

Thursday
3rd February, 1949

**THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF
INDIA (LEGISLATIVE) DEBATES**
(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

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Thursday, 3rd February, 1949

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(a) ORAL ANSWERS

AGREEMENTS REACHED AT DELHI INTER-DOMINION CONFERENCE ^W

*85. **Shri R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state what was the result of the discussion held on 18 subjects at the Inter-Dominion Conference at Delhi early in December 1948?

(b) In how many matters was agreement reached and what was the sanction to implement them?

(c) Is there any provision in the agreement for any action to be taken in the event of failure to implement the decisions?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar (Minister for Railways and Transport): (a) A copy of the Inter-Dominion Agreement reached at Delhi in December, 1948 is placed on the table of the House. I do not know which particular items in the Agreement the honourable member has in mind.

(b) and (c). It will be seen that agreement was reached on most of the subjects discussed at the Delhi Conference. The Agreement was signed by the representatives of the two Governments after full discussion and it is expected that each Government will implement it in so far as it is concerned. There is no question of sanction, but there is a specific provision in Section II of the Agreement that all cases of breach or non-implementation of the Agreement or possible modifications arising out of the experience of the working of the Agreement should be discussed at monthly meetings to be held at the Dominion Minister level alternately in Delhi and Karachi.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: May I know whether there was any agreement amongst the many agreements reached that an assessee who desires to go to Pakistan for the purpose of paying Income-tax will not be arrested and that all facilities will be given to him to produce the books?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: I do not think that at the discussions we went into the question of getting assesseees who go to Pakistan an exemption from arrest. No such cases were put before us, and the particular thing was not discussed. I do not know whether the honourable member has any particular case in mind where arrests have taken place. If he would bring them to my notice I shall take them up with the Government of Pakistan.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: On the 31st December, the Government of India issued a Press Note and I was referring to that. I shall certainly bring the particular cases to the notice of the Honourable Minister. After the Karachi Conference,

† Printed as Appendix to the day's Debate.

that is on the 15th January the Pakistan Government issued a Press Note stating that no person will be allowed to leave Pakistan unless he produces an exemption or a clearance certificate of Income-tax. If that is so, is it not in violation of the Agreement arrived at?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: I do not think it is an actual violation, but we are in correspondence with the Government of Pakistan on this subject.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: What is the result, may I know?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: The result has not yet been reached.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: Since the conclusion of this Conference, have Government got any information in their possession as to whether Hindus who want to go to Pakistan enjoy the same sense of security which Muslims enjoy in the Indian Union when they come from Pakistan?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: That is a matter of subjective feeling on the part of Hindus who want to go to Pakistan.

Shri B. L. Sondhi: What is the feeling of the Ministry?

Mr. Speaker: That question need not be answered.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi: May I know what procedure has been agreed upon in respect of exchange of property of the refugees on either side? I particularly want to know whether it has been left to the owners of the property on either side to go and effect the exchange or the State will have a hand in exchanging the properties and taking over the liability on themselves.

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: That was a matter which at the Delhi Conference was postponed for consideration. It was discussed at the Conference which was held at Karachi during January. So far as properties are concerned, there was an agreement reached as regards urban properties. What has been agreed to for the time being is that private sales and exchanges of urban immovable property will be allowed.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know if all outstanding problems between the two Dominions have been solved and agreed upon or whether there are still some more questions to be decided upon?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: There are a large number of problems still to be solved.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know if the Honourable Minister will appoint, or is considering the desirability of appointing, a Standing Committee of this House to consider how far the various items agreed upon are being implemented, inasmuch as there are a number of questions and objections are taken from time to time?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: We have not yet felt the need of the assistance of a Standing Committee of the House in this matter. All problems that come up are examined by Government. They have to enter into negotiations with a foreign Government for the purpose of settling these questions. Whatever advice is available from people outside the Government is also taken before Government determine their attitude.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: As in the matter of Indo-British talks relating to Sterling Balances members of this House in a Committee were associated will the Honourable Minister find it convenient to associate a Committee of the House in the future talks relating to outstanding problems hereafter at least?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: The problems relate to a number of Ministries. For instance, the evacuee property question is dealt with primarily in the Relief and Rehabilitation Ministry. I believe it has got

a Committee of the House which it consults on important questions that it has to deal with. So in regard to other Ministries, the Finance Ministry has got a number of questions, the Commerce Ministry has got other questions, and so on. And if any problems that arise for solution between the two Governments relate to those Ministries and they feel the need for consulting their Standing Committees, I believe they are at liberty to do so before they advise the External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations Ministry as to what attitude Government should take.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Am I to understand from the reply of the Honourable Minister that hitherto all these matters which formed the subject matter of discussion between the two Dominions were referred to any of the Standing Committees till now?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: I am afraid the question must be addressed to the Ministers concerned.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: May I know whether the Ordinance that was published yesterday in regard to abducted persons, has emanated from the results of this Inter-Dominion Conference, and if so, whether Government will consider the advisability of taking an early opportunity of introducing a Bill to regularise that matter instead of pursuing this policy of issuing Ordinances while the House is in session?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: The Ordinance was the result of negotiations between the two Dominions—not necessarily at the Conference which is the subject of the present question—and it is after agreement with the Pakistan Government that the terms of this Ordinance were settled. In a sense it is merely regularisation of the procedure that has been in force since the recovery of abducted women was undertaken by either Government. So far as matters provided for by the Ordinance are concerned, they are matters which will be in force only for a short time. It was necessary that this Ordinance should issue at once because we wanted to legalise the procedure that was in force and that was not exactly regular according to the existing law.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: The second part of my question has not been answered—whether Government will take an early opportunity of introducing a Bill in this House in order to avoid the unpleasant practice of issuing Ordinances while the House is in session.

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: The Ordinance will last only for a few months more, and will then expend itself. I do not think it is necessary that a Bill should be introduced unless the honourable member thinks that there are provisions in the Ordinance which should be the subject matter of debate in this House, in which case I am quite willing to bring that Ordinance up before this House.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: My honourable friend does not understand the spirit of my question.

Mr. Speaker: It is no use pursuing the question any further now.

Shri Jaspal Roy Kapoor: May I know where the deeds of exchange or sale will be registered, whether in the place where the property is situated or where the vendor is residing?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: Naturally the registration must be at the place where the property is situated.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi: May I know if this Agreement has had any effect on the emigration of refugees from Eastern Pakistan?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: I think it has had effect. The flow of non-Muslims from East Bengal into West Bengal has been stemmed. There is some evidence to believe that people who had come over from East Bengal into West Bengal are going back to their homes.

Pandit Hriday Nath Kunra: Has the Honourable Minister's attention been drawn to statements published in the Press that if only private exchanges of property and sales are to be allowed there will be hardly any buyers for the properties of the Hindus in West Punjab?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: I have seen accounts of such feeling prevailing amongst refugees who have come over from Pakistan to India.

Sardar Bhopinder Singh Mar: Do the Government propose to reach some sort of agreement as regards agricultural land as has already been reached, for example, in regard to urban property?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: We do hope to reach agreement, but the matter for the time being has been postponed for consideration at a future Conference.

Srijut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: May I know if it was agreed at this Conference that aeroplanes flying from West Bengal or any other part of India would be allowed to fly quite freely over Eastern Pakistan to Assam?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar: I do not think we discussed aeroplanes at this Conference.

PLEBISCITE IN FRENCH INDIA TERRITORIES AND MERGER WITH INDIA

*86. **Shri R. K. Sidhya:** (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state what is the latest position of the authorities in French India regarding the taking of a plebiscite?

(b) Is it a fact that in Mahe the French Administration harass the people on flimsy grounds?

(c) Has there been any talks between the Government of India and the French authorities in India regarding the referendum and future elections?

(d) Is it a fact that the people of French India have decided that the French Indian territories should merge in the adjoining provinces?

(e) Is it a fact that during the recent Municipal elections, two cruisers were summoned at the French ports? If so, are they still there?

(f) Has a deputation from Chandernagore seen representatives of the Government of India with the object of merging Chandernagore in the Indian Union?

Dr. B. V. Keskar (Deputy Minister for External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations): (a) The Governments of France and India had discussions last year regarding the future of the French Settlements in India. Following this the French Government issued a declaration on June 8, 1948, according to which fresh municipal elections were to be held in the Settlements and following this arrangements were to be made in consultation with the newly elected municipal assemblies for the holding of a referendum to ascertain the wishes of the people. Municipal elections have been held in four out of the five Settlements, and are expected to be held shortly in the fifth Settlement, Mahe.

(b) The Government of India have seen reports to this effect.

(c) There have been no recent conversations between the two Governments on these subjects.

(d) A considerable number of the people in the French Settlements are reported to be in favour of merger with the Indian Union.

(e) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The Government of India are informed that the French cruisers are not in French Indian ports now.

(f) Two members of the Municipal Assembly in Chandernagore have met officers of the External Affairs Ministry and talked informally about their ideas for the future. It has been clearly understood that the Government of India can deal with the matter officially only through the French Government.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: May I know from the Honourable the Deputy Minister whether it is a fact that on January 14th, the French Foreign Minister said in a public statement that he had a discussion with the Honourable the Prime Minister of India in India and that the result of that discussion was satisfactory? May I know what were those discussions?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I shall answer. I am sorry I have not seen that particular statement to which the honourable member refers. I cannot therefore reply to it in detail. It is a fact that I met the French Foreign Minister in Paris in the month of October and we had a general discussion. At that time, elections had not been held in any of these French Possessions in India, and the main discussion was that elections should be held under proper auspices and with observers. I pleaded for observers, that is, observers approved of by us. That was the main discussion and generally we talked about other matters, but in regard to this particular matter we only discussed the elections and the presence of observers. The French Foreign Minister thereupon said that as far as he could see there would be no objections to observers but he would like to consult his Cabinet. Later we were informed that there were difficulties, etc. In other words, they did not agree to our observers being present.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: May I know whether the Joint Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs recently visited Chandernagore on January 15th, in this connection, and what was the result?

Dr. B. V. Keskar: No Joint Secretary or official of the Ministry of External Affairs visited Chandernagore. I think the honourable member must have mistaken it for the visit of a Secretary of the Ministry to Pondicherry and not to Chandernagore.

Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru: Is the result of the elections held in the French possessions in India to be regarded as final or may we expect that the French Government will take fresh steps to see that the elections are held in such a way as to give satisfaction to all the parties concerned, including India?

Dr. B. V. Keskar: The elections that have been held are municipal elections and the conversations that we have had with the French Government have shown that these elections by themselves are not to be considered as deciding the matter one way or the other. The question of a referendum, if necessary to be held after this, is a matter for further negotiation.

Shri H. V. Kamath: With regard to observers, is it the position that they were not to be allowed only at the municipal elections or would not they be allowed even at the plebiscite or referendum?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: So far as we are concerned, we have made it clear on every occasion that if there is a referendum there should be observers but there has been no categorical denial. In fact, it has been generally understood. I believe, that there should be such observers but there has been no clear statement to that effect.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Was this the subject of the negotiations or talks with the French Foreign Minister in Paris?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. The question did not arise.

Shri H. V. Kamath: May I draw the attention of the Honourable the Prime

Minister to the statement that he made on the floor of the House on the 80th of August, 1948 to the effect that—

“At the referendum itself we propose to appoint observers on behalf of the Government of India. We have told the French Ambassador that the referendum should be conducted under the observation of the Indian and French Governments and that these observers should be entitled to employ as many persons and station them in as many places as they might consider necessary for effectively observing the referendum. The French Government have replied that the question of this control of the referendum is under examination and will be the subject of a further communication.”

Has the Government received any further communication on the subject?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Not on that particular subject. Our position remains exactly the same as I stated then.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is this communication being awaited?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. But may I draw the attention of the House to the fact that the whole position has changed and altered because of various developments since then and the whole question of referendum itself is a matter to be considered afresh. We are not avoiding a referendum at all, but we feel that it is time that the Governments of India and France considered the whole question afresh as to how to proceed in this matter.

Shri Malavir Tyagi: Are the Government still in negotiation with regard to the referendum, as it is?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have just answered that question.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: I was not able to follow the answer given by the Honourable the Deputy Minister in reply to the question which I put whether the Secretary went to Pondicherry. I shall be glad if you could kindly ask him to repeat it.

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: One of the officials of the External Affairs Ministry took leave to go to his home and on his way back, he visited Pondicherry, quite unofficially. We had not asked him to do so, and as he was there, naturally he met some people in Pondicherry and had discussions as to the position there. He came back and reported the result of his talks. It was not an official visit or official conversation.

RECOMMENDATION OF MARINE COURT ENQUIRY

*87. **Shri R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Marine Court Enquiry set up by Government to examine the causes of the disaster of *R.S. Ramdas* near the Bombay Harbour has recommended certain precautions for the safety of passengers to be carried out by every ship plying in inland waters?

(b) Have all the recommendations been carried out by the Steamship companies and if not, what steps do Government intend to take to enforce those recommendations?

(c) Has the court recommended the definition of the term “inland water”?

(d) If so, do Government contemplate amending the law relating to ships plying in Bombay harbour?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: (a) Yes.

(b) The two principal recommendations have been accepted by Government and implemented:

(i) Passenger Steamers plying within the inland water limits of the Bombay Harbour to Rewas were previously required to comply only with the requirements of the Inland Steam Vessels Act, 1917. The Government of India have now arranged that certificates granted to these ships under that Act by the Government of Bombay are withdrawn, so as to require the ships to comply with the provisions of Indian Merchant Shipping Act, 1928, as in the case of sea-going ships thereby increasing the margin of safety.

(ii) The Government of India have also withdrawn the exemption which they had previously granted to passenger steamers plying on the West Coast of India in regard to wireless telegraphy requirements; these ships are now required to be fitted with wireless telegraphy installation though the ship owners have been given some time to comply fully with these requirements. It is expected that all passenger steamers plying on the West Coast will be fitted with wireless telegraphy before the next monsoon.

(c) and (d). The Court has recommended the re-definition of "inland water" limits in the Bombay Harbour. The recommendation is under consideration but as will be seen from the reply to part (b) of the question, practical effect has been given to the Court's recommendation in cooperation with the Government of Bombay by requiring passenger-steamers plying within the Bombay Harbour to Rewas to comply with the requirements of the Indian Merchant Shipping Act.

Shri B. K. Sidhva: Was there one of the recommendations that loud-speakers should be fitted on all the ships, so that a communication may be made by the Masters and officers to the passengers? Has that been complied with?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: This is one of the minor recommendations which is still under examination.

Shri B. K. Sidhva: Is it not a fact that the passengers did not get any information from the Masters and for that reason this accident occurred for want of any information and will Government consider the desirability of fitting these loud-speakers, which are an urgent necessity? This does not entail a heavy expenditure and will Government kindly take immediate steps to see that the loud-speakers are fitted?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: I can only say that the technical officers who have gone into this matter are of the view that this will be impracticable for every ship plying on inland waters. The question whether the equipment should be prescribed for ships, both sea-going and inland, which carry a large number of passengers is, however, under examination.

Shri B. K. Sidhva: One of the recommendations was that radio telephones should be fixed in the Bombay Harbour and may I know whether they have been fixed in the Poynah Harbour?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: Yes: As a matter of fact, the point that my honourable friend has raised would be fully covered as soon as the provisions of the Indian Merchant Shipping Act, 1923, have been substituted for the operation of the Inland Steam Vessels Act in this particular area.

Shri B. K. Sidhva: May I ask when that will be done?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: That has already been ordered.

REHABILITATION OF REFUGEES IN CAMPS

*88. **Shri B. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state the total number of refugees in various camps under the control of the Government of India and Provincial Governments?

(b) What is the contribution made by the Government of India to the Provincial Governments for running the Refugee Camps?

(c) How many refugees living in such camps have been rehabilitated?

(d) How many houses have been built by the Government of India for them and how many families have been provided with houses?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lai Saksena: (a) 8,00,000 roughly.

(b) The Government of India will bear the entire expenditure on relief according to prescribed scales incurred by the Provincial Governments after deducting the contributions by the Provincial Governments, if any, and the amounts received by the latter from public donations, Charities, etc.

(c) It is difficult to indicate the exact number of refugees permanently rehabilitated through Governmental effort. It is, however, estimated that about 19½ lakhs of rural refugees and 10-18 lakhs of urban refugees have so far been rehabilitated.

(d) About 3,000 have already been built and about 400 houses are under construction. This would provide accommodation for about 20,000 refugees.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: May I know, Sir, how many refugees are still provided free ration?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: About 8,00,000.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: Have Government considered the question of supplying free ration as an alternative to give them some work or continue this ration indefinitely?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: The Government have considered this question and have decided to stop free ration and convert the camps into work centres as early as possible.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: May I know from the Honourable Minister what is the total number of women refugees in the various camps, with particular reference to the Madras Camp and how many of them are rehabilitated?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I will require notice of this question.

श्री गोकुल भाई दौलतराम भट्ट : क्या रियासतों में या रियासती प्रान्तों में पुरुषार्थियों के लिये शिविर खोले जायेंगे ।

Shri Gokulbhai Daulatram Bhatt: Will any Refugee Camps be opened in the States or the State Unions?

अनरेबिल श्री मोहन लाल सक्सेना : रियासतों में तो पुरुषार्थियों के लिये शिविर खोले हुए हैं ।

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Refugee camps have already been opened in the States.

श्री गोकुल भाई दौलतराम भट्ट : कहाँ कहाँ हैं ?

Shri Gokulbhai Daulatram Bhatt: At what places?

अनरेबिल श्री मोहन लाल सक्सेना : अगर आप इसकी पूरी information चाहते हैं तो इसके लिये आप नोटिस दें । फिलहाल मैं आपको बतला सकता हूँ कि जयपुर, जोधपुर व दूसरी जगहों पर हैं ।

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: If you want to have full information on this point, I must have notice of this question. For the present I can tell you that the camps exist at Jaipur, Jodhpur and other places.

Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay: May I know whether the Government of India have got a plan about rehabilitating the refugees who have come from East Bengal?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: There is a question later on and I will answer it then.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: May I ask if the 30 lakhs of refugees referred to by the Honourable Minister in his answer to part (c) of the question being settled in the East Punjab, by the Government of East Punjab or anywhere else by the Government of India?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: No. The number does not relate only to East Punjab but to the whole of India. The Government of India is directly concerned only with the Centrally Administered Areas of Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara. Then there are other Provincial Governments, like Bombay, U.P., C.P., who are also engaged in rehabilitating the refugees.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to give us a rough idea of the number of persons, out of these 30 lakhs rehabilitated owing to the efforts made by the Government of India?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: No, it is not easy for me to give the exact number, but I shall lay a statement before the House later on, which will give the approximate number of persons rehabilitated through Governmental efforts.

گوانی گورمکہ سنگہ مسامر : کیا یہ تھوک ہے کہ ایسٹ پنجاب میں جو ریفوجیز کے لئے نئے مکان بنے ہیں ان میں سے بہت سے ایسی تک خالی پڑے ہیں۔

Giani Gurnukh Singh Muasfir: Is it a fact that many of the houses built for the refugees in the East Punjab are still lying vacant?

मानरेबल श्री मोहन लाल सक्सेना : जहां तक भेरी इतला है ईस्ट पंजाब में तो अब मकान शाली नहीं हैं।

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: So far as I have been informed, no houses are lying vacant in the East Punjab.

Mr. Homi Mody: In view of the impossibility of finding employment or land to settle on for any but a fraction of the refugee population in this country, do Government propose approaching the Dominion of Pakistan with a view to considering whether it is possible to repatriate at least a few hundred thousand of all those people who have migrated from one Dominion to the other?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No.

Shri Arun Chandra Guha: Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state what is the contribution made by the Government of India to the West Bengal Government for running the refugee camps?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: The supplementary does not arise from this question. I have got another question later on and I will be giving such information as I have got.

Shri H. V. Kamath: May I know, Sir, if the refugees from Kashmir and Hyderabad are returning to home?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: We have asked the Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir as to what is to be done with the refugees who have come over to India from that State. Perhaps, they will be taken back.

Shri H. V. Kamath: What about Hyderabad, Sir?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: They have returned already.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know, Sir.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am calling the next question.

SCHEME FOR HOUSING FOR SIND REFUGEES AT UDAIPUR

*89. **Shri R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state how far the scheme for constructing houses for Sind refugees at Udaipur, for which Government of India have granted a loan of Rs. 64 lakhs has progressed?

(b) What is the total number of houses to be built under this scheme and how many have been actually built and how many have been occupied?

(c) Have any similar schemes been presented to Government for grant of loans? If so, what are they and what stage have they reached?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: (a) and (b). The information is being collected from Rajasthan Union Government and will be laid on the table of the House, when received. The loan of Rs. 64 lakhs was subsequently reduced to Rs. 25 lakhs.

(c) Yes. A similar scheme has been received from M/s. Sindhu Resettlement Corporation Ltd., Bombay, which envisages, in the first instance, the construction of 1,000 houses for refugees near Kandla Port in Cutch State. This scheme has been approved by the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation and is now under consideration with the Ministry of States.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: Sir, part (b) of the question, how many houses have been built and how many are to be built, has not been answered?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Information, so far received indicates that 300 houses have been built.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: Have they all been occupied?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I cannot say exactly.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: Is it not a fact, Sir, that some of the Houses are vacant?

Mr. Speaker: He cannot say that exactly. Next question.

REHABILITATION OF REFUGEES FROM PAKISTAN

*90. **Shri Biswanath Das:** Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the number of refugees who have come from Western Pakistan to India as also from Eastern Pakistan to India—each to be given separately up till now from 15th August, 1947;

(b) How many of these have been rehabilitated so far;

(c) whether negotiations have been undertaken with the Government of Pakistan for purchase of their movable and immovable properties by the Government of Pakistan; and

(d) the total number of non-Muslims who have migrated to India from each of the provinces of Pakistan, to be given separately *viz.*, Sind, Baluchistan, West Punjab, North West Frontier Province and East Bengal and also from the States of Pakistan?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: (a) The number of refugees who have migrated from West Pakistan is estimated at 55 lakhs. The number of refugees from East Pakistan is, however, not accurately known; but it may be roughly put at about eighteen lakhs.

(b) The honourable member is referred to the reply given by me to part (a) of Starred Question No. 88, by Shri R. K. Sidhva.

(c) For practical difficulties no such suggestion was ever made, in regard to movable property. As regards urban immovable property, India made a proposal to pool for purposes of exchange at Governmental level all properties

up to a certain value to be agreed upon between the two Dominions, to which Pakistan did not agree. In regard to agricultural property being exchanged at governmental level, no agreement has so far been reached.

(d) Sind about 12·00 lakhs, Baluchistan about 0·1 lakh, West Punjab and N. W. F. P. about 41·00 lakhs, East Bengal about 18 lakhs, Bahawalpur about 2·33 lakhs.

Shri Biswanath Das: May I request the Honourable Minister to repeat the reply that he gave to part (a)?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: The number of refugees who have migrated from West Pakistan is estimated at 55 lakhs. The number of refugees from East Pakistan is, however, not accurately known; but it may be roughly put at about eighteen lakhs.

Shri Biswanath Das: In view of the fact that necessary land is not available to rehabilitate all these refugees in India, have the Government placed the suggestions of the Honourable the Deputy Prime Minister in this regard in the Inter-Dominion Conference that they had at Lahore?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: No.

Shri Biswanath Das: May I know why this important suggestion was not placed before the Government of Pakistan?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know to what proposals the honourable member refers. There have been and there are no such proposals. Certain suggestions were made in the sense that if certain developments continue, difficulties will arise. There are no proposals, and possibly what he thinks are proposals, have not been put forward by the Government or considered by them, nor do they consider them feasible.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Arising out of the answer to part (a), has the Minister's attention been drawn to a statement by the Premier of West Bengal to the effect that not eighteen lakhs, but 102 lakhs of people have migrated from Eastern Pakistan to West Bengal?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: It has already been contradicted. I have got a full copy of the statement issued by the Premier of West Bengal. Therein, he has said that the number of persons affected was 1·25 crores. This includes also those persons who had not come from the other side.

Shri H. V. Kamath: May I know, Sir, what are the reasons for the recent large scale exodus from Eastern Pakistan when the long and weary trek from Western Pakistan had already ceased?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: The exodus has already stopped.

Shrimati Renka Ray: Has the Honourable Minister included the number of refugees from Eastern Pakistan who have gone to other places besides West Bengal? Would the Honourable Minister inform the House the source of information on which he has compiled the figure, eighteen lakhs?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: This figure also includes the number of those refugees who have gone to Assam and other parts of India. My source of information is the report which I received from the West Bengal Government which gives figures district-wise and the total comes to 15,60,851.

Shri Mihir Lal Chatteropadhyay: Is it not a fact, Sir, that not even the artisan class of people coming from Eastern Pakistan to West Bengal have been rehabilitated?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: May be so.

Shri Arun Chandra Guha: Would the Honourable Minister be pleased to state if any person from Eastern Pakistan has been rehabilitated in West Bengal or in Assam, and if these provinces have undertaken any schemes for rehabilitation?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: There is a separate question later on and I will answer that question.

Shri Biswanath Das: In view of the fact that the Prime Minister of East Bengal has stated that about two lakhs of people have gone away from Eastern Pakistan to West Bengal, and in view of the fact that the Prime Minister of West Bengal has stated that about 1.02 crores of people have come away, and in view of the statement just now made by the Honourable Minister that eighteen lakhs of people have come away, have the Government considered the need of undertaking a census so as to give the actual information in this regard?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: In view of the length of the question, I do not find myself in a position to answer it.

Shri Biswanath Das: I will shorten it, Sir.

Shri B. P. Jhunjhunwala: In view of the fact that our Government do not want to negotiate with the Pakistan Government to repatriate the refugees who have come to India or to give us more area to rehabilitate them and in view of the fact that there is no sufficient land available in India to rehabilitate the influx of population from Pakistan, is there any scheme before the Government of India as to how they are going to rehabilitate the refugees?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: May I, Sir, answer this question? There are so many premises in certain of these questions in the shape of 'in view of this' and 'in view of that' that it is rather confusing as to what the honourable member is driving at.

So far as the position in Eastern Pakistan is concerned, it is the Government's policy, as I believe has been stated by the Honourable Minister, that we should encourage people who have come from Eastern Pakistan to go back to Eastern Pakistan. We cannot force them; we do not wish to force them; but we should encourage them to go back. We have been assured by the Eastern Pakistan Government that they will welcome them when they go back. How far conditions are improving, it is difficult to judge; I believe they have somewhat improved. As has been stated, some people have gone back; some more may go back.

So far as Western Pakistan is concerned, very large migration had taken place, and probably a larger number went to Western Pakistan from India than those who came from the other side. The question can only be considered in terms of another exchange of population, and this does not appear feasible. It cannot be in terms of a large number of people coming only to India from Western Pakistan as was the case some months ago. While the Government of India welcome people coming here, the position here is rather difficult and there is no room. Millions and millions have been uprooted on either side. Both Governments have to tackle their problems. It is not as though there was empty land available. It must be recognised that so far as Western Pakistan and India are concerned, any large scale movement of population is unlikely.

PARTITION OF ASSETS OF PUNJAB LIBRARIES

***Shri. Giani Gurmukh Singh Mhasfir:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether, at the various Inter-Dominion Conferences between India and Pakistan, the question of partition of Library books and assets of the Punjab Library, University Library and Press Branch Library was discussed; if so, with what results, and if not why not?

Dr. B. V. Keekar (Deputy Minister for External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations): The question should have been addressed to the Honourable the Education Minister. It has been accordingly transferred to the list of questions for the 9th February, 1949, when the Honourable Minister of Education will answer it.

REFUGEES FROM EAST BENGAL

***92. Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state the total number of refugees who have come from East Bengal?

(b) What arrangements have been made for their reception and subsequent accommodation?

(c) What are the plans for their rehabilitation?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: (a) Approximately eighteen lakhs.

(b) Relief Camps have been started for the reception and dispersal of emigrants from East Bengal. Military Camps have been taken over and other buildings have been requisitioned for housing them.

(c) The exodus from East Bengal has practically stopped and it is hoped that a considerable number of the emigrants from Eastern Pakistan will return to their original homes. It has, therefore, been the policy of the Government to encourage and facilitate such return. It is recognised, however, that many of the immigrants are not likely to return and have to be rehabilitated elsewhere. Some schemes for rehabilitation have already begun functioning and others are in course of preparation. Vocational training is being imparted and the West Bengal Government have a number of schemes for settlement on land and creation of townships. Educational loans have been advanced to students and business loans to some of the immigrants.

Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man: Has any agricultural land been allotted to these refugees or any shops been directed to those who have chosen to stay there?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I am not in a position to give exact information but the schemes of West Bengal Government include direction of allotment of shops as well as houses.

Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man: Are these just schemes or any of these houses being actually allotted?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I am not in a position to answer this; but schemes have been put forward and a 'ways and means' advance has been given for implementing them.

Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man: Are the Government aware that there is widespread discontent among refugees as to the uncertainty of their future?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Yes, I am.

Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay: May I know whether the Minister is aware that nothing has been done to rehabilitate those people?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I am also aware of it. The difficulty of West Bengal Government was as stated by the Premier himself in his last statement which has been reported in the papers that upto now the primary concern of the West Bengal Government and the Government of India was to stop this exodus and to create conditions in Eastern Bengal so that people may not continue to come to this place and others may be encouraged to go back. Now that exodus has stopped considerably, they are just working on the rehabilitation plan. I know that loans have been advanced to students and businessmen.

Shri Arun Chandra Gaha: Is the Government aware that there is a high percentage of mortality, particularly of infantile mortality in refugee camps in West Bengal.

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I have not received any reports.

Pandit Hriday Nath Kunru: What is the number of persons who have gone back to Eastern Bengal?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: It is very difficult to give the number but those persons who have availed of Government facilities number about 5,000.

Srijut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: May I know whether the refugees from Eastern Bengal will be all located in West Bengal or will be distributed between Assam, Cooch-Bihar and Tripura State?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: The proposal is to send them to Assam. 2½ lakhs have already come to Assam and 25,000 to Cooch-Bihar and 50,000 to Bihar.

Shri Arun Chandra Guha: Have these provincial Governments taken any schemes for rehabilitating them?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I suppose they must have taken. I was in Bengal myself and I have seen one of the camps at Ranaghat where they have settled the artisans, and there has been no complaint. There are 800 persons there who were engaged profitably and Government were not incurring any considerable expenditure on them.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIAN AND WESTERN GERMANY

*93. **Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India have entered into an agreement with Western Germany and if so, who is the second contracting party?

(b) What are the terms of that agreement and what is its duration?

