चोरियां और बाक्री ऐसे धन्वे करने वाले हैं, जिन की वजह से उन के रिडक्शन करने में जो पैसा बचेगा, वह ला एण्ड आर्डर (law and order) मेन्टेन (maintain) करने में खर्च होने वाला है और उस रिडक्शन का जनता को जो फ़ायदा होने वाला है वह यह होगा कि जनता को और ज्यादा तकलीफ़ पहुंचने वाली है। इस लिये आप जल्द से जल्द पार्ट बी स्टेट्स की फ़ौजों में जो कमी की जा रही है, उन की रोज़ी का ठीक तौर से इन्तज़ाम करें ताकि वह काम पर लग जाय और बेकार हो कर वह ऐसे धन्वे अस्तियार न करें जिस से जनता को तकलीफ़ पहुंचे। डिफ़ेंस मिनिस्टर साहब (Minister of Defence) ने यह सवाल पूछे जाने पर यह बतया था कि हम लोग वहां की स्टेट्स गवर्नमेंट्स जो हैं, उन की राय से इस योजना को कर रहे हैं। लेकिन मैं ने गवर्नमेंट के कुछ जिम्मेदार लोगों के साथ मिलने के बाद यह जानकारी हासिल की है कि केन्द्रीय शासन से इस काम के लिये जो पैसा मंजूर किया जा रहा है, वह बहुत थोड़ा है, इतना पैसा है, जितने पैसे में एक सिपाही अपना कोई धन्वा या खेती बाड़ी का काम नहीं चला सकता है। इसलिये जबतक उन के लिए माकूल पैसा नहीं दिया जाता है, और उन को ठीक काम में लगाया नहीं जाता है, तब तक यह आप के देश के लिये बड़ा खतरा होने वाला है। इस लिये आप सतर्क हो कर उन लोगों को रोज़ी में लगावें और उस

[श्री घुले]

को बेकार न रहने दें, अन्यथा बड़ी सराफी होने वाली है ।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri Ghule: (Madhya Bharat) Madam Chairman, in expressing my views over the report submitted by the Select Committee I want to submit that the people of our country are undergoing many hardships due to the unstable policy of the present administration in a number of matters and I think that the policy followed with regard to distribution of land is topping all those that have been instrumental in bringing troubles to the people and hampering many programmes of the Government. I belong to a Part B State. I would also throw light on the fact as to what kind of impediments are being put by the Central Government particularly in Part B States in spite of a definite policy of these Governments in this matter.

The Jagirdari system is prevalent in Madhya Bharat for long. Congress as an organisation had declared years before its policy of abolishing the Zamindari and Jagirdari systems and attempts in this regard have been continuing in Part A States since 1937 and 1938. Zamindari is being abolished in some of the Part A States while it has already been abolished in some. The Madhya Bharat administration has also been striving since then to abolish these two systems of Zamindari and Jagirdari and the assurance to the people there in this connection was given by the Congress when such assurances were given in the Part A States and other areas. When the administration came in our hands, the first task we undertook was to abolish these Zamindari and Jagirdari systems. I should like to tell you, Madam, had not the Central Government intervened in this matter, this work would long have been completed. But our Bill for abolition of Zamindari and Jagirdari has been withheld by the Central Government. Moreover, the Madhya Bharat Government had not made any reference to the Central Government or asked for advice from them, even then a Committee, the Venkatachari Committee for abolition of Zamindari and Jagirdari was forced upon Madhya Bharat. Madhya Bharat had never made a request to them to constitute any committee for the purpose of abolishing the Zamindari and Jagirdari systems or to render their invaluable advice. But, unfortunately, the questionnaire issued by the said Venkatachari Committee wrongly as-

serted that since Madhya Bharat Government had expressed the desire that a committee be formed to suggest the ways and means of abolishing the Jagirdari and Zamindari systems in Madhya Bharat this committee has been formed and the questionnaire issued. What was the result of that? The result was that months passed before the work of Venkatachari Committee was finalised and then its report appeared. Then, even after a lapse of one year since the appearance of that report it is said that the report is still under consideration. Recently when a question was asked by a hon. Member from Madhya Bharat as to what decision they had taken in connection with the abolition of Jagirdari system in Madhya Bharat, the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, nearly a week back, replied that the matter was still under consideration and was being discussed. I have to say in this regard that if the Government really want to grow more food, it is very necessary to follow a well laid out policy. I do not mean to say that they must abolish Jagirdari system today. Had they not raised this question, it would have been abolished by now. Even if it could not be finished now but after four or five years, the work could be completed. Probably they cannot imagine its consequences. When the Zamindars and Jagirdars of Madhya Bharat know that their properties would be lost to them, if not today, then tomorrow, they oppress the people in every way during whatever time they gain. You cannot imagine that. You cannot imagine how the cultivators are tortured as a result of this mentality. The Zamindars and Jagirdars are committing atrocities in every way—through force, through law, through every other means at their disposal. You already know how they are cutting down the forests.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member will be aware that the subject of today does not relate to Zamindari. We have tax proposals now. If he wishes he may speak on that.

Shri Ghule: I had thought this Bill was so comprehensive and carried so much importance that this matter could also be considered. Moreover, this is a matter very much connected with Part B States and I wish, therefore, to throw some light on it in order that the Government may take necessary steps in this connection.

I was saying that the Government cannot imagine from here what hardships these people are facing. They cannot also imagine what consequences could follow in absence of their taking a definite step. Hundreds of bighas of

land are lying there untilled which the Zamindars themselves cannot plough, but they do not want to lease them to the cultivator too for that would result in his occupancy right over it. The result is that the Government cannot have an estimate the quantity of grain that could be produced there. Hence I believe that the Government shall have to follow a definite policy in the matter. If they do not have to abolish Zamindari, say for ten years, they must declare so, although even such declaration is not going to set things aright. It shall have to be abolished within the earliest possible period. For even if such a declaration is made, the Jagirdars and Zamindars will take it that if not now then in future, their properties are bound to go and they will not, therefore, refrain from committing atrocities.

Secondly, I wanted to submit that recently while replying to a proposal in connection with the budget, the hon. Minister of States had said that no interference is made by the States Ministry in the routine work of Part B States. I am going to put before you a big instance to show as to what extent harm is being done to Part B States due to such interferences and what hardships these Governments have to face. Madam, you are aware of the fact that a firing incidence took place in Gwalior on the 9th August in which students were fired upon. You also know that this incident had such wide repercussions that the news was broadcast even from the Russian and the American radio stations and thus was given very wide publicity. Regarding the enquiry into the incident the Ministers of Madhya Bharat had agreed that an enquiry should be made by some impartial person like a High Court Judge. But after all we belong to Part B State. Had there been a Government of Part A State and if its Ministers been of the opinion that an enquiry be made by a High Court Judge, they would have instituted an enquiry and appointed a High Court Judge for the purpose. But since we have to take consent of the Central Government in all important matters, the result was that the States Ministry advised that if any enquiry were instituted it would spread demoralisation in the police force.

Suri Sidhva: Was it so?

Shri Ghule: Yes, Sir. And thus they did not let the enquiry be conducted for a month or two. A High Court Judge could not be appointed for a month or two. You can hardly imagine from here the consequences that resulted from this.

Shri J. R. Kapoor (Uttar Pradesh): Take us there.

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Shri Ghule: Now no good can come out of taking you there.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member will be left with little time if he goes on talking about all these things.

Shri Ghule: I will finish within whatever time I am left with.

Mr. Chairman: He is left with two minutes only.

Dr. Deshmukh: This morning only the hon. Speaker has given a ruling that there is no limit on the subjects of discussion.

Mr. Chairman: Anyway, I may tell the hon. Member that he has only two minutes at his disposal.

Shri Ghule: Very well. So after all the Government had to appoint a High Court Judge to make enquiries in the firing incident of August 9. For a month or more there prevailed such a condition that the people were enraged at the very sight of the caps of Congressmen, so much so that the white caps were burnt. When all these things had happened the Government agreed after a month or so for appointing a High Court Judge for that purpose. And what was the result of that? The High Court Judge also gave the decision that the police firing was unjustified and that the evidence furnished by the police was false. In this manner by interfering with the opinion of the Ministers and thus bringing obstructions in their administration the Central Government, instead of helping the administration of Part B States, have begun putting up impediments in their work. Therefore my submission is that they should only confine themselves to the exercise of powers under Article 371 or any other powers they possess and I would say that we, belonging to Part B States, are in no way inferior to Part A States in matter of administration.

The third point I would submit within a minute's time. Reduction in all the armed forces of Part B States is taking place. And these army men are bold people, knowing the use of rifles. If they are thrown out of employment they are not going to sit quiet. If they are not provided with any means of livelihood, they would go about with rifles in their hands and indulge in thefts and robberies and such other acts. Thus the money saved by reduction in army would only be spent in maintaining law and order and instead of benefiting by this reduction, the people will suffer even more. Hence the Government should

[Shri Ghule]

Immediately make arrangements for the means of livelihood of the retrenched army personnel of Part B States so that they may be absorbed in their work and may not, being unemployed, pursue such activities as may put the people to harm. In reply to a question the hon. Minister of Defence had stated that the Government were making such a scheme in consultation with the States' Governments. But I have come to know after meeting some responsible persons in the Government that the amount of money that is being sanctioned by the Government for this purpose is quite meagre, so much so indeed that a soldier cannot start a profession or carry on agricultural pursuit with that small sum. Therefore until they are given sufficient money and are engaged in proper occupations they would remain a big danger to the country. So the Government must carefully provide them with work and let them not remain unemployed. Otherwise a great harm is bound to be done.

11 A.M.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad (Bihar): I rise to speak on foreign affairs. But for the resolution on Kashmir by the Security Council, the dismissal of General MacArthur and the outbreak of the new Red offensive in Korea. . .

Shri J. R. Kapoor: And the resignation of Bevin.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad:.....I would not have ventured to take the time of the House.

Pandit M. B. Bhargaya: But is it relevant?

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Perfectly relevant. Of course, it all depends on the power of understanding. I have been a Member of this House since 1946 and I am fully acquainted with the intellectual make-up of my colleagues. I maintain that there will be permanent peace on earth if there is a permanent alliance between India, China and Russia. But if we join the Anglo-American bloc or refuse to join any bloc there will be war. We are in a position to tilt the balance one way or the other. We are in a position to determine the course of future history. The decision of the question of peace or war lies in our hands. It is not love of Communism that has impelled me to advocate a permanent alliance between India, China and Russia. (Interruption.) I request hon. Members to kindly listen to what I say. Of course, they are quite free to form their own opinion according to their lights.

The Minister of Works Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): This is sniping; beginning of war.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: The restoration of Czardom in Russia or of the Munchuko dynasty in China will in no way affect the validity of the proposal that India, China and Russia should form a united front in the domain of external affairs. If the mechanism of Indo-Chinese-Soviet alliance cannot prevent war, then all the other arguments in favour of such an alliance will not be of any value at the present moment. I have faith in the intellectual integrity and wisdom of the Prime Minister of India. If he were to tell the House that no amount of Indo-Chinese-Soviet entente can prevent war, I will bow down to his judgment and abide by his verdict. I would have with equal zeal and fervour advocated the establishment of Delhi-London-Washington axis if I had been convinced that by doing so war can be prevented. If we join the Communist bloc, there will be no war. We constitute more than 27 per cent. of the total population of the world. India, China and Russia together constitute more than 100 crores of people. It is not possible for the Anglo-American Powers to wage war against such vast numbers of people. We cover more than 34 per cent. of the total land area of the globe. (Interruption.) I hope friends will permit me to speak without interruption. Big States have infinitely more chances of survival than the small ones. Great productivity alone does not ensure victory. The geo-political factor of space is so overwhelmingly in our favour that no combination of Western Powers can afford to violate our territory. It was through the mechanism of defence in depth that Russia was able to defeat Napoleon, Kaiser and Hitler. It is a fact that crude manpower is of very little military significance. But in alliance with China and Russia our numerical strength will assume tremendous military importance. God is always on the side of the biggest battalions. (An Hon. Member: Question.)

Shri R. Velayudhan (Travancore-Cochin): But there is no God for Russia.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: It passes beyond the comprehension of my mind how alliance with America or neutrality in the event of war will improve our power position. It is a fact that we are industrially backward. But industrial backwardness does not facilitate alliance with America. We have to depend on borrowed weapons for

our defence—borrowed either from America or Russia. The fact of our industrial backwardness has got no meaning. It cuts both ways. Industrial backwardness does not bar the way to an alliance with Russia and China.

When I suggest an alliance with Russia and China, the significance of such an alliance must be clearly understood. I am not suggesting an alliance with Lapland or Greenland. Russia is not merely an Asian Power: it is the greatest, the largest, the strongest, and by pre-atomic weapons militarily the most unassailable.

Shri Sidhva: And also imperialist.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: America and Britain are interlopers from afar. Russia is resident in Asia occupying the largest quarter of the largest continental land mass on the globe. The Soviet Union constitutes nearly one-third of the entire Eurasian land mass.

An Hon. Member: And how much water?

Shri Sidhva: And there is *begar* there.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: The Soviet Union occupies a centralised location in the midst of the land hemisphere. It is close to the ideal geo-political location. The region of the greatest military security on the globe is located in the very heart of Russia. The Heartland constitutes the greatest natural fortress on earth. For the first time in history, it is manned by a garrison sufficient both in number and quality. Strategically, Russia holds the strongest defensive position on earth. Into the Heartland, only air power might be able to penetrate and in that event, advantage would lie with the interior defending nation rather than the exterior attacking force.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member has two more minutes.

Some Hon. Members: Speak on.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: I am not very keen to speak on the floor of this House.

Shri Tyagi: At least come back to India.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: My hon. friend has not understood me. This alliance is in the interest of India. It is not only in the interests of China or Russia. Of course it is not in the interest of America.

Shri Sidhva: He only asks you to come back to India.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: I have been talking only about India. If my hon. friend has not understood this, I am very sorry.

The aim of our foreign policy is the development of national power. This is the aim of the foreign policy of almost all the nation states of the world. I maintain that for India especially and for Asia in general the aim of our foreign policy ought to be not the development of national power, but the development of Asian power. The aim of our foreign policy ought to be the maintenance of world peace. We must exert our influence in such a way that a major catastrophe does not break out in Asia between China and America.