(c) What are the advantages the Government of India expect to derive from such an agreement?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: (a) I presume that the honourable member is referring to the commercial agreement arrived at as a result of the negotiations between the Indian Trade Delegation to Germany and the Trade Delegation of the US/UK Military Governments in Germany. The second Contracting Party to the Agreement is the Joint Export-Import Agency set up by the US/UK Military Governments.

(b) The terms of the Agreement provide for the issue by both countries of export and import licences for the commodities which each country has agreed to supply to or receive from, the other. The trade will flow, as far as possible, through normal trade channels. The duration of the Agreement is one year from the 1st July, 1948.

(c) India hopes to obtain chemicals and related products, Glassware, Machinery and metal products, Electrical equipment, Instruments and Apparatus and steel. Out of the total estimated value of imports from Germany, i.e., 20 million dollars, the items of machinery, electrical equipment, Instruments and apparatus will cover over thirteen million dollars.

Shri M. Trumala Rao: What is the status of this Indian Trade Delegation? Is it Government or is it a Delegation of Indian Traders and Merchants sponsored by the Government of India?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: It was a Government sponsored delegation. The leader was an official of the Government and the rest of the Delegation were non-officials, each versed in his own line of business or industry, and the non-official members paid their own expenses.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: Who will implement the agreement arrived at, whether the Government of India or the private businessmen of India?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: As I have already indicated, the agreement would be carried out through the private channels of trade. The two parties to the agreement have only come to this agreement, *vis.*, that each country would give the necessary export import licenses for the purpose of the exchange of commodities included in this agreement.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: Are the members of this delegation free to enter into private agreement with the businessmen in Germany with regard to their particular lines of business on their own account?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: Yes, if they obtain import licenses. For instance, if the Indian merchants get import licenses from the Government of India they will be at liberty to negotiate with the other side.

Shri B. Das: What is the currency with which the trade is carried on? Is it dollar or sterling? And what are the quotas, the value of which has been fixed, that have been secured by India so far, because eight months have passed since the Agreement?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: I have already stated that payment will be made in dollars. As far as the other part of the question is concerned, I am not in a position just now to give an idea of the volume of trade that is expected to flow both ways.

Shri B. Das: Does that mean that the United Kingdom had no influence and sterling is not recognised in West Germany?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: I should not like to enter into this disquisition, but the fact remains that this particular area in Germany is a hard currency area.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Was the third occupying Power in Germany, namely, France, approached before or during the talks?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: I do not think so. The authorities that really mattered were approached. I mean the authorities that were in a position to enter into this agreement with us.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Did this Trade Delegation contact the Soviet Military Government at any time?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: I do not think so.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: Have Government any information whether the British Government would make use of the dollar accumulation earned by British occupied German Zone?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: I am not in a position to make any statement on that point.

Mr. Homi Mody: Under the arrangement as contemplated, what is the position as regards the balance of trade?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: I have got here the list of various commodities which formed the subject matter of this agreement. But I do not find in this list any quantitative estimates, commodity by commodity. As I have already stated, the articles that are expected to be imported, would amount to twenty million dollars.

Mr. Homi Mody: And the exports?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: I am afraid, I am not just now in a position to give a straight answer to that.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In view of the uncertainty of the balance of trade position, is the Honourable Minister's department trying to link up the grant of import license with the export license granted for export to Germany?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: As far as possible that will be done. But I am assured that the items which we are expecting from this part of Germany under this agreement are essential to our own requirements.

Shri L. Krishnaswami Bharathi: What are the items?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: I have already given an idea. It is quite a long list—mostly machinery and electrical equipment, chemicals and things like that which we need in this country for our own purposes and they are very much in short supply; and in any case, perhaps, they would have to be obtained from the dollar areas.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Are Government taking care to see that those items which they themselves need for their own managed industries are purchased directly without the variations of these middle-men?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: Government are not purchasing, as I have already pointed out.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Is the document covering this arrangement a public document?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: As a matter of fact, the whole report of the Indian Trade Delegation, which includes all the details in which my honourable friends are interested, was published in the Indian Trade Journal on the 25th November, last.

Dr. Mono Mohan Das: Are medicines included in the list?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: Chemicals are included of course. Some of them have medicinal value.

DISCUSSIONS RE FUTURE OF FRENCH INDIAN TERRITORIES

*94. **Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a French India delegation arrived in New Delhi sometime in December, 1948 and that a tripartite discussion took place in respect of the future of French Possessions in India and if so, with what results?

Dr. B. V. Keskar (Deputy Minister for External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations): No French India Delegation came to New Delhi in December, 1948 and no tripartite discussions on the future of the French Possessions in India have been held.

TRADE ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

*95. **Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state the quantity of cotton imported from Pakistan during the period from 1st April, 1948 to 31st January, 1949 and the total quantity of cloth exported to Pakistan during this period?

(b) Are there any arrangements between the Governments of India and Pakistan for import of foodgrains and jute from Pakistan and for export of sugar to Pakistan?

(c) What quantities of various kinds of foodgrains and jute were imported from Pakistan to India during the said period and what was the quantity of sugar exported?

(d) Have the Government of India taken any steps to enter into a long term treaty with Pakistan?

(e) If so, at what stage are the negotiations and are there any expectations of the same materialising and if so, when?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: (a) and (c). I lay on the table of the House a statement giving the requisite information.

(b) Yes, arrangements exist for the import of foodgrains and jute but not for the export of sugar.

(d) and (e). The question of entering into a comprehensive trade Agreement with Pakistan including customs union with that territory, was discussed in Calcutta in April, 1948 soon after the termination of the Standstill Arrangement on the 29th February, 1948. The matter was further discussed at the Inter-Dominion Conference in December, 1948 and it was agreed that "Each Dominion should separately examine the feasibility and practicability of a customs union suitable to the peculiar conditions of India and Pakistan as the study might be of use at a later date when the question might be taken up in earnest by both the Dominions". The matter also arose in connection with the grant of rebates of excise duty on excisable articles, like tea, tobacco, etc., exported to Pakistan and the Government of India offered to deal with this problem as part of a comprehensive arrangement on trade and fiscal matters. As the Pakistan Delegation considered that the question of rebate should be treated as a separate issue and not as dependent on the comprehensive arrangement, no further progress could be made.

Statement showing imports of raw cotton, foodgrains and raw jute, from Pakistan and exports of cotton cloth and sugar to that Dominion since the 1st April, 1948

(a) Figures are available up to the 25th January, 1949.

Imports of cotton from Pakistan	... 2,34,437 bales.
Export of cloth to Pakistan	... 76,395 bales.

(b) Figures are available up to the end of December, 1948.

Imports—

Foodgrains	... 20,500 tons of rice and
	2,580 tons of seed wheat.
Raw jute	... 30,24,250 bales.

Exports—

Sugar	20,000 tons were exported since February, 1948.
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Prof. N. G. Ranga: Are Government taking any special steps to push up the exports of hand-woven cloth to Pakistan?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: I am afraid that is a question to which an answer could be given by my honourable colleague, the Minister for Industry and Supply. I am aware of the demand that has been put forward for the liberalization of the export policy of Government in this behalf, and I think an interim decision has been taken.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is not it a fact that as a result of this interim decision, running over three to six months, a considerable amount of uncertainty is caused in the handloom weaving industry, and hardship is being experienced as a result?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: The position is that we are expected to supply Pakistan with a fixed quantity of textiles as a whole, and as against that we are expected to be supplied with raw cotton in a particular quantity. It is up to Pakistan to indicate to what extent this export of textiles might be covered by the handloom stuff. As far as I am aware, Pakistan has not perhaps indicated that a portion of the textiles supplied should be covered by the handloom products. But even then having regard to the large accumulation of handloom stuff in the country, we have been considering the possibility of allowing the export of the handloom stuff irrespective of Pakistan agreeing to debiting this quantity against the overall limit fixed.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The decision has been taken that we allow for the time being free export of handloom cloth to all countries

other than Pakistan and watch and see how much is exported. So far as Pakistan is concerned, we have decided to allow fifty million yards of handloom cloth to be exported for the time being. That we expect will be debited to the total cloth earmarked for Pakistan.

Shri L. Krishnaswami Bharathi: When was the decision taken?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: It was taken about three days ago. I may explain that there being an overall shortage of cloth in the country, Government is reluctant to allow free export of handloom cloth outside India, but we have been repeatedly told that there are lots of handloom cloth in the country which are unwanted here. We have been asking the handloom industry that they should produce more handloom cloth usable in India so that we may not be forced to face a position in which India will be in short supply of handloom cloth and at the same time will be exporting cloth outside.

Mr. Speaker: The question hour is over.

(b) WRITTEN ANSWER

REPORT OF COMMITTEES ON INDO-PAKISTAN DISPUTE

*96. **Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava:** (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that to solve the various problems causing friction between the Dominions of India and Pakistan, seven Committees were set up to examine the various issues and submit their reports to the Inter-Dominion Conference in December 1948 and if so, what were the Committees set up and what were their terms of reference?

(b) How many of the above Committees had their meetings since, and which of them have submitted their interim or final reports?

(c) What are the main recommendations of such of the Committees as have submitted their reports, and what actions have been taken by the Governments of the two Dominions to implement them?

The Honourable Shri N. Gopalswami Ayyangar (Minister for Railways and Transport): (a) and (b). A statement showing the Committees set up by the Inter-Dominion Conference which met in Delhi in December, 1948 and their terms of reference is placed on the table of the House. These Committees were to submit their reports to the main Conference, and there was no question of their meeting subsequently.

(c) Subject to some slight modifications the reports of the Committees were incorporated, as annexure, in the Inter-Dominion Agreement reached at Delhi. A copy of the Agreement has been placed on the table of the House, today in reply to Mr. R. K. Sidhwa's question No. 85. Both the Government of India and Pakistan are taking necessary action to implement it in so far as the two Governments are respectively concerned. Progress in the implementation of the Agreement by both parties is being reviewed at monthly Inter-Dominion Conferences at Minister level.

STATEMENT

Committees set up by the Inter-Dominion Conference held at Delhi in December, 1948, and their terms of reference

1. *Political Committee.*—(i) To review the progress so far made in implementing the political clauses of the Calcutta Agreement and in particular to examine the complaints made by each Dominion in respect of (a) the press in the other Dominion, (b) treatment of minorities and the exodus of minorities from one Dominion to the other; and

(ii) To suggest measures to ensure the implementation of the Calcutta Agreement and to recommend such other steps as may be necessary to ensure that such complaints do not arise in future; and

(iii) To examine all causes (including economic causes though these need be considered only in a general way in the Committee) which have the effect of worsening Inter-Dominion relations or of causing the exodus of minorities on a considerable scale, and to make recommendations calculated to stem the exodus of minority communities, to encourage their return and generally to improve Inter-Dominion relations.

2. *Economic Committee.*—To examine how far the Calcutta, Karachi and other agreements arrived at between the two Dominions have been implemented and to suggest measures to ensure implementation of such agreements in future.

3. *Stores Committee.*—To review the progress made in respect of the existing agreements in regard to the division and supply of Railway, P. & T., Defence and other stores and suggest measures to ensure their full and early implementation. This would include assessment of financial arrangement.

4. *Evacuee Property Committee.*—To review the progress on the agreement regarding Evacuee Property reached on the 22nd July, 1948, at Lahore and to make recommendations as to the further action to be taken.

5. *Committee for border disputes between East Bengal and West Bengal, between East Bengal and Assam and between East Punjab and West Punjab.*—To discuss the border disputes and incidents on the East-West Bengal, East Bengal-Assam and East Bengal-Tripura borders and the boundary incidents on the East-West Punjab border and suggest the machinery necessary for: (a) settlement of disputes; (b) prevention of such incidents.

6. *Life Insurance Committee.*—To discuss difficulties of holders of life insurance policies in the other Dominion and to evolve measures to remove these difficulties and to safeguard the interest of the policy holders.

7. *Division of Museum articles (Central).*—To make recommendations as to the process of division to be made of Museum articles in accordance with the decision of the Partition Council and to ensure early implementation of the decisions.

8. *Bengal and Punjab Partition matters.*—To report on the progress in the settlement of financial and other matters arising from the partition of Punjab and Bengal; to settle such points of difference as may be found to exist, to advise suitable procedure for the expeditious settlement of the outstanding matters and report to the Conference thereon.

RECOGNITION OF INDONESIAN REPUBLIC AND PROTEST AGAINST DUTCH ACTION

*97. **Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of the Indonesian Republic Dr. Soekarno had accepted the invitation to visit India;

(b) whether the Government of India recognise the Indonesian Republic;

(c) whether the Government of India made any protest against the recent Dutch action against Indonesian Republic in spite of the Renville Truce Agreement; and

(d) whether Government have received any reply from the Dutch Government?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) President Soekarno accepted an invitation to visit India last December. He was not able to come as he was arrested by the Dutch when they launched their attack on the Indonesian Republic on the 19th December.

(b) The Government of India have, in common with several Governments, given *de facto* recognition to the Republic of Indonesia.

(c) Yes. The Government of India's views have been frequently stated. The honourable member is no doubt aware of the Conference of 19 nations recently convened in New Delhi as well as of the debates in the Security Council in which the Indian Representative has repeatedly expressed the Government of India's anxiety to see an end of Dutch aggression and the speedy realisation of complete freedom by the Indonesian people.

(d) No.

CONGRESS RESOLUTION RE FOREIGN POSSESSIONS IN INDIA

*98. Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report from the All India Congress Committee's observers about the recent municipal elections in French India;

(b) whether Government have drawn the attention of the French Government to the mal-practices pursued by the French authorities during the municipal elections;

(c) if so, what replies were received;

(d) whether Government have taken notice of the resolution passed at the Jaipur Congress Session on the Foreign Possessions in India; and

(e) if so, whether Government have drawn the attention of the concerned Foreign Governments to that resolution?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) The French Embassy promised to send us a report after they had received full accounts of the Municipal elections. They have not done so yet and have been urgently reminded.

(d) The Government of India have taken notice of the resolution passed at the Jaipur Congress Session on Foreign Possessions in India, and are in full accord with the policy laid down therein. Government are of opinion that geographical, political, economic and defence reasons would naturally lead to a political union with India of such areas in India as are still under foreign control. Government are making every effort to bring about this change by peaceful methods and the friendly co-operation of the Governments concerned. Government also realise that during the long period of foreign control, administrative, cultural, educational and judicial systems have grown up in these areas, which are different from those prevailing in the rest of India, and any change-over must therefore take these factors into consideration and allow for a gradual adjustment with due regard to the wishes and way of life of the people of the areas concerned. The union of these areas with India need not involve any immediate merger in the neighbouring province or other unit of India. Arrangements for the association of these settlements with the Indian Union will, in conformity with our declared policy, be regulated according to the wishes of the people with whom there would be the fullest consultation.

(e) The Jaipur Congress Resolution has received a great deal of publicity in the press both in India and abroad. It has, therefore, not been thought necessary to invite the specific attention of the French and Portuguese Governments to this resolution.

INDONESIAN REPUBLIC'S MEMBERSHIP OF E. C. A. F. E.

*99. Prof. N. G. Ranga: (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state why the Dutch Government's representatives walked out of the recent meeting of the U.N. Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East?

(b) What are the status and privileges of the Government of the Indonesian Republic after it has been admitted into the Conference—whether as a delegate or as an observer?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) The Dutch Government's representatives walked out of the meeting as a protest against the resolution of F.O.A.F.E. (Economic Commission for Asia and Far East) to admit the Republic of Indonesia as an Associate Member.

(b) The status and privileges of the Republic of Indonesia will be those accorded to an Associate Member of the Commission. Associate Members have the right to participate without vote in all meetings of the Commission, whether sitting as Commission or as Committee of the Whole. They are also eligible to be appointed as member of any Committee or other subordinate body which may be set up by the Commission, and shall be eligible to hold office in such body.

U.S.A.'s VIEWS RE "MASTER PLAN" BY E. C. A. F. E. ✓

*100. Prof. N. G. Ranga: (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state what is the "Master Plan" prepared by the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East?

(b) Have the Government of the U.S.A. expressed any views about that plan?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) The term "Master Plan" is a misnomer, so far as the E.C.A.F.E. work is concerned. The Industrial Development Working Party set up by the Commission to report and make recommendations on industrial development of the region submitted a Report to the Commission embodying the plans proposed by the various Governments and merely aggregating the financial requirements of the various plans. A copy of the Report is placed on the table of the House for the honourable member's information.

(b) The American views, as stated by the United States of America's Delegate, Mr. Cowen, appear to be that financial aid for the plans of Asian countries must be decided by direct negotiations between borrower and lender whether the latter was the United States of America Government, or the World Bank. He gave no undertaking that his Government would advance funds for the proposed plans.

EXCHANGE AND FUNDS FROM WORLD BANK FOR RIVER VALLEY PROJECTS

*101. Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approached the World Bank for necessary exchange and funds for undertaking any or some or all the irrigation and flood control projects, such as Rampadsagar, Krishna-Pennar, Narnada and Tapi projects;

(b) if not, whether they propose to do so; and

(c) how much capital in all is needed for undertaking these projects and how much of it is expected to be raised abroad?

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question whether external financial assistance will be required in connection with any particular project, will depend on the foreign exchange resources available to Government from time to time. If such resources are not adequate for carrying out any particular project or projects, Government will consider how best the resources can be obtained. A request for a loan from the International Bank will be one of the possible sources.

(c) From the estimates at present available, it is calculated that approximately Re. 144 crores will be required up to 1951, if all the major projects are started before then. It is not possible to say at this stage, how much foreign exchange will be required, as this will depend on the altering supply position of capital equipment.

† Not printed in the day's Debate. A copy has been placed in the Library of the House.—
Ed. of D.

CIVIL WAR IN CHINA

*102. Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been watching the situation in China as the Civil War is developing;

(b) whether Government possess any information as to whether any proposals have been made by America, England and other countries for the settlement of that Civil War; and

(c) whether the Government of India were approached by any of the other Governments or the contending parties in China either to intercede or to help to achieve a settlement?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India are not aware of any such proposals.

(c) No.

CENSUS AND REHABILITATION OF REFUGEES

*103. Dr. V. Subramaniam: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state how many refugees who have come from Pakistan have settled in States and how many in the Provinces?

(b) How many homes have Government opened solely to look after the refugee orphan children and young widows?

(c) What is the number of refugee camps in the Delhi area and where are they located?

(d) What is the strength of each camp and how many families are there in each camp?

(e) Is it a fact that no proper census has been taken or statistics kept in the Delhi camps as to the occupation (or occupations) which the head of each family was following previously, and, as to the alternative work which the head of a family (or any grown up member of a family) is now willing to take up or learn?

(f) Are Government aware that the refugees who were trained at some vocational training centres have not been able to find work for themselves and get no encouragement from Government to pursue the work they have learnt?

(g) Have Government made any arrangements in the camps, to supply raw materials to the refugee artisans, who know some craft?

(h) Is it a fact that rations have been stopped in certain camps and if so, for what reasons?

(i) Have Government started any industry of their own to absorb the trained and untrained refugee labour; if not, why not? If so, what is the nature of such industries?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: (a) The honourable member probably wishes to know the number of refugees resettled in the Provinces and States. If so, it may be observed that it is difficult to indicate the exact number of refugees rehabilitated because not all are rehabilitated through the efforts of Provincial or State Governments. As regards the estimated figures the honourable member may kindly refer to my answer to part (c) of Starred Question No. 88 by Mr. R. K. Sidhva.

(b) Twenty-one homes have been opened by Government for children, widows and unattached women.

(c) Ten. All the camps are located in Delhi and New Delhi.

(d) A statement containing the requisite information is placed on the table of the House

(e) No.

(f) No.

(g) So far no raw materials have been supplied but as it has now been decided to convert camps into Work Centres, arrangements will be made for the supply of tools and raw materials.

(h) Yes, rations have been stopped to individuals, who had become self-supporting and also to such able bodied refugees as were offered but refused to work. No cases of stoppage of rations for reasons other than non-observance of camp rules have been reported to Government.

(i) It is the policy of the Government to resettle refugees from Pakistan in industries as expeditiously as possible, but for obvious reasons the Government cannot undertake any large industrial undertakings immediately. A number of cottage industries have, therefore, been started at various centres; and close liaison has been established with the Cottage Industries Board of the Ministry of Industry and Supply.

A self-contained refugee colony, with its full complement of arts and crafts, has been established at Nilokheri—a place about 85 miles from Delhi—as an experimental measure.

Statement showing number of refugees and families in each camp in Delhi

<i>Names of the camp</i>	<i>Number of refugees</i>	<i>Number of families</i>
Kingsway	21,526	4,464
Purana Qila	4,210	600
Wavell Canteen	261	79
Kalkaji	1,415	278
Anand Parbat	3,800	795
Bela Road	2,275	442
Tis Hazari	1,829	396
Kotla Ferozshah	1,363	277
Safdarjung	1,467	290
Humayun's Tomb	2,043	689

CLOSING OF DELHI REFUGEE CAMPS

*104. Dr. V. Subramaniam: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether it is the intention of Government to keep all the refugee camps in Delhi or to close them after sending the refugees outside the Delhi area? Is there any definite plan to close each camp within a specified period?

(b) Is it a fact that Government propose to build about 5,000 houses to settle the refugees in Delhi and if so, when will the work be finished and the allotment made?

(c) Is there any proposal to convert the barracks in the King's Way Camp, Edward Lines, into dwelling houses, and if so, when are the plans expected to be completed?

(d) Are Government aware that many families are willing to quit the camps and lead independent lives if Government can help them—

(i) by providing them with small shops to do their business;

(ii) by granting small plots of land to build houses at their own expense;

(iii) by purchasing the articles manufactured by them and giving them daily wages; and

(iv) by providing houses on rent?

(e) What are the arrangements made so far by Government in this respect?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: (a) Government have no intention of keeping refugee camps in Delhi indefinitely, the scheme for gradual discontinuance of free supply of rations to refugees residing in Delhi camps and for converting them into Works Centres where indigent refugees can earn their livelihood, has been finalised and is expected to be implemented very shortly.

(b) Government propose to build about 4,000 houses for refugees in Delhi. Out of these 2,332 houses have already been completed and 1,700 houses have been allotted. Apart from these 5,500 plots are being allotted to those who will construct their own houses.

(c) Yes, but the camp belongs to the Ministry of Defence and the question of formal transfer of the camp by the Defence Ministry to the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation has already been taken up. But I may add for the information of the House that the existing economy of Delhi cannot absorb more than 2½ lakhs of refugees, and, therefore, rehabilitation facilities will be provided.

(d) Yes.

(e) The honourable member is referred to the reply given by me to part (b) of this question regarding provision of residential accommodation. In addition stalls/shops numbering 3,194 have also been constructed by the various municipal committees and a number of them have been allotted to refugees living in the camps. Refugees inside and outside the camps have been given loans individually as well as through the co-operative societies to help them in permanent rehabilitation.

DIPLOMATIC POSTS CREATED AFTER 15TH AUGUST 1947

***105. Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of diplomatic posts created after the 15th August 1947; and

(b) how many of them have been filled by officials and how many by non-officials?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) Eighty-four diplomatic posts have been created after 15th August, 1947.

(b) Distribution is as follows:

Official	...	.....	50
Non-official	..	.....	20
Vacant	..	.....	14

FINANCIAL AID TO BURMA TO REVIVE PETROL INDUSTRY

***106. Shri S. Nagappa:** Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state whether India has supported Burma financially to revive her petrol industry and if so, to what extent?

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: No.

INDIAN LABOUR IN BURMA AFFECTED BY BURMA LAND NATIONALISATION BILL

***107. Shri S. Nagappa:** (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Burma Land Nationalisation Bill has seriously affected Indian Labour in Burma?

(b) If so, what action has the Government of India taken to ease the condition of the Indian labourers there. If no action has been taken, what are the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) No, Sir. The Act affects the owners of land.

(b) The position of Indian agricultural labour in Burma is not expected to be affected to any great extent by the enforcement of the Land Nationalisation Act. The Government of Burma have assured the Government of India that in the distribution of land taken over by Government, no discrimination will be made against Indian agriculturists on grounds of nationality.

As the Act affects other Indian interests in Burma, the Government of India have repeatedly addressed the Government of Burma on the subject.

NON-MUSLIMS LEFT IN PAKISTAN AND EXPENDITURE ON REHABILITATION

*108. **Shri S. Nagappa:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state the amount till now spent for the rehabilitation of refugees?

(b) When do Government expect to complete the rehabilitation work?

(c) What is the approximate number of Hindus and Sikhs still left in Pakistan, viz.

- (i) East Bengal;
- (ii) West Punjab;
- (iii) Sind; and
- (iv) The North West Frontier Province?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saxena: (a) The total expenditure incurred on rehabilitation of refugees as compiled upto 30th November, 1948 is as below:

Rehabilitation—

Expenditure on Schemes	Rs. 1,44 lakhs
Loans	Rs. 2,85 ..
Total	Rs. 4,29 lakhs.

(b) In our policy directive to Provincial and State Governments we have laid down that endeavours should be made to complete the schemes by 31st March, 1950 and it is hoped that they will work upto this programme.

(c) The approximate number of Hindus and Sikhs left in Pakistan is as under:

(i) East Bengal	About one Crore
(ii) West Punjab	20,000
(iii) Sind	2,50,000
(iv) N.W.F.P.	4,000

NON-PARTICIPATION OF INDIAN EMBASSY IN PARIS IN U. N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY DISCUSSION ON PALESTINE

*109. **Shri B. N. Manavalili:** (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the statement of Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose, appearing in the issue of *The Statesman*, Delhi edition, dated 30th December, 1948, under the heading "Indian Embassies in Europe", at page 6 column 8?

(b) Is it a fact that the Indian Embassy in Paris did not participate in the discussion of the important question of Palestine as alleged in the above statement and if so, why?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) Yes. I have seen this and other statements on the subject. They specifically criticize the High Commissioner's office in London, and the Embassy in Paris, and I should like to answer them fully.

As regards India House, the charges are:

(i) that there are between 150 to 175 Britishers among whom are persons who left their jobs in India because they were not prepared to serve after August, 1947;

(ii) that the real purchasing Agent of the Government of India in England is a Britisher who at the same time is the Director of a Company bearing an Indian name. The names of three persons, Mr. Robert Cleminson, Mr. Potter and Mr. Ingham have been mentioned;

(iii) that very little is being done for our students, especially in providing facilities for practical training in factories in England and the Continent.

Each of these allegations is misleading or incorrect, and I shall deal with them *seriatim*. The High Commissioner's staff consists of more than 150 or 175 persons of British nationality. None, however, belongs to the category of officials who left their jobs in India because they were not prepared to serve after August, 1947. They are employees of the Government of India, most of whom have been in permanent service for relatively long periods. It was neither possible nor desirable to dismiss this personnel, merely on racial grounds, after the transfer of power in August, 1947. The policy of Government is to staff Missions and Embassies abroad with Indians. This is being done in London also. Since August, 1947 the number of Indians employed at India House has doubled.

There is no foundation for the charge that the Purchasing Agent of the Government of India in England is a person of British nationality. Purchases are made through the Director General of Stores, who is an Indian, and according to prescribed procedure which normally requires calling for tenders, orders are placed with those who offer the most advantageous terms and every precaution is taken to safeguard Government's interests. Mr. Cleminson has no business connection with India House. Mr. Ingham is a Consulting Engineer of high standing whose technical skill has been made use of from time to time in public interest; he also has no official connection with India House. Mr. Potter has supplied goods to India, but in conformity with the prescribed practice.

The allegations regarding neglect of students are also unfounded. Both Government scholars and private students receive every possible assistance. Arrangements are made to meet students on arrival and to provide temporary or permanent accommodations according to needs. 1,509 students were helped in this way between August, 1947 and January, 1949. Out of 1,250 students who made firm application for admission to various institutions between October, 1947 and September, 1948, 610 secured admission, apparently, in the institutions which they wished to enter; 200 others got admission into institutions other than those for which they had applied but of equal standing, 300 were rejected by the institutions concerned because of lack of qualifications, and 140 are on the waiting list. Dealing more particularly with applications for practical training, I may inform the House that out of 292 applicants during the calendar year, 1948, 112 have been placed where they wished to be. 80

have been offered, alternative places, 59 are on the waiting list and 57 were found unqualified. I should like to add that students are the object of the High Commissioner's special solicitude and he gives much of his time to their care and welfare.

The statement that our Cypher in Paris is in Charge of a non-Indian is incorrect. The Cypher Assistant at this Embassy is an Indian national. The Indian Embassy in Paris has suffered from lack of staff as well as accommodation, and could function more efficiently. We are trying to improve it. Having started only a little over a year ago, it has not been possible, especially because of the lack of trained personnel, to attain in all our Missions abroad standard comparable to that of the longer established diplomatic services. But, as I have repeatedly stated, taking them as a whole, our diplomatic missions abroad are functioning well. I welcome legitimate criticism but sweeping condemnation of public servants who are trying to adjust themselves to new responsibilities with devotion to the country can only demoralise them and can be of no service to India.

(b) The Indian Embassy in Paris had nothing to do with the work of the United Nations General Assembly. The Indian Delegation to the General Assembly was responsible for the work and its members alone were entitled to speak on behalf of India in the Assembly or its Committees. Shri Sarat Chandra Bose's statement that no Indian voice was heard during the discussions on Palestine is incorrect. The Indian Delegation did, in fact, take part in the prolonged debates on this important question in the Political and Security Committee of the General Assembly and Mr. M. C. Setalvad spoke on behalf of the Delegation on the 1st December, 1948.

IMPORT OF NORWEGIAN BEER

*110. **Shri Biawanath Das:** Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item published in the newspapers of Delhi, dated the 13th December 1948, circulated by Reuter from Oslo regarding the despatch of a small experimental consignment of Pilsner beer to India; and

(b) whether Government propose to give certain details thereof *vis.*, of how hard currency was made available for this purpose and the quantum of tax levied on such import?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: (a) Yes.

(b) The question of making any hard currency available does not arise, as Norway is a soft currency country.

As regards the details of import duty leviable on beer, the honourable Member's attention is invited to the rates shown against item No. 22 (2) of the Indian Customs Tariff Schedule (Twenty-Ninth Issue) a copy of which has been placed in the Library of the Legislature. These enhanced rates were brought into force under the provisions of Ordinance No. XXXIII of 1948 in pursuance of the anti-inflationary measures taken by Government.

HOUSES AND SHOPS FOR REFUGEES IN DELHI

*111. **Shri B. N. Munavalli:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state how many refugees are accommodated in the houses recently constructed by Government?

(b) How many plots have been leased to the refugees, in the name of individuals, for construction of houses by themselves?

(c) How many co-operative societies have applied for plots to construct houses for refugees and to how many of them plots were granted and under what conditions?

(d) Are any refugees from East Bengal accommodated in the houses constructed by Government in Delhi and New Delhi and if so, how many?

(e) What is the number of houses built by refugees in Delhi and New Delhi without permission, on Improvement Trust or Municipal land?

(f) Have Government constructed any shops for the refugees in Delhi and New Delhi and if so what is the number of such shops?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saxena: (a) Nearly 1,000 houses have so far been occupied by as many heads of families. The exact number of refugees occupants is, however, not known.

(b) There are approximately 5,000 plots for allotment to the refugees and the allotment work is in progress. Very few plots have, however, been released.

(c) No plots have been allotted to the co-operative societies so far, although some applications have been received. The plots are, at present, being allotted to individual refugees. The policy in regard to co-operative societies is under consideration and a decision will be announced shortly.

(d) Yes, two families.

(e) It is not possible to furnish accurate information. But it is believed that about 3,000 houses, including katcha huts and improvised structures, have been erected by the refugees without permission.

(f) Except in the proposed townships on the various sites where houses and plots are to be allotted to the refugees the Government have no plans to construct shops separately. A number of shops are under construction in the Delhi Northern Extension Area. The total number of shops and stalls so far constructed by the Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Committees is 8,194.

HOUSES FOR GOVERNMENT SERVANTS IN DELHI

*112. **Shri B. N. Munavalli:** Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have commenced building houses in Delhi and New Delhi for Government servants of all categories, according to the Housing Schemes said to have been already sanctioned by Government; and

(b) if they have commenced the work, how many houses have been constructed so far, and what time will be required to complete the work according to the various schemes?

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: (a) Yes.

(b) No building has yet been completed. A statement is placed on the table of the House showing the particulars of the various projects now under construction.

Statements showing the particulars of various projects under construction.

Sl. No.	Name of scheme	Parts of schemes	Probable date of completion			Remarks	
			Building portion	Internal services	External services		
1			4	5	6	7	8
1	Construction of 200 Officer's flats, New Delhi	(a) 28 Blocks of 112 flats on Cornwallis Road. (b) 22 blocks of 88 flats on Golf Link Road.	6-10-49	20-10-49	31-10-49	Out of 200, work on 198 flats is in hand. 16 flats have reached the first floor level.	(1) 80 flats on Golf Link Road started late due to extra time needed on the preparation of site. There has been a delay in the manufacture of doors and windows due to difficulties of transport of timber.
2	Construction of 1,000 Clerks' quarters at Factory Road.	(a) 334 quarters (b) 378 quarters (c) 240 quarters	1-7-49 31-5-49 5-9-49	15-7-49 15-6-49 20-9-49	15-7-49 15-7-49 20-9-49	(a) Work on all the qrs. in progress. 60 qrs. have reached the first floor level. (b) Work on all quarters in progress. 56 qrs. have reached the first floor level. (c) Excavation work has commenced in 64 quarters.	(2) The quarters can be connected for sewage disposal when trunk sewer is completed. Tenders for trunk sewer have been called for and work likely to commence from 1st March 1949. Trunk sewer is likely to be completed by end of September 1949. There has been a delay in the manufacture of doors and windows due to difficulties of transport.
3	Construction of 1,000 Peons quarters at Koda Mubarakpoh.	1,000 quarters	31-5-49	31-5-49	30-6-49	Work on all quarters in progress. 158 quarters have reached the roof level (both storeys) and in addition 146 have reached first floor level.	Same as for item 2 above.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4	Construction of 1,000 clerks' quarters at Tinsarpur.	(a) 336 quarters. (b) 664 quarters.	8-6-49	23-6-49	30-6-49	(c) Work is in progress on 382 quarters; 4 quarters have reached the 1st floor level.	For the remaining 664 quarters site is not yet available and the matter is under consideration with the Chief Commissioner for Chandrawal site. Chandrawal site will take 512 quarters only. The rest 152 quarters will be taken after the dismantlement of old quarters at Tinsarpur and clearance of site. There has been a delay in the manufacture of doors and windows due to difficulties of transport of timber.
5	Construction of 250 Peons Quarters.	(a) 72 quarters (b) 178 quarters.	15-4-49	15-4-49	15-4-49	Work on 56 quarters in hand; 24 quarters have reached 1st floor level.	The remaining 178 can be commenced only when old quarters at Tinsarpur are dismantled and site cleared for that purpose.
6	Construction of 661 quarters for W. C. staff.	.....	..	..	..	.....	Work on 100 quarters has just been commenced. For others tenders are being invited. The work is likely to be completed by end of 1949.
7	Construction of 36 Clerks' quarters, Karolbagh.	.....	..	..	..	.....	Site previously proposed for the quarters has been taken over by R. R. Ministry and as such this work could not be commenced.

ASSESSMENT OF VALUE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES OF REFUGEES FROM PAKISTAN

*113. **Shri B. N. Munavalli:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether a Joint Assessment Board, as agreed upon between the Dominions of India and Pakistan, has been set up for the assessment of value of immovable properties of refugees from Pakistan?

(b) What is the procedure adopted by the said Board in assessing the value of immovable properties?

(c) What is the value of the immovable properties assessed by the said Board so far, if it has commenced its work?

(d) When is the said Board expected to complete the work of assessment?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saxena: (a) A Joint Urban Assessment Board was proposed by the representatives of two Dominions at secretariat level in March, 1948. The functions of this Board were enlarged to include valuation of urban immovable property when the secretariat level proposals were considered at Ministerial level in July, 1948. The Pakistan Government resiled from this position and informed the Government of India at the Inter-Dominion Conference of December, 1948 that they could not agree to the setting up of such an elaborate organization. No Joint Urban Assessment Boards have, therefore, been set up.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

CONSTRUCTION OF CINEMA HOUSES IN DELHI PROVINCE

*114. **Shrimati Dakshayani Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state the number of persons who had applied for licence for constructing buildings for cinema shows in Centrally Administered Areas since August 1947?

(b) How many such licences have been issued?

(c) Have Government issued orders to cancel the licences already issued and if so, how many?

(d) Do Government propose to allow the cinema houses which are under construction to be completed?

(e) What do Government propose to do in the case of persons who have got licences for constructing cinema houses and have not started the construction thereof but have placed orders and paid advance for getting machinery and building material for that purpose?

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: (a) to (e). The information required by the honourable Member is being collected from all Chief Commissioners and will be placed on the table of the House as soon as it is received.

I may add for the information of the honourable Member that in pursuance of a statement made by the Honourable the Prime Minister last year, that during the present scarcity of building materials, Government were averse to the construction of non-essential building, e.g., cinema houses, Chief Commissioners and Provincial Governments were requested to follow this policy as far as possible.

REHABILITATION OF REFUGEES

*115. **Giani Gurmukh Singh Munsafi:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state how many refugees are being accommodated in camps at present and what is the location of and the number of refugees accommodated in each camp?

(b) How many refugees have been rehabilitated permanently up to this time?

(c) How many houses and shops have been built for this purpose, and how much accommodation provided by the evacuees property has been utilized?

(d) What are the plans of Government to rehabilitate the remaining refugees?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saxena: (a) Roughly eight lakhs. As regards population and location of various camps a statement is placed on the table of the House.

(b) It is difficult to indicate the exact number of refugees rehabilitated; but it may roughly be taken at 80 lakhs.

(c) In Delhi, 2,912 houses and 3,051 stalls have been constructed and allotted to refugees. 450 more houses and 120 shops in New Delhi Northern Extension Area are to be built. About 5,500 plots will be allotted to those who can build their own houses.

Information about the houses and stalls built by the Provincial and State Governments is being collected and will be laid on the table at an early date.

(d) The Government of India have addressed all the Provincial and State Governments to make expeditious arrangements for the rehabilitation of refugees, especially their housing. The Provinces and States have been asked to make arrangements on the basis of a house or a plot per refugee family (average unit of six members per family) and March, 1950 has been fixed as the target for the completion of these schemes.

Some Provinces and States have already forwarded their schemes and these schemes have been discussed with the representatives of the Provinces and States concerned and the requisite assistance in finance as well as building materials given. A list showing the schemes so far sanctioned for Provinces schemes from the remaining Provinces and States are awaited and will be considered in due course.

Statement showing total population in refugee camps in the various Provinces and States and Centrally Administered Camps

Name of Province.	Total Population.
(1)	(2)
East Punjab	1,40,387
C. P. and Berar	99,113
Madras	3,395
U. P.	46,657
Bihar	3,958
West Bengal	63,700
Bombay	1,69,213
Delhi Camps (Centrally Administered)	11,183
Jammu Camps (Centrally Administered)	44,474
Chakrata Camps (Centrally Administered)	2,900
Deoli (Almer) (Centrally Administered)	9,320
Mateya Union holding Camps, Alwar (C. A.)	778
Datia (Centrally Administered)	4,918
Marwar J. (Centrally Administered)	4,523
Marwar Pali (Centrally Administered)	4,028
Saurashtra Union	25,800
Himachal Pradesh	919

(1)	(2)
Baroda State	11,246
Jaipur State	20,008
Madhyabharat Union	3,040
Bharatpur State	549
Vindhya Pradesh	5,604
Patiala and E. P. States	1,335
Junagadh States	8,312
Bikaner States	9,253
Rajasthan (United States)	10,593
Ujain State	596
Lunavada State	65
Total	7,99,247
(1) Refugee population in provincial Camps	6,04,291
(2) Refugee population in Centrally Administered Camps	97,841
(3) Refugee population in State camps	97,115
Total	7,99,247

List of all refugee Camps in various Provinces, States and the Centrally Administered Camps.

Province or State.	Name of Camp.	Population.	Date.
EAST PUNJAB	<i>District Gurdaspur.—</i>		
	Batala Camp	6,217	31st October 1948
	Sewa Sadan (Batala)	160	Ditto.
	Transit Camp (Dinanagar)	3,203	Ditto.
	<i>District Ferozepur.—</i>		
	Patel Nagar (Ferozepur)	5,334	Ditto.
	Muktesar	7,600	Ditto.
	Moga	5,938	Ditto.
	Malout	9,000	Ditto.
	<i>District Hoshiarpur.—</i>		
	Ram Colony	3,461	Ditto.
	Widows Rationed Section	318	Ditto.
	<i>District Ludhiana.—</i>		
	Infirm and Aged refugees home,	312	Ditto.
	Jawaharnagar		
	Jawaharnagar	9,176	Ditto.
	<i>District Jalandhar.—</i>		
	Gandhi Nagar Camp	12,456	Ditto.
	Bhargava Camp	4,529	Ditto.
	Gandhi Vanita Asharam	297	Ditto.
	SewaSadana	199	Ditto.
	<i>District Ambala.—</i>		
	Gandhi Nagar	4,810	Ditto.
	Baldev Nagar	9,734	Ditto.
	Mubarakpur	5,817	Ditto.
	<i>District Rohtak.—</i>		
	Gandhi Camp	22,505	Ditto.
	SoniPat	2,541	Ditto.
	<i>District Hissar.—</i>		
	Hissar	11,892	Ditto.
		Ditto.	
Total	1,24,875		

1	2	3	4
EAST PUNJAB.—contd.			
	Brought forward	1,24,675	
	<i>District Gurgaon.—</i>		
	Gurgaon	9,725	31st Oct. 1948.
	Rewari	936	Ditto.
	Palwal	8,136	Ditto.
	Faridabad	1,355	Ditto.
	<i>District Karnal.—</i>		
	Karnal	5,745	Ditto.
	Kurukshetra	89,685	Ditto.
	Total	2,40,237	
C. P. AND BIHAR			
	<i>District Subbulpore.—</i>		
	Mohgaon	12,857	Ditto.
	Katni	24,845	Ditto.
	<i>District Bhandara.—</i>		
	Birsi	4,968	Ditto.
	<i>District Raipur.—</i>		
	Mana	7,520	Ditto.
	Tilda	3,835	Ditto.
	<i>District Bilaspur.—</i>		
	Chakrabhata	6,932	Ditto.
	Total	60,953	
MADRAS			
	Luttoral Gardens Camp	379	Ditto.
	Jammala Hostel Camp	360	Ditto.
	Malayan Emigration Camp, Avadi	2,649	Ditto.
	Kajamali Camp Truchi Repalli	7	Ditto.
	Total	3,395	
UNITED PROVINCES			
	<i>District Dehradun.—</i>		
	Prem Nagar	11,497	Ditto.
	<i>District Saharanpur.—</i>		
	Ranipur	1,891	Ditto.
	Rannagar	1,351	Ditto.
	Exhibition Ground Camp	3,630	Ditto.
	Dhandera	4,447	Ditto.
	Total	22,616	
	<i>District Muzaffarnagar.—</i>		
	Exhibition Ground Camp, Muzaffar- nagar	1,500	Ditto
	<i>District Meerut.—</i>		
	Garmukteswar	400	Ditto.
	Nanchandhi Camp	1,125	Ditto.
	Chhatra Ganj Camp	698	Ditto.
	<i>District Oorissa.—</i>		
	Parasurama Gumya	7,850	Ditto.
		N/A.	Ditto.

1	2	3	4
UNITED PROVINCES— cont.	Brought forward		
	<i>District Allahabad.—</i>		
	Phahpamau	1,238	31st Oct. 1948.
	Jhusi	46	Ditto.
	Darbhanga Castle	74	Ditto.
	<i>District Benares.—</i>		
	Lohia	4,730	Ditto.
	<i>District Mirzapur.—</i>		
	Chunar Fort	4,039	Ditto.
	<i>District Gorakhpur.—</i>		
	Kusmi	304	Ditto.
	<i>District Lucknow.—</i>		
	Talkatora	665	Ditto.
	Yusuf Manzil	190	Ditto.
	<i>District Faizabad.—</i>		
	Military Dairy Camp, Faizabad	1,040	Ditto.
	Total	46,662	
BIHAR	<i>District Lamahadga.—</i>		
	Bera	1,603	Ditto.
	<i>District Patna.—</i>		
	Phulwari	1,792	Ditto.
	Ranohi	563	Ditto.
	Total	2,958	
WEST BENGAL	<i>District Calcutta.—</i>		
	Bahirsura Road Camp	998	Ditto.
	55, Hariah Chatterjee St.	78	Ditto.
	<i>District Burdwan.—</i>		
	Nawabnagar	4,100	Ditto.
	Salkuni	1,269	Ditto.
	Kaahipur	2,828	Ditto.
	Oregram	329	Ditto.
	Ranochandrapur	196	Ditto.
	Jamboni	147	Ditto.
	Mahiata	313	Ditto.
	Gopalpur	3,282	Ditto.
	Bogra	1,503	Ditto.
	Khandra	2,194	Ditto.
	Lawdaha	387	Ditto.
	Jowalbhanga	1,001	Ditto.
	Pandaveswar	290	Ditto.
	Bijayanagar	880	Ditto.
	Nimdanga	468	Ditto.
	Kendukia	2,901	Ditto.
	Chanda	617	Ditto.
	Ratibasi	1,130	Ditto.
	Moira	2,583	Ditto.
	<i>District Bankura.—</i>		
	Bansdoh Pur	2,006	Ditto.

Brought forward

WEST BENGAL—contd.

1	2	3	4
<i>District Midnapore.—</i>			
Digri		1,283	31st Oct. 1948.
Salboni		4,821	Ditto.
Salwa		3,130	Ditto.
<i>District Howrah.—</i>			
68 Rest Camp		625	Ditto.
Belur C. D. Home		208	Ditto.
Andul Road Camp		658	Ditto.
Munshihat Destitute home		31	Ditto.
<i>District Hooghly.—</i>			
Bhadra Kali Camp		2,305	Ditto.
<i>24 Parganas.—</i>			
Santoshpur Camp		788	Ditto.
Chandnari Camp		7,600	Ditto.
Goahala Camp		1,125	Ditto.
Haliahar Camp		1,271	Ditto.
Gongam Transit Camp		358	Ditto.
Patabhuka		89	Ditto.
Lakshikantapur Camp		228	Ditto.
Bagachi Camp		2,068	Ditto.
Sonarpur		80	Ditto.
Canning		180	Ditto.
<i>District Nadia.—</i>			
Dhubulia		5,487	Ditto.
Chinese Mission Camp		361	Ditto.
Amghata Camp		200	Ditto.
<i>District Murshidabad.—</i>			
Balarampur Camp		1,240	Ditto.
Mankara Camp		3,000	Ditto.
<i>District Jalpaiguri.—</i>			
Batiagola Camp		425	Ditto.
Balsoda Pallimangal Camp		150	Ditto.
Pandapara Camp		70	Ditto.
New Assam Building Camp		45	Ditto.
Katalguri Camp		17	Ditto.
Fatapukri Camp		250	Ditto.
Tisthaghat Camp		85	Ditto.
Gatpetgola Camp		36	Ditto.
Pilkhana Camp		125	Ditto.
New Hat Camp Alipur Duar		134	Ditto.
Total		69,700	

BOMBAY —

Ahmedabad	}	8,000	23rd Oct. 1948.
Saharnabi			
H. M. I. S. Akbar		12,415	30th Oct. 1948.
Kalyan		75,045	30th Oct. 1948.
Lake Beaulo		11,800	23rd Oct. 1948.
Mullund		1,188	30th Oct. 1948.
Pimpri		7,800	23rd Oct. 1948.
Jawahar		8,633	30th Oct. 1948.
Total		1,25,281	

1	2	3	4
	Brought forward .	1,25,381	
BOMBAY—contd.	<i>District Bombay—</i>		
	Chambur	10,289	23rd Oct. 1948.
	Kurla	894	Ditto.
	Pawal	1,570	Ditto.
	Vihar	560	Ditto.
	South Deolali	24,000	Ditto.
	Uruli	961	Ditto.
	Viaspur	9,241	Ditto.
	Bombay Docks	4,500	Ditto.
	Mankral	2,000	Ditto.
	Total	1,70,396	
CENTRALLY ADMINI- STERED CAMPS			
	Delhi Camps	44,474	8th Nov. 1948.
	Jammu Camps	26,000	9th Nov. 1948.
	Chalcra Camps	2,900	14th Oct. 1948.
	Delhi (Ajmer)	9,320	30th Oct. 1948.
	Metaya Union holding Camps Alwar	778	27th Oct. 1948.
	Datia	4,018	23rd Oct. 1948.
	Malwar Pali	4,028	14th Nov. 1948.
	Malwar Jun.	4,523	15th November 1948.
MAHARASHTRA—			
	Banjura	15,000	31st Oct. 1948.
	Jam Nagar	5,000	Ditto.
	Bhav Nagar	4,000	Ditto.
	Palitana	1,600	Ditto.
	Total	25,600	
BARODA (STATE)	<i>District Baroda—</i>		
	Outram Camp	2,698	Ditto.
	Harni Camp	3,970	Ditto.
	Magan Bhuvan and Becharajee Camps	176	Ditto.
	Dabhoi	928	Ditto.
	Sankheda	80	Ditto.
	Palad	88	Ditto.
	<i>District Mehsana—</i>		
	Sidhpur	1,548	Ditto.
	<i>District Navsari—</i>		
	Navsari Refugee Camp	943	Ditto.
	Billimora Camp	724	Ditto.
	Vyara	78	Ditto.
	<i>District Okhanda—</i>		
	Okha Port	18	Ditto.
	Total	11,246	
JAINPUR STATE—			
	Durgapur Camp	17,273	Ditto.
	City Camp	2,730	Ditto.
	Total	20,003	

1	2	3	4
	Brought forward	20,003	
MADHYAPRADESH UNION	Manpur	3,040	31st Oct. 1948.
BIHAR STATE	Deog	549	Ditto.
VINDHYA PRADESH	Satna Camp	5,004	Ditto.
PATIALA AND H. P. STATES	Dukhwaran	1,156	Ditto.
	Dera Baba Jassa Singh	179	Ditto.
	Total	1,335	
JUNAGADH STATE	Kutiya Camp	8,313	31st Oct. 1948.
HIMACHAL PRADESH	Chomba Camp	919	30th Sept. 1948.
BIKANER STATE	Sri Dungargarh	1,226	31st Oct. 1948.
	Ratangarh	2,684	Ditto.
	Sardar Shahr	713	Ditto.
	Sujargarh	1,222	Ditto.
	Ghuru	2,181	Ditto.
	Bhadra	461	Ditto.
	Nohar	726	Ditto.
	Total	9,253	
UJJAIN	Ujjain (Names of camps not known)	596	31st July 1948.
LUNAWADA STATE	Lunawada (Names of camps not known)	65	Ditto.
RAJASTHAN (UNITED STATES)	Udaipur	1,926	31st Oct. 1948.
	Chittorgarh	1,613	Ditto.
	Nathdwara	1,250	Ditto.
	Kotah	5,639	Ditto.
	Bundi	160	Ditto.
	Total	10,593	

Schemes already examined.

Serial No.	Name of Schemes	Number of houses or plots	Refugee Quota
	<i>In Delhi</i>	...	2.5 Lakhs
1.	New Delhi, Northern Extension Area	2,407	
2.	Shedipur	3,349	
3.	Nizamuddin	230	
4.	Nizamuddin Extn.	361	
5.	Malkaganj	249	
6.	Jangpura	665	
7.	Frozen plots of D. I. T.	357 Plots.	
8.	Kingsway Camp	293	
9.	Harjan Quarters	500	
10.	Kalkaji Extn.	....	Not known.
11.	Sheikh Serai	...	Not known.

1

2

3

4

Provincial schemes.

1. Ajmer	...	...	...	20,000
2. Central Provinces	...	...	...	3,00,000
3. Jaipur	...	...	...	1,00,000
4. Jodhpur	...	...	...	20,000
5. Madhya Bharat	...	...	...	2,00,000
6. Madhya	...	...	...	1,00,000
7. Rajasthan	...	...	...	1,00,000
8. United Provinces	...	...	...	4,00,000
9. Bombay	...	...	...	5,00,000
10. East Punjab & East Punjab States Union.	...	...	...	13,00,000

Schemes not received.

1. Assam	...	...	...	2.5 Lakhs.
2. Bikaner	...	...	...	0.5 Lakhs.
3. Orissa	...	...	...	0.25 Lakhs.
4. Saurashtra	...	...	...	1.0 Lakhs.
5. Vindhya Pradesh	...	...	...	0.5 Lakhs.
6. Bihar	...	...	...	0.85 Lakhs.

DEVELOPMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

*116. **Shri Jadubans Sahay:** (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India propose to set up an Atomic Commission?

(b) What concrete steps do the Government of India propose to adopt for the rapid development of atomic energy in India?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) The Government of India have set up an Atomic Energy Commission.

(b) The Atomic Energy Commission is: (i) surveying India for the location of useful minerals that may be required in connection with atomic energy; (ii) promoting research in India on atomic energy and subsidising such research in existing institutions and universities; and (iii) taking steps to increase the teaching and research facilities in nuclear physics and chemistry in Indian universities.

MEASURES FOR ABOLITION OF *Bejar*

*117. **Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Labour be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 500 asked on the 25th August, 1948, regarding legislation to abolish *bejar* and state whether the report of the officer on Special Duty referred to therein has now been received?

(b) If so, do Government propose to place a copy of the same on the table of the House?

(c) What action have Government taken or what action do they propose to take on it?

The Honourable Shri Jagdvan Ram: (a) and (b). The report of the Officer on Special Duty is not yet ready. It is expected to be ready by the end of April.

(c) Government will decide the course of action to be taken after receipt of the report.

**RESERVATION OF REFUGEES TOWNSHIP FOR REFUGEE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES
IN DELHI**

*118. **Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafir:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation please refer to the answer to part (b) of Starred Question No. 1302 asked on the 7th April 1948 and state whether any decision has since been arrived at regarding the reservation of a refugee township in Delhi exclusively for allotment to refugee employees of the Government of India?

(b) If so, what is the area of the land which has been so reserved and how is the allotment to be made?

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: (a) No township near Delhi has been reserved exclusively for allotment to the employees of the Government of India. Their claims to houses and plots in the various Housing Schemes are being considered along with other refugees gainfully employed and in accordance with the principles laid down in the Press Note, No. II, copy of which is placed on the table of the House. 878 houses have been allotted to Government Servants so far.

(b) Does not arise

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD.

Press Note No. II

The following procedure regarding the allotment of 3,200 houses in the New Delhi Northern Extension Area is announced for general information:

(1) The allotment will be made by the Chief Commissioner, Delhi, assisted by an Advisory Committee to be appointed by the Government of India. Applications in the form to be prescribed should be addressed to the Chief Commissioner, Delhi.

(2) The houses will be let out on rent to be fixed hereafter.

(3) In view of the fact that a considerable percentage of the evacuee houses are already in the possession of refugees from West Punjab, houses in the New Delhi Northern Extension area will be allotted mainly to refugees other than those from West Punjab in the following proportions:

(i) N. W. F. P.	40 per cent.
(ii) Sind	20 per cent.
(iii) Bahawalpur	20 per cent.
(iv) Baluchistan	10 per cent.
(v) Reservation in special cases to be allotted at the discretion of the Honourable Minister for Relief and Rehabilitation.	10 per cent.

(4) Five per cent. of the houses will be reserved for families of members of the Armed Forces and ex-servicemen who have been displaced from their houses in urban areas in West Punjab. This percentage will be met from the above percentages laid down by the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation if possible, or otherwise, if need be.

(5) The dates of registration in Delhi governing eligibility for rehabilitation benefits as fixed by the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation, viz., 10th December, 1947 for West Punjab refugees and 29th February, 1948 for others will be generally observed.

(6) First priority in allotment will be given to refugees gainfully employed and resident in refugee camps in Delhi. Second priority will be given to people gainfully employed in Delhi but not resident in Refugee Camps. Within these broad categories the following further preference will be applicable:

- (i) Those who offer their services for levelling of sites and other purposes without any condition.
- (ii) Those who are already employed in productive activity.
- (iii) Those who are employed in Government Services.
- (iv) Producer's Co-operative Organisations.

- (v) Those who are likely to be employers of refugees by setting up industrial activity.
- (vi) Those who are willing to offer themselves for vocational training so as to be absorbed in the vocations chosen for the area.
- (7) Refugees who have forcibly occupied premises will be disqualified for purposes of allotment.

ABOLITION OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

*119. **Shrimati Dakehayani Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether the Economy Committee has recommended the abolition of the Employment Exchanges?

(b) How many Gazetted Officers are there in the Employment Exchanges?

(c) How many Public Relations Officers are there in the Employment Exchanges?

(d) Is there any special Employment Exchange for refugees?

The Honourable Shri Jagjivan Ram: (a) No, Madam. The Economy Committee did not recommend the abolition of the Employment Exchanges. It recommended the transfer of control of the Exchanges situated in the Provinces to the Provincial Governments, and the retention with the Centre of the Employment Exchanges in centrally administered areas.

(b) There are 267 Gazetted Officers (including 27 appointed for refugee work) at the 54 Employment Exchanges, and 23 District Employment Offices all over India.

(c) The number of Public Relations Officers and Assistant Public Relations Officers in the Employment Exchanges is at present 54.

(d) The only special agency for refugees is the Special Employment Bureau, but even this Bureau functions under the Ministry of Labour. It deals exclusively with highly qualified non-Government servant refugees from Pakistan.

RELEASE BENEFITS TO INDIANS IN BURMA CIVIL SERVICE

*120. **Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indians employed in the Burma Civil Service, on the transfer of power by Britain to Burma, were not allowed the option to quit that service under release benefits;

(b) whether such benefits were granted to British Nationals;

(c) whether any Indian Nationals approached the Government of India for getting them this benefit; and

(d) what Government have done in this regard so far?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes. Only non-Asian officers, who had been recruited in the United Kingdom for employment under the Government of Burma and whose services terminated on transfer of power, were granted the release benefits provided in their contract of employment.

(c) and (d). Indians in the service of the Government of Burma were not entitled to release benefits under the terms of their contract of employment. Representations for concessions, other than those permitted under the rules, were received through the Indian Embassy, Rangoon and the matter has been the subject of considerable correspondence with the Burma Government. Certain concessions granted by the Burma Government as a result of this are shown in the statement placed on the table of the House.

Statement showing terms sanctioned by the Government of Burma for Indian nationals in their service retrenched on grounds of alien nationality ✓

(1) Surplus leave spent out of Burma during the Japanese occupation will count as active service for pension of all kinds including proportionate pension.

(2) Permanent Government servants with less than five years' service are granted gratuities calculated at the rate of one month's pay for every year of active service.

(3) All leave due and admissible under the rules is granted from the date of release to permanent Government servants. A temporary Government servant discharged from service, due to no fault of his, before the expiry of the period for which the temporary post has been created, will be granted one month's pay in lieu of notice, or earned leave, whichever is more favourable to him.

(4) Permanent Government servants are granted proportionate pension in accordance with the formula $N/24 \times$ (maximum presumptive pension admissible on the grade held substantively), subject to the condition that the proportionate pension thus calculated does not exceed the minimum presumptive pension; or pension admissible under the ordinary rules, whichever is more favourable. Temporary Government servants are not granted any pensions or gratuities.

(5) Pensions and Provident Funds are being paid from treasuries in India as also leave salaries to Gazetted Officers.

Arrangements are being made for the disbursement of leave salaries of non-gazetted servants from treasuries in India.

(6) Permission to take up alternative employment while on leave preparatory to retirement, and to draw leave salary concurrently with duty pay drawn from employment elsewhere, has been given.

(7) Three months' clear notice of termination of service is being given to those actually on duty in Burma, and the grant of leave will commence from the date of expiry of notice. Temporary Government servants are not normally entitled to any notice of termination of service. If a temporary Government servant resigns his post to take up other employment, or his services are terminated with effect from the date on which the sanction for the temporary post expires, he will not be entitled to any leave or compensation. If, however, he is discharged from service, due to no fault of his, before the expiry of the period for which the temporary post has been created, he will be granted one month's pay in lieu of notice, or earned leave, whichever is more favourable to him.

(8) Those who continue in the service of the Burma Government will be granted remittance facilities upto two-thirds of their emoluments in Burma during the period of their continued service.

EQUIPMENT ALLOWANCE TO MEMBERS OF FOREIGN DELEGATIONS

*121. **Shri L. S. Bhatkar:** (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether there is any equipment allowance paid to members of Delegations, Missions etc., that go to foreign countries?

(b) Has the rate been uniform or is it varied?

(c) If so, what are the figures?

(d) Are there any delegations which were not paid this equipment allowance and if so, why?

(e) Is there any difference between the equipment allowance paid to official and non-official delegates?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) Yes, to members of some Delegations to foreign countries.