I have spoken of a permanent alliance—a permanent alliance, I repeat, a permanent alliance,—between India, China and Russia. For more than a century the Monroe Doctrine has been the constant feature of American foreign policy. A permanent foreign policy is possible only where economic, political, military and geographic interests coincide. The interests of India, China and Russia are identical from all points of view. The concept of a permanent foreign policy is a valid concept in politics. India stands in need of a permanent foreign policy. I have done.

Prof. K. T. Shah (Bihar): I appreciate the changes that have been made in the Finance Bill, as reported by the Select Committee, on the basis that we have in this world to be thankful for such small mercies which come after a lot of begging and praying.

Mr. Chairman: It is four crores and a half.

Prof. K. T. Shah: Out of a budget of 400 crores.

The point, however, that I would like to place before the House today is more of a general character inasmuch as I would like to refer to the tax system in general, the unevenness of its distribution and incidence and the consequent burden it imposes on the several classes.

It must be pointed out that this additional taxation that has been imposed this year is really not to make good so much the deficit in the current revenues as to make good a part of

[Prof. K. T. Shah]

the deficit of the combined revenue and capital budget. On principle I would object to imposing additional taxation for making good deficit not only on revenue account but also on the combined revenue and capital account. It is objectionable because it puts on the shoulders of the current generation burdens, the benefits of which when and if realised are likely to be enjoyed by a later generation. From that point of view, if from anything else, the very conception of this Budget, the very basis on which the proposals have been framed and put forward are, in my eyes, open to objection. The objection becomes much greater when one realises the unevenness of the distribution of these burdens as between the several classes of this country.

The other day—perhaps it was yesterday—one read a summary in the papers of the estimate framed of the national wealth of this country which is supposed to be about Rs. 270 and odd per annum per head. If you make allowance for the rise in prices since the war, it does not seem to make any appreciable difference in the prosperity of this country as compared to the time when I myself made a calculation of the annual *per capita* wealth of this country. About two or twenty-five years ago I reckoned the amount to be something like Rs. 65 per head and if you make allowance for the rise in prices, I submit that there seems to have been no growth of prosperity in this country. It is possible these estimates may not be exhaustive or final; it is possible that these estimates may reveal lacunae that may yet show a different picture in some detail. But in general, I am afraid, the picture cannot be substantially different.

Now it is not merely the correct wealth or its *per capita* distribution that you have to take into account. You have also to bear in mind the distribution as between the different classes in the country. The account that I read yesterday or the day before in the papers about the estimate of the national wealth, does not show the distribution side of the wealth and therefore I have to depend only upon the calculations that I have myself made some years ago which showed to me that one-third of the wealth of this country is enjoyed by one per cent. of the population of this country and that therefore the idea of the average is extremely misleading. If the average wealth of this country is represented to be something like Rs. 270 at the present rate of prices as the *per capita* wealth of this country, then two-thirds at any

rate of the country get less than half the average, even poor as it is. And if you see the tax burden that they have to bear, it comes disproportionately heavy upon that section of the population which has half the average wealth per head in the country. If you see, for instance, the proportion between the indirect taxation and the direct taxation, the taxes on income and the taxes on goods consumed by the average citizen, you will find that the proportion is something like 3: 5—three of direct taxation and five of indirect taxation—perhaps it is more. In any case this alone would suffice to show that the distribution of the tax burden is by no means as fair and just and equitable as it ought to be according to the accepted canons of taxation both in the West and in the East.

Again and again, Madam, you find in the works of our ancient writers on this subject similes of regarding the earth, the kingdom, the country as a cow which has to be milked, but which is not to be destroyed. Therefore it is that the writers on the subject have again and again warned the taxing authorities to see to it that the source from which the wealth of the country is derived is not destroyed in the process of taxation. I am afraid the remarks made by some previous speakers about making the most of the existing sources of taxation do apply far more rigorously than is perhaps appreciated by the financial authorities of this country. It was five years ago, when it was suggested that a Taxation Committee should be appointed to review the various forms of taxation prevailing in this country, to adjust and see to it that they fall more evenly than the present *ad hoc* burdens imposed from year after year in this country happen to do, and that they would be co-related with the avenues of expenditure which are also expected to be so laid out as to benefit the country and improve the taxable capacity of the people. Twenty seven years ago a Taxation Committee was appointed which, however, omitted from its purview some very important sources of the State revenues, both Central and Local. It also omitted—its terms of reference precluded it from considering—co-relation between revenue and expenditure. The promise that has been made by this Government some five years ago about a Taxation Committee or Taxation Enquiry Committee will I hope not be overlooked, now that we are getting more and more to a stage of stability—at least I hope that is correct—and that a more scientific appreciation of the sources as well as their possible development and distribution will be

considered along with, and not apart from, the need for such revenues to be laid out in order most effectively to increase the wealth of the people. The directions in which you have to consider the distribution of tax burdens, the incidence per head of these burdens, and the return that the State might be making or the citizen might be deriving from these burdens must be seen in close proximity and perspective without which in my opinion any reform at one point or another of the tax system will fail to materialise in the fulness of the benefit that we may have a right to expect. I need hardly point out—still on the threshold of democratic government as we are—that democracies must be expensive. I have said it more than once. But bearing in mind that democracy is inevitably bound to be expensive and that we must find, nourish and improve such sources as we have as well as those which we may yet devise in order to meet progressively the rising burdens of a democratic government, it is more than time, I submit, when a Committee of the kind that has been promised five years ago should be appointed and, perhaps, before this Parliament should come to an end the report of that body should be presented to the House so that the House may be in a position—at least that is my hope—to appreciate the burdens as they are and their possible redistribution with a view to better results.

In this view of the matter I have been obliged to suggest certain amendments which I shall commend to the House when we come to them. But they are only one index—one could have selected any number even out of the present Schedule—they are only one index of trying more fully, more justly, more equitably to apportion tax burdens to ability, which at present seems to be ignored. The difficulties or the Finance Minister and the tasks which this Government is faced with are undeniable, but that in my opinion does not constitute a reason why we should overlook altogether the basic necessity of reviewing scientifically all the taxes that we now have and those others which we may well devise, such as for instance the Estates duty or the Business Profits tax or others that have been mentioned, and their lay out on the inevitable sources of expenditure, if we bear in mind the need for the country's development. I hope this submission will meet with approval and acceptance from the financial authorities of the country and that without much loss of time this, in my opinion, very urgent reform will be attended to.

ठाकुर कृष्ण सिंह : सभापती जी, मैं अपना अहोभाग्य समझता हूँ कि आप ने मुझे यहाँ बोलने का मौका दिया। आप इस के लिये धन्यवाद की पात्री हैं और वह भी धन्यवाद के पात्र हैं जिन्होंने अपने थोड़े समय में से भी कमी कर के मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया है।

फाइनेंस बिल (Bill) आज हमारे सामने पेश है और सिलेक्ट कमेटी (Select Committee) ने उस फाइनेंस बिल (Finance Bill) में जो तरमीम की है वह भी इस समय हाउस (House) के सामने पेश है। श्रीमतीजी, मुझे यह बात जरूर कहनी होगी कि फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब ने अपने फाइनेंस बिल को पेश करने के बाद मालूम कर लिया है कि ८० करोड़ का जो कैश बॅलेंस (Cash Balance) था अब वह १५० करोड़ बन गया है। सिलेक्ट कमेटी ने जिस वक्त अपनी रिपोर्ट (report) दी है उस वक्त उन्हें मालूम नहीं था, और जिस वक्त उस ने इस पर विचार किया था उस वक्त उस में जो सिलेक्ट कमेटी के माननीय सदस्य थे उन को भी यह नहीं मालूम था कि ८० करोड़ के बदले १५० करोड़ का कैश बॅलेंस (Cash Balance) हो गया है।

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The point had been raised by the hon. Member and I had made some sort of reply. So it is not correct to say that these figures were not known to the Select Committee.

ठाकुर कृष्ण सिंह : मैं यह जरूर कहूंगा कि जो फाइनेंस बिल हमारे सामने पेश हुआ है उस में हमारी सरकार के लोगों को जो दुःख है उन को नजर के सामने नहीं रखा है। आज कल हर चीज के जो दाम बढ़ रहे हैं उन को

[ठाकुर कृष्ण सिंह]

कम करने की कोशिश नहीं की गई है, और अगर उसे कम करने की कोशिश की गई है तो वह गलत तरीके से की गई है। हमारे सामने आज जो समस्याएँ दिखाई दे रही हैं वह बड़ी विकट हैं। आप आज कहीं भी जाइये, जिस किसी तबके के लोगों से बात कीजिये, आप वहाँ यह देखेंगे कि कोई भी मिडिल क्लास (middle class) का आदमी या गरीब तबके का आदमी अपने फ़ैमिली बजट (family budget) को बैलेंस (balance) नहीं कर सकता है। ऐसी हालत में क्या मैं अपनी सरकार से पूछ सकता हूँ कि उन्होंने क्या क्या प्रपोज़न्स (proposals) अपने फाइनेन्स बिल में रखे हैं जिन की वजह से आज जो कीमतें बढ़ रही हैं, हर महीने में ६ पर्सेंट (percent) के हिसाब से बढ़ रही हैं, उनमें कमी हो सके? आज देश में मिडिल क्लास और गरीब तबके के लोगों के पास इतना पैसा नहीं है जिस से कि वह अपनी ज़रूरत की चीज़ें खरीद सकें। मेरा विचार है कि मिडिल क्लास और पुअर क्लास (poor class) आज टैक्स (tax) देने के काबिल नहीं हैं। आज ऐसे ही उन की कम्प्लेंटें की जा रही हैं, आप इन टैक्सों से उन की कम्प्लेंटें और भी ज्यादा तोड़ रहे हैं।

जितने गरीब तबके के लोग आज देश में हैं वह सब तम्बाकू ज्यादा इस्तेमाल करते हैं। उन की शक्तियों में तम्बाकू का काफी इस्तेमाल होता है, जब उन की मृत्यु होती है तो भी उन के घरों में तम्बाकू इस्तेमाल होता है, जिस समय वह भूले रहते हैं, पसीने बहाते हुए खेतों में काम करते हैं, थकावट अनुभव

करते हैं उस समय भी तम्बाकू का उपयोग करते हैं, और इसी तम्बाकू पर आपने चार आने से आठ आना टैक्स बढ़ाने का प्रस्ताव किया था और अब आठ आने से सात आने कर दिया है। यह बहुत बड़ा अन्याय उन लोगों के साथ है। फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब से मेरी यह प्रार्थना है कि वह कम से कम तम्बाकू पर जो सात आने टैक्स कर दिया गया है उस को पहले की तरह चार आने के लेवल (level) पर ले आये।

बीड़ी के मामले में मुझे यह कहना है कि आज बीड़ियों के तम्बाकू पर जो १४ आने का टैक्स लगा है वह बहुत ज्यादा है और उस को भी कम कर दिया जाय। आज आप के पास इतना कॅश बैलेंस हो गया है, पहले तो आप को मालूम नहीं था लेकिन अब जब कि आप को इस का पता चल गया है तब आप उस टैक्स को जिस कम्प्लेंटें गरीबों पर ज्यादा आता है क्यों कम नहीं करते हैं?

श्रीमतीजी, अब मुझे कुछ अपने जिला टिहरी गढ़वाल के विषय में कहना है, पहले जो पिछड़ी हुई जातियाँ हैं उन के विषय में कहूँगा कि पिछड़ी हुई जातियों पर आज कितना अन्याय हो रहा है। मैं यह नहीं कहूँगा कि यह अन्याय गवर्नमेंट कर रही है। हमारे यहाँ जो रस्म रिवाज पहले से चले आ रहे हैं, और जो बातें चली आ रही हैं, उन से पिछड़ी हुई जातियों पर अन्याय हो रहा है। उस को ठीक करने के लिए विधान बना है। विधान के प्रिम्बल (Preamble) में साफ लिखा है कि इस विधान का पहला उद्देश्य यह है कि वह सोशियल

एकनोमिक और पोलिटिकल जस्टिस (social economic and political justice) को भारतवर्ष में कायम करे। लेकिन जिस वक्त विधान बना था उस वक्त साफ़ कह दिया गया था, बहुत से माननीय सदस्यों की यह राय थी कि इस विधान में कुछ ऐसे प्राविजन्स (provisions) हैं जिन की वजह से पिछड़ी हुई जातियों की उन्नति न हो सकेगी। और आज हम यही देख रहे हैं। मद्रास में एक नियम पिछड़ी हुई जातियों के लड़कों को कालिजों में भर्ती होने का बना, उस के लिए अदालतों ने यह कह दिया कि वह नियम जायज नहीं है। गरीबों की मदद के लिये उत्तर प्रदेश में ज़मींदारी एबोलिशन ऐक्ट (Zamindari Abolition Act) बना लेकिन आज सुप्रीम कोर्ट (Supreme Court) उस के बारे में क्या निर्णय देगी कोई नहीं कह सकता। इसी तरह से अनेक चीजें हैं जिन के बारे में यही बातें हो रही हैं। जहां तक मुझे याद है कान्स्टिट्यूशन (Constitution) के आर्टिकल (Article) ३४० में यह है कि जो पिछड़ी हुई जातियाँ हैं उन के लिये प्रेजिडेंट साहब एक कमीशन मुकर्रर करेंगे जिस में कि उन की हालत सुधर सके। मैं सरकार से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वह कमीशन (Commission) बना दिया गया है। और अगर उसे बना दिया गया है तो उस की रिकमेंडेशन्स (recommendations) क्या हैं। कौन कौन सी वह बैकवर्ड (backward) जातियाँ हैं जिन के बारे में उस कमीशन की रिकमेंडेशन्स हैं। अगर अभी तक वह कमीशन मुकर्रर नहीं किया गया है तो यह बैकवर्ड जातियों के साथ हुए अन्याय हुआ है।

जब टिहरी गढ़वाल स्टेट मर्ज (merge) हुआ था उस के बारे में मैं आप के सामने कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। उस समय जो टिहरी गढ़वाल के महाराजा थे उन का भारत सरकार के साथ एक मुआहदा हुआ था। उस एग्रीमेंट (agreement) पर १ मई सन् १९४९ को दस्तखत हुए थे। उस एग्रीमेंट में जो शर्तें हैं उन में यह दिया हुआ है।

"The Government of India hereby guarantee either the continuance in service of the permanent members of the Public services of Tehri Garhwal on conditions which will not be less advantageous than those on which they were serving on the 1st day of May, 1949 or the payment of reasonable compensation."

अब वहां गवर्नमेंट सर्वेन्ट्स के साथ यह बर्ताव हो रहा है कि जो एस० डी० ओ० (S. D. Os.) थे वह तहसीलदार व नायब तहसीलदार बना दिये गये हैं, जो चीफ़ सेक्रेटरी (Chief Secretary) थे उन की तन्खाह आठ सौ से तीन सौ कर दी गई है, साथ ही जो वहां के अन्य अफसर हैं उन को डिग्रेड (degrade) कर दिया है। पहले उन को इन्कम टैक्स (income-tax) नहीं देना पड़ता था। अब आज उन की जो तनखाह है उस पर इन्कम टैक्स देना पड़ता है। मैं सरकार से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यह एग्रीमेंट जो टिहरी गढ़वाल के महाराजा ने भारत सरकार के साथ किया था उस एग्रीमेंट को इम्प्लीमेंट (implement) करने के लिये कौन सी एजेंसी (agency) आज है। अगर यू० पी० के अन्दर वह एजेंसी बनी है तो यह तमाम बातें क्या हो रही हैं। बहुत सी सर्विसेज (services) के लोग अभी वहां पूरी तरह से एबजॉर्ब (absorb) नहीं हुए हैं ऐसी देरी क्यों हो रही है? उन को

[ठाकुर कृष्ण सिंह]

तन्स्वाहें भी ठीक से नहीं रखी गई हैं, उन की जो तन्स्वाह होनी चाहिये वह नहीं है। उन को टी० ए० (T. A.) वगैरह की जो सुविधायें हैं वह मिलनी चाहिये। जो वहां के पर्मानेंट सर्वेन्ट्स (permanent servants) थे उन को पहले मकान भी मुफ्त मिला करते थे, उन के बच्चों की शिक्षा भी वहां मुफ्त होनी थी जो उन की तन्स्वाहें थीं वह इन्कम टैक्स फ्री थीं। पिछली मर्तबा जब टिहरी गढ़वाल में इन्कम टैक्स लागू हुआ था उस वक्त मैं ने यह पूछा था कि यह जो उन की तन्स्वाहें अब तक इन्कम टैक्स फ्री थीं, उन को फिर से मुकदर करते वक्त इस बात को कंसीडर (consider) किया जायगा या नहीं, उस वक्त डा० जान भवाई फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर थे, उन्होंने इस के बारे में एश्योर (assure) किया था कि वह इस का कंसिडरेशन (consideration) करेंगे।

दूसरी बात यह है कि हम ने एक कानून बनाया था वहां कांस्टिट्यूट ऐसेम्बली (Constituent Assembly) जो बनाई गई थी। उस ने यह कानून बनाया था। यह कानून जमीन के सम्बन्ध में था, लेकिन वह अभी तक लागू नहीं किया गया। जागीरदारी सिस्टम (system) जो उस कानून के जरिये तो दिया गया था उस पर आप सोच विचार करना चाहते हैं, लेकिन जो जमीन का कानून बना था जिस में हम ने यह कोशिश की थी कि कुछ सालों के बाद सारी जमीन विलेज कम्यूनिटी (village community) की हो जाय उस के लिये हम लोगों से कहा गया कि यह बड़ा ड्रास्टिक (drastic) कानून है इस को हम जल्दी लागू नहीं करना

चाहते हैं। वहां एक डेवेलपमेंट प्लान (development plan) था आप उस को कैरी आउट (carry out) नहीं कर रहे हैं। मेरा कहना यह है कि किसी सरकार के साथ जब आप विलिनीकरण की बात चीत करते हैं और उस को ले लेते हैं तो उस के कमिटमेंट्स (commitments) का भार आप के ऊपर आता है। यह हो सकता है कि मई १९४९ के बाद वहां की सरकार ने जो कमिटमेंट्स किये थे यह जान कर कि मर्जर (merger) होने वाला है, आप उस को न लें, लेकिन उस के पहिले के जो कमिटमेंट्स वहां हो चुके हैं उन को आप को जरूर पूरा करना चाहिये।

हुआ क्या है कि जो लड़के बाहर मेडिकल व अन्य कालिजों व स्कूलों में पढ़ने के लिये भेजे गये थे उन के लिए अब आर्डर आता है कि उन की सहायता जूलाई से बन्द कर दी जायगी। मैं कहता हूं कि अगर इस सहायता को बन्द करना था तो जब अगस्त सन् १९४९ को स्टेट को मर्ज किया गया उसी दिन इस को बन्द करना था। उस दिन इस को बन्द नहीं किया गया? अब दो तीन साल उन को कालिज व स्कूल में हो गये हैं। अब अगर उन की सहायता बन्द कर दी जायगी तो जिन लड़कों के मा बाप गरीब हैं वह कैसे अपने लड़कों को शिक्षा दे सकेंगे। तो क्या यह जो प्रीवियस गवर्नमेंट (previous Government) के कमिटमेंट्स (commitments) हैं उन को कायम नहीं रखा जायगा? मैं समझता हूं कि न्याययुक्त तो यही होगा कि उन को कायम रखा जाय।

रखने के सम्बन्ध में मुझे यह कहना है कि जो आज कल कंट्रोल में

बदस्तजामी हो रही है यह सब को मालूम ही है। कपड़े के विषय में मैं ने आनरेबिल श्री मेहताब साहब से पूछा था कि कपड़े की प्रोडक्शन की क्या हालत है, तो उन्होंने कहा कि वह जनवरी, ५१ से बढ़ रहा है। मैं ने उन से कहा कि आप तो कह रहे हैं कि प्रोडक्शन बढ़ रहा है पर मारकेट में कपड़ा नहीं आ रहा है। आज हालत यह है कि ब्लैक मारकेट में लट्टा ढाई और तीन रुपये गज मिल रहा है, बोती जोड़ा २७ और २८ रुपये को मिलता है। यह प्रोडक्शन कहाँ जा रहा है? क्या गवर्नमेंट इस पर विचार नहीं कर रही है? विचार तो कर रही होगी, लेकिन अगर वह इन कठिनाइयों को दूर न कर सकी तो देश में बड़ा संकट पैदा हो जायगा और लोगों की जो चिन्तवृत्ति है वह बदल जायगी। इस लिये मेरी फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब से यह प्रार्थना है कि यह जो देश में प्राइस लेवल (price level) बढ़ रहा है, जो इन्फ्लेशन (inflation) हो रहा है इस को कम करने के सुझाव जरूर रखें। इस के अलावा जो अन्धाधुंध खर्च हो रहा है उस को भी कम करें। एक स्टेट में जहाँ पहले ६ सुपरिंटेंडिंग इंजीनियर (Superintending Engineers) थे वहाँ अब १६ हो गये हैं। मैं एक सुपरिंटेंडिंग इंजीनियर के दफ्तर में गया तो मालूम हुआ कि पहले खितना काम वे करते थे उस का अब एक तिहाई काम वे अब कर रहे हैं। यह खर्च फिजूल हो रहा है आप की शासन की मैशिनरी पर जो ऐसा खर्च हो रहा है उस को कम करिये सभी थोप बजट को बैलेंस कर सकते हैं और लोगों को टैक्सों से मुक्त कर सकते हैं।

गड़वाल के बहुत से लोग फौज में काम करते आ रहे हैं। जन से गेट्स के फौजों का इंटीग्रेशन (integration) हुआ है उन में से बहुत से अलग कर दिये गये हैं और वह बेकार हो रहे हैं। उन सिपाहियों ने अपनी एक सोसाइटी बना ली है जिस को डिस्चार्ज्ड सोल्जर्स सोसाइटी (Discharged Soldiers Society) कहते हैं। उन्होंने सरकार से यह प्रार्थना की है कि उन को कहीं नौकरी दी जाय। मेरी सरकार से प्रार्थना है कि इन को और इन के अलावा और भी जो वहाँ के गवर्नमेंट सर्वेंट (Government Servant) टैम्पोरेरी (temporary) या परमानेंट (permanent) अलग कर दिये गये हैं उन को भी नौकरी दिलाने की कोशिश की जाय। अगर ऐसा नहीं किया गया तो और दलों के लोग वहाँ आ कर उन को भड़कायेंगे। हमारी गवर्नमेंट उन से याने भड़काने वालों से डरती नहीं है यह मैं जानता हूँ, लेकिन यह जरूर है कि खाने की समस्या बहुत विकट हो रही है। यू० पी० के पहाड़ी प्रदेश में और बिहार में यह समस्या बहुत ही विकट हो रही है। इन समस्याओं को हल करने के लिये गवर्नमेंट अपनी शासन की मैशिनरी को एफिशेंट (efficient) बनाये। कोई भ्रान्तीय संस्थ कहते हैं कि भ्रष्टान (corruption) बहुत बढ़ गया है और कोई निनेटिज्म (nepotism) का चार्ज लगाते हैं और कहते हैं कि ये अवगुण बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ गये हैं। लेकिन ऐसा मैं नहीं समझता हूँ। कुछ भ्रष्टान और इनएफिशेन्सी जरूर बड़ी है। लेकिन अगर हम इस मुल्क का दूसरे मुल्कों से मुकाबला करें तो मैं कहूंगा कि शायद भ्रष्टान वगैरह

[ठाकुर कृष्ण सिंह]

यहां जतना ही होगा जितना और मुल्कों में है या उन से कुछ कम या ज्यादा होगा। फिर भी मैं कहूंगा कि अगर आप को अपना बजट बैलेंस (Budget balance) करना है और लोगों को नये टैक्सों के भार से मुक्त करना है तो गवर्नमेंट के खर्चों को कम कीजिये।

(English translation of the above speech)

Thakur Krishna Singh (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views here. You deserve my thanks and I am also thankful to them who cutting down their time-limit gave me an opportunity to speak.

The Finance Bill and the changes made therein by the Select Committee are before the House. Madam, I must say that the hon. Minister of Finance after presenting his Finance Bill has ascertained that the estimated cash balance of Rs. 80 crores has increased to Rs. 150 crores. The hon. Minister was not aware of it till the Select Committee submitted its report. The hon. Members of the Select Committee also when the report was under their consideration did not know that the cash balance of Rs. 80 crores has swollen to Rs. 150 crores.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The point had been raised by the hon. Member and I had made some sort of reply. So it is not correct to say that these figures were not known to the Select Committee.

Thakur Krishna Singh: I would certainly say that the Government have not taken into consideration the sufferings of the common man while presenting this Bill before the House. The prices of all the commodities are shooting up these days and no efforts have been made to bring them down, and if at all efforts have been made to do so the approach has been wrong. Today we are facing difficult problems. Go anywhere and meet people of any class, you will see that the people of the middle classes and the poor classes are not in a position to balance their family budgets. May I ask the Government what proposals they have provided in the Finance Bill, under these circumstances, by which the constant increase of 6 per cent. in the prices every month, may be brought down? These days the middle class and the poor class people

do not have enough money to purchase things of daily requirements. I am of the opinion that the middle class and the poor class are not in a position to pay the taxes even. They are already over burdened with the taxes, now by levying these new taxes you are making their lives still more miserable.

The people of the poor class are habituated to the use of tobacco. They use tobacco in marriage ceremonies, on the occasion of death, and at times when they are hungry, and when they toil hard in fields, and also when they feel exhausted, they use tobacco. You had proposed to enhance the tax on tobacco from four annas to eight annas and now it has been decreased from eight annas to seven annas. Thus a great injustice has been done to them. I request the hon. Minister of Finance to bring the enhanced tax of seven annas on tobacco to the previous level of four annas.

Regarding the tax on Bidis I have to submit that the tax of 14 annas is rather too much. Now that you have come to know that the position in respect of our cash balance is satisfactory, there is no reason why you should not reduce this tax which mostly affects the poor?

Madam, now I would like to say something about my own district Tehri-Garhwal, and in that connection I would refer to the various types of justice meted out to the backward classes. I do not blame the Government for it. This injustice done to the backward classes is the result of our age long social customs. There are provisions in our Constitution to remove these disabilities. It is clearly mentioned in the Preamble of our Constitution that the prime object of the Constitution is to establish social, economic and political justice in India. While the Constitution was being adopted it was clearly stated, and many of the hon. Members held that there are many such provisions in the Constitution that could prove detrimental to the uplift of the backward classes. Today we are finding the same thing. In Madras, a law was enacted for the admission of the students of the backward classes in the colleges, but the court there held it *ultra vires*. In Uttar Pradesh, the Zamindari Abolition Act was passed to give relief and help the poor classes, but no one can be definite about the decision of the Supreme Court. Similarly in many other cases the same holds good. So far as I remember, Article 240 of the Constitution lays down that the President may appoint

a Commission to investigate and make recommendations in order to improve their condition. I want to ask the Government whether such a Commission has been appointed, and if it has been appointed, what are its recommendations, and what are those backward classes about whom the Commission has made recommendations? If that Commission has not been appointed so far, indeed a great injustice has been done to the backward classes.

I want to say something about the merger of Tehri-Garhwal. The then Maharaja of Tehri-Garhwal had entered into an agreement with the Government of India. That agreement was signed on the 1st May, 1949. It is mentioned in the terms of that agreement:

"The Government of India hereby guarantee either the continuance in service of the permanent members of the public services of Tehri-Garhwal on conditions which will not be less advantageous than those on which they were serving on the 1st day of May, 1949 or the payment of reasonable compensation".