(b) The rate varies.

(c) The amount of equipment allowance ranges from Rs. 300 to Rs. 500 each.

(d) Yes; the grant of this allowance is determined by actual requirement in each case with reference to climatic conditions in the country concerned, the season in which the delegation has to go and the duration of the delegation's stay abroad.

(e) No distinction is made as between official and non-official delegates.

SETTLEMENT OF PRIVATE CLAIMS AGAINST GERMANY

*122. **Lals Raj Kanwar:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state when the question of settlement of private claims against Germany is likely to be taken up by the Government of India?

(b) How many private claims against Germany have been registered with Government?

(c) What is the nominal value of such claims?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: (a) Private claims against Germany can be classified under the following three categories:

(1) Claims against former German Government and its Agencies arising out of the war.

(2) Claims against Germany and its nationals arising out of contracts and other obligations entered into before the last war.

(3) Claims against vested German firms in India.

The position regarding settlement of the above claims is as follows:—

(1) According to Article 2 of the Paris Agreement on German Reparations, Governmental and private claims against the former German Government and its Agencies arising out of the war, should be deemed to be covered by the share of reparations allotted to each claimant country, and the extent to which such claims in India could be settled will be considered only after the total value of reparations received from Germany is known.

(2) The settlement of Indian claims against Germany and its nationals arising out of contracts and other obligations entered into before the last war, will have to wait till the conclusion of a Peace Treaty with Germany.

(3) Indian claims against German firms in India which have been vested in the Custodian of Enemy Property will be considered at the time of the liquidation of these firms.

(b) Total number of private claims so far registered is 1848.

(c) Total value of such claims is Rs. 1,21.11.000.

DISBANDMENT OR WITHDRAWAL OF AZAD KASHMIR FORCES

*123. **Shri R. K. Sidhva:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a statement made by Sardar Mahomed Ibrahim Khan, President of the so-called Azad Kashmir Government on the 14th January, 1949 at Rawalpindi and which appeared in the newspapers of the 16th January, 1949 that his Government would continue to function and that his troops will not be disbanded or withdrawn from the occupied areas;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Pakistan Government have issued a communique from Lahore published in the papers of the 17th January, 1949, corroborating the above statement and holding that Azad Government forces will remain where they were before the cease fire;

(c) whether what is stated in the Pakistan communique is in accordance with the agreed formula of cease fire between all the parties concerned;

(d) if not, in what respect the Pakistan Government communique differs from the agreement arrived at; and

(e) whether Government propose to take any action in this matter?

The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) and (b). Government have seen press reports of the statement and of the communiqué referred to by the honourable member.

(c) and (d). I place on the table of the House a collection of documents which honourable members will find useful in understanding the U.N. Kashmir resolution of the 13th August, Parts I and II of which dealt with a cease-fire and a truce respectively, and the Commission's plebiscite proposals which were adopted in a resolution, dated 5th January. I would invite special attention, as regards the resolution of the 13th August, to my letter to the Chairman of the Commission, dated 20th August, 1948, and, as regards the plebiscite proposals, to the two *aides memoire* which summarise the conversations that I had with Dr. Lozano on the 20th and 22nd December. My letter of the 20th August and the two *aides memoire* alone set out the basis on which the Government of India have accepted the resolution and the plebiscite proposals respectively and the Commission is aware of this fact.

(e) The U.N. Commission is expected in New Delhi within the next few days and I hope to make a further statement on the Kashmir question to the House after I have met the Commission.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR INDIA AND PAKISTAN AT ITS FORTIETH MEETING ON FRIDAY, 13 AUGUST 1948, IN KARACHI.

THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Having given careful consideration to the points of view expressed by the Representatives of India and Pakistan regarding the situation in the State of Jammu and Kashmir, and

Being of the opinion that the prompt cessation of hostilities and the correction of conditions, the continuance of which is likely to endanger international peace and security are as essential to implementation of its endeavours to assist the Governments of India and Pakistan in effecting a final settlement of the situation,

Resolves to submit simultaneously to the Governments of India and Pakistan the following proposal:

PART I

Cease-fire order

A. The Governments of India and Pakistan agree that their respective High Commands will issue separately and simultaneously a cease-fire order to apply to all forces under their control in the State of Jammu and Kashmir as of the earliest practicable date or dates to be mutually agreed upon within four days after these proposals have been accepted by both Governments.

B. The High Commands of the Indian and Pakistan forces agree to refrain from taking any measures that might augment the military potential of the forces under their control in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

(For the purpose of these proposals "forces under their control" shall be considered to include all forces, organised and unorganised fighting or participating in hostilities on their respective sides).

C. The Commanders-in-Chief of the forces of India and Pakistan shall promptly confer regarding any necessary local changes in present disposition which may facilitate the cease-fire.

D. In its discretion and as the Commission may find practicable, the Commission will appoint military observers who under the authority of the Commission and with the co-operation of both Commands will supervise observance of the cease-fire order.

E. The Government of India and the Government of Pakistan agree to appeal to their respective peoples to assist in creating and maintaining an atmosphere favourable to the promotion of further negotiations.

PART II

Truce Agreement

Simultaneously with the acceptance of the proposal for the immediate cessation of hostilities as outlined in Part I, both Governments accept the following principles as a basis for the formulation of a truce agreement, the details of which shall be worked out in discussion between their representatives and the Commission.

- A. 1. As the presence of troops of Pakistan in the territory of the State of Jammu and Kashmir constitutes a material change in the situation since it was represented by the Government of Pakistan before the Security Council, the Government of Pakistan agrees to withdraw its troops from that State.
2. The Government of Pakistan will use its best endeavour to secure the withdrawal from the State of Jammu and Kashmir of tribesmen and Pakistan nationals not normally resident therein who have entered the State for the purpose of fighting.
3. Pending a final solution, the territory evacuated by the Pakistan troops will be administered by the local authorities under the surveillance of the Commission.
- B. 1. When the Commission shall have notified the Government of India that the tribesmen and Pakistan nationals referred to in Part II A 2 hereof have withdrawn, thereby terminating the situation which was represented by the Government of India to the Security Council as having occasioned the presence of Indian forces in the State of Jammu and Kashmir, and further, that the Pakistan forces are being withdrawn from the State of Jammu and Kashmir, the Government of India agrees to begin to withdraw the bulk of their forces from that State in stages to be agreed upon with the Commission.
2. Pending the acceptance of the conditions for a final settlement of the situation in the State of Jammu and Kashmir, the Indian Government will maintain within the lines existing at the moment of the cease-fire those forces of its Army which in agreement with the Commission are considered necessary to assist local authorities in the observance of law and order. The Commission will have observers stationed where it deems necessary.
3. The Government of India will undertake to ensure that the Government of the State of Jammu and Kashmir will take all measures within their power to make it publicly known that peace, law and order will be safeguarded and that all human and political rights will be guaranteed.
- C. 1. Upon signature, the full text of the Truce Agreement or a communique containing the principles thereof as agreed upon between the two Governments and the Commission, will be made public.

PART III

The Government of India and the Government of Pakistan reaffirm their wish that the future status of the State of Jammu and Kashmir shall be determined in accordance with the will of the people and to that end, upon acceptance of the Truce Agreement both Governments agree to enter into consultations with the Commission to determine fair and equitable conditions whereby such free expression will be assured.

LETTER FROM THE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA IN REPLY TO THE COMMISSION'S RESOLUTION OF 13 AUGUST 1948

New Delhi, 20th August 1948.

EXCELLENCY,

On the 17th of August, my colleague, the Minister without Portfolio, and I discussed with you and your colleagues of the Commission now in Delhi the resolution which you had presented to us on the 14th instant. On the 18th, I had another discussion with you, in the course of which I tried to explain to you the doubts and difficulties which members of my Government, and representatives of the Government of Kashmir whom we consulted, had felt as the result of a preliminary but careful examination of the Commission's proposals.

2. During the several conferences that we had with the Commission when it first came to Delhi, we placed before it what we considered the basic fact of the situation which had led to the conflict in Kashmir. This fact was the unwarranted aggression, at first indirect and subsequently direct, of the Pakistan Government on Indian Dominion territory in Kashmir. The Pakistan Government denied this although it was common knowledge. In recent months, very large forces of the Pakistan regular army have further entered India.

Union territory in Kashmir and opposed the Indian Army which was sent there for the defence of the State. This, we understand now, is admitted by the Pakistan Government, and yet there has been at no time any intimation to the Government of India by the Pakistan Government of this invasion. Indeed, there has been a continual denial and the Pakistan Government have evaded answering repeated inquiries from the Government of India.

In accordance with the resolution of the Security Council of the United Nations adopted on the 17th January, 1948, the Pakistan Government should have informed the Council immediately of any material change in the situation while the matter continued to be under the consideration of the Council. The invasion of the State by large forces of the regular Pakistan Army was a very material change in the situation, and yet no information of this was given, so far as we know, to the Security Council.

The Commission will appreciate that this conduct of the Pakistan Government is not only opposed to all moral codes as well as international law and usage, but has also created a very grave situation. It is only the earnest desire of my Government to avoid any extension of the field of conflict and to restore peace, that has led us to refrain from taking any action to meet the new situation that was created by this further intrusion of Pakistan armies into Jammu and Kashmir State. The presence of the Commission in India has naturally led us to hope that any arrangement sponsored by it would deal effectively with the present situation and prevent any recurrence of aggression.

3. Since our meeting of the 18th August, we have given the Commission's resolution our most earnest thought. There are many parts of it, which we should have preferred to be otherwise and more in keeping with the fundamental facts of the situation, especially the flagrant aggression of the Pakistan Government on Indian Union territory. We recognise, however, that if a successful effort is to be made to create satisfactory conditions for a solution of the Kashmir problem without further bloodshed, we should concentrate on certain essentials only at present and seek safeguards in regard to them. It was in this spirit that I placed the following considerations before Your Excellency :

- (1) That paragraph A. 3 of Part II of the resolution should not be interpreted, or applied in practice, so as,
 - (a) to bring into question the sovereignty of the Jammu and Kashmir Government over the portion of their territory evacuated by Pakistan troops,
 - (b) to afford any recognition of the so-called "Azad Kashmir Government", or
 - (c) to enable this territory to be consolidated in any way during the period of truce to the disadvantage of the State.
- (2) That from our point of view the effective insurance of the security of the State against external aggression, from which Kashmir has suffered so much during the last ten months, was of the most vital significance and no less important than the observance of internal law and order and that, therefore, the withdrawal of Indian troops and the strength of Indian forces maintained in Kashmir should be conditioned by this overriding factor. Thus at any time the strength of the Indian forces maintained in Kashmir should be sufficient to ensure security against any form of external aggression as well as internal disorder.
- (3) That as regards Part III, should it be decided to seek a solution of the future of the State by means of a plebiscite, Pakistan should have no part in the organisation and conduct of the plebiscite or in any other matter of internal administration in the State.

4. If I understood you correctly, A.3 of Part II of the resolution does not envisage the creation of any of the conditions to which we have objected in paragraph 3 (1) of this letter. In fact, you made it clear that the Commission was not competent to recognize the sovereignty of any authority over the evacuated areas other than that of the Jammu & Kashmir Government.

As regards paragraph 3 (2), the paramount need for security is recognised by the Commission, and the time when the withdrawal of Indian forces from the State is to begin, the stages in which it is to be carried out and the strength of Indian forces to be retained in the State, are matters for settlement between the Commission and the Government of India.

Finally, you agreed that Part III, as formulated, does not in any way recognise the right of Pakistan to have any part in a plebiscite.

5. In view of this clarification, my Government, animated by a sincere desire to promote the cause of peace and thus to uphold the principles and prestige of the United Nations, have decided to accept the resolution.

Accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU,
Prime Minister, India.

REPLY FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION TO THE LETTER FROM
THE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA DATED 20 AUGUST, 1948

25 August, 1948.

EXCELLENCY,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication dated August 20, 1948, regarding the terms of the Resolution of the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan which the Commission presented to you on the 14th of August 1948.

The Commission requests me to convey to Your Excellency its view that the interpretation of the Resolution as expressed in paragraph 4 of your letter coincides with its own interpretation, it being understood that as regards point (1) (c) the local people of the evacuated territory will have freedom of legitimate political activity. In this connection, the term "evacuated territory" refers to those territories in the State of Jammu and Kashmir which are at present under the effective control of the Pakistan High Command.

The Commission wishes me to express to Your Excellency its sincere satisfaction that the Government of India has accepted the Resolution and appreciates the spirit in which this decision has been taken.

I wish to avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

JOSEF KORBEL,
Chairman.

LETTER FROM THE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
COMMISSION

Ministry of External Affairs and
Commonwealth Relations
New Delhi, 20th August 1948.

EXCELLENCY,

You will recall that in our interview with the Commission on the 17th August, I dealt at some length with the position of the sparsely populated and mountainous region of the Jammu and Kashmir State in the north. The authority of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir over this region as a whole has not been challenged or disturbed, except by roving bands of hostiles, or in some places like Sikardu which have been occupied by irregulars of Pakistan troops. The Commission's resolution, as you agreed in the course of our interview on the 18th, does not deal with the problem of administration or defence in this large area. We desire that, after Pakistan troops and irregulars have withdrawn from the territory, the responsibility for the administration of the evacuated areas should revert to the Government of Jammu & Kashmir and that for defence to us. (The only exception that we should be prepared to accept would be Gilgit.) We must be free to maintain garrisons at selected points in this area for the dual purpose of preventing the incursion of tribesmen, who obey no authority, and to guard the main trade routes from the State into Central Asia.

Accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU,
Prime Minister, India.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION TO THE PRIME
MINISTER OF INDIA IN REPLY TO HIS LETTER DATED 20 AUGUST 1948.

25 August, 1948.

EXCELLENCY,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 20 August 1948 relating to the sparsely populated and mountainous region of the State of Jammu and Kashmir in the North.

The Commission wishes me to confirm that, due to the peculiar conditions of this area, it did not specifically deal with the military aspect of the problem in its Resolution of 13 August 1948. It believes, however, that the question raised in your letter could be considered in the implementation of the Resolution.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

JOSEF KORBEL,
Chairman.

PROPOSALS PRESENTED BY THE COMMISSION TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN IN PARIS ON 11TH DECEMBER, 1948.

A. The Commission reaffirms its resolution of 13th August 1948.

B. The Governments of India and Pakistan simultaneously accept supplementary to this resolution the following principles :

1. The question of accession of the State of Jammu and Kashmir to India or Pakistan will be decided through the democratic method of a free and impartial plebiscite.
2. A plebiscite will be held when it shall be found by the Commission that the cease-fire and truce arrangements set forth in Parts I and II of the Commission's resolution of 13th August 1948 have been carried out and arrangements for the plebiscite have been completed.
3. (a) The Secretary-General of the United Nations will, in agreement with the Commission, nominate a plebiscite Administrator who shall be a personality of high international standing and commanding general confidence. He will be formally appointed to office by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.
- (b) The Plebiscite Administrator shall derive from the State of Jammu and Kashmir the powers he considers necessary for organising and conducting the plebiscite and for ensuring the freedom and impartiality of the plebiscite.
- (c) The Plebiscite Administrator shall have authority to appoint such staff of assistants and observers as he may require.
4. (a) After implementation of Parts I and II of the Commission's resolution of 13th August 1948, and when the Commission is satisfied that peaceful conditions have been restored in the State, the Commission and the Plebiscite Administrator will determine, in consultation with the Government of India, the final disposal of Indian and State armed forces, such disposal to be with due regard to the security of the State and the freedom of the plebiscite.
- (b) As regards the territory referred to in A. 2 of Part II of the resolution of 13th August, final disposal of the armed forces in that territory will be determined by the Commission and the Plebiscite Administrator in consultation with the local authorities.
5. All civil and military authorities within the State and the principal political elements of the State will be required to co-operate with the Plebiscite Administrator in the preparation for and the holding of the plebiscite.
6. (a) All citizens of the State who have left it on account of the disturbances will be invited and be free to return and to exercise all their rights as such citizens. For the purpose of facilitating repatriation there shall be appointed two Commissions, one composed of nominees of India and the other of nominees of Pakistan. The Commissions shall operate under the direction of the Plebiscite Administrator. The Governments of India and Pakistan and all authorities within the State of Jammu and Kashmir will collaborate with the Plebiscite Administrator in putting this provision into effect.
- (b) All persons (other than citizens of the State) who on or since 15th August, 1947 have entered it for other than lawful purpose, shall be required to leave the State.
7. All authorities within the State of Jammu and Kashmir will undertake to ensure, in collaboration with the Plebiscite Administrator, that :
 - (a) There is no threat, coercion or intimidation, bribery or other undue influence on the voters in the plebiscite;
 - (b) No restrictions are placed on legitimate political activity throughout the State. All subjects of the State, regardless of creed, caste or party, shall be safe and free in expressing their views and in voting on the question of the accession of the State to India or Pakistan. There shall be freedom of travel in the State, including freedom of lawful entry and exit;
 - (c) All political prisoners are released;
 - (d) Minorities in all parts of the State are accorded adequate protection; and
 - (e) There is no victimization.
8. The Plebiscite Administrator may refer to the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan problems on which he may require assistance, and the Commission may in its discretion call upon the Plebiscite Administrator to carry out on its behalf any of the responsibilities with which it has been entrusted.

9. At the conclusion of the plebiscite, the Plebiscite Administrator shall report the result thereof to the Commission and to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir. The Commission shall then certify to the Security Council whether the plebiscite has or has not been free and impartial.
10. Upon the signature of the truce agreement the details of the foregoing proposals will be elaborated in the consultations envisaged in Part III of the Commission's resolution of 13th August 1948. The Plebiscite Administrator will be fully associated in these consultations.

C. Part I and Part II of the Commission's resolution of 13th August 1948 will be put into effect without delay.

AIDES MEMOIRES RECORDING THE SUBSTANCE OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMMISSION, H. E. DR. A. LOZANO, AND THE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA ON 20TH AND 22ND DECEMBER, 1949.

Aide Memoire No. 1.

His Excellency Dr. Lozano, accompanied by his alternate, Mr. Samper, and His Excellency Mr. Colban, Personal Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations, met the Prime Minister yesterday. The Hon'ble Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar and Sri G. S. Bajpai were also present. The discussions of the Commission's plebiscite proposals fell into two parts (1) General, (2) Particular in reference to individual clauses.

2. The Prime Minister drew attention to Pakistan's repeated acts of aggression against India. In spite of the presence of Pakistan troops in Jammu and Kashmir, which is Indian territory now, and the offensive action of Pakistan troops, the Government of India had accepted the Commission's Resolution of the 13th August. Pakistan had not accepted that Resolution. In paragraph 143 of its report the Commission has referred to its conference with the Prime Minister on the conditions attached by the Government of Pakistan to its acceptance of the Resolution of the 13th August. As stated in paragraph 144 of the report, the Prime Minister had informed the Commission that he stood on his original promises that the Pakistan forces must be withdrawn from the State before the Government of India could consider any further steps. This had specific reference to an implementation of Part III of the Resolution of 13th August. Nevertheless, the Government of India had agreed to informal conversations in Paris which had resulted in the formulation of the proposals now put forward by the Commission. The Government of India naturally wondered how far this process of rejection of proposals put forward by the Commission by Pakistan and the adoption of a responsive attitude on the part of the Government of India towards the Commission's proposals could continue. The Commission must realise that there were limits to the forbearance and spirit of conciliation of the Government of India. The Prime Minister emphasised (1) that, if the Government of India were to accept the Commission's plebiscite proposals, no action could be taken in regard to them until Parts I and II of the Commission's Resolution of the 13th August had been fully implemented; (2) that in the event of Pakistan not accepting these proposals, or having accepted them, not implementing Parts I and II of the Resolution of 13th August, the Government of India's acceptance of them should not be regarded as in any way binding upon them; (3) Part III of the Commission's Resolution of 13th August provided "that the future status of the State of Jammu and Kashmir shall be determined in accordance with the will of the people and to that end, upon acceptance of the truce agreement, both Governments agree to enter into consultations with the Commission to determine fair and equitable conditions whereby such free expression will be assured". The present proposals appeared to limit the method of ascertaining the will of the people regarding the future status of the State of Jammu and Kashmir to a plebiscite. While the Government of India adhered to their position in regard to a plebiscite, they had pointed out that, in view of the difficulties of holding a plebiscite in present conditions in Kashmir, other methods of ascertaining the wish of the people should also be explored. The Commission had itself recognised the difficulties of carrying out a plebiscite in Kashmir. The Government of India feel that the exploration of other methods should not be ruled out.

3. As regards (1), Dr. Lozano enquired whether there would be objection to the appointment of a Plebiscite Administrator until Parts I and II of the Resolution of 13th August had been implemented. Both he and Mr. Colban thought that the Plebiscite Administrator could do useful exploratory work even before arrangements for holding a plebiscite could be taken in hand. The Prime Minister pointed out that it was always open to the Commission to employ advisers or experts for work within its terms of reference. The Government of India, however, would regard the appointment of a Plebiscite Administrator, as such, premature until Parts I and II of the Resolution of 13th August had been implemented. Dr. Lozano accepted (2). As regards (3), he said that the Commission wished the possibility of a plebiscite to be explored first. Should the Plebiscite

Administrator, however, find a plebiscite to be impracticable, the way would be open to consider other methods for ensuring a free expression by the people of Jammu and Kashmir of their wish regarding the future status of the State.

B. 1. Preamble. The phrase "The Governments of India and Pakistan simultaneously accept" is incorrect in that either Government may not accept the principles supplementary to the Resolution of 13th August. Even if both Governments accept them, the acceptance cannot be simultaneous. The wording should be changed accordingly.

B. 3 (b). The question was raised whether the form of words employed was intended to give to the Plebiscite Administrator powers of interference in the administration of the State, e.g., by "direction and supervision of the State Forces and Police", mentioned in paragraph B.8 of the Security Council's Resolution of the 21st April 1948. Dr. Lozano said that this was not the intention of the Commission and that the words quoted above had been deliberately omitted. The Prime Minister pointed out that all that the Plebiscite Administrator could in reason expect was that, for the purpose of organising and conducting the plebiscite and ensuring its freedom and impartiality, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir should give him such assistance as he might require. Dr. Lozano said that a Plebiscite Administrator of international standing and commanding general confidence who would be appointed after consultation with the Government of India could be expected to act reasonably and that the Commission did not intend that he should usurp the functions of the State Government in the field of normal administration and law and order. His functions and powers would be limited to ensuring that the plebiscite was free and impartial.

B. 4(b). The Prime Minister drew attention to the fact that the Azad Kashmir forces which had been armed and equipped by Pakistan and were under the operational command of the Pakistan army ran into tens of thousands. Their presence in the territories referred to in A.3 of Part II of the Resolution of the 13th August even after demobilisation, would be a constant threat to the territory under the control of Indian and State forces, a deterrent to the return of many refugees, and an obstacle to the free expression of opinion regarding the future status of the State by those who might be opposed to the accession of the State to Pakistan. Dr. Lozano pointed out that it was the Commission's intention that there should be large scale disarmament of these forces, though it would not be possible to require withdrawal, from these territories, of genuine inhabitants of these areas.

B. 6(a). Dr. Lozano agreed that it was not the Commission's intention that the Pakistan Commission should operate outside Pakistan. Thus, the Pakistan Commission would not operate in the territory referred to in A.3 of Part II of the Resolution of 13th August. The Prime Minister then raised the question of the "free return" to the State of all citizens who had left it on account of the disturbances. He said that the tendency of Pakistan would be to push as many people as possible into Jammu and Kashmir. If the plebiscite was to be limited, as it should be, to genuine citizens of the State, the entry of persons claiming to be citizens into the State will have to be most carefully checked. How was this to be achieved? Mr. Lozano said that the Commission fully realised the necessity of an accurate and effective check but had not gone into details. Possibly those returning to the State could be stopped and examined at the frontier. The Prime Minister pointed out that, considering the length of the frontier and the ease with which people could slip across the border over mountain tracks, a check on the frontier would be neither easy nor effective, except by the deployment of large forces.

Apart from the problem of entry, there is the even more important problem of the rehabilitation and protection of those who have left the State on account of recent disturbances. Homes have been destroyed; property has been lost; there has been wholesale dispossession of persons from the land that they used to cultivate. It is not enough to invite these persons to return to the State. They have to be given full security and to be housed, fed and put in a position to maintain themselves. It may be necessary to lodge these returning citizens of the State, temporarily in camps for distribution to their homes. They could not, however be expected to remain in relief camps for long or to take part in a plebiscite from such camps. The administrative and economic implications of this task were at once significant and onerous. They must receive full attention.

B. 6(b). It is assumed that the Government of Jammu and Kashmir will decide whether or not a person entered the State for a lawful purpose.

B. 7(b). India is a secular State; the United Nations also are a secular organisation. Pakistan aims at being a theocratic State. An appeal to religious fanaticism could not be regarded as legitimate political activity. Dr. Lozano agreed that any political activity which might tend to disturb law and order could not be regarded as legitimate. The same test would apply to freedom of press and of speech.

As regards the freedom of lawful entry and exit this must obviously be governed by B.6 of the proposals. It is assumed that in the territory under their control entry and exit will be regulated by rules framed for the purpose by the Government of Jammu and

Kashmir with due regard to the security of the State and the maintenance of law and order. Dr. Lozano said that a system of permits would probably be necessary.

B. 7(c). Persons guilty of ordinary offences against the law will not be regarded as political prisoners.

5. In all their negotiations the Government of India have emphasised the paramount need of ensuring the security of the State. The Commission recognised this in their Resolution of the 13th August; they have also provided in 4(a) of the Plebiscite proposals that measures with regard to the final disposal of Indian and State forces will be taken with due regard to the security of the State. The Government of India wish to emphasise the supreme importance which they attach to adequate provision for the security of the State in all contingencies.

Aide Memoire II.

His Excellency Dr. Lozano and His Excellency Mr. Colban met the Prime Minister at 11 A.M. The Hon'ble Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar, Sri Girja Shanker Bajpai and Mr. Pai were also present.

2. Dr. Lozano said that the *aide memoire* of the conference which took place on Monday, the 20th December, was a correct account of the proceedings. He suggested, however, that the phrase "large scale disarming" of the Azad Kashmir forces used in the portion of the *aide memoire* dealing with B.4(b) of the Commission's plebiscite proposals did not, perhaps, represent the Commission's intention. What the Commission had in mind was the disbanding of these forces, disarming, it was assumed, would follow. The Prime Minister pointed out that disbandment was not the same thing as disarming. Pakistan had raised something like 35 battalions of 28,000 to 30,000 men who now formed part of the Azad Kashmir forces. The presence of such a large number of armed people, even if the regular formations were disbanded, would not be conducive, either to ensure the security of that part of Jammu and Kashmir which is under the control of Indian and State forces, or the security of those inhabitants of the territories referred in A.3 of Part II of the Resolution of 13th August who did not fully subscribe to or share the political views of pro-Pakistan elements. Moreover, the question of the re-entry into these territories of State citizens who had left it on account of the present conflict had to be kept in mind. With such a large number of members of the Azad Kashmir forces under arms, former inhabitants of these territories who held different political views would not dare to re-enter and, therefore, would be debarred from participation in a "free and impartial" plebiscite. In view of this explanation, Dr. Lozano agreed that the phrase "large scale disarming" should be regarded as correctly interpreting the Commission's intention.

3. Discussion then turned on B.10 of the proposals. Dr. Lozano, answering an enquiry of the Prime Minister, said that the Commission did not contemplate that the Plebiscite Administrator should undertake any administrative functions in regard to the plebiscite until Parts I and II of the Commission's Resolution of the 13th August 1948 had been implemented. Until such implementation, the conditions for the discharge of such functions would not exist. What the Commission had in mind was that discussions on details connected with the plebiscite might begin as soon as possible as this would create a good impression all round. Monsieur Colban supported this view on the ground that the announcement of a Plebiscite Administrator of high standing would have an excellent psychological effect. Monsieur Colban added that, of course, if difficulties arose in the implementation of Part II of the Resolution of the 13th August, the preliminary consultations regarding the functions of the Plebiscite Administrator and other detailed arrangements for the plebiscite would have to be deferred. The Prime Minister replied that, under the Commission's proposals, the Governments of India and Jammu and Kashmir assumed a great many responsibilities while Pakistan had to do practically nothing. The Governments of India and Jammu and Kashmir could not, in fairness, be expected to discharge any of their responsibilities regarding the plebiscite until there was satisfactory evidence that Pakistan was carrying out its obligations under Part II of the Resolution of 13th August. Moreover, once the present proposals had been accepted, the things left over for discussion with the Plebiscite Administrator would be (1) his functions and (2) detailed arrangements for carrying out a plebiscite. A consideration of (2) would clearly be impracticable until Parts I and II of the Resolution of 13th August had been implemented. Unless cease-fire was carried out and Pakistan forces, hostile tribesmen and Pakistan nationals who had entered the State for purposes of fighting had withdrawn, there could not be, in the territories referred to in A.3 of Part II of the Resolution of 13th August, any local authorities with whom plebiscite arrangements could be discussed. B.9, as at present worded, could be interpreted to mean that consultations with the Plebiscite Administrator should start immediately on the signature of the truce. This clearly was not feasible. Dr. Lozano and Monsieur Colban pointed out that, when the paragraph in question was drafted, all these considerations were not present to the mind of the Commission. The Commission, according to Dr. Lozano, had assumed that since the Prime Minister of India informed the Commission, two days after it had placed before him the conditions attached by the Government

of Pakistan to their acceptance of the Resolution of the 13th August, that he stood on his original premises that the Pakistan forces must be withdrawn from the State before the Government of India could consider any further steps, action in relation to B.9 would be feasible only after satisfactory progress had been made with the implementation of Part II of the Resolution of 13th August. He and Monsieur Colban agreed that the consultations envisaged in B.9 could take place only after the Commission was satisfied that satisfactory progress had been made with the implementation of Part II of the Resolution, that is after hostile tribesmen, Pakistan forces and Pakistan nationals who had entered Jammu and Kashmir for the purpose of fighting had withdrawn from State territory. Dr. Lozano said that this was the interpretation of B.9 which they would present to the Pakistan Government in Karachi.

4. Dr. Lozano stressed the importance of appointing the Plebiscite Administrator as soon as possible. In view of the preliminaries that had to be gone through, he thought that it might take some time before the Plebiscite Administrator was finally appointed. The Prime Minister pointed out that, if Pakistan accepted the present proposals and carried out its obligations under Part II of the Resolution of 13th August promptly, he saw no reason why the appointment should take much time. What he wished to emphasise was that there would be nothing which the Plebiscite Administrator could usefully do in India until progress had been made with the implementation of Part II of the Resolution as now explained by Dr. Lozano and Mr. Colban.