Now the Government servants are treated like this that the S.D.Os. are reverted as Tehsildars and Naib-Tehsildars, and the salary of the Chief Secretary has been reduced from eight hundred to three hundred rupees and other officers have also been degraded. Previously they were not required to pay the income tax. Now they have to pay the income-tax on their salaries. I want to ask the Government what agency is there to implement the agreement which was reached between the Maharaja of Tehri-Garhwal and the Government of India. If that agency is in Uttar Pradesh, why all these things are happening. Why this delay is being made in absorbing the personnel of different departments? Their salaries have not been fixed properly and they have not been fixed as they ought to have been. They should get the facilities to get the T.A. etc. Previously the permanent servants of that State used to get houses free of charge and their children used to get free education. Their salaries were free of income-tax. Last time, when income-tax was imposed in Tehri Garhwal, I had asked whether the fact, that their salaries had been free of income-tax, will be taken into consideration or not while fixing their new scales of salaries. The then Minister of Finance Dr. John Matthai had assured that this fact would be taken into consideration.

The other point in this connection is that we had enacted a law, there the Constituent Assembly, which was set up there, had enacted that law. This law related to land, but it has not been enforced so far. You want to take into consideration the law which seeks to abolish the Jagirdari System, but as for the land law in which we had made a provision that the entire land should come under the possession of the village community, we were told that it was a very drastic law, and that it was not proposed to enforce it at an early date. You are not carrying out the development plan which was intended for that place. My submission is that when you negotiate with some State on the question of merger and the State is ultimately merged, you assume responsibility for its commitments. Of course you may not accept the commitments made by the local government subsequent to 1st May, 1949, which they might have made in the full knowledge that merger was imminent, but you must honour the prior commitments that had already been made.

What has happened is that an order is now issued that the financial assistance being given to the students sent for studies in the various medical or other schools and colleges outside the territory will be stopped. I maintain that if this was at all to be stopped, then it should have been done on the 1st August, 1949 on which day the merger of the State took place. Why was it not stopped on that day? The position now is they have already put in two to three years of studies in those schools or colleges. If the financial assistance that is being given to them is now stopped, the poor parents of some of them will not be able to meet the expenses of their education. Have this Government no intention to stick to the commitments entered into by the previous Government? I consider that justice demands it they should stick to them.

On the issue of food, I have to say that everyone of us is quite familiar with the general mismanagement regarding the working of the system of controls. As for cloth, I had enquired of the hon. Minister as to when its production is likely to go up. In reply I was told that it had been rising since January, 1951. I had, thereupon, wished to know why it was not available in the market despite this increase in the production. The position today is that 'latha' is to be had at somewhere Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 3-0-0 per yard in the blackmarket while a pair of *dhotis* is selling between Rs. 27 to Rs. 28. Where is all this production then

[Thakur Krishna Singh]

going? Are not the Government giving consideration to this aspect of the matter? I feel they must be considering it. Nevertheless their failure to eradicate these difficulties will create such a complex situation in the country which will change the mentality of the people altogether. I, therefore, have to request the hon. Minister of Finance that he must think of some measures to bring down the rising price level and to combat the general inflation. In addition, he should take steps to reduce the reckless and unplanned expenditure that is being incurred everywhere. In a certain State where formerly there were only six Superintending Engineers, there are now as many as sixteen of them. Once I visited the Office of one of these Superintending Engineers and I came to know there that they were doing now only one-third of the work they used to do previously. All this additional expenditure is, therefore, being incurred wastefully. You should reduce your expenditure on the administrative machinery. Only then you can hope to have a balanced budget and release the people from the burden of the taxes.

A large number of our people from Garhwal have been serving in the Army since long. Ever since the integration of the various state forces has taken place, many of them have been discharged from the Army and they are now out of employment. These persons have formed a society of their own known as the 'Discharged Soldiers Society'. They have approached the Government for providing alternate jobs to them. I request the Government to make efforts to provide these and all other Government servants—whether temporary or permanent, who have been discharged from service, with alternate jobs. Failing that persons belonging to other political parties may play with their sentiments. I am no doubt aware that our Government is not afraid of these instigators. It is, however, a fact that the food problem is assuming a complex form. In the hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh and in Bihar this problem is becoming very grave. The Government should make their administrative machinery efficient in order to solve all these issues. Many an hon. Member has complained of the increasing corruption while others have levelled charges of nepotism, which they say had increased too much. Personally I am not of this view. I have, of course, to say that some corruption and inefficiency have undoubtedly increased. But comparing it with con-

ditions in other countries, I do not share that opinion. Corruption has undoubtedly increased somewhat but comparing with other countries it is perhaps not more than those countries or may it be somewhat more. Despite all these things, I have to say that if you really want to have a balanced budget and if are anxious to release the people from the burden of taxes, then make a reduction in your expenditure.

Shri Himatsingka (West Bengal): My hon. friend Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari drew the attention of the hon. Minister to the working of the Income-Tax Act. I wish to add certain examples of how it is being acted upon and how it is causing harassment to honest tax payers and I wish that the hon. Finance Minister takes certain steps whereby the attitude of the taxing authorities be such that they could be helpful to the assesseees and bring about a certain change in the attitude and approach.

My hon. friend Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari said registration of firms is being refused on frivolous grounds. I have an example in front of me. Here is a case where the return was filed on 1st November, 1947. An application was also filed the registration of the firm consisting of five or six partners, which firm had been constituted for the temporary purpose of supplying things to the Military and the Government. It was a firm of strangers,—persons who had nothing to do before in partnership. The case was not disposed of in 1947, not in 1948, nor even in 1949 or 1950. It was taken up on 16th March, 1951, and on that date, the Income-tax officer assessed the firm, and rejected the application on the ground that the signatures on the partnership deed differed from those in the application and some other minor defects. In the Partnership deed, he had signed as say M. Tyagi; in the appreciated form in the application he had signed as "Mahavir Tyagi". On this ground, the application was rejected.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Punjab): After four years?

Shri Himatsingka: Yes.

Shri Sidhya: A delay of four years in taking up the case?

Shri Himatsingka: Not in taking up; what I want to say is this. In all such cases, the assessment should be expedited so that the money could be collected quickly and the parties may be in a position to prove the facts as may be required by the Income-tax

officers at the bearing. After the lapse of four years, out of the five partners, unfortunately, two died: one in 1949 and another in 1950. Now, the assessment has been made as on an unregistered firm. One partner alone has been called upon to deposit the full amount. Look at the oppression that will be caused to one partner who has been assessed and called upon to pay the full amount. Not only that. If the firm had been registered, the partners would be liable to pay and the amount will be taxed in their individual files. As the registration was refused, the firm was assessed, and because the firm did not pay as it earned, as it was not called upon to pay a penalty of about Rs. 5,200 as interest has also been added. If these things happen, you cannot expect the assessee to look very kindly on these things. Therefore, something should be done to stop this kind of delay in assessment, and arbitrary refusal to register. It may be that this happens on account of shortage of officers. I suggest in cases like this, even if the Government may lose a certain amount of revenue, these cases should be expedited.

It works hardship in another way also. If a person is assessed after four years, he might have spent all the money that he had earned long before. If a man is asked to pay four years money or dues at a time, it becomes very difficult. It works also to the detriment of the Government. Because, after four years, some of the parties may lose whatever they earned in 1947. Therefore, it is up to the Government to see that these things are remedied and remedied as quickly as possible. In this connection, as I suggested last year also, some directive should be issued whereby the officers might take a helpful attitude. Even assuming that the I. T. officer was right in rejecting the application for registration referred to if there was difference in the signatures, an abbreviated signature in the document and full signature in the application, it was up to the officer to suggest to the assessee as to how he should sign and as to how he should avoid small mistakes and pit-falls.

In this connection, I would also suggest that certain general instructions which are issued from time to time are made more specific or helpful. I referred to the high denomination notes last year. More cases have come to my notice from Bengal and Bihar, the two States that I know of where all the amounts of the high denomination notes are being added as profit from undisclosed sources. Even when there is sufficient cash balance to show that high denomination notes

could have been there in that cash balance, the high denomination notes are added as profits from undisclosed sources. I think this is a hardship which should be put an end to. Though there may not be a formal circular from the C.B.R., the way in which the matter is being acted upon by the officers goes to show that there must be some sort of private instructions whereby the officers have been asked to charge all the amounts of such notes in the tax as undisclosed sources.

Shri Tyagi: Is that your information?

Shri Himatsingka: I am definite about that. I have spoken to a large number of Income-tax practitioners in Bengal and I have spoken to a large number of Income-tax practitioners in Bihar. I know a number of cases in which all these amounts have been added back to the amount returned by the assessee as income from undisclosed sources. In fact, some of the officers have said that that is their instruction.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: What are these high denomination notes? Hundred rupee notes?

Shri Himatsingka: Five hundred and one thousand rupee notes.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: They are no more in circulation.

Shri Himatsingka: I am referring to returns filed in 1947 and subsequent years which are being disposed of in 1950 and 1951. All these amounts which were in the shape of high denomination notes, before the Demonotization Ordinance came into force, are being added, without exception, except perhaps one or two cases where the books contain the number of the notes on the credit side and the same notes were filed before the Reserve Bank. As you know, Madam, before the Ordinance came into force, there was no general practice to take down the number of the notes. Previously, the numbers of the high denomination notes used to be taken. From 1935 or 1940 onwards, that practice disappeared and the books did not contain the numbers of the notes. Some parties, out of abundant caution may have noted the numbers; but that should not be taken as a ground for adding back such amounts. When the cash balance is sufficient to warrant the presence of high denomination notes, they should not be added as profits from undisclosed sources simply because they are high denomination notes. The long and short of my complaint is this. We should try to change the angle of

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vision of our officers; we should try to make them take a helpful attitude so that a correspondingly better attitude may be taken by the assessee. It is a question as to who should begin. I am prepared to admit that a large number of assessee do not file their returns properly, or correctly and try to avoid the tax.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: Perhaps, they are in a minority.

Shri Himatsingka: No; a very large number. If the officers had decided the cases promptly and had not allowed the cases to drag on, a number of cases which the Income-tax Investigation Commission is looking into, would not have happened. Because of the delay in the disposal of the cases, people get an opportunity to evade taxes. Therefore, in the interests of the Government also, it is necessary that the cases should be disposed of as quickly as possible and the officers should take as an attitude which is helpful to the assessee and which will help the assessee to behave a little more properly. I am sure if they take up that attitude, they will certainly get a reciprocal improvement in the attitude of the assessee also.

Regarding the Finance Bill itself, as hon. Members know, much has been spoken about the tax on tobacco and on *biris*. I am glad that the question of tax on *biris* has been revised. I always feel that our taxes should be so imposed that the expenditure may not have to be increased very considerably as a result of such imposition of tax. If you make certain distinctions and try to impose additional taxes on *biris*, you may have to employ a host of inspectors and other officers for the purpose of checking and counting the quantities of *biris* manufactured in the various parts of the country, and we all know that these places where it is being made are all over the country, practically in every home, in every village and in every *pan*-shop. We have to devise some method by which the taxes that are imposed are collected without much expenditure; in this case, for instance at the place where the tobacco is purchased, so that you may not have to send inspectors and others to different places and to small hamlets where these things are being made.

Shri Sarangdhar Das (Orissa): I rise to speak on the Finance Bill, not from the aspect of finance, but from the aspect of what principle and what objective this Government has in administering its finances. Let me

at once say that I can see no plan or principle manifest in the Budget. There is no plan for any kind of development work. The Planning Commission should have been established right in the beginning when the Government was formed, but that was not done. Right in the beginning many hydro-electric projects—dozens of them—were talked about and investigations also carried on, and some of them were actually started, on which some hundreds of crores of rupees were to be spent in the total. After the work on them had gone on for some time we are now told that there is no money to continue the work, and so the work has to be slowed down. And then the Planning Commission is appointed and the Commission itself has come out and said that in many of these projects there was no plan and no estimate. What does that mean? And so I contend that without any plan these huge projects were started, whether they be the Sindri fertiliser factory or the work on the hydro electric projects or the investigation of the other projects that would be taken up within the next fifteen to twenty years. All these were started without a plan and without ascertaining what the resources we have and what we have to pay for them.

It was only the other day that I spoke on the question of fixation of minimum wages for agricultural labour. There is a Minister in charge of Food here who talks about growing more food and he himself and the Minister in charge of External Affairs go begging from door to door in China or in the United States or in the U.S.S.R. for food; knowing fully well that there is land here. . . .

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: We are not begging food from China or Russia or any other place.

Mr. Chairman: The Prime Minister has never begged food from any country.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: What I mean to say is that at the present time with the world situation as it is, when we depend on the outside for food, the word "begging" does not mean going with a begging bowl. It is "begging" in the sense that even the resources that we have, we do not utilise and we depend on others. So it is not unparliamentary and it is not any offence to

Mr. Chairman: It is not warranted by facts. Actually it is not begging.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: It is purchasing no doubt. But under the present conditions when you have the

resources and you do not utilise them. if I use the word "begging" I believe I know the English language sufficiently to know that it is not unparliamentary and no offence to anybody is meant. I am also involved in it. It is not as if only the Ministers are in.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I did not say that it is unparliamentary. I only wanted to know what exactly the connotation was.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: We have the land, and if we want to grow more food, we have to keep the people who produce the food, who till the soil and who put their hands to the plough and who work in the sun and rain, we have to keep these people contented so that in place of say, 100 maunds of paddy they may produce 150 maunds or 200 maunds. But we do not do that. We have only the other day decided that the fixing of minimum wages for agricultural labourers is to be left to the State Governments. This is just another instance of our talking something and not planning properly and doing it in such a way as to bring about the desired results.

And now I come to the point that is very fresh in my mind—the judgment of the Supreme Court. I refer to it because I believe that the Finance Ministry is well involved in it. Madam, the Punjab National Bank's situation came to my notice only two days back. I have no connection with it. I did not know anything about it. I have here copies of the correspondence to show that the employees of this bank through their Union had informed the Ministry of Labour and the Secretary of the Labour Department of the situation created by the judgment of the Supreme Court which invalidated the Award of the Appellate Tribunal and they urged upon the Government either to validate the Award by legislation or by ordinance, because the Supreme Court had not gone into the merits of the facilities that were granted by the Appellate Tribunal. It was only on a technical ground that the Award was invalidated.

Shri Sidhva: It was stated here that the strike had nothing to do with the Award. The hon. Minister had stated that the strike was on some other grounds. Moreover it is not a complete strike but only a few people staying away. That is the point that I wanted to correct.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: I was coming to Mr. Sidhva and I am glad he himself has mentioned this point now. When the Award is invalidated by the

highest Court of the land and when the Government has not done anything to validate the Award, then the bank management takes advantage of it and withdraws all the facilities that had been given by the Award.

12 Noon When those facilities are withdrawn they urged the Government to do something about it. The Government was notified on the 15th. Their demand made to the Labour Minister and the Secretary of the Labour Ministry was the continuance of the *status quo* that existed on the 8th April, the day before the Supreme Court Judgment. When nothing was done this strike comes. What does the Government, which claims to be the *Mabap* of the people of this country, do then? The Home Ministry sends hundreds of policemen to keep the peace there. In addition to keeping the peace they manhandle the strikers. There is no law by which you can condone manhandling of strikers, as long as they are peaceful and I guarantee to this House that these strikers have been most peaceful. What is the Home Ministry doing? The taxpayers' money is being used by them in this way to protect a certain sector of society, namely the bankers, and I say that all of us in condoning this action become the camp followers of the bankers of this country. . . .

Shri Hussain Imam (Bihar): Also the capitalists.

Shri Sidhva: The poor people have also got their money in the banks.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: The people's money is being taken by the men at the head at the rate of Rs. 9,000 a month and when the employees want six months' salary as bonus we all laugh at it.

These police also go to the extent of driving out the sweepers and watchmen who were housed in the premises of the bank. I saw in front of the head office of the Punjab National Bank that the sweeper who used to be inside the premises of the bank has been turned out and his wife with a baby of four or five months is baking in the sun on the side walk. If those employees ever get power in their hands and eject the managing director, or the manager and his child and throw them in the sun would any of you in this House tolerate it? (An Hon. Member: Never.) We have condemned what the peasants and workers have done in Communist countries in getting rid of the landlords and capitalists. I am also one who condemns action like this. But

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do you expect that you will treat the sweeper's child in this fashion and laugh when I say that these people will take revenge some day on you and on me (*Interruption*). It is coming. When you commit violence there will be counter violence.

Shri Bharati (Madras): We will never tolerate violence.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: You would not be there to tolerate it.

An Hon. Member: Nor would you be there.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: I charge the Home Ministry and I charge the Finance Ministry also. . . .

Shri Sidhva: How is the Finance Minister involved?

Shri Sarangdhar Das: For bringing pressure on the Labour Ministry not to do anything about this matter, for there is in the Government a feeling just now that anything done about the Punjab National Bank strike in the House will encourage the strikers. Only day before yesterday, as I said, I came to know about this. Last evening I was invited to a meeting where I saw the employees of the United Commercial Bank, the Imperial Bank, the Allahabad Bank and other banks in Delhi. They apprehend that if the authorities of the Punjab National Bank succeed, in suppressing their union, the axe will fall tomorrow on the Allahabad Bank and the day after on the Imperial Bank. Tempers are running so high and probably within the next few days there may be a strike all over the country. . . .

Shri Tyagi: That seems to be your party's plan.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: It is not the plan of the Socialists. As I told you I did not know anything about it till day before yesterday. There is no plan for the Socialist Party in this matter. You cannot get away like that by saying that this or that party is doing it. I am telling it to you for the good of the country and ask you to do something about it. Either validate the award or put it to another adjudication or take some other effective measure. Do not sit on it, though the Government has been acquainted with it since the 15th.

Shri Sidhva: The Minister said that within another week he will bring the matter before the House.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi (Madhya Pradesh): I am sorry I have to speak on a day when my throat is rather bad and I may not be properly audible to the House. While speaking on the subject under discussion I propose to divide it into two parts. Firstly I will deal with the general economic situation in the country and then make a few observations with regard to the budget proposals.

It is very difficult for a layman like me to pass any expert judgment on the handling of public finance by Government. But the science of public finance has gradually developed and today in the 20th century we have some fundamentals with which we can measure the economic situation of a country. As Sir Hugh Dalton puts the formula in one of his books on public finance, the success of a country's handling of public finance becomes evident from the amount of social advantage that it renders to the community. What is social advantage and how are we to measure it? Naturally we have to see whether as a result of the handling of the public finances of a country both production and distribution in the country have improved. An improvement in production necessarily means that the average producer produces more with less effort and at reasonable cost, avoiding at the same time wastage as much as practicable. Similarly, an improvement in distribution means a reduction in the gap between the incomes of individuals and groups, or a reduction in the gap of income of the same individual or group at different periods. With this background in view, when we look at the general picture of the economic situation in the country we have only to agree with the observation of the hon. Finance Minister that the general economic situation has aggravated. Unemployment in the country is steadily rising and, as was made out by most of the hon. Members who spoke on the day we discussed Dr. Deshmukh's Bill, it is coming to a point where it threatens the stability of society. Prices are rising high and despite the best and earnest efforts of Government there has been no change in this feature. The burden increases day after day, of course, for reasons which are not wholly under the control of the Government. Productivity of the average labourer, if it has not gone down, has not improved. This I say on the basis of an observation made by a German expert engaged by Messrs. Tatas, whom I met when we undertook the industrial tour. He said the productivity of an average Indian worker was one-fifth as much as that of one in Germany. The conditions of the

lower middle class are gradually becoming worse and if things do not improve they may come to a pitch where they may accentuate class struggles and may lead to violent revolution.

Keeping both these things in view, that is, firstly, whether Government's handling of public finance has resulted in the maximum social advantage to the community, and, secondly, the economic picture of the country, one has to come to the conclusion that our policy of mixed economy has been a total failure. But it would not do for me just to make a negative condemnation of this policy. I have to approach it positively and suggest what few remedies I believe will be of use. First among these is a change in the psychology of Government towards the economic policy. During the last three years it has become evident that we have been almost wooing the richer section of the community to the total neglect of the masses as a whole. The grant of incentives year after year to trade and industry with a view to encourage capital formation is born out of a lack of confidence amongst us in the ability of our people as such to help our cause, that is reconstruction of the land. People who so gallantly fought and brought us freedom are today thought to be poor and incapable of reconstructing the land because they are poor. This outlook has led us to adopt this "mixed economy" policy. Therefore, a change in that outlook is necessary.

Among the other remedies that I would suggest is an immediate inquiry into the tax structure of the country to evolve a taxation structure so as to equitably distribute the burden of taxes and to co-ordinate their incidence. I would then suggest the imposition of an estate duty, after removing whatever obstacles are in its way, so that the disparity of wealth and income is reduced to the minimum gradually. Then, nationalisation of at least banking and insurance to make available to Government adequate funds for financing their plans of development. Then I would suggest the abolition of managing agencies or at least their strict regulation in the best interest of the community. Last but not the least, I would suggest the ruthless suppression of corruption and inflation through the agency of a radical economic programme. As Prof. Shah has pointed out, the last inquiry into the tax structure in India was made some time in 1924-25 under the chairmanship of Mr. Todhunter; that inquiry was conducted under an alien Government, an imperial Government

with a very limited and narrow scope. Things have, however, changed; income groups have changed, national per capita income has changed and today we definitely do not know what role direct and indirect taxes have to play in our country. From an essay written by the Economic Adviser to the Government of Madras, I learn that the per capita national income in India has fallen from Rs. 67-8-10 in 1938-39 to Rs. 60-12 in 1950-51. Similarly, the incidence of taxation has fallen from Rs. 6-8-4 in 1938-39 to Rs. 6-5 in 1950-51. Out of the tax revenue, both for the Central and for the State Governments, the direct taxes claim today 48.77 per cent. as against 43.65 per cent. of the total income in 1938-39, whereas in the field of indirect taxation the claim is 58.3 per cent. In 1950-51 as against 56.35 per cent. in 1938-39. This makes it clear, as pointed out by Prof. Shah, that in our country direct taxes have still a very important role to play. Government have taken action on many of these issues. For instance, the national income is being ascertained. The regulation of managing agencies has been referred to a Committee. So, I shall not go into details in those respects. Now I would only confine myself to making a few general observations about the Budget proposals. Many of my hon. friends have said that the current year's Budget has been timid, unimaginative and so on and so forth. I for one do not agree with this criticism, I think that the Budget presented by Mr. Deshmukh marks a reversal of the old policy of concessions to trade and industry year after year, although it is a guarded one. By reverting to the raising of funds through the medium of direct taxation, Government admits the discontent prevalent in the country as a result of the Budget policy of the past few years. At the same time, Mr. Deshmukh's action in raising only Rs. 8 crores from direct taxes leaves a sufficient margin of saving for trade and industry to come to Government's aid in its borrowing programmes.

With these words, I conclude.

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव : सभानेजी जी, मैं इस हाउस (House) में एक के बाद दूसरे मेंबर की स्पीच (speech) सुनता हूँ तो मुझे ताज्जुब होता है कि भास्कर इस गवर्नमेंट की पालिसी (policy of the Govt.) किसी नाफमी को भी खुश करने वाली है? अभी मैंने

[पंडित ठाकुर दास भागंब]

एक मॅम्बर (member) साहब की स्पीच सुनी जिस में कहा गया था क बी स्टेट्स (States) की फौज के कुछ आदमी जो फौज में से निकाले गये हैं, उन के वास्ते कोई माकूल इन्तजाम सरकार की तरफ से नहीं किया गया है और फिर मैं ने बैंक की कहानी सुनी जिस के अन्दर श्री सारंगधर दास ने इस बैंक का किस्सा सुनाया और खुद मैं भी रोजमर्रा ऐसी कितनी ही कहानियां सुनता रहता हूं और जिन में से बहुत सारी बेबुनियाद होती हैं। मुझे सब से पहले जो बात अजं करनी है और गवर्नमेंट से शिकायत करनी है, वह यह है कि गवर्नमेंट की प्रोपेगेन्डा मशीनरी (propaganda machinery) ऐक्सटरनल (external) के बारे में तो शिकायत है ही, घर की डोमैस्टिक मशीनरी (domestic machinery) जो है वह निहायत ही खराब है और मुझे को मालूम है कि फौज से जो लोग निकाले जायेंगे, उन के वास्ते डिफेंस मिनिस्टर (Defence Ministry) ने बड़ी अच्छी तजवीज सोच रखी है और उन सब को रिहैबिलिटेड (rehabilitate) करने का इन्तजाम किया हुआ है और वह इन्तजाम बहुत माकूल और बेहतर है और फ़ाइनेंस मिनिस्टर (Finance Ministry) बहुत सारा खर्चा इस गरज के लिये देने का तैयार है। लेकिन फिर भी मंत्ररान की शिकायत आती है, फौज वालों की भी शिकायत है क्योंकि यह गवर्नमेंट अपने जो अच्छे काम करती है उन के बारे में उस के पास प्रोपेगेन्डा करने की मशीनरी नहीं है।

شری حسین امام : کون سا پروویژن
 (provision) اس کا بھت
 میں ہے (Budget) ?

पंडित ठाकुर दास भागंब : मेरे लायक दोस्त मुझे माफ करेंगे, इस के अन्दर बजट का सवाल नहीं है। जिन अशखांस को आप ने अभी फौज से खारिज किया है उन के वास्ते इन्तजाम का सवाल है। मेरे लायक दोस्त और दूसरे हजरत को नहीं मालूम है कि उन में से कई हजार को पुलिस में रखा जाने वाला है। उन में से कई हजार आदमियों के वास्ते जमीनों का इन्तजाम किया जा रहा है, उन में से कई हजार आदमियों के वास्ते एम्प्लायमेंट एक्सचेंज (Employment Exchange) के अन्दर काम सिखाने और ट्रेनिंग (training) देने की कोशिश की जा रही है। हम कैसे यह शिकायत कर सकते हैं कि यह नहीं हो रहा है। मेरी तो शिकायत यह है कि गवर्नमेंट प्रोपेगेन्डा नहीं करती है अपने कामों का, नहीं तो यह कैसे हो सकता है कि श्री हुसैन इमाम जैसे काबिल और इतना इल्म रखने वाले मॅम्बर को मालूम नहीं है कि गवर्नमेंट क्या कर रही है। यही तो मेरी शिकायत है। अभी मैं ने श्री सारंगधर दास की कहानी सुनी, मैं ने मिनिस्टर साहब की बात सुनी और मालूम हुआ कि किस लिये यह बैंक का स्ट्राइक (strike) चल रहा है। अभी श्री सारंगधर दास और श्री हुसैन इमाम ने स्ट्राइक के बारे में इशतहार निकाला है, जिस की रू से उस स्ट्राइक को मजबूत करने की कोशिश को गई है, लेकिन अखबारों में पता चला कि उस स्ट्राइक की बजह कुछ और ही है। इस को देखते हुए मैं शिकायत करता हूं कि गवर्नमेंट प्रोपेगेन्डा नहीं करती है। गवर्नमेंट को चाहिये कि वह वाक्यात को झूठ न बतलाये, मगर असली वाक्यात उसे उस के सामने, दुनिया के सामने

और हिन्दुस्तान के सामने पेश करना चाहिये। और ऐसा किया गया तो मुझे कोई ताज्जुब नहीं है कि बहुत से लोगों को जो बहुत सी गलत मालूमात है वह दुरुस्त हो जायेंगी और गवर्नमेंट के खिलाफ आज जो एक हवा फैल गई है हंगिज कायम न रहेगी। सरकार ने बहुत अच्छे अच्छे काम किये हैं जिन का पब्लिक (Public) को इल्म नहीं और सरकार उन को जतलाती नहीं यह वाजिब बात नहीं है। लेकिन जो कुछ अर्ज करने के लिये खड़ा हुआ था वह और ही बातें थीं। मैं बहुत जोर से अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि कूच बिहार के मुताल्लिक खबरें अखबारों में निकलती हैं कि वहाँ भूख के कारण पांच छः आदमी मर गये, हाउन के अन्दर ऐडजर्नमेंट मोशन (Adjournment motion) आते हैं, दूसरी जगहों से भी हमारे पास खबर आती है कि इस देश के अन्दर भूख की वजह से लोगों का बुरा हाल है, आज में लायक दोस्त सारंगधर दास ने शिकायत की कि हमारी गवर्नमेंट दूसरे मुल्कों के अन्दर अनाज की तलाश करती है, रूस की तरफ देखती है, चीन के अन्दर जाती है, सारी दुनियाँ के घरों को ढूँढ डाला खराक के वास्ते। मुझे अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है आज हमारी हालत उस शरूस के मानिन्द है जिस के चारों तरफ पानी ही पानी भरा पड़ा है। लेकिन वह आब आब करता मर गया। मेरा यकीन कीजिये कि आज कूच बिहार के लोगों के घरों में अनाज भरा पड़ा है, लेकिन उन के ऊपर गोली चलती है, वहाँ लोग भूखों भरते हैं और खुराक होर्डर (hoarder) के गोदामों की भरी पड़ी है। आज पंजाब में और यू० पी० में इतना गल्ला मौजूद है कि सारे बिहार की भूख खत्म की जा