5. As regards alternative methods of ascertaining the wish of the people regarding the future status of Jammu and Kashmir, Dr. Lozano said that the statement in paragraph 3 of the *aide memoire* dated the 21st December, 1948 was substantially similar to his own record which reads "Dr. Lozano said that it would be up to the Plebiscite Administrator to report to the Security Council (through the Commission) if he found the plebiscite procedure to be impossible for technical or practical reasons. The Plebiscite Administrator and/or Commission could then recommend alternative solutions."

6. Concluding the discussion, the Prime Minister once again emphasised the need for security for displaced State nationals returning to the territory referred to in Part II A.3 of the Commission's Resolution of 13th August. Equally important would be the task of rehabilitation of refugees returning to this area as well as to the part of the State under the control of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir. Hundreds of thousands of persons were involved. Not only organisation and machinery but time and money would be needed to accomplish the formidable task of restoring these unhappy persons to what once was their home. Until this task was completed, the conditions for a free and impartial plebiscite would not exist. Dr. Lozano recognised the importance of this matter and pointed out that it will have to be carefully gone into when the consultations on the details of the present proposals take place.

EXTRACT FROM GOVERNMENT OF INDIA'S REPLY DATED 23RD DECEMBER, 1948, TO THE COMMISSION'S PLEBISCITE PROPOSALS

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS,
New Delhi, 23rd December, 1948.

Your Excellency,

I have already forwarded to you, authentic copies of two *Aides Memoire* embodying the substance of your discussions with the Prime Minister of India. On the basis of the explanation given by you of the Commission's Plebiscite proposals and the understanding arrived at in the course of the conversations between you and the Prime Minister, the Government of India, animated by a sincere desire for a peaceful settlement of the Kashmir dispute and by their willingness to assist the U. N. Commission in achieving this objective, have decided to accept the proposals.

* * * * *

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,
Sd. G. S. Bajpai,
Secretary-General.

His Excellency Dr. Alfredo Lozano,
United Nations Commission for India & Pakistan,
Delhi.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR INDIA AND PAKISTAN AT ITS MEETING HELD IN NEW YORK, ON 5TH JANUARY, 1949

The United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan.

Having received from the Government of India and Pakistan its communications dated December 23 and December 25, 1948, respectively their acceptance of the following principles which are supplementary to the Commission's Resolution of August 13, 1948:

- (1) The question of the accession of the State of Jammu and Kashmir to India or Pakistan will be decided through the democratic method of a free and impartial plebiscite.
- (2) A plebiscite will be held when it shall be found by the Commission that the cease-fire and truce arrangements set forth in Parts I and II of the Commission's Resolution of August 13, 1948, have been carried out and arrangements for the plebiscite have been completed.
- (3) (a) The Secretary-General of the United Nations will in agreement with the Commission nominate a Plebiscite Administrator who shall be a personality of high inter-national standing and commanding general confidence. He will be formally appointed to office by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.
- (b) The Plebiscite Administrator shall derive from the State of Jammu and Kashmir the powers he considers necessary for organising and conducting the plebiscite and for ensuring the freedom and impartiality of the plebiscite.
- (c) The Plebiscite Administrator shall have authority to appoint such staff or assistants and observers as he may require.
- (4) (a) After implementation of Parts I and II of the Commission's Resolution of August 13, 1948, and when the Commission is satisfied that peaceful conditions have been restored in the State, the Commission and the Plebiscite Administrator will determine in consultation with the Government of India the final disposal of Indian and State Armed Forces, such disposal to be with due regard to the security of the State and the freedom of the plebiscite.
- (b) As regards the territory referred to in A(2) of Part II of the Resolution of August 13, 1948, final disposal of the Armed Forces in that territory will be determined by the Commission and the Plebiscite Administrator in consultation with the local authorities.
- (5) All civil and military authorities within the State and the principal political elements of the State will be required to co-operate with the Plebiscite Administrator in the preparation for and the holding of the plebiscite.
- (6) (a) All citizens of the State who have left it on account of the disturbances will be invited and be free to return and to exercise all their rights as such citizens. For the purpose of facilitating repatriation there shall be appointed two Commissions, one composed of nominees of India and the other of nominees of Pakistan. The Commissions shall operate under the direction of the Plebiscite Administrator. The Governments of India and Pakistan and all authorities within the State of Jammu and Kashmir will collaborate with the Plebiscite Administrator in putting this provision into effect.
- (b) All persons (other than citizens of the State) who on or since August 15, 1947, have entered it for other than lawful purpose shall be required to leave the State.
- (7) All authorities within the State of Jammu and Kashmir will undertake to ensure in collaboration with the Plebiscite Administrator that
 - (a) there is no threat, coercion or intimidation, bribery or other undue influence on the voters in the plebiscite;
 - (b) no restrictions are placed on legitimate political activity throughout the State. All subjects of the State regardless of creed, caste or party shall be safe and free in expressing their views and in voting on the question of the accession of the State to India or Pakistan. There shall be freedom of the Press, speech and assembly and freedom of travel in the State, including freedom of lawful entry and exit;
 - (c) all political prisoners are released;
 - (d) minorities in all parts of the State are accorded adequate protection; and
 - (e) there is no victimization.

- (8) The Plebiscite Administrator may refer to the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan problems on which he may require assistance and the Commission may in its discretion call upon the Plebiscite Administrator to carry out on its behalf any of the responsibilities with which it had been entrusted.
- (9) At the conclusion of the plebiscite the Plebiscite Administrator shall report the result thereof to the Commission and to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir. The Commission shall then certify to the Security Council whether the plebiscite has or has not been free and impartial.
- (10) Upon the signature of the truce agreement the details of the foregoing proposals will be elaborated in the consultations envisaged in part III of the Commission's Resolution of August 13, 1948. The Plebiscite Administrator will be fully associated in these consultations.

Commends the Governments of India and Pakistan for their prompt action in ordering a cease-fire to take effect from one minute before midnight of January 1, 1949 pursuant to the agreement arrived at as provided for by the Commission's Resolution of August 13, 1948 and

Resolves to return in the immediate future to the sub-continent to discharge the responsibilities imposed upon it by the Resolution of August 13, 1948 and by the foregoing principles.

APPENDIX

(Vide answer to starred question No. 85)

Agreement reached at the Inter-Dominion Conference held at New Delhi from 6th to 14th, December, 1948

Whereas the Governments of the two Dominions agree that mass exodus of minorities is not in the interest of either Dominion and they are determined to take every possible step to discourage such exodus and to create such conditions as would check mass exodus in either direction and would encourage and facilitate, as far as possible, return of evacuees to their ancestral homes, the two Dominions agree as follows :

SECTION I

(1) The responsibility for protecting the lives and property of the minority communities and for ensuring that they receive justice and that their civic rights are fully safeguarded rests on the Government of the Dominion in which the minorities reside. The allegiance and loyalty of the minorities is to the State of which they are citizens and it is therefore their rights and duty to have their grievances redressed by the Government of their own State. Leaders in each Dominion should make public declarations to this effect at every suitable opportunity as part of the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement.

(2) (i) In Pakistan and in India every citizen shall have equal rights, opportunities, privileges and obligations; and there shall be no discrimination against the minorities whose cultural and religious rights shall be fully safeguarded.

N.B.—"Cultural" rights include "educational" rights.

(ii) Where direct recruitment is made otherwise than by open competition, minorities shall be given fair representation in the services.

3. Any propaganda for the amalgamation of Pakistan and India or of portions thereof including East Bengal on the one hand and West Bengal or Assam or Cooh Behar or Tripura on the other, shall be discouraged.

N.B.—The word "propaganda" shall be taken as including any organisation which might be set up for the purpose.

(4) (i) Both Governments recognise that the wholehearted co-operation of the Press is essential for creating a better atmosphere and therefore agree that every effort should be made, in consultation with the representatives of the Press, wherever possible, to ensure that the Press in each Dominion does not—

(a) indulge in propaganda against the other Dominion,

(b) publish exaggerated versions of news of a character likely to inflame, or cause fear or alarm to the population or a section of the population in either Dominion.

(c) publish material likely to be construed as advocating a declaration of war by one Dominion against the other Dominion or suggesting the inevitability of war between the two Dominions.

(ii) An Inter-Dominion Information Consultative Committee should be set up to meet once in two months, or more frequently if necessary, alternately in Delhi and Karachi and keep under review the activities of—

- (a) the press,
- (b) books, pamphlets and publications,
- (c) broadcasting, and
- (d) films.

This Committee shall have an equal number of representatives from either Dominion consisting of one Minister from each Dominion, and not more than two Government officers and two representatives of the press of each Dominion. The subjects listed under (b), (c) and (d) shall be dealt with only by the official members of the Committee.

(iii) Both Governments shall ensure that their respective organisations handling publicity, including publicity through the radio and the film, refrain from and control—

- (a) propaganda against the other Dominion, and
- (b) Publication of exaggerated versions of news of a character likely to inflame, or cause fear or alarm to, the population, or any section of the population in either Dominion.

(5) Complaints from minorities in both the Dominions, that action is not taken on their reports against oppression or unfair treatment, should be promptly and fairly looked into and early remedial measures taken.

(6) Both in East Bengal and West Bengal there shall be set up before the 15th of February, 1949, a Provincial Minorities Board and, under the Provincial Board, District Minorities Boards for the express object of protecting the interests of the minorities, removing fear from their minds and inspiring confidence in them. These Boards shall ensure that the grievances of the minorities are promptly brought to the notice of the authorities and that they are satisfactorily and promptly dealt with.

It is suggested that the Provincial Minorities Board and the District Minorities Boards should each be composed of five members, three of whom at least should belong to the major minority community to be selected by the members of the Provincial Legislatures belonging to the minority communities. The remaining two shall be persons of influence and shall be nominated by the Provincial Government. The District Magistrate shall be the Chairman of the District Minorities Board and a Minister to be nominated by the Provincial Government shall be the Chairman of the Provincial Board.

(7) The two Dominions and their Provincial Governments shall declare and make it widely known to their officers and other employees that any Government servant proved to have been guilty either of dereliction of duty in protecting the lives and properties of the members of the minority community or of directly or indirectly ill-treating the members of the minority community or showing prejudice against the minority community in the discharge of his duties, shall receive exemplary and deterrent punishment, and such punishment shall be given full publicity in each Dominion.

(8) Severe action shall be taken against any person or group of persons creating or attempting to create any apprehension or fear of insecurity or alarm in the minds of the minority communities.

(9) (i) The two Dominions shall take adequate steps—

- (a) to remove complaints regarding discrimination in the grant of export and import licences and railway priorities to members of the minority community as such;
- (b) to curb all tendencies towards an economic boycott of minorities or strangulation of their normal economic life.

(ii) The two Dominion Governments shall request their respective Provincial Governments to observe the same principles in their own sphere.

10. (1) The Governments of East Bengal and West Bengal will promote legislation providing for the setting up of Evacuee Property Management Boards in districts or areas from where a substantial exodus has taken place. These Boards will assume management of properties only on the definite request of their owners. Their functions will be of a managerial character and they will not have the power to alienate the property entrusted to them for management. These Boards shall be composed of members of the minority community.

N.B.—“Evacuee” shall be defined as a person who has left the Province in question on or after 1st June, 1947, and who declares his intention to return as soon as normal conditions are restored to the satisfaction of the two Governments.

(2) The two Chief Secretaries of East and West Bengal should meet at an early date to finalise the proposals for necessary legislation. The Governments of East and West Bengal will legislate by the 31st January 1949 for the setting up of an Evacuee Property Management Board in every district or area or their respective provinces referred to in sub-clause (1). These Boards should be set up as soon thereafter as possible.

SECTION II

(1) In order to ensure the smooth working of this Agreement in so far as they are concerned, the Chief Secretaries of the two Provinces, viz., East Bengal and West Bengal, shall meet at least once a month. Whenever matters concerning Assam, Cooch Behar and Tripura are likely to be discussed, the Chief Secretary, West Bengal shall arrange for their representatives to be present.

The Premiers of the two Provinces of East Bengal and West Bengal, or their nominees, shall meet not less than once in two months for the same purpose.

(2) (i) Each Dominion should set up an organisation at the Centre to watch the implementing of the agreements reached and to bring up cases of breaches. It will be the responsibility of each Dominion to ensure that its Provincial Governments and acceding States carry out these agreements in so far as they are concerned. If a Province or a State for any reason considers that an agreement or any part of it should not be implemented, it should report the matter to its Dominion Government who should bring up the matter at the monthly Inter-Dominion meetings referred to in (ii) below.

(ii) All such cases of breaches or non-implementation or possible modifications arising out of the experience of the arrangements made should be discussed at monthly meetings to be held at the Dominion Minister level alternately at Delhi and Karachi.

(iii) Each Dominion should nominate a Minister who for the next few months would be responsible for this work and who will attend those meetings.

(iv) All outstanding matters and such new matters as may arise from day to day relating to East Punjab, East Punjab States, including Alwar and Bharatpur, on the one side, and West Pakistan including acceding States on the other, will also be brought up for discussion and settlement at these meetings.

(3) The question of migration of Muslims from East Bengal to Assam and the migration of Muslims who have been in Assam prior to Partition into East Bengal shall also be dealt with at the Inter-Dominion meetings at the Minister level provided in paragraph 2(ii) above.

(4) It is agreed that if any criminal proceedings have been started in any of the two provinces of East and West Bengal, by the Government of the Province against Government servants of the other Province in respect of matters arising in course of execution of their duties, such proceedings should be withdrawn and the Government servants concerned, if taken into custody, should be released simultaneously in the two Provinces on a date not later than the 1st January 1949.

(5) In regard to migration to East Bengal from India and to West Bengal from Pakistan, the Government of each of the two Dominions and the Governments of the two Provinces of East Bengal and West Bengal should be implementing this Agreement and otherwise create as early as possible conditions which would remove fear from the infuse confidence into the minds of those citizens who have migrated to the other Dominion and should instruct the Deputy High Commissioner (located in East or West Bengal according as the migration has been from India to Pakistan or from Pakistan to India) to make it known amongst evacuees there and to render to them all possible assistance so as to enable them to return to their original homes, lands and occupations. The Government of the Province to which migration has taken place should give all facilities and assistance to the Deputy High Commissioner and to the evacuees.

SECTION III

On receipt from Pakistan of relevant data relating to exodus on a large scale from areas in India other than West Bengal, Assam, Cooch Behar, Tripura, East Punjab, East Punjab States, Bharatpur and Alwar, another Inter-Dominion Conference should be called to consider action on the lines similar to those proposed above or on any other suitable lines in respect of—

- (a) protection and other safeguards for the property of refugees who have gone out from one Dominion to the other temporarily or otherwise; and
- (b) creation of conditions in any affected area which will reassure the minorities that their interests and rights are fully safeguarded and will prevent exodus or will induce evacuees to return to their homes.

N.B.—The above sections of the Agreement were drawn up in accordance with the recommendations of the Political Committee, a note on which is at Appendix I.

SECTION IV

Economic Committee

The Conference considered the report of the Economic Committee which reviewed the agreements and made recommendations on certain other related matters. The Conference made certain modifications and these have been incorporated in the report which is at Appendices IV A, B and C.

The Committee was not able to reach any decision on the question of rebates of excise duties levied by India on exports to Pakistan. The Conference considered the points of view of the two Governments and agreed to defer the matter for further consideration.

It had been agreed by India to make available 750,000 lbs. of tobacco to Pakistan under the Karachi Agreement. It was represented by Pakistan that it would not be possible for it to lift this quantity as India wished to impose maximum duty. It was suggested that an *ad hoc* arrangement might be reached on this point and sufficient reduction may be allowed to enable Pakistan to import this quantity of tobacco. The Government of India agreed to consider this suggestion.

SECTION V

Boundary Disputes and Border Incidents

The report of the Committee for Boundary Disputes and Border Incidents between East Bengal and West Bengal, between East Bengal and Assam, and between East Punjab and West Punjab was considered by the Conference and approved with certain amendments which have been incorporated in the report at Appendix V.

SECTION VI

Evacuee Property

1. The recommendations of the Evacuee Property Committee and of the Steering Committee (Appendix VI) were discussed at the Conference, and it was agreed at the request of the Pakistan representatives who wished to have an opportunity for further consultation with their Government that the following points should be further discussed at an Inter-Dominion Conference at Minister level commencing on the 10th January 1949:

- (1) Extended areas as agreed to in para. 2 of the minutes of the Conference of July 22nd.
- (2) Further extension of areas as proposed in para. 4 of the minutes of the Conference of July 22nd.
- (3) Whether Pakistan agree that the settlement of agricultural property should be on a governmental level or consider that it should be as between individual evacuees (see para. 5 of the minutes of the Conference of July 22nd and part II of the draft agreement of March 22-25).
- (4) Setting up of a Joint Urban Assessment Board (*vide* para. 9 of the minutes of Inter-Dominion Conference of July 22nd and para. 4(2) of Part III of the draft agreement of March 22-25).
- (5) Whether Pakistan are prepared to agree to India's Proposal that: the settlement should be by unrestricted exchanges between individual evacuees in respect of all urban immovable property (*vide* last two sentences of para. 9 of minutes of Conference of July 22nd).

2. It was agreed further by the Conference that the following items will be included in the agenda of the next Inter-Dominion Conference to be held at Karachi on the 10th January 1949:

- (i) Consideration of trust property *vide* para. 14 of the Conference of July 22nd.
- (ii) Jagirs and Muafis *vide* page 11, para. D of record of discussion in Evacuee Property Committee of the Inter-Dominion Conference held on 6th/9th December.

3. The Conference decided that para. 16 of the report of the Evacuee Property Committee should for purposes of convenience of reference be added as an annexure to the draft scheme of the Secretariat level conference of March 22-25 and to the minutes of the Inter-Dominion Conference of July 22nd.

4. Subject to the above, the Conference accepted the Committee's Report.

SECTION VII

Provincial Partition Matters

(Assam, Bengal and Punjab)

The Conference considered the report of the Committee on Provincial Partition matters (Appendix VII) and while approving its conclusions directed that the Provinces concerned should do everything possible to expedite the final settlements.

SECTION VIII

Stores

The Conference considered the report of the Stores Committee (Appendix VIII) and accepted it.

SECTION IX

Insurance

The Conference accepted, after consideration, the report of the Insurance Committee (Appendix IX).

SECTION X

Museums

The Conference considered the views of the members of the Museum Committee and directed that the two Dominions should proceed to implement points on which agreement was reached, leaving over points of disagreement for consideration at a subsequent meeting.

Appendix I

REPORT OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE

APPOINTED BY THE INTER DOMINION CONFERENCE

Terms of reference.—To review the progress so far made in implementing the political clauses of the Calcutta Agreement and in particular to examine the complaints made by each Dominion in respect of—

- (1) the press in the other Dominion;
- (2) treatment of minorities; and
- (3) the exodus of minorities from one Dominion to the other; and
 - (a) to suggest measures to ensure the implementation of the Calcutta Agreement and to recommend such other steps as may be necessary to ensure that such complaints do not arise in future; and
 - (b) to examine all causes (including economic causes, though these need be considered only in a general way in the Committee) which have the effect of worsening Inter-Dominion relations, or of causing the exodus of minorities on a considerable scale, and to make recommendations calculated to stem the exodus of minority communities, to encourage their return and generally to improve Inter-Dominion relations.

(2) The Committee met on the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th December, 1948. It reviewed the clauses in Sections I, II and III of the Inter-Dominion Agreement reached in Calcutta in April last. It modified some of the clauses and made certain additions.

(3) The Committee considered the statement entitled "Draft Charter of Minority Rights (revised)", which was placed before it by the Leader of the Pakistan Delegation. On the question of preservation of the personal law of minorities, the Committee recorded the following statement:

"The Committee recognise that while each Dominion has the inherent right to legislate with regard to all its citizens, there is no intention on either side to interfere with the existing personal law of the minorities except in matters of vital national interest".

(4) In regard to the other paragraphs of the "Draft Charter" the Leader of the Indian Delegation explained that the provisions in some of the paragraphs have already been accepted by the Indian Constituent Assembly or in the Calcutta Agreement and the provisions in the other paragraphs are covered by clauses of the Draft Constitution which have not yet been considered by the Indian Constituent Assembly.

The Pakistan representatives said that on their part while the principles of the "Draft Charter" are generally acceptable to them, they could not bind the Constituent Assembly of Pakistan.

Review of Calcutta Agreement

PARAGRAPH 3(1) OF THE CALCUTTA AGREEMENT

Decision taken at Calcutta	Review of present position	Fresh recommendations
(a) The Customs authorities of the two Dominions should together work out a common set of simple baggage rules applicable on both sides to passengers	Common set of baggage rules has been worked out and is in force since June, 1948.	(1) Subject to certain modifications now agreed upon, the rules should be published in both the Dominions on 20th December, 1949 for general information.

Decision taken at Calcutta	Review of present position	Fresh recommendations
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travelling from one Dominion to the other.

(2) Although restrictions exist at present on both sides regarding export of jewellery made wholly or mainly of gold, gold jewellery in use should be treated on the same lines as other jewellery and made eligible to the concession under the baggage rules.

(b) The application of the baggage rules should be made with due consideration so as to avoid irksome restrictions and unnecessary harassment of passengers.

Although instructions on the subject have been issued, the danger of smuggling of cloth has been responsible for far more detailed examination than would otherwise have been necessary.

(1) Attention of all Customs Authorities of both Dominions should again be drawn to the supreme need of reducing the detailed examination of baggage or personal searches to the minimum necessary to check smuggling.

(d) Personal searches should as a rule be avoided, and only carried out in cases where there is genuine suspicion of smuggling. In such cases, the search should only be conducted under the personal orders of the seniormost Customs official present and a record of all searches made should be maintained. Liaison Officers should be allowed facilities to ensure a fair application of the rules.

(2) Where smuggling of cloth was found to have decreased the Customs Authorities should be instructed to reduce the intensity of their examination of baggage for this purpose.

(e) Passengers baggage should be checked only by duly authorised Customs staff and no one else.

There have been reports that these clauses have not always been observed.

(1) It should again be pointed out to the Customs Authorities as well as the Provincial Government and the Military authorities of both dominions that examination of passengers' baggage including baggage in transit through either dominion is the function solely of authorised customs staff, and where transit takes place through authorised routes it should not be interfered with by any other authority.

(g) Passengers should be shown every consideration and as far as possible suitable arrangements should be made to facilitate the easy movement of through-passengers without needless examination and harassment.

(2) The baggage rules will be amended to provide for the sealing of individual packages carried with the passengers so that such packages as well as those carried in the Guard's van might be exempt from examination *en route*.

(f) Once a passenger has passed the Customs frontier, no further search or examination of his luggage or person should be made.

(3) A suitable procedure should be devised for sealing railway wagons and holds in steamers and flats as well as individual packages so that goods in transit might be exempt from examination *en route*.

Decision taken at Calcutta	Review of present position	Fresh recommendations
<p>(e) The personal search of women passengers if at all made, should be carried out only by Women officers, as provided for by the Sea Customs Act.</p> <p>(f) All authorised Customs Officers should carry suitable badges or other means of identification.</p>	<p>Necessary instructions have already been issued to the Customs Authorities of both Dominions.</p>	
<p>(f) Both Dominions should re-examine their Tariff Schedules and their import and Export Control Notifications to see what relaxations are possible with a view to minimise or render unnecessary any Customs formalities in regard to the personal effects of passengers.</p>	<p>The difficulties have been largely due to the check maintained over the smuggling of cloth as well as in respect of gold jewellery. As regards Tariff Schedules and control notifications see also clauses (b) and (c) of next para.</p>	<p>Recommendations against clauses (a), (b) and (d) of this para and clause (b) of the next para should improve matters.</p>
<p>(h) No person other than an authorised Govt. servant, e.g. a Police Officer duly authorised may hold up any person crossing the frontier on the ground that he is carrying or suspected to be carrying contraband goods or is smuggling. Such a person should be taken or directed to the nearest Customs post by such officer for examination and no examination of his luggage or person should be made by any one who does not belong to the Customs staff. All such authorised officers should wear distinctive badges.</p>	<p>There were still some complaints of persons being detained by individuals, officials or otherwise, not duly authorised.</p>	<p>(1) Officers of police or other departments should be empowered to function under this paragraph only in respect of places and routes where land customs stations did not exist and customs staff were not available.</p> <p>(2) Both Dominions should bring this arrangement to the notice of their Provincial Governments and other local authorities and all officers other than customs officers who were authorised for the purpose of preventing smuggling should wear suitable distinctive badges for purposes of identification.</p>

PARAGRAPH 3 (2) OF THE CALCUTTA AGREEMENT

<p>(a) As far as possible, the two Dominions should set up parallel Customs posts as near to each other as possible so that for each Customs post in one Dominion there is an opposite number.</p>	<p>On the whole there are fewer Customs posts on the Pakistan side than on the Indian side in the Eastern Region.</p>	<p>(1) The two Collectors of Land Customs should meet within a fortnight and review the position, and make recommendations regarding the setting up of a number of parallel posts, where necessary. Decisions should be taken within a month thereafter and communicated to the other Dominion.</p> <p>2. Pakistan should particularly examine the feasibility of having Customs posts at Juri Manu and Belonia on the Tripura border.</p>
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Decision taken at Calcutta.	Review of present position	Fresh recommendations.
<p>(b) Having regard to the economic considerations, both Dominions should try to reduce the number of commodities which when moving from one Dominion to the other shall be subject to an import or export duty. In fact only specified articles should be liable to duty and the rest should be free. This would obviate the absurd difficulties which have arisen in regard to perishables such as fish, fresh fruit, etc.</p>	<p>(b) The Pakistan representatives pointed out that the Government of Pakistan had in fact imposed import duties only on a short list of specified articles imported from India and the rest were free. The Government of India, however, had continued to apply their full customs tariff to Pakistan except in respect of a list of articles which had recently been specifically exempted. The action taken by India was not in accordance with the Calcutta recommendation and it was also not sufficient to fulfil the purpose of the recommendation made in clause 10 (f) of the Calcutta report that tariff schedules should be relaxed with a view to minimising or rendering unnecessary customs formalities in regard to personal effects of passengers. The Indian representatives stated that they were not prepared to adopt the system of taxing only specified items since they regarded the method adopted by them as being more logical and more simple in administration and were of opinion that substantially it fulfilled the Calcutta recommendation. They offered, however, to consider any suggestions which might be made by Pakistan regarding additional items produced or manufactured in that Dominion which they might wish to be added to the list of exemptions.</p>	<p>(1) India should exempt bamboo (about which there was some doubt) and articles of cottage industry of Pakistan made of mother of Pearl, corn bone or shell.</p> <p>(2) India should consider exemption in respect of the following items of Pakistan manufacture:— Ethedrine Asphlat Crudo Potassium Nitrates (Manures).</p> <p>(3) Subject to further examination as they were protected items, both the Dominions should consider exempting indigenous cycle parts and accessories. (Items 75 (6), 75 (7) and 75 (8)).</p> <p>(4) Both Dominions should consider exempting from import duties all drug and medicines of indigenous origin in the other Dominion including the drugs and medicines containing spirit.</p> <p>(5) The duties on tea, tobacco, betelnuts and bandloom cloth which entail local and administrative problems will be further considered.</p> <p>(6) Commodities in respect of which either dominion removes the import duty at the request of the exporting Dominion should not ordinarily be subjected to any export duty or an increase in the existing export duty by the latter. If any new or additional export duty is imposed, the importing Dominion will be entitled to reconsider the action taken in respect of the import duty.</p>
<p>(c) A similar examination of the Export Trade Control Notification should be made by both Dominions. There is no import control between the two Dominions at the moment.</p>	<p>Exemptions have been given by both side. While list of items still subject to export control have been published on both sides, there seemed to be a great deal of misunderstanding regarding the actual state of affairs.</p>	<p>A list of officers should be furnished by each Dominion to the other to whom all changes in respect of export and import controls affecting movement between the two Dominions should be communicated.</p>
<p>(d) The Pakistan representatives claimed that if the Havana Charter is ratified, each Dominion will become entitled to "most favoured nation" treat-</p>	<p>Since the Calcutta Conference, this question had been raised by the Pakistan representative at the recent Geneva Session of the Contracting Parties to</p>	<p>No decision was reached.</p>

Decision taken at Calcutta	Review of present position	Fresh recommendations
<p>ment in respect of rebates of excise duties and urged that in the interests of Inter-Dominion trade such treatment should be authorised by both Dominions without further delay. The Indian representatives stated that the present practice is not, in fact, uniform and that this is due to certain practical difficulties and other circumstances. The Pakistan representatives expressed their willingness to co-operate in removing any practical difficulties and requested that a final decision on the claim already put forward officially should be reached within a month in order to enable them to settle their import policy. India promised to reach a decision at an early date.</p>	<p>the G.A.T.T. The Pakistan delegation referring to the interpretation given by the Chairman at the Geneva Session stated that Pakistan was entitled to claim a rebate of excise duty under the terms of the Most-Favoured-Nations' Treatment clause of the G. A. T. T. They further pointed out that the Government of India were in fact granting rebates of excise duties in respect of at least three excisable commodities exported from India to other countries (namely tea, tobacco and tyres) but were refusing to allow such rebates in respect of the same commodities exported to Pakistan. The Indian delegation stated that their Government had expressed their views in this question in their letter of 24th November, 1948, to the Finance Secretary Pakistan. They were unable to appreciate the linking up of an issue arising out of the rebates of internal taxes on articles of indigenous production with the Most-Favoured-Nations' Treatment as contemplated in the G. A. T. T. They were, however, prepared to consider a comprehensive settlement of outstanding trade and allied issues which could include the question of rebates also. The Pakistan Delegation considered that the question of rebate was a separate issue and should not be dependent on a general trade agreement.</p>	<p>The decision taken at Calcutta still stands and should be implemented. There is no objection, however, to all the provinces and states which are concerned with the problem making a revised agreed recommendation to their respective Governments to modify the arrangement.</p>
<p>(e) Where any cultivator living in a border village of one Dominion has land in the border village in the other Dominion he should be permitted within a reasonable period after the harvest, to take across the border to his residence reasonable quantities of any controlled commodities produced by him for his domestic consumption with the minimum of restriction and formalities.</p>	<p>As a result of an agreement reached at the Chief Secretaries' Conference between East Bengal and West Bengal, this recommendation is not being implemented. East Bengal took the view that the arrangement to suspend the operation of this clause applied only between East Bengal and West Bengal while Assam and Tripura argued that it applied equally to all the provinces and states bordering on East Bengal in terms of the minutes of the Chief Secretaries' Conference.</p>	

Decision taken at Calcutta	Review of present position	Fresh recommendations
TRANSIT.		
(a) Each Dominion should take effective measures for the smooth implementation of transit facilities to the other Dominion in accordance with the provisions of International Agreements governing such transit.	<p>Although for many commodities the procedure is working smoothly, difficulties have arisen mostly in the following types of cases:—</p> <p>(i) Movement of mineral oils through Karachi to India, and Calcutta to East Bengal.</p> <p>(ii) Movement of salt from Karachi to East Bengal through Calcutta.</p> <p>(iii) Movement of kerosene to Assam and through Chittagong to Tripura.</p> <p>(iv) Movement of timber, jute, tea and rice from one part of India to another through East Bengal.</p> <p>(v) Movement of rice from one part of East Bengal to another through West Bengal.</p> <p>(vi) Machinery, vehicles, foodstuffs and other civil stores moving from West Bengal to Assam</p> <p>The difficulties were sometimes due to transport considerations, sometimes due to uncertainty or doubt regarding the transit procedure, foreign exchange position, sometimes due to the examination of the nature and origin of the commodity at points other than the Customs posts of entry and exit, and sometimes owing to action taken by persons other than authorised Customs officials.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The agreement regarding transit being one of the most vital clauses of the Calcutta Agreement there should be no obstruction or impediment placed on the movement of goods of any category whatsoever by either Dominion, each of which should further ensure that Provincial Governments or other local authorities do not interfere with such traffic in any way whatsoever. 2. Questions relating to foreign exchange liability should not result in any physical hold-up of commodities moving in transit as the foreign exchange liability is clear under sub-para (b) of this item. 3. There should be no inspection or check of the physical identity of goods going under transit except at the Customs points of entry, exit and transshipment and the only check enroute should be of the Customs papers relating to transit, no matter what the provincial or central laws regarding the internal movement of similar commodities may be. 4. Each Dominion agrees that clear instructions to the above effect should be immediately issued to all Provincial and other authorities concerned.
(b) The foreign exchange earning or liability for any transit cargo moving in bond shall belong to the Dominion of origin or destination as the case may be and not to the Dominion of Transit.	<p>Although the principle has been accepted there has been some delay in working out a detailed procedure with the result that difficulties and doubts have arisen in regard to individual commodities at certain times.</p>	<p>Agreed instructions covering the procedure for the adjustment of foreign exchange for all types of transit goods should be issued by the two Dominions within one month. No difficulties relating to foreign exchange should be allowed to hold up the movement of goods.</p>
(c) Transit cargo should in general be given the same transport priority as is accorded to similar cargo moving inter-Dominion.	<p>There seem to be many difficulties and differences in regard to both the priority question as well as the general movement and turnaround of wagons going in transit.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The normal turnaround of wagons and the return of empties are technical problems which must be discussed and settled within a fortnight between the representatives of the railway systems concerned.

Decision taken at Calcutta

Review of present position

Fresh recommendations

(d) The Customs expert of the two Dominions should get together to evolve a procedure for transit which should be as simple as possible and take into account the peculiar difficulties arising on account of geographical and transport considerations, e.g., the need of transshipment

An agreed procedure has been introduced and is on the whole working satisfactorily but occasional difficulties have arisen.

2. The movement of 60 B. G. loaded wagons a day in transit between the other parts of India and Assam through Pakistan was agreed to and Pakistan would indicate, if necessary, the number of M. G. empties required by them to make this movement smooth and uninterrupted.
 3. There should be no hold-up of traffic for any differences and difficulties relating to accounts.
 4. The priority given to transit wagons at the point of origin should be observed throughout the journey in transit.
 5. Hili (in Pakistan) which serves the Indian hinterland and Jalpaigiri in India reserved by E. B. Railway. Rohanpur in Pakistan is served by—O. T. Railway. In such cases the railway system concerned must give the same priority to goods offered for booking as is being given on the same section for similar commodity offered for booking within the Dominion to which the serving Railway belongs.
 6. The movement of raw jute from points in the Indian Union to Calcutta will be facilitated under the same priority as is accorded to it at the railway station of despatch in the Indian Union; where the railway station in question is in India but happens to be under the control of East Bengal Railway. Priority will be given by Pakistan to all movements for the Calcutta, ports and for movements to mills as is given by India to her own raw jute moving to the Port or to mills, when booked at a railway station in the Indian Union.
- The collectors of land customs concerned should meet within a fortnight and satisfy themselves that the procedure is adequate to deal with all types of goods in transit.

Decision taken at Calcutta	Review of present position	Fresh recommendations
and the location of transport heads at points different from the Inter-Dominion boundary. The procedure already introduced by the two Dominions should be reviewed.	A few cases where the customs certificates were not accepted were brought to notice.	Specific instructions should be issued to all Provincial and Local authorities that certificates granted by the customs authorities of one Dominion should not be questioned by them.
(e) The production of a certificate from a Customs Officer of the Dominion from which the goods are being sent should ordinarily be taken as conclusive evidence of the origin of such commodities at the point of entry for transit and transit facilities shall not be denied on the ground that there is any suspicion that the goods might have originally come from the other Dominion.	Instructions had been issued to officers of each Dominion but sometimes difficulties arose on account of the action taken by Provincial officers.	Similar instructions should be issued to provincial officers as well who should be particularly told that goods going in transit are entirely under the supervision and check of Central Customs Officers, and Provincial officers should not interfere with these in any way.
(f) In order to ensure the smooth working of the transit arrangements, the officers of each Dominion should receive suitable instructions to co-operate with the officers of the other Dominion to avoid disputes and difficulties.	This clause has not so far been implemented.	So far as East and West Bengal, Assam, Tripura and Cochin are concerned, this provision should be implemented within three months and liaison officers should be posted by then. These officers should be trained in Customs work before they take up their duties. India will again address the Jodhpur State regarding Pakistan's proposal to post a liaison officer on the frontier between Jodhpur and Sind. The East & West Punjab Governments should also be consulted on the question whether liaison officers should also be posted in their territories.
(g) Each Dominion should post liaison officers at important Customs outposts and important points en-route selected by agreement in the other Dominion so as to facilitate the removal of any difficulties that might crop up. These liaison officers should be persons specially selected for their capacity to smoothen difficulties. These liaison officers will also have other functions in connection with the removal of difficulties of travellers and movement of goods and baggage.	It was reported that having regard to the volume of traffic Pakistan had not found it worthwhile establishing an out-agency at Agartala. It was urged that an out-agency was necessary to facilitate the movement of goods in transit by rail-cum-road to Tripura.	It was agreed that an out-agency should be established at Agartala, and that if necessary, the Tripura State would contribute towards the cost of running the Agency. The position regarding other points should be reviewed by the E. B. Railway.
(h) Where road or river transport is involved by itself or in combination with any other form of transport, arrangements should be made for transit facilities by establishing suitable out-agenoles.		

Decision taken at Calcutta	Review of present position	Fresh recommendations
	It was further suggested that more out-agencies were necessary on the Assam-East Bengal and Tripura-East Bengal borders.	
TRANSPORT		
(a) To ensure that transport bottle-necks and congestion are avoided. Operational Committees consisting of representatives of the three railways in the Eastern region and the two railways in the Western region should be set up to deal with difficulties relating to rail transport.	An Inter-Dominion Railway Operational Committee is working on the Eastern Border.	Committee should also be set up (i) for N. W. and E. P. Railways within 4 weeks, and (ii) for Jodhpur and N. W. Railways later. It is hoped that it will be possible to restore normal communications on these railways at a very early date.
(b) A Railway Operational Committee be established on an Inter-Dominion basis which could settle broad principles of Inter-Dominion rail transport.	The first meeting of the Operational Committee on an Inter-Dominion basis was held on 6th September and the following days at New Delhi.	It is recommended that a Standing Committee at Secretary level should be set up to deal with questions of general railway working which do not come within the definition of Stores and Rolling stock, such as financial arrangements, payment of bills, inter-Dominion traffic and operation etc. The following composition is suggested:—
		<i>India—</i>
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Member of the Railway Board. 2. A Finance Officer of the Railway Board. 3. General Manager or Chief Administrative Officer of a Railway.
		<i>Pakistan—</i>
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Director-General of Railways. 2. Financial Adviser (Communications). 3. General Manager of a Railway. <p>Each side should have power to co-opt one or more officers as may be necessary.</p>
(3) FACILITIES FOR REPAIRS		
The movement of machinery, etc., sent from one Dominion to the other for repairs and return should be dealt with under the arrangements normally provided for under the import and re-export rules. To cover, however, past cases of machinery sent before the establishment of a Customs frontier reasonable latitude	While instructions have been issued in accordance with the Agreement on the subject, in actual implementation there have been delays and difficulties owing to the fact that the question of the identity of the machinery which is being returned has to be established and the extent to	It was agreed that the Customs authorities should be instructed generally to accept the certificate of the Works Manager of a Government or a Railway Workshop where the work was done. In the case of private institutions the customs authority concerned should use his discretion to accept a

Decision taken at Calcutta	Review of present position	Fresh recommendations
shall be given for a matter of three months in the application of the rules.	which spare parts and replacements have been used in his repair has to be considered.	certificate from the repairing firm with such other evidence as he may consider necessary if complete physical identification is found difficult. Where the cost of additional parts or material did not exceed 25% of the total repair bill the production of an export licence should not be insisted on. Pakistan agreed to issue similar instructions.

(4) MISCELLANEOUS POINTS

- (a) In order to ensure the avoidance of undue hardship resulting from the switch-over from the stands till to the new situation, the two Dominions will consider sympathetically applications for the issue of export licences for goods which were imported from overseas specially to meet orders placed by customers in the other Dominion. This is only for a short period of transition and will apply generally to shipments made and paid for before 31-12-1947. Commodities specifically ordered by dealers in one Dominion through the Ports of the other Dominion should be covered by the Standstill Agreement or the transit arrangements as the case may be and should not be denied to the persons who have ordered, paid or will pay for the goods.
- It was reported that while some progress had been made there were still quite a number of outstanding cases on both sides. The main difficulty appeared to be that evidence to prove that the goods in question came within this recommendation was not always forthcoming. The second difficulty was that sometimes questions of internal requirement were taken into account before release. It was brought to notice that some firms with their headquarters in India have got their factories in Pakistan and they were experiencing difficulties in sending stores etc. to their factories from their headquarters.
1. The administrative details of the implementation of this clause should be discussed between representatives of the two Governments so that a common set of instructions and a common procedure are evolved and made applicable on both sides.
 2. In examining cases falling within this clause the question whether the goods are required for consumption in the Dominion where they may be situated should not arise.
 3. Firms with their headquarters in India who wish to send stores which they would normally supply to their factories in Pakistan should be dealt with as follows:—
 - (a) Stores in stock before partition should be allowed to go to the factories on the basis of the normal pre-partition distribution between the various factories owned by the firm.
 - (b) Stores falling under this clause of the Calcutta Agreement under review should be dealt with in accordance with the procedure described above.
 - (c) In respect of stores not falling under either of the above categories and in respect of fresh orders for stores, the matter should be considered on merits, the prime consideration being of foreign exchange.
4. An officer should proceed from Delhi to Karachi to discuss and finalise the details regarding the release of

Decision taken at Calcutta	Review of present position	Fresh recommendations
<p>(b) In view of the recent conclusions at Havana to extend transit procedure to vehicles assembled in bond in the country of transit, India will extend transit facilities for motor vehicles specifically assembled in bond in India for Pakistan subject to the foreign exchange being the liability of Pakistan. In this connection Pakistan requested that until transit arrangements become effective, a number of assembled cars considered fair by India should be allowed for re-export to Pakistan. This was accepted subject to the liability for foreign exchange being examined further.</p>	<p>Detailed procedure in regard to assembly of cars in transit has since been worked out and is likely to be finalised in a matter of days. Pending the arrival of parts for assembly under this scheme Pakistan requested that some supplies should be made out of the existing imports in India on payment of dollars.</p>	<p>imported goods as well as to review the progress made on each side so far.</p> <p>India agreed to an immediate export of 15 Chevrolet cars and to a monthly export of 10 American cars assembled in India in bond on payment of dollars equivalent to the current import price of the cars for assembly. The arrangement will extend for a period of 6 months, or until the parts for assembly in transit begin to arrive whichever is earlier. The supply of cars will be spread over equally between the Assembly Plant at other than Ford.</p>

ITEM (2) OF THE AGENDA

The Committee recommended that the restrictions, whether imposed by a Central or Provincial Government on the movement between the two Dominions on commodities such as fresh fruit, vegetables, fresh milk and its products, fish (fresh and dried), poultry and eggs, local spices, bamboo and firewood and any customs duties thereon must be removed.

That the India Government agreed to discuss the supply of mustard oil to East Bengal to be decided at a meeting to be arranged within the next three weeks. Until then the Pakistan Government shall continue to allow the free movement of fish without any duty.

1. Although working smoothly on the whole, there were some difficulties arising out of difference in interpretation as well as on account of administrative considerations on both sides.
2. When the officers' committee report at Calcutta was approved at the ministerial level, fish (fresh and dried) had been excluded from para. 1 of the extract as India could not make any commitment regarding duty-free supply of mustard oil. Since then India had agreed to permit the export of a specified quantity of mustard oil but not to the removal of export duty thereon.
3. Free movement as at present interpreted by India applies to movements other than those by sea. Pakistan's view was that free movement should be allowed by sea too as certain fresh fruits from Bombay and onions from Kathiawar States move to Karachi by sea only.
4. Onions, garlic, potatoes and shallots are at present not included in the category of free moving vegetables.

1. Free movement means that no export or import licence whatever should be required and not that there should be licensing without any quantitative restrictions.
2. India should review again the position regarding the export duty on mustard oil and give an immediate answer. If India imposes duties on foodstuffs and/or could not agree to the removal of the export duty on mustard oil, Pakistan stated that she would be free to impose export duties on fish (fresh and dried), fresh fruits, vegetables, fresh milk and its products, poultry and eggs, local spices, bamboo and firewood, exported to India. The movement of fish (fresh and dried) should be continued in either event, without export restrictions.
3. Ministry of Food, India will examine allowing free movement by sea along with the matter referred to in para. 4 below and communicate their decision to Ministry of Food, Pakistan, by 1st January 1949.
4. Ministry of Food, India, will examine the matter further and communicate their

Decision taken at Calcutta	Review of present position	Fresh recommendations
	<p>Pakistan suggested their inclusion in this category.</p> <p>5. Preserved butter, powdered, condensed and tinned milk and ghi do not at present fall in the category of free moving milk products. It was suggested that indigenous tinned milk and tinned butter may be allowed to be moved freely.</p>	<p>decision to Ministry of Food, Pakistan, by 1st January 1949. Pending this review <i>status quo</i> will be maintained and no new restrictions will be imposed by either Dominion.</p> <p>5. The matter will be examined further by the Food Ministries of the two Dominions. Meanwhile to enable the condensed milk factory which is situated partly in East Bengal and partly in West Bengal to function normally, India and Pakistan will allow freedom of movement to its products.</p>

ADDITIONAL MATTERS

The general position appeared on review to be reasonably satisfactory. The following recommendations are made:—

(a) Each Dominion should separately examine the feasibility and practicability of a Customs Union, as the study might be of use at a later date when the question might be taken up in earnest by both the Dominions.

(b) The pre-partition arrangement regarding the through booking of fish and other commodities by river-own-rail seemed to have broken down and should be revived in the interests of both the Dominions. The Pakistan railway authorities should immediately take up the matter with the steamer companies concerned.

(c) The movement of partition stores when duly authorised by the appropriate authorities was sometimes being held up owing to lack of understanding of the instructions or non-compliance with the prescribed formalities. Fresh and clear instructions should be issued on both sides.

(d) Difficulties in railway accounts relating to cross-traffic sometimes resulted in the hold-up of wagons. The hold-up of wagons must be avoided at all costs. An agreed procedure should be evolved between the two railways to avoid a recurrence of difficulties in regard to accounts. Where instructions were issued by one railway system which affected another railway system or the movement of wagons coming from another railway system, there should be prior consultation between the two railway systems concerned. Arrangements should also be made to report the matters to the respective headquarters so that the over-all position might be kept under constant review by both sides.

(e) Whenever local officers of any provincial government felt it necessary to take any action affecting the movement of goods to another Dominion without prior orders, general or specific, of their government, they should immediately report the facts to their Chief Secretary.

APPENDIX II

REVIEW OF KARACHI AGREEMENTS

REVIEW OF THE TWO AGREEMENTS AT KARACHI REGARDING THE SUPPLY OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES FROM ONE DOMINION TO THE OTHER

The Agreement signed at Karachi in May 1948 had been reviewed at another conference in October 1948. The developments since then were further reviewed. The position in regard to the various commodities and the conclusions reached in respect of them are summarised below:—

India's exports to Pakistan

(1) *Coal*.—The latest available figures showed a distinct improvement on the earlier ones and India agreed to do everything possible to see that the full quantity of coal as agreed to at Karachi was supplied each month. India also agreed to consider supplying a large proportion of the total quantity by rail.

Pakistan complained that no supplies of hard coke had been received. This had been due to a serious fall in Indian production and it was pointed out that even the original agreement was not a firm one in respect of hard coke supplies.

It was agreed that Pakistan would supply to India a list of its essential requirements of metallurgical hard coke in order of priority and India would try to meet these requirements as far as possible. The Indian delegation further stated that an improvement was expected by the end of January when it would be possible to make larger supplies to Pakistan.

(2) *Cloth and yarn*.—Arrangements had only recently been finalised by a conference between the two Dominions held at Bombay.

(3) *Steel, pig iron and scrap*.—India explained that there were no supplies in the first few months of the agreement as it took about five months for supplies to become available after orders had been placed.

India hoped to step up deliveries with a view to supply the entire quantity of steel agreed to at Karachi during the period of the agreement. If any appreciable portion remained undelivered, India would extend the time-limit.

(4) *Paper and board*.—Monthly allocations on the various mills were made by the I. & S. Ministry and export licences were issued accordingly. Pakistan asked that the licences should not lapse at the end of each month. It was explained that export licences were normally valid for a period of three months and a similar validity would be given to the paper and board licences; if any licences had expired owing to a shorter time-limit having been given, they would be extended.

(5) *Chemicals and pharmaceuticals*.—The sulphates did not need any export licences and there was no hold-up on the Indian side in the normal free movement of sulphates to Pakistan. The quantities of acids that have so far been licensed were communicated to the Pakistan Delegation who intimated that some orders for acids had been placed by the Pakistan Government on Bombay and Calcutta firms. The Pakistan Delegation would communicate particulars to the Indian Chief Controller of Exports to enable him to issue export licence to them within the quota if they are eligible.

(6) *Asbestos cement sheets*.—No applications had been received for exports when applications had been invited from manufacturers. A licence for 200 tons had been given so far to Asbestos Cement Ltd. It was agreed that licences at the rate of 500 tons a month should be given to the same firm who were the only manufacturers, so that the full quota could be supplied within the period of the agreement.

(7) *Paints and varnishes*.—Many varieties are decontrolled. It was agreed that licences should issue for half the agreed quantity of paints, enamels and varnishes to be supplied by India in respect of the controlled categories containing lead and Zinc. Licences for the remaining half would be in the de-controlled varieties. The Pakistan Delegation would communicate particulars to the Indian Chief Controller of Exports to enable him to issue licences to eligible parties within the quota.

(8) *Leather and footwear and myrobalsams* were decontrolled items.

(9) *Iron manufactures* were allowed to go to Pakistan without export licence being necessary.

(10) *Woolen and worsted goods*.—Practically the whole quantity had been licensed already.

(11) *Groundnut oil*.—Licences have been issued for a portion, but movement has been slow.

(12) *Mustard Oil*.—The quantity licensed was satisfactory but there was complaint regarding actual movement. The Indian figure of actual movement was very much higher than the one of which Pakistan appeared to be aware. To expedite supplies it was decided that all licenceholders should be told by the Government of India that unless they moved the oil within the time for which the licence was valid, the licence would be given to other parties and they would be permanently debarred from getting any licences in the future. It was further agreed that particulars of licences issued and quantities moved would be supplied regularly to the Pakistan authorities.

(13) *Tyres and tubes*.—Approximately half the quantity had been licensed for export by India and it was agreed that the full quantity should be immediately licensed.

(14) *Tobacco*.—There was no export control over tobacco in India. The Pakistan Delegation pointed out, however, that if India insisted on charging the maximum rate of excise duty on the fine-cured tobacco, the agreement would in fact be ineffective since the importers would not lift the tobacco on those terms.

(15) *Seed potatoes*.—Pakistan pointed out that although India had agreed to supply one lakh maunds of seed potatoes they had no information of any quantity having moved. India stated that movement of potatoes, both table and seed, from Assam to Pakistan had been made free.

(16) *Additional matters*.—Pakistan asked for the export of bauxite to Pakistan at the rate of two wagons a month. India agreed to this.

Pakistan asked for a quota of 6000 tons of linseed oil. India promised to examine the matter and to make a suitable allocation to Pakistan during 1949.

It was agreed that India will do everything possible to ensure that the goods licensed for export actually did move and for this purpose would—

- (a) issue export licences expeditiously,
- (b) take suitable action against parties who having got export licences failed without reasonable excuse to move the goods in time, and
- (c) ensure that transport difficulties were removed as expeditiously as possible.

India also agreed to give special consideration to orders placed by the Pakistan Government with suppliers in India within the frame-work of the general export licensing policy, provided timely intimation of Pakistan Government's orders was received.

Pakistan's Exports to India

1. *Raw jute*.—The Indian Delegation expressed concern over supply position and the slow movement of raw jute to India and considered that in view of the final forecast figure issued by East Bengal (Agriculture Ministry), namely 54 lakh bales, the maintenance by Pakistan of exports of raw jute to other destinations at the level mutually agreed to in Karachi in July last might have the effect of causing a shortfall in the agreed supply to India.

The Pakistan Delegation assured the Indian Delegation that they need not apprehend any reduction in the quantities earmarked for India under the Karachi Agreement. According to Pakistan's latest and most reliable estimates of the jute crop the actual crop in Pakistan would not be less than 60 lakhs of bales after allowing for local consumption and therefore they were satisfied that Pakistan's exports to other countries on the existing scale would not actually interfere with the delivery of 5 million bales of raw jute to India. In regard to movements, Pakistan agreed to upgrade the priority under which raw jute was moving to the mills in Calcutta to the extent necessary with a view to maintaining movements approximately at 1946 level. In order to improve matters in connection with the movement of jute traffic on the E. B. Railway, representatives of Railway Board (India) agreed to supply Broad Gauge empties to the extent necessary. The General Manager, E. B. Railway should intimate his exact requirements to the East Indian Railway. It was agreed that the position should be reviewed again in the near future. Pakistan also suggested that a Joint Committee consisting of competent representatives of the two railway systems and transport and jute interests concerned should be set up in Calcutta so as to keep the problem of raw jute transport by road, rail and river under constant review.

(2) *Raw cotton*.—India drew attention to the recent orders issued by Pakistan which required that India should not only purchase 325,000 bales of cotton before the 31st January 1949 but should also export them out of Pakistan to India. India took the view that the Karachi Agreement of 20th October, 1948 was clear and unambiguous on the point that India was required only to purchase the cotton by the end of January and there could be no objection to the physical export taking place later. Pakistan agreed that this was the correct interpretation. India stated that as the time-limit for making purchases of raw cotton was very short and Indian importers had to be asked to start buying immediately after the Karachi Agreement of October, last, the system of distribution of quotas to India through different shippers which was being adopted by Pakistan was bound to give rise to difficulties in actual practice. For example it might happen that some of the contracts entered into by Indian importers were not with parties who got export licences from Pakistan. It was agreed therefore that for the current licensing period, special consideration should be given to India's difficulties in this respect and an officer should go from India to Karachi in order that any possible difficulties might be resolved on the spot. Pakistan added that as a substantial portion of the quota was being given to shippers who were exporting before partition it would be possible in most instances to accommodate Indian orders within the framework of Pakistan export licensing.

(3) *Foodgrains*.—1. The estimated loss of the rice crop in the normally surplus provinces of West Punjab, Sind and Baluchistan in the current Kharif year due to floods was shown by Pakistan as in statement attached (Schedule A.) As the loss was above 4 annas of the average of the past five years' production of rice in the said provinces Pakistan urged that it was in a position to supply any foodgrains to India.

2. India claimed that the basis for reckoning the percentage of loss should be the total rice crop of the dominion as a whole. In substantiation India stated that in the case of a normal crop in West Pakistan and serious failure in East Pakistan, the dominion of Pakistan would certainly have pleaded extenuation and diverted rice earmarked for India to its Eastern Wing. Pakistan urged that if that interpretation was accepted it would imply that Pakistan would have to supply 175,000 tons of rice even if there was total loss of rice crop in West Pakistan plus a loss of 1 million tons in the rice crop in East Pakistan. Therefore, the intention could not have been to apply the escape clause to the rice crop of Pakistan as a whole.

3. Pakistan Government agreed that if during the current Kharif year the surplus declared by the surplus areas turns out to be in excess of the requirements of the deficit areas in Pakistan and becomes available for export it will be supplied to India and no rice will be exported to any other country.

4. Pakistan also agreed that if a surplus of wheat becomes available for export during Rabi 1948-50 Pakistan will supply 175,000 tons of foodgrains under the Karachi Agreement and no wheat will be exported to any other country during Rabi 1949-50 until 250,000 tons have been supplied.

5. In order to ascertain if a surplus of wheat is available for export to India for the purposes of para. 4 above India suggested that if the procurement of wheat in the wheat surplus areas exceeds a figure agreed between the two dominions the excess should be deemed to be available for export. This matter will be settled between the Food Ministries of the two dominions.

6. The restriction against export referred to in paras. 3 and 4 will not cover token exports of small quantities, e.g., quantities sent to meet requirements of Pakistan Embassies etc. abroad.

7. Even on the basis suggested by Pakistan in para. 1 the loss works out to about 28 per cent. The actual figures of acreage and yield of these areas are not available yet. India, therefore, reserves the right to re-open the question of supply of rice by Pakistan if finally the loss of rice works out to less than 25 per cent. of the average referred to in para. 1.

SCHEDULE A.

Rice (Pakistan)

	Five years average 1943-44 to 1947-48 (000 tons)	1947-48 (000 tons)	1948-49 Acreage Yield	
			(000 tons)	(000 tons)
Baluchistan	20	21	151.5	27 (paddy)
Sind	2,207	553	Not available	N.A.*
West Punjab	3,211	294	"	N.A.*
East Bengal	7,527	6,737	19,127	6,634
N. W. F. P.	12	Not available	53.7	45**
Bahawalpur	12	11	Not available	N.A.
Khairpur	0	9	"	N.A.
	8,490	7,625		

*The estimates of acreage and yield for 1948-49 are not available but the estimate of loss received by Pakistan Government in terms of rice is as follows:—

Sind—150,000 tons.

West Punjab—109,000 tons.

** Doubtful. To be confirmed.

(4) *Additional matters.*—It was agreed that the movement of soft wood should be made free of all control on both sides.

APPENDIX III

Individual cases of difficulties were discussed by the Economic Committee and the following agreed decisions were taken for immediate implementation by both sides:

(1) The following consignments meant for Tripura and held up in East Bengal will be released:

(a) Oil drilling machinery belonging to B.O.C. in respect of which Pakistan Government have already issued orders.

(b) One jeep and two trailers going from Calcutta.

(c) 1,000 maunds of salt going to Sabroom held up at Dhoozhat.

(2) S.D.O. Habiganj had imposed a ban on the movement of dried fish to Tripura. This should be removed.

(3) It was reported that vehicles working for the out-agency of the E. B. Railway at Balu Ghat were not being allowed to enter the railway station which was in East Bengal. It was agreed that the difficulty should be removed.

(4) It was reported that at Hill railway station some difficulty was still being experienced in the booking of transit cargo as there was no customs official on the Pakistan side. It was agreed that Pakistan will make suitable arrangements to facilitate this movement.

(5) Pakistan agreed to issue orders for the release of 400 wagons reported to be held up at Lal Monir Hat for inviting particulars.

(6) Milk and milk products have recently been brought under export control by the Deputy Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, Chittagong. It was agreed that this was on account of a misunderstanding and the notification will be cancelled at once.

(7) It was reported by Pakistan that an agreement reached in February 1948 regarding the supply of cement from East Bengal to Assam and from India to East Bengal had not been implemented on the Indian side. A permit for 2,000 tons for immediate supply was being issued by India and a regular supply in terms of the original agreement was agreed to by both sides.

(8) Four of the reparation plants allotted to Pakistan are still lying at Bombay. India agreed to issue export permits for them as soon as particulars were received from the Pakistan Government. As the allocation of these plants to Pakistan had been made before they landed at Bombay, Pakistan requested that India should examine the question of exempting these consignments from the payment of Indian import duty. India promised to give a quick reply.

(9) Pakistan mentioned that electric plant and machinery for the electric supply companies in East Bengal ordered through Calcutta firms had been landed in Calcutta before Partition. It was agreed that such plant and machinery will be allowed to be exported to East Bengal. India further agreed to consider sympathetically the question of allowing the export of spares and maintenance stores which are fabricated in Calcutta for the electric supply companies in East Bengal.

(10) India agreed to consider Pakistan's request for the export of 15 maunds of Bangalee printing type from Calcutta to Pakistan. The particulars will be communicated direct to the Chief Controller of Exports, India.

(11) Pakistan requested that an export of 120 tons of sulphur to East Bengal should be permitted to meet an immediate requirement of certain sugar factories and Pakistan would supply this quantity to India later when direct imports had been made. This was agreed to.

(12) Pakistan complained that movement of commodities like gunny bags and cloth from India to East Bengal was hampered owing to the non-availability of wagons. Pakistan stated that wagons for the movement of foodgrains at stations like Rohanpur, Naclo, and Godagari worked by the Indian railways though situated in East Bengal were not being made available. India promised to see that steps are taken to facilitate the movement of these commodities and it was agreed that these matters should further be considered at the next meeting of the Railway Operation Committee.

(13) It was agreed that nothing would be done to interfere with the movement of foodgrains from Nithpur to other areas of East Bengal by the river route which passes through a portion of Indian territory.

(14) India agreed to allow cylinders to go out as containers of gas on the understanding that their return will be allowed without any restriction.

APPENDIX IV

INTER-DOMINION CONFERENCE

Report of the Economic Committee

New Delhi, 12th December, 1948.

ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Members (India).