सकती है। मेरे जिले के अन्दर बहुत सारा चना था, चने का कंट्रोल (control) हटाते ही ६० हजार मन गल्ला बिहार में भेजा गया जिस से बिहार के लोगों का बहुत फायदा हुआ। गवर्नमेंट वह नहीं जानती कि इस देश के अन्दर कितनी कमी वास्तव में है। मुझे अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि गवर्नमेंट का बयान था कि सन् १९५२ तक जरूर सेल्फ सफिशेन्सी (self sufficiency) हो जायगी, लेकिन मैं पूछता हूँ कि कहां से हो जायगी, क्या आसमान से हो जायगी? सच बात यह है कि इस देश के अन्दर गल्ला मौजूद है, फिर भी अगर यह गवर्नमेंट दुनियाँ भर में गल्ला मांगने के वास्ते जाती है और यहां इस तरह के बयान दे रही है, तो इस के माने यह है कि उस की पालिसी कंट्रोल की (policy of control) गलत साबित हुई है। इस का सीधा इलाज यह है कि हम लोगों को बतलायें कि उन्हें परेशान होने की जरूरत नहीं है, लोगों की इस साइकालोजी (psychology) को दूर किया जाय और कहा जाय कि इस देश में गल्ले की कमी नहीं है और हम छः या आठ महीने के बाद सेल्फ-सफिशेन्ट (self sufficient) हो जायेंगे गल्ले के बारे में। गवर्नमेंट के इस कहने का मतलब, कि ग्रो मोर फूड (grow more food) सिर्फ १५ परसेंट (percent) कम सफल हुई है, यह है कि हिन्दुस्तान में गल्ला काफी है, सरकार को लेना नहीं आता है, अगर इस गल्ले के ऊपर से आप पाबन्दी हट दें और खुले आम बिकने दें तो बिहार का सारा कहत दूर हो जायेंगा, इस के साथ ही आप इस डर को, इस घबराहट को भी लोगों के दिलों में से दूर कीजिये कि

[पंडित ठाकूर दास भागंब]
 हिन्दुस्तान में गल्ला नहीं है। जब तक आप अपनी कुल पालिसी को इस तरह पर नहीं बदलेंगे तब तक आप का भला नहीं होगा। आप के फाइनेंस (Finance) में क्या रक्खा है। आप का आधा बजट फौज का है, जिस को आप कम कर नहीं सकते। इस के अतिरिक्त आप एक अरब से ज्यादा (१००-१५०) करोड़ तक का अनाज बाहर से लेते हैं तो आप का बजट किस तरह से दुस्त होगा और इस देश का भला कैसे होगा इस देश में अगर आप एक रुपये का भी गल्ला बाहर से लें तो आप का बजट बिल्कुल निकम्मा है, और आप हालात को ठीक नहीं कर सकते। इस का तो एक ही इलाज है कि हिन्दुस्तान में जो गल्ला मौजूब है उस का ठीक तरह से बंटवारा करायें। हर एक इन्सान की जिन्दगी में यह बात पाई जाती है कि उस की जिन्दगी में कामयाबी के लिये टाइड (tide) आता है। उसी तरह से आज हिन्दुस्तान में हमारे लिये एक टाइड (tide) आया हुआ है, अगर आप इस टाइड का पूरा फायदा न उठायेंगे तो इस मुल्क की हालत को आप नहीं कंट्रोल कर सकते।

अब आप के पास बाहर के मुल्कों से गल्ला आने की उम्मीद है, आप के पास स्टोक (stock) हो जायेगा, यह मौका है कि आप लोगों की इस बुरी साइकालोजी को दूर कर सकते हैं कि आगे बहुत खराब दिन आने वाले हैं और गल्ला इकट्ठा करने की जरूरत है। गल्ला आप के पास काफी मौजूद होगा आप जहाँ भी जरूरत पड़े वहाँ भेज सकते हैं। इस लिये १५ जून से जो आप की सरप्लस एरियाज (surplus

areas) हैं वहाँ आप कंट्रोल को हटा दीजिये। लोगों को बतलाइये कि आप के पास काफी गल्ला मौजूद है, जो मिडिल क्लास (middle class) कंट्रोल से तबाह हो गई है उस को जीवित होने का अवसर दीजिये। यह बात गलत है कि सारे पंजाब में और सारे यू० पी० में और सारे हिन्दुस्तान में जो गल्ला प्रोड्यूस (produce) करते हैं उन की हालत खराब है। यह बात गलत है कि दरअस्ल मजदूरों की हालत आज उतनी खराब है जितनी कि बतलाई जाती है। जब ब्रिटिश सरकार के जमाने में एसेम्बली (Assembly) हुआ करती थी और उस जमाने में जब हम बजट पर बोला करते थे तो मुझे याद है कि हम घंटों तक बोलते थे, और नक्शा खींचा करते थे जो पूरा ठीक भी नहीं होता था, उस को बढ़ा चढ़ा कर दिखाना पड़ता था।

شری حسین امام : کیا آپ اس وقت غلط فرماتے تھے ؟

पं० ठाकूर दास भागंब : उस वक्त हालत दूसरी थी, और लोगों की माली हालत भी अब के मुकाबले में खराब थी। लेकिन अब जैसी अच्छी हालत में ने सारी अपनी सपर में नहीं देखी हैं वह लोग झूठ कहते हैं जो इस हालत को पहले के मुकाबले में खराब बतलाते हैं। झूठा नक्शा खींचना नावाजिब है सच्ची हालत बयान करना हमारा फर्ज है। यह मेरा ही तजुर्बा नहीं है। मेरे दोस्तों ने भी इस बात को माना है कि पहले से यहाँ की हालत अब अच्छी है। मैं इस की मानने को मजबूर हूँ कि आज कंट्रोल की वजह से शिकायत की जाती है। मेरे जिले में जहाँ बाजरा बहुत होता है, वहाँ

पञ्जीस रुपये मन बाजार बिकता है, यह सिर्फ कंट्रोल की महरबानी है। लोगों के पास रुपया है लेकिन ख़राक नहीं मिलती, हर जिले में रेस्ट्रिक्शन (restriction) लगा हुआ है, प्राविंशल बैरिअर्स (Provincial barriers) हैं डिस्ट्रिक्ट बैरिअर्स (District barriers) हैं। जब आप इस कंट्रोल को न कंट्रोल करेंगे तब तक आप की एकानमी (economy) दुरुस्त नहीं होगी। अब वक़्त आ गया है कि सरकार कह दे कि १५ जून के बाद सरप्लस एरियाज़ (surplus areas) में डिक्ंट्रोल (decontrol) हो जायेगा और उस के बाद बाज़ार खोल दिया जायेगा, इस के बाद देखें कि सेल्फ सफिशेन्सी की स्कीम (scheme) कामयाब होती है या नहीं।

मैं अपने भक्तसद से बहुत दूर चला गया। इस वक़्त बोलने का जो मेरा मतलब था वह रह गया। मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ आप के टैकमेशन प्रपोज़ल्स (taxation proposals) और आप की मिनिस्ट्रीज़ (Ministries) के बारे में मुझे सिर्फ़ इस कदर अर्ज करना है कि मेहरबानी कर के आप एक बात कीजिये। आज कल मिनिस्ट्री आफ हेल्थ (Ministry of Health) और मिनिस्ट्री आफ एजुकेशन (Ministry of Education) कुछ ऐसा काम नहीं कर रही है जिस के बंद होने से देश का नुक़सान होने वाला है। आप इन दोनों मिनिस्ट्रीज़ को बंद कर के एक नई मिनिस्ट्री कायम कीजिये सोशल हारमोनी और रिफ़ॉर्म (Social Harmony & Reform) की। आज पंजाब के सिखों और दूसरे पंजाबियों में झगड़ा है। सिखों ने अछूतों पर हमले किये हैं यह निहायत बुरा काम है। ऐसे आबमियों ने गुप्तों की

तालीम का तिरस्कार किया है। कौन स सिख है, गुरु का चेला है जो किमी दूसरे गरीब आदमी पर जुल्म करने का हक़ रखता है। पंजाब में यह अत्याचार देखते हैं, पंजाब को छोड़ कर आसाम में देखते हैं तो आसाम के अन्दर आसामियों और बंगालियों में झगड़ा है और दूसरे हिस्सों में भी इसी तरह देखते हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि बचाय इन दो मिनिस्ट्रीज़ के आप दो मिनिस्टर विदाउट पोर्टफ़ोलियो (Minister without portfolio) के रखें, जैसे हमारे गोपालस्वामी आयरंग साहब मिनिस्टर विदाउट पोर्टफ़ोलियो थे, उन्होंने वहाँ भी हिन्दुस्तान में ख़राबी आई उस को जा क़ देखा उस का इलाज किया। मैं ने अभी अख़बारों में देखा कि ईस्ट पाकिस्तान (East Pakistan) ने फ़ैसला किया है कि बार्डर (border) पर पांच मील के अन्दर किसी हिन्दू को अपनी हदों में नहीं बसने देंगे, मुझे पता नहीं है कि यह ख़बर ग़लत है या सही है लेकिन मैं इस को पसंद करता हूँ। हिन्दुस्तान और पाकिस्तान का फ़ैसला इसी तरह से होगा। जब तक दोनों की हदें मज़बूत न होंगी तब तक यह अन्देशा बना रहने का कहीं दोनों देश के एक पनबाले मिल न जायें। यह सरहदों का मामला सीधा नहीं है, यही चीज़ लड़ाई की बुनयाद होती है कौमों के अन्दर इस लिये आप मिनिस्टर विदाउट पोर्टफ़ोलियो रखिये जो हर एक प्राविंस (Province) में जा कर चीज़ों को देख सकें और वहाँ के सबालों पर सोच विचार कर के सारे मामले को तय कर सकें। हर एक मिनिस्टर अपने अपने डिपार्टमेंट (department) का मालिक है, उस को सारे मवाज़ों को देखने की फुर्सत नहीं है। इस लिये इन दो मिनिस्ट्रीज़ को यानी एजुकेशन और हेल्थ (Education)

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and Health) को बंद कर के दो मिनिस्टर विदाउट पोर्टफोलियो के बनाइये।

इसी तरह से मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि आज आप मानें या न मानें, लेकिन मैं देख रहा हूँ कि लड़ाई के बादल उमड़ रहे हैं। कोरिया की लड़ाई खत्म हुई तो मुझे डर है कि काश्मीर का सवाल सामने आ जायगा। क्योंकि काश्मीर के ऊपर पाकिस्तान की मदद को अमरीका तुला हुआ है। मैं अब से अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि मैं इस देश में वार माइन्डिड मेंटेलिटी (war minded mentality) नहीं पैदा करना चाहता। लेकिन हम कैसे भाँव बन्द कर लें जो चीज हमारे सामने है। हमें हिन्दुस्तान को इस बारे में तैयार करना चाहिये। आज अगर हम अपने दिल में भ्रम करेंगे तो यहाँ कोई हमारा मदद करने वाला, हमें नहीं मिलेगा। यह चीज होने वाली है, हमें इस देश को इस वास्ते तैयार करना चाहिये ताकि जो मुसीबत आने वाली है उस का हम मुकाबला कर सकें। इस की तरफ गवर्नमेंट कोई तवज्जह नहीं दे रही है और मुझे डर है कि हों यह चीज अनएवरेअर्स (unawares) न पकड़ लें।

तो जिस भ्रम पर मैं बोलना चाहता था वह आप के इन्कम-टैक्स प्रोपोजल्स (Income-tax proposals) हैं इस के अन्दर आप ने हिन्दू ज्वाइन्ट फॅमिली (Hindu joint family) को नजरअन्दाज किया है। जैसा कि एक सदस्य ने कहा आप की मूँज से जो एक क्रम्ब (crumb) गिरा है उस के लिए मैं अग्रेटफुल (ungrateful) नहीं होना चाहता। आप ने हिन्दू ज्वाइन्ट फॅमिली के लिए सरचार्ज (sur-

charge) की लिमिट (limit) १४,४०० पर रख दी है। मुझे नहीं मालूम कि इस से क्या फायदा होने वाला है। इस देश के अन्दर हिन्दू ज्वाइन्ट फॅमिली ऐसी चीज है जिस पर अब आप टैक्स जारी नहीं रख सकते। सेक्शन १४ और १५ और जितने भी सेक्शन आप के कांस्टीट्यूशन के अन्दर हैं उन की तरफ मैं आप की तवज्जह दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि सेक्यूलर स्टेट (Secular State) में हिन्दू ज्वाइन्ट फॅमिली को आप डिस्क्रीमिनेट (discriminate) नहीं कर सकते। यह सेक्यूलर स्टेट विद वन्जेन्स (with vengeance) है। मुल्क के अन्दर हिन्दू ज्वाइन्ट फॅमिली के साथ साथ मुस्लिम ज्वाइन्ट फॅमिली और क्रिश्चियन ज्वाइन्ट फॅमिली भी हैं लेकिन उन के साथ वैसा बर्ताव नहीं किया जाता। एक कुन्बे में चार आदमी हो सकते हैं। आप ने ७,२०० की लिस्ट डी मेंम्बर के कुन्बे के लिये कर दी है लेकिन १५०० की एक्सक्लूजन लिमिट (exclusion limit) वैसी की वैसी ही रखी है। आप ने ज्यादा से ज्यादा उस फॅमिली के साथ रियायत की है जिस में दो आदमी हैं। मगर जिन फॅमिलीज में तीन या चार या बस आदमी हैं उन के साथ तो गजब हो जायगा अगर आप ने एक दफा इस प्रिंसिपल (principle) को मान लिया तो आप को कोई हक नहीं है कि आप ज्वाइन्ट हिन्दू फॅमिली पर टैक्स लगायें। यह इंसाफ के खिलाफ होगा, और कांस्टीट्यूशन और मारल्स (morals) के भी खिलाफ होगा। पिछले २५ सालों से हाउस में यह सवाल उठाया जाता रहा है। मुझे जवाब दिया गया था कि इस के लिए एक इन्क्वायरी कमेटी (enquiry committee) बनायेंगे।

सन् २४ में जो कमेटी बनी थी उस की रिपोर्ट में ने पढ़ी है। वह रिपोर्ट आप की तबज्जह के काबिल है। जब आप कोई टैक्स लगाते हैं या एस्टेट ड्यूटी (estate duty) लगाते हैं तो आप सरवाइवरशिप (survivorship) के असूल को नहीं मानते हैं। उस वक्त आप ज्वाइन्ट फॅमिली को नहीं मानते। तो जब आप को टैक्स लेना होता है तो आप उस को डिवाइडेड (divided) मान लेते हैं और जब टैक्स नहीं लेना होता तो आप कहते हैं कि यह डिवाइडेड नहीं है। इस तरह आप ने हिन्दू ला (Hindu Law) के प्रावोजन्स (provisions) पर कुटाराघात किया है। हमारे फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब से तो जैसा मैं ने कहा था कि चिन्तामणि भी है और देशमुख भी है हम काफी उममेंदें थी लेकिन मैं अदब से अर्ज करता हूँ कि सयाई साहब ने हमारी तकलीफों को माना था पर आप ने एहसान नहीं किया। दो साल से हम ने इस केस को आगे नहीं बढ़ाया था कि हम को मालूम था कि गवर्नमेंट की दिक्कतें इस वक्त बढ़ी हुई हैं। लेकिन फिर जब आप ३१ करोड़ का टैक्स लगा रहे हैं तो यह कहने का मौका है कि आप ने हिन्दू ज्वाइन्ट फॅमिली को रगड़ रगड़ कर सिर्फ के बराबर कर दिया है। इन्कम टैक्स के बराबर हिन्दू ज्वाइन्ट फॅमिली को कसा और चीज ने नुकसान नहीं पहुँचाया है। इस इन्कम टैक्स ने तो इस को खत्म ही कर दिया है। मैं आप से कोई रियायत नहीं चाहता। मैं तो आप से सिर्फ यही चाहता हूँ कि आप हिन्दू, मुसलमान और क्रिश्चियन फॅमिली को एक सा मानें। मैं आज ही आप से पहली दफ़े यह बात नहीं कहता हूँ, आप सन् १९२८ और सन् ३०

प्रोसीडिंग (proceedings) पढ़िय मैं बराबर कहता रहा हूँ कि हिन्दू ज्वाइन्ट फॅमिली के साथ बड़ा गजब हो रहा है। मुझे कोई ऐसा फाइनेन्स मैम्बर नहीं मिला जिस ने इस को मंजूर न किया हो। इनवेस्टी गेशन कमीशन (Investigation Commission) ने भी इस को मंजूर किया है। मेरी यही गुजारिश है कि आप इस तरह तबज्जह करें और यह जो नुकसान हो रहा है इस को कम कीजिये। मेरे जिस अमेंडमेंट (amendment) को मानने से आप का कम से कम खर्च होता हो मंजूर कर लीजिये फ़िलहाल।

मैं एक बात और अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ। मुझ उम्मीद है कि आज हर एक हिन्दुस्तानी समझता है कि हमारी नेशनल गवर्नमेंट है। इस हालत में मैं समझता हूँ कि उन का यह फ़ञ्च होना चाहिये कि वह अपना टैक्स अदा कर दें। आज हर हिन्दुस्तानी की यही मटॉलटी (mentality) होनी चाहिये, मगर वह नहीं है। ऐसा क्यों नहीं है। यह कहा जा सकता है कि यह इत लिये नहीं है कि जिन को टैक्स देना चाहिये वह उस से बचना चाहते हैं, लेकिन इस में आप का भी कुछ कुसूर है। आप के एरियर्स (arrears) पांच पांच सात सात साल तक चले जाते हैं। आप देखिये कि पांच साल में एक आदमी की क्या से क्या हालत हो सकती है। आप को इनवेस्टीगेशन कमीशन ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में कहा है कि आप के एसिस्टेंट इन्कम टैक्स कमीशनर (Assistant Income-tax Commissioner) को बोर्ड आफ़ रेवेन्यू (Board of Revenue) के मातहत नहीं होना चाहिये। लेकिन वह अब भी उसी के मातहत है। इस तरह से अच्छा इन्साफ़ नहीं हो सकता।

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जिस को न्याय करना है उस को किसी के इन्फ्लूएंस (influence) में नहीं रहना चाहिये। इस लिए मैं अर्ज करता हूँ कि उस को सी० बी० आर० (C. B. R.) के मातहत नहीं होना चाहिये। जब कि कोई एसीसी (assessoe) किसी इन्कम टैक्स आफिसर के सामने जाय तो उस के दिल में यह ख्याल होना चाहिये कि यह आफिसर उस का दोस्त है और उस को ज़रूरत से ज्यादा टैक्स नहीं देना पड़ेगा। जब तक आप ऐसी मेटेल्डि पैदा नहीं करेंगे तब तक आप का पूरा टैक्स वसूल नहीं होगा।

मुझे एक बात और अर्ज करनी है। मुझे यही एक मौका अर्ज करने का मिला है और मुझे चेयरमैन साहिबा माफ करेगी अगर मैं एक दो मिनट और ले लूँ। मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट के पास एक बहुत बड़ा फील्ड (field) पड़ा है, एक सारी की सारी पक्की हुई खेती खड़ी है लेकिन उस के पास काटने वाला नहीं है। गवर्नमेंट के पास एक वास्त फील्ड (vast field) है। कलकत्ता और बम्बई में एक एक दुकानदार ऐसा है जो कि इनकम टैक्स दे सकता है लेकिन टैक्स देने वाले मौजूद हैं पर टैक्स लेने वाले नहीं हैं। आप अपने इन्कम टैक्स डिपार्टमेंट को बढ़ाइये। ज्यादा आफसरान को पैदा कीजिये और ट्रेन्ड (trained) कीजिये। इस स आप की आमदनी २५ फी सदी बढ़ जायगी।

(English translation of the above speech)

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Madam Chairman, I hear the speeches of the hon. Members one after the other in this House and am puzzled to think as to whom does the policy of the Government please after all. I heard the speech which has been delivered by an hon. Member just now in which it was complained that no

satisfactory arrangements were made by the Government for the demobilized personnel of the Part B State forces. After this I heard the Bank episode which was narrated by Shri Sarangdhar Das and, as a matter of fact, I myself hear many such stories as usual, most of which are without any foundation. The first thing that I have to submit before the Government is that the propaganda machinery of the Government, not only the external one about which there have been already so many complaints but the domestic one also, is very faulty. I know that the Defence Ministry has thought out a very good plan for the resettlement of the demobilized personnel of the army. Arrangements have been made for their rehabilitation. These arrangements are satisfactory and fair; and the Finance Ministry too is prepared to advance all the money required for this purpose. But inspite of all these arrangements complaints pour in from the hon. Members mainly because the Government have not an efficient machinery to propagate and publicize their good achievements.

Shri Hussain Imam: What provision is there in the Budget for this purpose?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: My able friend would excuse me, there is no question of Budget in it. It is the question of resettlement of the demobilized army personnel. My able friend and other gentlemen do not know that several thousand men from them are going to be taken in the Police service. Arrangements for allocation of land are being made for other few thousand persons, efforts are being made to train a few thousand others through the employment exchanges. How can we complain that these things are not being done. My only complaint is that the Government do not give sufficient publicity to their activities, otherwise how could it be that an able and learned Member like Shri Hussain Imam did not know what the Government was doing in this connection. This alone is my complaint. I just now heard the story which has been narrated by Shri Sarangdhar Das, at the same time I heard the hon. Minister's version of the whole episode as well, as I came to know as to what were the grounds of the strike. Shri Sarangdhar Das and Shri Hussain Imam have published a pamphlet regarding this strike, and with its help an effort has been made to give support to the strike, but we have come to know through the newspapers that the causes of the strike are somewhat different. Keeping these facts in view I complain that there is lack of propaganda on the part of

Government. No doubt Government should not give wrong facts but at the same time they should try to place the real facts before the House, the country and the whole world and in this way I will not be surprised if the wrong information which a number of people hold is corrected and the anti-Government atmosphere which is prevalent at present, is brought to an end. Government have accomplished many good things of which the public have no knowledge. Government do not give them publicity and do not make them known. It is not at all proper. But what I wanted to submit is quite besides this. I beg to submit that news about the conditions prevailing in Cooch Bihar has appeared in the newspapers and it is reported that there have been five or six starvation deaths too. Notices of adjournment motions have also been given in this connection. We receive similar reports from the other parts of the country as well saying that due to starvation the condition of people is precarious in the country. Today my able friend Shri Sarangdhar Das has complained that our Government is searching for food in the other countries, is looking towards China and Russia for food; in other words they are searching all the corners of the world. I am sorry to say that our condition at present is like that of the man who died of thirst though surrounded by water on all sides. Believe me that the people of Cooch Bihar have enough of food in their houses; but notwithstanding it they are being fired upon, they die of starvation while the stores of the hoarders are over full with the foodgrains. Today there is enough of food in Punjab and Uttar Pradesh so much so that it can easily avert starvation in Bihar. Gram was available in abundance in my district. As soon as control was lifted 60 thousand maunds of this grain were rushed Bihar, which benefited people there. The Government do not know how much the real deficiency is there in the country. I am sorry to say that the Government had declared that the country would definitely achieve self-sufficiency in food by the year 1952, but I ask wherefrom would this self-sufficiency be achieved. Would it come from heaven? As a matter of fact there is sufficient food in the country; and if in spite of that the Government continue to search for food in the foreign countries and continue to give statements like that, it only means that the control policy, as followed by them, is wrong. The simple remedy for it is that they should advise the people that there is no need to be embarrassed. This fear psychology should be removed and they should be told that there was no food deficiency in the

country and that we would be self-sufficient in the matter of food within a period of six to eight months. When the Government say that the 'Grow More Food' Campaign has been unsuccessful only to the extent of 15 per cent, it only means that there is sufficient food in India but the Government do not know how to procure it. You remove the restrictions on foodgrains and allow its open marketing, you would see that the famine conditions prevailing in Bihar would vanish; and along with it would go this fear and embarrassment from the people's minds that there is no food in India. Unless and until you do not change your policy on these lines, no good will come to you. What is there in your finances? Half of your Budget goes to the military which you cannot reduce in any way. Apart from it you import foodgrains worth more than a hundred crores—100 to 501 crores—of rupees from abroad. Then how can the budget remain balanced and how can any good come to our country. Even if you import foodgrains worth a single rupee in this country your Budget is faulty and you are not in a position to improve the state of affairs. The only remedy is that whatever food there is in India it should be got distributed properly. We see in the case of every person that a tide of success sometimes comes in his life. In the same way a tide has come for us in India; if you do not take full advantage of it, you cannot control the events in this country.

Now, you have hopes to get some foodgrains from abroad, you can have stocks and it is the time when you can remove this bad psychology from the peoples' minds that hard times are ahead and food need be stored. You have sufficient stocks of food with you and you can send it where it is needed. Therefore by June 15 remove control on foodgrains in the surplus areas. Tell the people that there is sufficient food in the country and in this way give the middle class people, who are ruining due to these controls, an opportunity to breathe. This is wrong to say that the condition of the grain producers in the whole of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and, for that fact, in the whole of India is bad. This is also wrong to say that the condition of the labour class is as bad as it is described. During the days of the British rule when the legislative assembly used to hold its session and we used to speak on the budget, I remember that we used to speak for hours together and used to depict such a picture of the whole situation which used to be not quite exact, but highly exaggerated.

Shri Hussain Imam: Were you used to speak wrong at that time?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Things were quite different at that time and the economic condition of the people was also no good as compared to the present condition. But I have never seen conditions which were in any way better than the present conditions. Those persons who describe the present conditions as worse than what they were previously tell a sheer lie. It is not proper to depict a wrong picture; on the other hand it is our duty to speak out the true facts. This is not only my experience but several of my friends too agree with me that the conditions are far better than what they were before; though I am compelled to say that the people complain of hardships today because of the control. In my own district where *bajra* is grown in abundance it sells at the rate of twenty-five rupees a maund. This is all due to the controls. People have money but they have no food, restrictions have been imposed in every district, there are provincial as well as district barriers. Unless and until you do not restrict the sphere of controls your economy will not improve. Now the time has come when the Government should declare that there would be decontrol in the surplus areas after June 15 this year and there would be open market from that time onwards. After this see whether the self-sufficiency scheme succeeds or not.

I have gone far from my point. I did not cover what I meant to speak. My submission was with regard to your taxation proposals and your Ministries. So far as the Ministries are concerned I would request you to do one thing. The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education do not perform any such important functions so much so that if they are closed down that would result in some harm to the country. So close them down and establish a new Ministry of Social Harmony and Reforms. There has been some controversy between the Sikhs of Punjab and the other Punjabis. The Sikhs have assaulted Harijans, which is indeed a very bad thing. Such persons have disregarded the teachings of the Guru. Who is that Sikh, the disciple of the Guru, who had a right to commit atrocities on the poor people? We see these atrocities being perpetrated in Punjab. Leaving the case of Punjab aside we see the same controversy between the Assamese and the Bengalees in Assam as well. We see similar other things in the other parts of the country too. I would like you to keep two Ministers without portfolio instead of these

two Ministries, just as we had one Minister without portfolio, Shri Gopaldaswami Ayyangar, who used to go to every part of the country wherever he found some wrong and used to set it right. I have just now read in the newspapers that the East Pakistan Government have decided not to allow any Hindu to live within five miles of the border. I do not know whether this news is correct or incorrect, but I have liked it. The disputes between India and Pakistan can be settled by such methods only. Unless and until the borders of both the countries do not become strong, there will always be the danger that the persons having the same ideology in both the countries may meet together. This question of borders is not a simple one. This is the thing which generally becomes the bone of contention between the two nations. Therefore have a Minister without portfolio who may go to each and every province, and see things there and after giving thought to the problems may settle the matters. Every Minister is master of his own department, he has no time to think over the various problems. So both these Ministries of Health as well as of Education should be closed down and two Ministers without portfolio should be appointed instead.