1. Mr. H. M. Patel—*Chairman.*
2. Mr. S. A. Venkataramen.
3. Mr. K. R. K. Menon.
4. Mr. B. L. Gupta.
5. Mr. K. C. Bakhle.

Members (Pakistan).

1. Mr. G. Faruq.
2. Mr. Aziz Ahmad.
3. Mr. Azhar.
4. Mr. N. M. Khan.
5. Mr. J. B. Shearer.

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|---|-----------------------|
| 6. Mr. K. R. P. Aiyangar. | 6. Mr. Ijaz Ahmad. |
| 7. Mr. M. V. Rangachari. | 7. Dr. Nasir Ahmad. |
| 8. Mr. L. K. Jha. | 8. Mr. Abdul Qadir. |
| 9. Mr. B. N. Banerji. | 9. Mr. Nasir Ahmad. |
| 10. Mr. S. Sen (West Bengal). | 10. Mr. Bashir Ahmad. |
| 11. Mr. S. K. Datta (Assam). | |
| 12. Mr. B. K. Acharya (Dewan of Tripura). | |

Report of the Economic Committee appointed by the Inter-Dominion Conference at New Delhi in December, 1948

(1) The Calcutta Agreement of April 1948 was reviewed in detail. The result of the review as well as the fresh recommendations which the Committee found it necessary to make in order to achieve the main objects in view are shown in Appendix I.

(2) The agreements signed at Karachi relating to the mutual supply of certain essential commodities by one Dominion to the other were reviewed and the result of the examination as well as the fresh recommendations made by this Committee are indicated in Appendix II.

(3) The case of stores sold through the disposals organisation lying in one Dominion and purchased by a person who resided or had since evacuated to the other Dominion had been considered at previous Conferences without any agreement having been reached. The present Committee having reviewed the matter recommends the following solution:

- (a) All such purchasers should be given the option either to take delivery of the stores before the 28th February 1949, or to ask for the cancellation of the sale.
- (b) Where the purchaser prefers the former alternative every facility should be provided to him by the Dominion where the goods are lying to take these goods to the other Dominion if the purchaser so desires.
- (c) Where the purchaser exercises his option to have the sale cancelled, any money deposited by him should be refunded in full without deducting any demurrage, rent, etc., by the Dominion in which the stores are located.
- (d) The arrangement outlined above should apply even to persons who fall in the category of an evacuee and payment should be made to him and not to the Custodian of Evacuee Property. If necessary, the relevant law of either Dominion should be amended in order to let the purchaser have the full benefit of this recommendation.

(4) The review of the Agreements reached so far has shown that while the two Dominions have found it easy and even necessary to agree on fair and equitable principles in dealing with the wide variety of problems arising out of partition, in actual implementation there have been frequent and recurrent lapses on both sides. The Committee therefore recommends that the machinery set up in Section II, clauses 2(i) (ii) and (iii) of the Agreement should also be utilised for the purpose of ensuring the implementation of the various agreements reached by this Committee in the spirit in which they are entered into.

(5) A number of instances, where there had been lapses in the implementation of the agreements reached so far or there had been other difficulties, came up before the Committee and agreed decisions were taken as indicated in Appendix III.

APPENDIX V

Report of the Committee for boundary disputes and border incidents between East Bengal—West Bengal, between East Bengal—Assam, and between East Punjab—West Punjab.

Members

- | <i>India</i> | <i>Pakistan</i> |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| (1) Mr. S. Dutt. | (1) Mr. Aziz Ahmed. |
| (2) Mr. S. Sen. | (2) Mr. Fida Hussain. |
| (3) Mr. J. N. Talukder. | (3) Mr. M. W. Abbasi. |
| (4) Mr. M. R. Sachdev. | (4) Mr. S. M. Burke. |
| (5) Mr. S. K. Dutta. | (5) Mr. Mahbudding Ahmed. |
| (6) Mr. D. K. Acharya. | |
| (7) Mr. A. K. Mukherji. | |

Terms of Reference.—To discuss the boundary disputes and incidents on the East-West Bengal, East Bengal-Assam and East Bengal-Tripura borders and the border incidents on the East-West Punjab border and suggest the machinery necessary for—

- (a) settlement of disputes; and
- (b) prevention of such incidents.

1. The Committee met on the 6th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th December, 1948. On the last two days it was assisted in its deliberations by the members of the Steering Committee, Messrs. H. M. Patel and G. A. Faruque.

2. *Boundary Disputes.*—The Committee makes the following recommendations for the settlement of the East-West Bengal and East Bengal-Assam boundary disputes.

(1) *Tribunal, Terms of reference.*—A Tribunal should be set up at as early a date as possible and not later than 31st January, 1949, for the adjudication and final settlement of the following boundary disputes arising out of the interpretation of the Radcliffe Award and for demarcating the boundary accordingly :

(A) East-West Bengal disputes concerning—

(i) the boundary between the district of Murshidabad (West Bengal) and the district of Rajshahi including the thanas of Nawabganj and Shibganj of prepartition Malda District (East Bengal); and

(ii) that portion of the common boundary between the two Dominions which lies between the point on the River Ganga where the channel of the river Mathabanga takes off according to Sir Cyril Radcliffe's award and the northernmost point where the channel meets the boundary between the thanas of Daulatpur and Karimpur according to that Award.

(B) (1) East Bengal-Assam disputes concerning—

(i) the Putharia Hill Reserve Forest; and

(ii) the course of the Kusiyara river.

(2) The Tribunal shall consist of three members as follows—

One member nominated by each of the two Dominions of India and Pakistan, such person being one who is holding or has held high judicial office and a Chairman who is holding or has held high judicial office and is acceptable to both Dominions. In the event of disagreement between the members, the decision of the Chairman shall be final in all matters. The Tribunal shall report within three months from the date of its first sitting.

(3) After the Tribunal has adjudicated upon the disputes, the boundaries shall be demarcated jointly by the experts of both Dominions. If there is any disagreement between the experts regarding the actual demarcation of the boundary *in situ*, such disagreement shall be referred to the Tribunal for decision and the boundary shall be demarcated finally in accordance with such decision.

(4) The Tribunal shall prescribe the procedure to be followed for adjudicating upon the disputes as well as for deciding the point or points of disagreement, if any, arising from the demarcation of boundary.

3. (1) The Committee further recommends that the entire boundary between East-West Bengal (other than the portion described in paragraph 2 above) should also be demarcated without further delay by the Directors of Land Records of the two Provinces assisted by such staff and in such manner as they might mutually agree upon, areas where disputes have arisen or may arise being taken up first.

(2) The Committee recommends that the boundary between East Bengal on the one hand and Assam, Tripura State and Cooch Behar State (India) on the other, except the portions described in para. 2 above, should also be demarcated as soon as possible by the Directors of Land Records of the Provinces or States concerned, assisted by such staff and in such manner as they might mutually agree upon.

4. The cost of the Tribunal and of implementing the recommendations contained in paragraphs 2 and 3 above other than that of the staff normally employed by the two Governments shall be borne equally by both Dominions.

5. In order to prevent border incidents on the East Bengal-West Bengal and East Bengal-Assam borders, the Committee recommends that all border incidents other than those involving questions of policy shall be settled by the District Magistrates and falling then

by the Commissioners of the Provinces concerned or where there are no Commissioners, by officers of equivalent rank and steps shall be taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in the future.

6. Regarding the incidents on Tripura-East Bengal border, the Committee agreed that both Governments must take all possible steps to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future. Such incidents shall be settled by the District Magistrates of the districts concerned in East Bengal and the Dewan of Tripura State who should meet as soon as practicable, with a view to holding a joint enquiry, if necessary, followed by such other action as the circumstances may necessitate. In the event of disagreement between the District Magistrates and the Dewan, the matter shall be referred to His Excellency the Governor of Assam and the Hon'ble the Premier of East Bengal or their nominees, for decision.

7. Both Governments agree that henceforth no attempt will be made by either side to settle boundary disputes by force.

8. *Interim Arrangements.*—(i) *East Bengal—Assam border.*—The Committee recommends the following proposals for the interim administration of the Patharia Reserve Forest on the East Bengal—Assam border :

(1) There shall be no armed forces of either Government of any description within 5 miles of the periphery of the Reserve Forest.

(2) East Bengal Government shall be in possession of the Reserve Forest West of the Radcliffe Line and Assam Government shall be in possession of the Reserve Forest east of the Radcliffe Line.

The strength of the Forest staff to be employed by each of the two Governments on each side of the Radcliffe Line shall be determined jointly by the Conservators of Forests, East Bengal and Assam.

(3) Each side undertakes not to make any new construction of any description within the areas of the Reserve Forest, of which it will be placed in charge, for the interim administration, provided, however, that there shall be no objection to any special operations necessary in connection with the oil boring by the B.O.C. on either side of the Radcliffe Line within the Reserve Forest.

(4) In order to satisfy themselves that each of them is carrying out the undertakings set out above, the two Governments will agree to the areas of the Forest placed in their respective charges being inspected by a Joint Committee of Officers, one of each Government, not below the rank of a Divisional Forest Officer assisted by such advisers as each might consider necessary.

(ii) *East Bengal—West Bengal border (Tujshahi-Murshidabad).*—It was agreed that without prejudice to the rights of either Government to the area in dispute each Government shall continue to maintain possession of the areas which are now in its possession along the East Bengal—West Bengal border. The area now in actual possession of West Bengal at Ghughumari Ghat (Rainapur) shall be cordoned off by East Bengal on its periphery on the East Bengal side and shall continue to remain in possession of West Bengal provided that—

(a) Both West Bengal's and East Bengal's anti-smuggling staff may be stationed in this area and may freely patrol the river bank along this area; and

(b) that West Bengal will exercise Civil and Criminal jurisdiction over this area and shall post a Magistrate on the spot to deal with local cases.

9. *Border incidents on the East Punjab—West Punjab border.*—The following arrangement was agreed upon by the Chief Secretaries of West and East Punjab and recommended by the Committee.

(1) It was agreed that there was a need for having a line of demarcation between East and West Punjab, especially in area where the boundary line was not very clear. The possibility of setting up boundary pillars in this area should be immediately explored. We further recognise the difficulties that arise on account of some villages belonging to one Dominion being on the wrong side of the river in the other Dominion. It is suggested that the two Financial Commissioners on either side assisted by such expert revenue officers as they consider necessary may meet and go into this problem with a view to making definite recommendations. The two Financial Commissioners will also immediately go into the question of the erection of boundary pillars in the area where the boundary is not clear.

(2) (a) It was agreed that the Inspectors-General of Police of East and West Punjab should meet at least once a month to review the situation arising out of border incidents on both sides, assisted by the local District Magistrates and the Superintendents of Police. They will discuss the individual incidents and devise measures to ensure that such incidents are not repeated.

(b) For this purpose the two Inspectors-General of Police must take steps to institute immediately enquiries into all serious incidents which will be reviewed by them in their monthly conferences, and

(c) The two Inspectors-General of Police will submit a monthly report of the progress of their work to their respective Governments for their onward submission to the Dominion Governments.

(3) A warning shall be issued by the two Provincial Governments to the local border police, home guards and national guards, etc., asking them to desist from giving any direct or indirect assistance to the raiders on both sides. Similar warning should be issued to the military along the border by the two Dominion Governments. Where as a result of the monthly conferences between the two Inspectors-General it appears that military or police personnel are involved in the raids, immediate and effective disciplinary action shall be instituted by the Provincial or the Dominion Governments concerned.

(4) Where the residents of a village are proved to have been involved in such raids, apart from other action, the question of levying collective fine on the village shall be immediately considered by the Provincial Government concerned, and

(5) The two Provincial Governments shall take steps to publicize these decisions along the border areas so that the miscreants and raiders on either side know that effective action shall be taken against them in the event of their participation in such activities.

APPENDIX VI

Record of the Discussions of the Evacuee Property Committee of the Inter-Dominion Conference held in New Delhi on 6th-9th December 1948, in the room of Secretary, Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation.

Present.

(1) Mr. C. N. Chandra.	}	Representatives of the Government of India.
(2) Mr. V. D. Dantagi.		
(3) Mr. P. N. Thapar.		
(4) Mr. Y. K. Puri.		

(5) Mr. E. de V. Mose.	}	Representatives of the Government of Pakistan.
(6) Mr. Abdul Qadir.		
(7) Maj.Genl. Abdul Rahman.		

Introductory.—(1) The representatives of the Government of Pakistan stated that they were not in a position to give their considered views on certain important items in the Minutes of the Inter-Dominion Conference of July 22, 1948, such as the areas to which the agreement should be extended or the treatment of urban immovable property. The Government of Pakistan had actively examining the important points involved and as they had not been able to collect all the important data which was necessary to enable them to come to a decision, it was impossible for their representatives to put forward any definite proposals in this Conference.

It was for this reason that they had requested India not to include this item in the agenda but had finally agreed only after India had insisted on its inclusion.

The Government of Pakistan representatives also said that their Government was under the impression that these minutes were subject to ratification by both Governments and that the Government of Pakistan for the reasons given above, had not yet ratified them.

They further stated that, in their opinion, another conference should be held shortly in, say, a month's time and by then they would be able to come to a final decision on the outstanding points and be in a position to put before the Conference definite proposals.

(2) The Indian Dominion representatives, on the other hand, were of the opinion that certain agreements had already been reached at the Minister-level Conference of 22nd July 1948, and there could be no question of re-opening the agreements already arrived at. Agreements in the past had invariably been acted upon without any formal ratification by either Government. They were rather disappointed at the protracted negotiations, as, in their opinion, very little had been achieved since the Inter-Dominion negotiations in March 1948. Refugees in either Dominion had been led to believe that they would be able to dispose of their property before long and in the meanwhile secure the income accrued to them from their property. These hopes had, unfortunately been deferred too long. It was the firm conviction of the Indian representatives that a very early and expeditious settlement of the property question would go a long way towards the rehabilitation of refugees in either Dominion thus removing a very potent cause of friction which exists at present between the two Dominions.

(3) Pakistan representatives regretted that a misunderstanding had occurred but they fully agreed with India that an early settlement of the property question was of vital importance and that Pakistan would do everything in its power to expedite the settlement.

PART I.—General of the minutes of the Conference of 22nd July.

I. Areas to which Agreement will Apply.

(4) The representatives of Pakistan Government said that they regretted they were unable to accept at present the proposals contained in the minutes of the Conference of 22nd July 1948 for the extended areas as these have not been approved by their Government. They would prefer to leave the matter open for consideration at the next Conference and in the meantime they would like to work on the old areas as agreed to in the Conference in March 1948, viz., the whole of Western Pakistan, and, in India, the Province of East Punjab, East Punjab States less Malerkotla State, the States of Alwar, Bharatpur and Bikaner, and the Province of Delhi. The India Government representatives stated that the areas had already been agreed upon on 22nd July 1948 and there was no justification for re-opening the question.

II.—General Principles.

(5) Paragraph (3) of the 22nd July 1948 minutes was accepted by representatives of both India and Pakistan.

(6) Paragraph (4) of the 22nd July 1948 minutes. The representatives of Pakistan stated that they would prefer to keep this open till the next Conference.

PART II.—Agricultural Property.

(7) Paragraph (5) of the minutes of 22nd July 1948 Conference. It was agreed that considerable progress had been made in the preparation and exchange of copies of revenue records of West Punjab and East Punjab districts and the East Punjab States. In regard to the other States in India, namely Alwar, Bharatpur and Bikaner, and for the Province of Delhi the records were being prepared, but exchange had not yet taken place. In Pakistan similarly, the revenue records of the Provinces of North West Frontier and Sind and the administered area of Baluchistan and the other States in West Pakistan, particularly Bahawalpur and Khairpur, were being prepared but had not yet been exchanged. It was agreed that the following procedure should be adopted for the exchange of the remaining copies of the revenue records and that every effort should be made to complete the work by the 15th January 1949:

Copies of all the revenue records of the remaining areas in Pakistan should be handed over to the Deputy High Commissioner for India in Lahore.

Copies of the revenue records for the remaining areas in India should be handed over to the Deputy High Commissioner for Pakistan at Jullundur.

It was agreed that a Joint Committee of the two Deputy High Commissioners at Jullundur and Lahore should be set up to see to the work of procurement of the copies of the revenue records and for their expeditious transfer to the representatives of the other Dominion.

(8) Paragraph (6) of the minutes of Inter-Dominion Conference of 22nd July 1948—

(a) Representatives of both Dominions agreed that a Liaison Officer of the other Dominion should be appointed to be in close touch with the Custodian of Evacuee Property, for the purpose of—

- (i) obtaining information on general principles being followed with regard to management of evacuee property;
- (ii) making representations—general or in respect of cases of particular evacuees or properties—for the consideration of the Custodian;
- (iii) obtaining information regarding demand statements and account statements regarding properties of evacuees, and generally to expedite by references to the Custodian the implementation of paragraphs 9 and 10 of Part III of the draft scheme of the Joint Official Committee of March 22nd—25th;

(b) The Liaison Officer will be attached to the High or Deputy High Commissioner of the Dominion to which he belongs, but will have office accommodation in the office of the Custodian to which he is attached;

(c) The Pakistan representatives agreed to the above on the condition that the office of the Custodian of Evacuee Property, East Punjab, was and would remain at Jullundur.

PART III.—Urban Immovable Property.

(9) Paragraph (7) of the minutes of the Inter-Dominion Conference of 22nd July 1948. The Pakistan representatives said that they were not prepared at the present moment to consider the question of settlement of urban immovable property. They would like this question to be held over for consideration at the next Inter-Dominion Conference.

(10) Paragraph (9) of the minutes of 22nd July. The Pakistan representatives stated that Pakistan was not prepared at the present moment to agree to any proposal for the

unrestricted private exchange of urban property. They would like this proposal to be held over and considered at the next Inter-Dominion Conference.

In regard to the proposal for the Joint Urban Assessment Board made in paragraph (9) of the minutes of 22nd July, 1948, the Pakistan representatives stated that in the present circumstances it was impossible for Pakistan to agree to such an elaborate organisation being set up.

It was, however, agreed by the representatives of both the Dominions that it was desirable that steps should be taken for early collection of rents for evacuee property and settlement of accounts in accordance with the provisions contained in paragraphs 9-10 of Part III of the Inter-Dominion Draft Scheme dated 22nd-25th March 1948.

PART V.—Movable Property.

(11) Paragraph (11) of the minutes of 22nd July, 1948. The Pakistan representatives stated that the Joint Government Agency proposed in the July Agreement was not acceptable at the present moment and suggested that a Joint Committee of the Deputy High Commissioners at Jullundur and Lahore should go into the question and suggest alternative measures for the evacuation of movable property.

The representatives of India stressed the need of a Joint Government Agency, but they had no objection to the two Deputy High Commissioners meeting together to make proposals for consideration.

(12) Paragraph (12) of the minutes of 22nd July 1948. The proposals in this paragraph have been agreed to and are being acted upon.

(13) Paragraph 13 of the minutes of 22nd July 1948. It was agreed that the Inter-Dominion Commission should now start functioning.

(14) Paragraph (14) of the minutes of 22nd July, 1948. As the question was not specifically referred to the Pakistan Government before this meeting, their representatives would prefer to postpone a discussion of this item to the next Inter-Dominion Conference.

(15) Paragraph (15) of the minutes of 22nd July 1948. May be referred to the Inter-Dominion Commission.

(16) Paragraphs (16) to (19) of the minutes of 22nd July 1948.

Assessment to Income-tax on Refugee Assessments.—Proposals agreed to by the C.I.R. India and Pakistan for the consideration of the Committee.

Government of India will appoint special officers at Delhi and Bombay to whom the refugee assesses in India who have come from West Punjab, N.W.F.P., Sind and Baluchistan will furnish (in duplicate) particulars of their addresses etc. as given in the letter dated 28th October 1948 to the Central Board of Revenue Pakistan. The Press Note will be modified accordingly.

The Special officer in India will forward a copy of these particulars to his counterpart in Pakistan who will distribute them among the Income-tax Officers having jurisdiction to deal with the cases.

The Income-tax Officer concerned will then send the notices calling for returns or evidence through the special officer of Pakistan who will forward them in batches each week to the special officer in India and he will send them to the assesses concerned.

The Income-tax Officer in Pakistan should make an *ex parte* assessment only after he hears from the special officer in India, that the notice could not be served on the assessee as his whereabouts are not known or that the assessee without valid cause has failed to comply with the notice. In cases where assessments would otherwise become time-barred, an *ex parte* assessment may be made after the due date for the receipt of return but full facilities should be given for reopening the assessment on valid cause being shown in appeal.

Each Government will arrange for Assessments being represented before the Income-tax Officer, if they so desire by authorised agents to whom the accounts etc. will be sent through the respective High Commissioners.

As soon as an assessment is completed in Pakistan one copy of the demand notice should be sent to the special officer in Pakistan and he will forward it to his counterpart in India who will pass it on to the assessee. Another copy will be sent to the Custodian of Evacuee Property in Pakistan.

The Custodian will adjust against the demand any amount to the credit of the assessee and if the full demand could not be met, the balance shall be communicated to the assessee through the special officer.

Property of the assessee may be attached for the balance of the tax if any due, but shall not be sold in auction except with the consent of the assessee within one year after they are permitted to sell or exchange the properties.

Any *ex parte* assessments made before the introduction of this procedure on evacuee assesses to whom the "stand-still" agreement applied will be cancelled by the Commissioner and revised assessments made in accordance with the procedure contained herein. As

regards other evacuees, appeals against *ex parte* assessments already made shall be entertained, irrespective of the time-limit, provided the appeals are filed before the 15th January 1949.

The notices intended for assesses in India shall be sent to the special officer in India in special bags through the respective High Commissioners, and the special officer shall send them to the assesses at the addresses given in the statement, and shall after service of the notices, forward the acknowledgments to his opposite number in Pakistan.

Arrangements in Pakistan shall be exactly similar to those in India, and special officers will be appointed at Karachi and Lahore.

When owners of properties are permitted to sell or exchange their properties, such sale or exchange shall be subject to the claim for arrears of tax if any and shall not become final till tax is paid.

The proposals contained in the Central Board of Revenue India's letter to the Central Board of Revenue Pakistan mentioned above shall be acted upon except to the extent modified above.

This new procedure shall be announced in the Press simultaneously by both Dominions on the 17th December 1948.

Other subjects discussed by the representatives of the two Governments

(A) *Sale and transfer of shares.*—Pakistan representatives mentioned that correspondence was going on between the Governments of India and Pakistan regarding the existing restrictions on transfer and sale of shares in West Punjab. Pakistan representatives stated that if restrictions on such sale and transfer of shares in East Punjab and Centrally Administered areas were removed, restrictions in West Punjab and other areas wherever they exist will be withdrawn by Pakistan Government.

The Indian representatives stated that the restrictions in India were imposed only because they existed in Pakistan and they would be prepared to withdraw the restrictions on a reciprocal basis.

It was agreed that restrictions shall be withdrawn by both the Governments immediately.

(B) *Money due to evacuees from Government and quasi Government bodies.*—It was represented by the Pakistan representatives that restrictions existed in West Punjab, East Punjab and Delhi regarding the payment of money due to contractors who have now become evacuees and to Government servants, to servants of Universities and local funds and other local bodies. It was mentioned by the Pakistan representative that at present money payable to contractors was deposited with the Custodian and not paid to the contractor concerned by the Governments on either side. India also pointed out that in the case of the Punjab University employees who had migrated to India, the Provident Fund money had not been paid to the employees for lack of Custodian's permission. Similarly restrictions have been imposed in Delhi. Court deposits and Provident Funds of teachers employed by local bodies were similarly being held up in either Dominion. It was decided that all money due from Government or quasi Government bodies like the University, the District and Municipal Board and other local bodies should be payable by them direct to the evacuee concerned without the intervention of the Custodian and should be subject only to any agreements regarding exchange control between the two Governments.

Examples of such payments were sums due to the contractors for work done or goods applied or otherwise under the contract, pay, leave salary and provident fund amounts of Government servants and servants of Universities, local bodies and quasi-Government institutions, security deposits of contractors and public servants, court deposits and scholarships due to students. Those items are illustrative only and not exhaustive.

To enable this agreement to be implemented, immediate amendment of the Custodian of evacuee Property Ordinance will be necessary in both the Dominions. In the meantime instructions should be issued not later than the 15th January, 1949, to the Custodian to grant general permission for the free movement of money relating to such items.

The Indian representative pointed out that on both sides a large number of claims from Government and semi-Government departments and institutions are outstanding and evacuees entitled to moneys are not being paid. It was agreed by both the representatives that effective measures should be taken to have all such claims considered and paid as early as possible. It was decided that both Governments should issue instructions to Government departments, semi-Government institutions and to local bodies to expedite payment of claims of evacuees.

Teachers other than those included in B above.—It was agreed that teachers other than those employed by Government and quasi-Government bodies will also be given the benefit of the arrangements agreed to in B above.

(C) *Changes in Evacuee Property Law in Pakistan.*—The Indian representatives pointed out that the latest Pakistan Ordinance appeared to be stricter in certain respects than the older law, and contrary to the spirit of the negotiations between the two Dominions.

The Pakistan Representatives agreed to examine the points raised by the Indian representatives. A detailed note on the subject is to be given to the Pakistan Government representatives and the matter will be discussed at the next Conference.

(D) *Jagirs and Muafis*.—The question of Muafi, land grants, assignment of land revenue and jagir grants etc. was raised by the Pakistan representatives and it was decided that both the Government should examine the position and discuss the matter further in the next Inter-Dominion Conference.

(E) *Estates under Court of wards*.—It was agreed that whether the estates were still under the Court of wards or had been released and handed over to the Custodian after partition, the wards or ex-wards and dependents or ex-dependents may continue to be paid a suitable allowance direct by the Court of Wards or the Custodian as the case may be as a special case.

(F) *Improvement Trust Plots*.—It was agreed that the rights of the evacuee owner should not be forfeited. The sale of Improvement Trust plots generally include a condition that the failure to build within a specified period, or to pay the necessary number of instalments, would mean forfeiture of the plot of land by the Improvement Trust. It was agreed that such penal conditions should be held in abeyance. This does not preclude the state from acquiring or requisitioning the land for the purpose of rehabilitation of refugees.

(G) *Government servants who have migrated from one Dominion to another and who were in pensionable service but had not earned their pension*.—The consensus of opinion was that something must be done for these persons, but the question must pend the settlement of an agreement between the two Dominions on the bigger issue of the pensions already earned.

(H) *Exchange of undertrial prisoners on bail*.—It was agreed by the representatives of both the Dominions that since the persons who were in prison have already been transferred, there is no reason why those who were on bail should not be considered eligible for transfer. Pakistan representatives pointed out that this matter was under consideration of their Governments; but pending a final decision, it was agreed that no action should be taken to forfeit the bail bonds or personal securities.

(I) *Transfer of cases in mental hospitals*.—It was agreed that non-Muslim patients in the mental hospitals in Pakistan and Muslim patients in similar hospitals in India whose relatives have gone over to the other Dominion may be transferred to India and Pakistan respectively subject to the adjustment of any amounts that may be due on their accounts. This will be applicable only to persons already in hospitals on 1st December, 1948.

E. de V. MOSS,

Secretary,

Ministry of Refugees & Rehabilitation,
Government of Pakistan, 11th December, 1948.

C. M. OHANDRA,

Secretary,

Ministry of Relief & Rehabilitation,
Govt. of India, 11th December, 1948.

Minutes of the Inter-Dominion Conference held in Lahore on July 22nd, 1948

Item I of the Agenda.

(1) The draft scheme for Inter-Dominion Evacuee Property Agreement prepared by the Joint Official Committee at Lahore (March 22nd to 25th 1948) was considered by the Conference, and the following decisions were reached:—

PART I.—General.

I. Area to which Applicable.

(2) It was agreed that the areas should be extended to include in India, Ajmer-Marwar, Malerkotla State, the Matsya and Rajasthan Unions, Saurashtra, Jaipur State, Jodhpur State, and Western Districts of the United Provinces (which shall in any case include the districts of Saharanpur, Dabra Dun, Meerut and Muzaffarnagar). Pakistan was to forward a list of any further areas which they might wish to be included, for India's consideration.

II. General Principles.

(3) The following new sub-section (4) should be added to section 2 as follows:—

"Throughout this agreement whatever has been laid down as applicable to any Province or to its Government shall be applicable to any States or to the Government of any such States as have acceded to either Dominion and are included in the area to which this agreement now becomes or hereafter becomes applicable."

(4) India said that evacuees had been moving from all parts of one Dominion to all parts of the other and in so far as India was concerned, they were prepared to extend the agreed area to cover the whole of both Dominions. Pakistan agreed to consider this proposal.

PART II.—Agricultural Property

(5) The main question to be decided in this part was whether the settlement should be as between the Governments of the two Dominions or as between individual evacuees. Pakistan were of the view that no definite decision could be taken on this point until more data were available. For this purpose special Revenue Officers were to be appointed by both Dominions. Copying of revenue records should start forthwith. A Special Joint Committee should be set up to supervise and expedite the whole work.

(6) It was further agreed that with a view to ensuring more equitable management of evacuee properties and the early payment of rents due to evacuee owners during the interim period, an officer of the other Dominion should be associated with the Custodians of Evacuee Property of each Dominion.

PART III.—Urban Immovable Property

(7) Here again the main question to be decided was whether the settlement of this type of property should be on a Governmental or an individual basis. India felt that it might be advantageous to pool for purposes of exchange on a Governmental basis all properties valued below a certain figure to be agreed upon between the two Dominions property above that value would be open to unrestricted private sale and exchange. With this end in view it would be necessary to collect more data in regard to urban property.

(8) Pakistan's view was that, while the suggestion might prove practicable, it certainly presented enormous difficulties and would probably take an unduly long period to put into operation.

(9) It was finally agreed that the Joint Urban Assessment Board contemplated in Section 7 of this part should be set up and its functions enlarged to include assessment of the value of property. It was further agreed that an officer of the other Dominion should be associated with the Custodians of Evacuee Property of each Dominion with a view to ensuring equitable management and early payment of rents due to evacuee owners. India suggested that pending a final settlement it might be advisable to allow freely exchanges of Urban Immovable Property, Pakistan agreed to consider this proposal.

PART IV.—Houses and Shops in Rural Areas

(10) It was decided that whatever decisions were finally taken in regard to Parts II and III should be made to apply to Part IV also, according to the category of property concerned.

PART V.—Movable Property

(11) The proposals were accepted by both Dominions subject to the following modifications:—

The Joint Government Agency to be set up under sub-section (5) of section 6 should deal with all matters and complaints arising out of the working of this part.