In the same way I beg to submit—whether you agree with me or not—that I see the clouds of war hovering over our heads. If the Korean War comes to an end at all I am afraid the Kashmir question will have its turn because America is bent upon helping Pakistan in the Kashmir dispute. I beg to submit that I do not want to create war-minded mentality in the country but how can we close our eyes to the facts. We should keep India prepared for all these things. If we remain illused, there is nobody who would come to our help. This thing is bound to come and we should keep our country prepared for it, so that we may be able to face the coming troubles effectively. The Government are not paying much attention in this direction and I am afraid, it may not catch us unawares. So, the subject on which I wanted to make a few observations is the Income-Tax proposals. The Government have completely ignored the Hindu Joint family in these proposals. As an hon. Member has suggested, I have no intention to be ungrateful to you for the crumb or the concession that has been bestowed upon us by you. The surcharge limit for the joint Hindu family has been fixed at Rs. 14,400. I do not know how is it going to benefit. You cannot continue this tax on

the Hindu joint family in this country any more. I would like to invite your attention to Section 14 and 15 and also other sections of the Constitution according to which you cannot discriminate against the Hindu joint family in this Secular State of ours. If I am allowed to say so it is a Secular State with vengeance. There are Muslim joint families and Christian joint families also along with the Hindu joint families in this country, but they are not treated in the same manner. There can be four members in a family. You have fixed the limit at Rs. 7,200 for families of two members but the exclusion limit of Rs. 1,500 has not been changed. You have given most concessions to the families having two members each but those families who have three or four or ten members will be very much hard hit. If once you accept this principle, you have no right to impose this tax on the joint Hindu family. It will be against justice and against the Constitution and morals as well. This matter has been coming up before the House for the last 25 years. I was told that an enquiry committee would be set up for this purpose. I have read the Report of the committee that was set up in 1924. That Report deserves your due consideration. Whenever you have to impose a tax or a estate duty, you do not accept the principle of survivorship. At that time you do not recognise a joint family. So you take it as a divided family for the purposes of realising the tax, but when you do not want a tax, you call it undivided. In this way, you have struck at the very root of the provisions of the Hindu Law. We had good many hopes from our hon. Minister of Finance whom I had described as Chintamani that is, one who is supposed to yield anything desired and also as Deshmukh that is the spokesman of the country, but I very respectfully submit that while Dr. Mathai had realised our difficulty he has failed to do so. We had not pressed this matter for the last two years because we knew and we realised the problems facing the Government. But when a tax of thirty one crores is being imposed I must say that such steps of the Government are the cause of the Hindu joint family having been reduced to a non-entity. Hindu joint family has received a great blow from this Income-tax and it is responsible to a large extent for its complete disintegration. I do not want any concessions from you. I only want that there should be equal treatment for Hindu, Muslim and Christian families. It is not the first time that I am submitting it to you. You can refer to the proceedings of 1928 and 1930 that I had

always been saying that the Hindu joint family is not being meted out a fair treatment. Every Finance Member had accepted this fact and the Investigation Commission too was of the same view. Therefore my humble submission is that the consideration must be given in this direction and the harm that is being done must be put an end to. I would urge upon the Government to accept that amendment of mine which for the time being entails least expenditure on their part.

I would like to state one point more. I hope every Indian feels today that it is our national Government. So he must take it as his duty to pay all taxes that are due to him. This must be the mentality of every Indian but it is not so. Why? It can be said that it is so because those who have to pay the taxes want to evade them. But I will say that the Government too is at fault to some extent in this matter. Tax arrears have accumulated in many cases for five years. It is quite possible that a man's position may undergo enormous changes in that period of five years. The Investigation Commission has recommended in its Report that the Assistant Income-Tax Commissioner should not be under the Board of Revenue. But he is still subordinate to it. Such a thing is not in the interests of justice and equity. One who is in charge of justice should not be under the influence of anybody. Therefore I submit that he should not be under the C.B.R. When an assessor may have to appear before the Income-tax Officer he should feel that the officer is a friend of his and that he will not be asked to pay more than what is due to him. Unless such a mentality is created, it will not be possible to realise the full amount of the tax.

I have to submit one thing more. I have only got this opportunity to submit these facts before you and I hope hon. Mr. Chairman would excuse me if I take a minute or two more. My submission is that the Government have a vast field to take advantage of, I should rather say they have a ripe harvest but there is none to reap it. In Calcutta and Bombay, every shopkeeper can pay income tax. There are persons ready to pay the tax but there is no one to collect it. I, therefore, ask you to increase the strength of the Income-tax department, increase the number of the officers and train them. By this the revenues of the State could go up by 24 per cent.

Dr. M. M. Das (West Bengal): The new proposals of taxation that have been proposed by our hon. Minister of Finance in the budget for the current year have one very important and well marked difference from the proposals made in the budgets of the previous years during our post-independence period. During the last few years since we attained our Independence, it has been the policy of our Government, not to impose any tax upon the lowest income group of our country, namely, the cultivators, the factory hands, manual labourers field workers and others. In fact our Government have so long kept a watchful eye to see that these people of the lowest income groups of our country, are spared of any new taxation or any increase in taxation in the formulation of our annual budget proposals. But this year's budget has made a remarkable departure from that policy. It appears that the vehement propaganda that has been carried on for some time past, that all the money in recent times have flown into the villages, have flown into the hands of agriculturists, has at long last been successful to convince our Government and some of the Members of this House the truth of that contention.

Tobacco, for some years, has been the proverbial goose of golden eggs for our Government. But, I am afraid that too much tapping by our Government in sheer greed is going to kill that goose very soon. In the original Budget proposals, of our hon. Finance Minister, the rate of increase on *hooka* and chewing tobacco was from 4 annas to 8 annas. The bulk of the consumers of *hooka* and chewing tobacco come from the villages and come under the lowest income groups. The Central Tobacco Committee has given certain figures. They have found that about 470 million pounds or 47 crore pounds is the total quantity of tobacco consumed in this country. About 50 per cent. of this quantity, that is roughly 24 crore pounds is consumed as *hooka* tobacco and chewing tobacco. If the proposal of our Finance Minister about the rate of increase from four annas to eight annas had been accepted, from this increase on *hooka* and chewing tobacco alone, our coffers would have got about 6 crores. If we compare the rate of duty as proposed by the hon. Finance Minister with the rate of duty that prevailed in the year 1944, on *hooka* and chewing tobacco, we will find that the present rate proposed is an increase by 800 per cent. In the year 1944, the rate of duty on *hooka* and chewing tobacco was one anna per pound whereas the proposed rate was eight annas per pound. Our Se-

lect Committee has very kindly reduced that figure to seven annas.

During the general discussion of the Finance Bill, before it was sent to the Select Committee, many hon. Members of this House referred to this abnormal and unjust increase in the rate of duty on *hooka* and chewing tobacco. When the Bill was referred to the Select Committee, we entertained high hopes that the Select Committee will not fail to do justice to these poor consumers of *hooka* and chewing tobacco. But, frankly speaking we have been highly disappointed, rather disillusioned by the report of the Select Committee. The Select Committee has reduced the rate from eight annas to seven annas; in other words, the Select Committee has agreed to the increase of the duty from four annas to seven annas. In the case of *biri* tobacco, they have increased the duty from 12 annas to 14 annas, that is they have allowed an increase of 17 per cent. only, whereas in the case of *hooka* and chewing tobacco, they have increased the rate by 75 per cent. I do not understand the reasons for this step-motherly behaviour or attitude towards the consumers of *hooka* and chewing tobacco.

It is however gratifying to note that the Select Committee was not unanimous in their report so far as this duty on *hooka* and chewing duty is concerned. Several of the Members, at least four of them have felt and even expressed their dissent against this. My hon. friends Mr. Chattopadhyay and Mr. Raj Bahadur have submitted a minute of dissent. Our veteran old friend Shri Gokulabhai Bhatt has also submitted a minute of dissent. (An Hon. Member: He is not old.) I beg your pardon. Mr. T. N. Singh, who was not present at the time of submission of minutes of dissent, has given notice of amendments for the reduction in the rate of the duty upon *hooka* and chewing tobacco. In addition to these four Members of the Select Committee, there are a large number of friends in this House who have also given notice of amendments for the reduction of duty on *hooka* and chewing tobacco. These are clear pointers of the dissatisfaction and disapproval of this House over this abnormal and unjust increase of duty upon *hooka* and chewing tobacco. In the minute of dissent, our hon. friends Messrs. Chattopadhyay and Raj Bahadur have said:

"It will be cruel on the poorer section of smokers to subject them to taxation which will make their little joy of smoking almost prohibitive. We are emphatically of

opinion that the duty on *hooka* and chewing tobacco should not be for the present a pie above six annas per pound".

I want to place one fact before the hon. Finance Minister and my friends here that as early as 1941 the Government of Bengal realised the position of *hooka* smokers and in that year they gave full exemption of sales duty in the case of smokers of *hooka* tobacco and chewing tobacco. By section 6 of their Finance (Sales Taxation) Act of 1941 they declared that no sales tax would be imposed upon *hooka* or chewing tobacco. This much I can say on behalf of my province, that they realised that *hooka* smoking is not a luxury as has been assumed by the hon. Finance Minister. He has in his explanation for the increase in duty said that this tobacco is a kind of luxury or near luxury article. There is no doubt that so far as the arm-chair politicians and high government officials and big businessmen are concerned, tobacco may be a luxury. But what about the poor man? To the cultivator who has to work on his fields under the blazing summer heat of a tropical sun, and in the torrential rains of the Indian monsoon, and to the poor washerman who has to wash our cloths standing knee-deep in the biting cold of January and December, and to the fisherman who has to spend his whole day out in his tiny boat afloat in the river, few puffs of *hooka* is not at all a luxury. But on the contrary that is the only thing that gives him sustenance and energy to fight against the forces of nature. But our hon. Finance Minister and his advisers coming as they do from the highest strata of our society have very little opportunity of seeing the lives of these men, of knowing how they live and work and earn their living. Sir, it has been said that flue cured tobacco and ordinary sun-dried tobacco not used for cigarette making and other varieties should be brought under a flat rate. It has also been mentioned that in the Central Excise and Sales Act of 1944 the then Government, the British Government did not place the tobacco tax on a sound and rational basis and made unnecessary discrimination between *birt* tobacco on the one hand and the *hooka* and chewing tobacco on the other. My personal view is that we have bungled in so many fields of administration that this present Govt. will have no face to question the administrative efficiency of the British Government in this country. There is no doubt that we have surpassed the British Government in taxing our people. But up till now we have not been able to do

anything to show that we have surpassed the British in administrative efficiency and capacity.

Mr. Chairman: There are only five more minutes. Any hon. Member who can finish in five minutes may speak.

Shri Joachim Alva (Bombay): I will, Madam.

The hon. the Finance Minister may well pat himself on his back that the Tata Deferreds have risen from 1855 on the 28th February to 2092 yesterday. That is a very appreciable rise on which the dabblers in the market may feel comforted as also the protagonists of big business. But that does not reflect the real economic state of the country.

Big business may also pat itself on the back that there were some 700 corporations—I am giving the figures for 1948-49—which claim to pay about seventy-nine crores as taxes towards the finances of India. They also claim that they could run the civil administration of India by paying approximately 79 crores as taxes, which sum was claimed to be paid by 696 corporations in the financial year of 1948-49. Out of that about 146 are personal incomes and the rest 556 are corporate. 696 corporations are corporations which have incomes more than Rs. 5 lakhs per annum. Over 500 big corporations thus claim to pay about 79 crores in taxes according to the figures of 1948-49 and thereby claim they can run the civil administration of this country. If they make this claim in the sense that they pay the taxes, what about the other sectors of our population. It is no doubt a very happy situation over which the Finance Minister may pat himself on the back but what about the national wealth of the land and the average condition of its citizens?

Mr. Bevan in the U.K. has resigned on the ground that the spectacles and the dentures of the ordinary man are affected. He felt that these ordinary luxuries of the average citizens are affected by the rearmament programme and he thought it would affect the health, housing and food of the people. Here our health problems are left in a most unsatisfactory condition: our food problem is in a rotten state and our housing problem in a worse predicament. We have not sufficient clothing and big business may congratulate itself on the prospect that when there is another war, which is impending, they can work their industries for 24 or even 36 hours if it is possible under the sun. The condition of the masses and the burdens on the back of the poor will remain the same. We have big projects but they are

[Shri Joachim Alva]

pigeonholed or kept in the refrigerator. The big businessman thinks that he has the right to either co-operate or non-co-operate with the Government at his will and pleasure. This is the state of our general finances here and it is a heritage of the British *Raj* too!

One of the speakers said that we cannot expect the general public to subscribe to loans floated by Government if they find that the country's finances are not managed well by Government. On that I have a humble suggestion to make. At least two dozen of our I.C.S. men or those who run the administration may be sent for a course of business training in business houses either at home or 1 P.M. abroad. If they had training in general business for about eighteen months or two years they would come back with a fresh knowledge of business and will be able to solve the big problems they are faced with and perhaps do so with less expenditure and even less scandal.

The third and last point I want to urge is that we have no projects which can help our countryside. A great

problem, however, has been solved partially. The milk problem has been solved by the Government of Bombay who can justifiably claim it as a solid achievement. If we have more of such projects on a vast scale by which we will be able to supply milk to our people, by which we will be able to supply first things first to the masses. . .

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Does my friend know that 16 per cent. of the people of India do not know what milk is?

Shri Joachim Alva: I am coming to that point. We have no scheme by which we can utilise the vast spaces in our country for cattle-breeding. Every State and region may have places where cattle-breeding can be intensified and conducted on a scientific scale, where foreign experts can work, not the bogus experts but experts who know their job and who will attend to our urgent problem of increasing our cattle wealth so that we may have plenty of milk available for every child and adult in the country.

The House then adjourned till Half Past Eight of the Clock on Thursday, the 26th April, 1951.