PART VI.—Customs, Export and Import Controls

(12) The proposals as contained in Pakistan's redraft of this part date 21st July, 1948, were accepted by both Dominions.

PART VII.—Inter-Dominion Commission

(13) The proposals as contained in the draft agreement were accepted.

Item 2 of the Agenda. Trust Property.

(14) It was decided to postpone consideration of this item.

Item 3 of the Agenda. Damaged Urban Immovable Property.

(15) India was unable to accept Pakistan's proposals as they stood. They had no objection to demolitions or repairs necessary for ensuring safety, protecting health and the life but they could not agree to sales by the Custodians of Evacuee Property. Pakistan undertook to consider India's counterproposals.

Additional Item 3-A, not on the Agenda, Income-tax Assessment.

(16) There was at present an agreement between the two Dominions under which no *ex-parte* assessment of income-tax could take place in the West Punjab until 31st July, 1948.

(17) In view of the postponement of Evacuee Property settlement it was suggested by India that the agreement should be further extended up to 31st December, 1948, and should include the N.-W.F.P. and Sind.

(18) Pakistan agreed to extend the present date upto 31st August, 1948, and pointed out that its present scope already covered the N.-W.F.P. Pakistan was not prepared to extend the agreement to Sind. They would, however, consider the definite proposals from India as contained in Appendix A.

(19) Pakistan stated that no sales against realization of income-tax had taken place either in the West Punjab or the N.-W.F.P. so far and they undertook that no such sales would take place at least until 31st August 1948, in any part of West Pakistan.

Item 4 of the Agenda: Exchange of Prisoners.

(20) The question of resuming the exchange of prisoners between the two Dominions which has stood suspended from the 27th April, 1948 was discussed. Pakistan handed over the following draft of what they desired in this connection:

"The exchange of Prisoners between the Dominion of Pakistan and the Dominion of India, which was suspended on the 27th April, will be resumed as soon as a satisfactory agreement has been arrived at with regard to Muslim prisoners of Delhi, whose families have migrated to Pakistan, on the same terms and under the same conditions as applied to the exchange of prisoners from East and West Punjab."

India undertook to consider this and send a reply as early as possible.

Item 5 of the Agenda. India's "Permit" System.

(21) India explained their reasons for introducing a system of permits, but were prepared to consider its withdrawal if the two Dominions could evolve some system of regulating a two-way, as opposed to one-way, traffic. Pakistan was not satisfied that there was a case for introducing a permit system nor for any form of traffic regulation in either direction and stated that in deference to public opinion they would be obliged to introduce a similar permit system in West Pakistan, which would have to be extended to cover also, movement between East and West Bengal, if India could not see their way to withdrawing their "permit" system forthwith.

V. D. DANTYAGI, Joint Secretary,
Ministry Without Portfolio, Govt. of India.
23rd July 1948.

E. de V. MOSS, Secretary,
Ministry of Refugees, Govt. of Pakistan,
23rd July 1948.

*Note dated 22nd July 1948 by India on Income-tax Assessment
Appendix A*

There is at present an agreement between the two Dominion Governments governing the East and West Punjab under which no *ex-parte* assessment of Income-Tax can take place. This agreement which expired on the 30th June, 1948, has been extended up to the 31st July, 1948.

We suggest that this agreement should be extended further up to 31st December, 1948, in regard to time and should be covered to include Sind and N.-W.F.P. in addition to West Punjab.

Meanwhile the work of assessment can be done either by deputing Pakistan officials to the Indian Dominion and *vice versa* under the guard and protection of the Dominion concerned; or notice in regard to all evacuees should be served on the High Commissioner of the Dominion concerned who should arrange for the defence of the case in consultation with the evacuee.

Once the assessment is made the Dominion to which the evacuee has gone may collect the Income-tax and remit it to the originating Dominion or intimate its inability to do so. In the latter event, or at the option of the assessee the origination Dominion will have the right to dispose of the evacuee's property in fulfilment of the Income-Tax demand.

Pending consideration of this proposal we suggest that no sale of evacuee property should take place in either Dominion in fulfilment of the Income-Tax demands.

MINISTRY OF RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

RECORD OF DISCUSSION HELD IN THE ROOM OF DEFENCE SECRETARY ON FRIDAY, 10TH DECEMBER,
AT 12 NOON, IN REGARD TO EVACUEE PROPERTY

The first point of difference between the representatives of India and Pakistan in the Evacuee Property Committee was the question of areas to which the scheme of evacuee property should apply. In the Secretariat level conference held in March, 1948, the agreed areas were confined to Western Pakistan on the one hand and East Punjab, East Punjab States, the States of Alwar, Bharatpur and Bikaner in India. At the request of Pakistan, this area was extended in the Minister level conference held on 22nd July, 1948 in India to include Ajmer-Merwara, Malerkotla State, the Matsya and Rajasthan Unions, Saurashtra, the States of Jaipur and Jodhpur, and Western districts of United Provinces, which were in any case to include the districts of Saharanpur, Dehra Dun, Meerut and Muzaffarnagar. The Pakistan representatives stated that the Pakistan Government had not yet ratified the agreement to this area and that they would like to keep the matter open for the present

(2) At the meeting of July 22nd, the Pakistan representatives reserved to themselves the right to suggest any further area which they liked to be included in the property scheme. The India Government representatives were prepared to consider their proposals and to extend the agreed area to the whole of India and Pakistan if necessary. Pakistan representatives wished to keep this question also open for the present.

(3) *Agricultural property.*—The scheme submitted by the Secretariat level committee, which met on 22/25th March, 1948, envisaged both the Governments taking over the agricultural land left behind in either Dominion. The land was to be valued by a Joint Valuation Board to be set up for the purpose of valuing land on the basis of certain principles which were accepted by this official committee. At the conference of 21st July 1948 the Pakistan Government wished to collect more information before they could agree to this scheme. Meanwhile the revenue records in both Dominions over the agreed area were to be copied and exchanged. To expedite this work, a special Joint Committee was to be set up. The Pakistan Government representatives stated that it is not possible to accept this official Joint Committee for the present but there was no objection to both Governments proceeding with the valuation of the land left behind in their respective areas. It was pointed out by the Pakistan representatives that the principles accepted by the Joint official Committee had yet to be formally accepted by their Government.

(4) *Urban immovable property.*—The main hitches in this case were the question of agreed area and whether exchanges should be allowed in regard to urban immovable property. Here again a Joint Urban Assessment Board was contemplated by the official committee of the 22/25th March with a view to helping persons who could not exchange their property otherwise. The Pakistan Government representatives were of the opinion that a Joint Urban Assessment Board was impossible at present. While the Indian Government representatives were of the opinion that exchanges may be freely allowed in all cases the Pakistan Government representatives were not prepared to give an answer till the question of agreed areas was settled.

(5) *Movable property.*—The official committee of 22/25th March 1948 contemplated a joint Government agency for the purpose of moving movable property from one Dominion to the other, unless it was taken over or requisitioned by the Government concerned for the export thereof was forbidden under a general order of that Dominion. The Joint Agency was accepted by the Minister level conference of 22nd July, 1948. The Pakistan Government representatives stated that they could not receive at the moment a vast organisation like this agency, but that the two Deputy High Commissioners should meet together and work in effect as the joint agency for the purpose of facilitating the movement of such property. It was agreed that the High Commissioners will be suitably assisted by sanction of extra staff by the two Dominions Governments and that facilities including protection will be accorded by the Dominion in which that staff would be operating with a view to transferring movable property.

V. D. DANTYAGI,
Joint Secretary,
10th December 1948.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EVACUEE PROPERTY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

The Evacuee Property Committee has submitted a report in which there is disagreement between the representatives of India and Pakistan on the following principal points:

- (1) Area to which the agreement would be applicable;
- (2) transfer and sale of agricultural property;
- (3) transfer and sale of urban immovable property; and
- (4) disposal or transfer of movable property.

The Steering Committee had a prolonged discussion with the representatives of the two Dominions and agreement was reached on point No. 4. It was agreed that the two Deputy High Commissioners should work as a joint committee for facilitating the movement of the movable property from one Dominion to the other.

With regard to the other points, the Pakistan delegation maintained that they were not in a position to express any opinion or proceed further with implementation until the agreement reached at the Minister level conference held on the 22nd July 1948 at Lahore was ratified by their Government. Indian representatives on the other hand stated that they had all along proceeded on the assumption that there will be no question of the agreement being subject to any ratification. Having regard to the time that has elapsed since the Lahore Agreement was signed by the representatives of the two Governments, the Steering Committee would recommend to the Conference that where there were actual agreements in substance between the two Governments in Lahore they should stand and should be implemented. This is a matter to which considerable importance is attached by the private

Individuals whose property lies in one or the other Dominion. The Steering Committee would further recommend that the implementation of the points on which agreement had been reached should be completed with the utmost expedition.

Where at Lahore certain points were left over for further consideration, the Steering Committee would recommend that the two Governments should make up their minds within a month and intimate their considered views on those points to each other. If a further conference is necessary to settle these points, it should be held within six weeks.

APPENDIX VII
INTER DOMINION CONFERENCE REPORT
 OF
THE COMMITTEE ON PROGRESS IN SETTLEMENT
 OF
Financial Matters Arising out of the Partition of Provinces
 A. BENGAL PARTITION

The Committee considered the (Appendix I) Report drawn up after discussion by the representatives of East Bengal and West Bengal. On the various points raised in the Report it was agreed as follows :

- (a) The debit balance on account of the undivided Government of Bengal on the books of the Reserve Bank which was provisionally cleared by equal payments by the two Governments should be taken as the liability of the undivided Government and shared in the general proportion fixed by the Arbitral Tribunal.
 - (b) The outstanding amounts due to the Central Government by the undivided Government of Bengal should be allocated between the two Provinces in the general ratio fixed by the Arbitral Tribunal and each Province will owe its share to its Central Government.
 - (c) The two Provinces should appoint actuaries to determine the capital value of the pensionary liability of undivided Bengal. Pending this valuation each Province should continue to pay the pensioners in accordance with the interim arrangements already entered into subject to final adjustment of the capital liability as determined. The basis and method of this eventual adjustment will have to be settled as part of the financial settlement between the two Provinces arising out of partition.
 - (d) In the case of deposits, each Province will continue to pay the liabilities arising in its area without prejudice to the eventual settlement between the two Provinces.
 - (e) The method of allocation of the amounts at the credit of the Post-war Services Reconstruction Fund should be examined by the two Governments and an early decision reached.
- (2) In the course of discussion the question of how the net liability of one Province to the other which may arise out of the partition settlement should be liquidated was raised. It was decided that West Bengal which is likely to emerge the net debtor should consider and formulate proposals in this behalf at an early date.
- (3) It was agreed that the two Governments should use their good offices in securing an equitable distribution of the assets of the funds of non-official organisations other than charitable endowment which before the partition used to serve the undivided provinces.
- (4) The East Bengal representatives also raised the question of the interpretation of Section 8(ii) (a) of the Indian Independence (R. P. & L.) Order, 1947, read with para 16 of the Arbitral Tribunal's Award on Issue No. 2. It was suggested to East Bengal that this matter should be taken up by them with the Pakistan Government who had interpreted corresponding provision of the Order affecting Pakistan differently in respect of similar liabilities at the Centre. It was represented on behalf of East Bengal that they were not concerned with what happened between the Dominion Governments. In their view the settlement between the two Provinces must be governed only by the Award, in cases in which it has been sought and given by agreement between the Provinces themselves and in this case the Award was clear and specific and should be adhered to and implemented by both the parties.
- (5) The East Bengal representatives also raised the question of the division of the securities held by the Reserve Bank on behalf of un-divided Bengal. The West Bengal Government were asked to examine the matter and inform East Bengal Government.
- (6) It was agreed that the various outstanding points mentioned in the note of the representatives of the two Governments and the above note should be settled as early as possible and in any case not later than a period of three months.

(7) *Stores records etc.*—As regards the flat RUNDEL, S. T. CHITPOBE and two coal barges and three mud barges with their tools, plant and stores (being component parts of the Dredger BURDWAN), D. Tug 113 etc. belonging to the Irrigation Department of undivided Bengal, the Chief Engineers of East and West Bengal should meet and take steps for effecting exchange on the lines already agreed upon.

As regards police arms and ammunition claimed by either Province from the other, the Inspectors-General should meet and try to come to an agreement, failing which they should report the facts to their respective Governments.

As regards arms, ammunition, animals, library and other stores of Sarda Police Training College, West Bengal requested that if there be a surplus over present requirements of East Bengal of any item that should be supplied in kind by East Bengal to West Bengal. East Bengal stated that there could be no question of the physical division of any of the assets of the Police Training College. They admitted that financial adjustment would be, however, necessary.

As regards bulbs, shades and other equipment of the Electrical Division of undivided Bengal, the Provinces should check up and see if West Bengal has made over such stocks as are due to East Bengal, failing which early steps should be taken to supply the remaining bulbs etc.

As regards Nissen huts, West Bengal should supply to East Bengal materials for 21 such serviceable huts, the materials being, as far as possible, similar in condition and completeness to those which remained in West Bengal when the partition took place.

As regards historical records of the Government of undivided Bengal, two representatives from the two Governments of East and West Bengal should meet before the 15th January 1948 and make their agreed recommendations. If they fail to come to an agreement, they should tender their advice to East and West Bengal who should then meet before the 15th February and try to come to an agreement.

As regards furniture it was agreed that these should be supplied by West Bengal to East Bengal expeditiously.

As regards equipment of the Record Room of undivided Bengal, East Bengal should supply the detail wanted by West Bengal on receipt of which arrangements should be made to deliver such of these to East Bengal as are due to that Province.

As regards books of reference the decision of the Separation Council should be implemented early by West Bengal.

As regards the share of the common records of the divided district of Nadia claimed by East Bengal and the share of the divided districts of Dinajpur and Jessore claimed by West Bengal, the West Bengal representatives stated that orders have already been issued by West Bengal for the return of the records of Nadia. The East Bengal representatives said that they would check up and see that West Bengal gets her share of the records of the divided districts.

As regards the motor launch MARIE of the Excise Central Detective Department claimed by West Bengal as allotted to that Province of the Assets and Liabilities Committee of the Separation Council, the East Bengal representatives agreed to look into the matter and ensure a decision by the 15th of January 1949.

As regards one of the Forest launches still claimed as due by West Bengal from East Bengal, the representatives of East Bengal agreed to settle the matter by 31st January 1949 in consultation with the representatives of the Government of West Bengal.

As regards the fittings, accessories and other essential stores of M. L. RESCUE of the Forest Department which are stated to have been retained before the return of the launch to West Bengal the representatives of East Bengal agreed to look into the complaint and return the fittings etc. to West Bengal, so far as the allegations are found correct.

As regards the Police Harbour Defence motor launch 1104 and jeep BLB 7093 claimed by West Bengal as due from East Bengal, the representatives of East Bengal promised to look into these cases and return these to the Government of West Bengal not later than 31st January 1949.

As regards the Prime Mover at Jalpaiguri on account of the W. & B. Department workshop, the Pakistan representative said that his claim was on the strength of a sub-committee's decision and promised to send a copy of that to the West Bengal Government as early as possible, and the West Bengal undertook to intimate their views to the East Bengal within a fortnight of the receipt of the above-mentioned communication.

B. PUNJAB PARTITION

(8) The Committee considered the report (Appendix 2) prepared by the representatives of the East Punjab and West Punjab.

(9) As regards the payment of outstanding claims relating to the pre-partition period the following decisions were reached:

(10) It was agreed that the joint committee consisting of two representatives of each of the Governments of East and West Punjab to examine outstanding claims of third parties against undivided Punjab for supplies and services made before the 15th August, 1947, should be immediately set up. It was also agreed that after this Committee have passed the claims, payments should be made by the two Governments in respect of claims arising within their areas, and that these payments should be currently shared in the ratio fixed by the Arbitral Tribunal, namely 60 per cent for West Punjab and 40 per cent for East Punjab. The Committee will be set up before the 1st of January 1949 and all claims will be examined and sanctioned for payments within a period of six months, i.e. by 30th June 1949.

(11) It was also agreed that the expenditure, other than that referred to in para. 1 above, relating to the period before the 15th August, 1947, but paid up to and including the 31st March 1948, in either Province should, after necessary scrutiny, be shared between the East and West Punjab in the prescribed ratio, and that expenditure relating to the period before the 15th August, 1947, but paid after the 31st March 1948 be finally adjusted against the balance of the Province making the payment. Arrears of pensions relating to the preparation period will, however, be finally borne by the Province in whose list the pensioners concerned are included.

(12) It was also agreed that each Province should finally retain to itself whatever arrears of revenue pertaining to pre-partition period it may collect after the 15th August, 1947.

(13) The East Punjab representative raised the question of the return of the Securities held by the Provincial Co-operative Bank on behalf of the Co-operative Societies now located in East Punjab as also the funds and deposits in Co-operative institutions in either Province. It was agreed that these questions should be considered at the meeting to be held in Lahore towards the end of this month to consider banking and allied problems.

(14) The East Punjab representative also raised the question of the refund of the Provident Fund Deposits and gratuities of former employees of the Punjab University, the Lahore Public Library and similar non-Government institutions. In the case of the Punjab University, it was pointed out that the arrangements made at the conference held on the 22nd to 24th November in respect of the payment of Provident Funds and local Funds would apply. In the case of the Provident Funds of the Punjab Public Library and similar institutions, it was agreed that the West Punjab Government should use their good offices to secure an early settlement of the claims.

(15) The West Punjab representatives handed two notes one (to the East Punjab Government and to the Government of India) relating to security deposits pledged to the West Punjab Government, and forwarded to the Reserve Bank for re-encasement on Pakistan, and the other (to the Government of India) dealing with certain securities said to be held by the Deputy Accountant General, Posts and Telegraphs, Calcutta, on behalf of the Aitchison College, Lahore. It was agreed that the Government of East Punjab and the Government of India should look into the matter and reach an early decision.

(16) The West Punjab representatives also handed a note regarding the short supply of water from the Bari Doab Canal system to certain West Punjab distributaries. The East Punjab representative promised to have the matter looked into expeditiously, in consultation with the Chief Engineer of his Province.

(17) The Committee agreed that the Provincial Governments should expedite the appointment of actuaries to evaluate the pension liabilities and meantime the existing arrangements for the payment of pensions by the two Provinces should continue.

(18) It was also agreed that the Implementation Committee and other Committees dealing with partition matters should be convened as early as possible and all the outstanding work in connection with the partition should be completed by the 30th June, 1949.

(19) The representatives of West Bengal raised the question of the transfer of two Electrical Generators ordered by undivided Punjab and now held by the Electrical Commissioner for the Government of India. They contended that these two generators had been ordered for Lahore and should be made over to them. The East Punjab representatives contended that these two generators had been ordered for balancing the equipment for the Distribution System of the Mandi Project, and should, therefore, be retained by East Punjab. They also mentioned that the matter had been referred to the Partition Council for a decision.

The Steering Committee recommend that an *ad hoc* decision should be taken and propose that the two Provinces should take one generator each. They consider that this arrangement would be fair to the two Provinces.

C. ASSAM PARTITION

(20) The Committee could not consider the latest position in regard to the settlement of partition matters between Assam and East Bengal as the representatives of the two Governments had not come with the necessary papers. It is agreed that the two Governments should meet at an early date and submit to the two Dominion Governments within a month's time a report of the steps being taken by them to expedite a final settlement.

APPENDIX 1

NOTE ON THE BENGAL PARTITION ITEMS

An exposition of the financial results accruing from the implementation of the Award of the Arbitral Tribunal was given by a representative of East Bengal. According to his version the total assets of Bengal were of the value of Rs. 47,20,30,22 out of which the share of East Bengal and West Bengal worked out to Rs. 30,54,61,240 and Rs. 16,65,79,622 respectively. This included the assets of a few Departments regarding which specific agreement had not been reached but as the valuation was based on Book Values there was little fear of a serious dispute. The two provinces had taken possession of the assets of the following value:

East Bengal—15,49,50,306.

West Bengal—31,70,80,522.

It will thus be seen that West Bengal had taken over assets in excess of her share to the extent of Rs. 15,05,00,934 which amount was due from her to East Bengal.

(2) As regards liabilities it was stated on behalf of East Bengal that the Arbitral Tribunal took as the basis of the Award the statement of liabilities included in the case of East Bengal submitted to the Tribunal. Except Pensions for which a ratio of 47:33 (East Bengal) and 52:17 (West Bengal) had been determined, the other liabilities were to be shared in the general ratio. Mr. Said Hasan read out the list of liabilities which he had taken into account in arriving at the figures. Mr. Das Gupta said that he was not in a position to go into detailed figures but an obvious omission was the sum of approximately Rs. 514 lakhs representing the overdraft on the Reserve Bank against Bengal and cleared in equal moiety by the two provinces. This omission, it was stated on behalf of East Bengal, was deliberate. The Committee for the Implementation of the Award had, after discussion, decided not to consider it as a divisible liability because the Arbitral Tribunal had not treated this sum as an outstanding liability requiring adjustment between the two Governments. It was argued by Mr. Das Gupta that the Implementation Committee was not empowered to take final decision without the orders of Government and that if Mr. Rajagopal, the representative of West Bengal on the Committee, had made an omission it should be rectified. He also stated that Mr. P. N. Rajagopal had not agreed to the amount being dropped, but only no mention had been made of the item. The representatives of East Bengal averred that the Application Committee, of which the Committee for the Implementation of the Award, was a part had full powers to come to decisions on behalf of the Governments which they represented and only when the Committee made a recommendation to Government instead of coming to a decision itself, was it necessary that the Separation Council should decide a matter. This Committee had dealt with all the liabilities and given its decision. It had disregarded the amount paid to the Reserve Bank because it had not considered the amount to be an outstanding liability needing an adjustment. Mr. Das Gupta argued that the Application Committee had not yet concluded its work so it cannot be said that it had disregarded the amount and the full picture is not yet before us and many things are still to be worked out by the Committee.

(3) Mr. Rangabari then raised the question of the loan from the Centre. He averred that while it had been agreed that the amounts due from Pakistan provinces to the Government of (undivided) India would be payable to the Pakistan Government, it (the decision) did not contemplate that East Bengal should recover in cash from West Bengal the latter's share in these loans. The question of the adjustment of the share of West Bengal in the loans owed to the Central Government by Bengal would need separate consideration.

(4) As regards Pensions it was stated on behalf of East Bengal that as far as the existing pensions were concerned that Province had undertaken to pay all pensions registered for payment in Pakistan and U.K. These amounted to Rs. 38,71,776 per year in East Bengal and Rs. 26 lakhs (according to the Budget of 1946-47) in U.K., i.e., a total of about Rs. 65 lakhs a year. The Budget of 1946-47 showed total expenditure of Rs. 119 lakhs on pensions out of which East Bengal's share would be approximately Rs. 57 lakhs. This showed that East Bengal was paying Rs. 8 lakhs per year in excess of her share. It was further argued on behalf of East Bengal that according to the Indian Independence (R. P. and I.) Order, the liability for the payment of all pensions devolved on East Bengal and they were entitled to recover immediately 52.17 per cent. of the Capitalised Value of Pensions. Mr. Das Gupta said that East Bengal was not paying all the pensions of undivided Bengal and she must therefore in terms of the Award and West Bengal must therefore in terms of the Award be given credit for the capitalised value of all such pensions which were being paid by her (West Bengal) as East Bengal also must get credit for the capitalised value of pensions which were being paid by her. According to the estimates of West Bengal both in respect of pensions in issue and accrued, large sums (Rs. 3 crores under each head) would be payable by East Bengal.

(5) Mr. Das Gupta raised the question of Contractual liabilities and argued that final settlement could not take place till these had been cleared. It was explained to him by Mr. Patel and others that these liabilities did not enter into Inter-Governmental Settlements and as payments were due to outsiders and were being made by East Bengal, who were

entitled to recover 35.2 per cent. currently from West Bengal, these liabilities should be disregarded for the purpose of settlement. Mr. Das Gupta did not agree to this view as these were the liabilities of undivided Bengal as well as any other liability. West Bengal had agreed to pay Rs. 35 lakhs for every crore paid by East Bengal only with a view to assist East Bengal quickly to clear these liabilities. That did not, according to him, mean that they should be taken out of the reckoning.

(6) Discussion then proceeded to the adjustment of "Other" and "Miscellaneous" Deposits. It was stated on behalf of East Bengal that the responsibility for the payment of all deposits devolved on East Bengal and they were assuming this liability and were entitled to receive a contribution of 35.2 per cent. from West Bengal. Actually the same procedure should cover Provident Fund Deposits, though the Committee for the Implementation of the Award had recommended to the two Governments to come to a settlement by which each Province would receive credit for the accounts of the personnel who had opted to serve under it. This procedure would entitle West Bengal to receive a credit of about 2 crores from East Bengal on this account. In Assam the members representing the Province in the Separation Council had insisted on adherence to the Indian Independence (R. P. & L.) Order, 1947, in respect of Miscellaneous Deposits. East Bengal too wanted to adhere to the provisions of the aforesaid Order and it would not cause any particular inconvenience. The relevant registers of Deposits would be transferred to East Bengal and all applications for refunds should be submitted to East Bengal for verification of amounts due and payments. Mr. Das Gupta pointed out that it was not clear what the "Other Deposits" were, as District Board, Municipal, Civil and Criminal Court Deposits, Education Fund etc. were being disregarded. In any case whatever the deposits were, each province was paying all those which were lying in its territory and each province should therefore get credit of what it was paying and a complete analysis of these deposits was therefore necessary.

It was appreciated that an analysis of all deposits would be a long and difficult task and that alone could render it possible to make a division of deposits now. It was mentioned that in the case of District Board and Municipal Deposits, Civil and Criminal Court Deposits, Education Fund, etc., it had been decided that each Government should pay the deposits pertaining to its territory without any adjustment. One of the possible methods of dealing with Miscellaneous Deposits would be to follow the agreement about Municipal and Court Deposits, viz., each Government to make refunds in its area without adjustment. Representative of East Bengal stated that if adjustments were to be made, the provision of the Independence (R. P. & L.) Order, 1947, should be adhered to.

(7) The amounts due to the Post War Services Reconstruction Fund was next taken up. The total amount due to this Fund by the Government of Bengal was, according to Mr. Said Hasan, Rs. 65,60,573, which had to be contributed by the two Governments in the general ratio, according to the Award of the Tribunal. It was stated on behalf of East Bengal that the Fund had been divided by West Bengal itself and the share of East Bengal had been communicated by the Hon. Treasurer of Endowments of Bengal.

(8) Finally the question of payment by West Bengal of the amount due by her to East Bengal was raised. The representative of Pakistan stated that except Pensions whose Capitalised Value had to be assessed, all other items of assets and liabilities had been valued and a Balance Sheet had been prepared. The Committee for the Implementation of the Award had agreed on the valuation of most assets and about the few remaining ones there was not likely to be any dispute as in all cases the Book Value had to be taken. The liabilities had been determined from the books of West Bengal. Nothing now remained except to decide on payment. As regards Pensions, East Bengal was paying more than her share and if adjustment of Capitalised Value was to be made, the provisions of the Indian Independence (R. P. & L.) Order, 1947 had to be adhered to. In any case adjustment of Pensions could be left over and need not delay general settlement. Mr. Das Gupta said that until the final accounts of undivided Bengal were issued, the Capitalised Value of pensions (in issue and accrued) were determined and the other figures yet unknown were worked out, no Balance Sheet could be drawn; and until it was drawn the position would remain unknown and hence the question of payment by one Government to the other was premature. It was necessary that the Application Committee should work for some time more and Actuaries should be appointed in terms of the Award so that it could arrive at a Balance Sheet as soon as possible. It was not impossible that when the final Balance Sheet was prepared it would be found that West Bengal did not owe anything to East Bengal.

(9) Mr. Said Hasan pointed out that the liabilities taken into account by the Arbitral Tribunal would not be affected by the annual accounts except Provident Fund, which accounts had already been written up to 14th August 1947.

APPENDIX II

NOTE ON THE PUNJAB PARTITION ITEMS

Contractors' Claims

It was suggested by East Punjab representatives that the Committee consisting of two representatives each of East and West Punjab, as decided in the Partition Committee.

meeting held at Lahore on 26th May, 1948, should start work immediately. Both Governments will provide the Committee full facilities in regard to their work and the Committee should finish their work in respect of the contractors' claims, within a period of three months, if possible. All the preparation claims of contractors that are admitted by the Committee should be paid forthwith by the Governments of West and East Punjab as the case may be and adjustment carried out immediately in the accepted ratio of 60:40. A progress report shall be submitted after three months to the two Dominion Governments so that a meeting may be called to discuss the position. All doubtful claims should be put up to the Punjab Partition Committee for decision.

The West Punjab representatives would accept the above view but suggest that the Partition Committee decision in this matter has been pulled out of its context in a shape in which it cannot be implemented unless a balance of the decisions relating to the other preparation expenditure is also implemented. The question really relates to expenditure as such and not only to third party liabilities. As regards the third party liabilities, the fact is that the West Punjab Government is already meeting these third party liabilities on the usual departmental scrutiny and the only thing to which the West Punjab Government has not agreed to is to allow the East Punjab Government to interfere in these payments through the agency of the two officers whose appointment is suggested in the East Punjab view stated above. The West Punjab view that they cannot allow the East Punjab to let their officers interfere with their departmental working is based on the fact that the East Punjab Government is not willing to treat the whole expenditure as a liability adjustable between the two Punjabs and insists on isolating only one of the items of Expenditure, namely, contractors' claims. West Punjab view further is that if the East Punjab Government can, as it thinks it should, agree to the adjustment of the total expenditure, they will adopt the suggestion of the East Punjab made above and also agree to the two Accountants General being instructed to exchange net debits or credits at stated intervals, say of a month or two months, as may be convenient.

Civil Supplies Contractors

(2) It was suggested by East Punjab representatives that the Civil Supplies Sub-Committee consisting of Director-General Food and a senior Accounts Officer of each province should meet and scrutinize the claims of civil supplies contractors. Such of the claims as are admitted should be paid forthwith by the Governments of East and West Punjab as the case may be. This work should be completed within a period of three months whereafter a report shall be submitted to the Punjab Partition Committee for transmission to the Dominion Governments, if necessary. The Sub-Committee meetings should be held frequently at Lahore and, if it can be so arranged, at Amritsar and the settlement of these claims expedited.

The above view was acceptable to the representatives of the West Punjab Government.

(3) It was suggested by representatives of East Punjab Government that the Inter-Dominion agreement relating to the transfer of the Government securities, certificates, bonds, debentures and shares of Joint Stock Companies and funds of Co-operative Societies, etc., should be referred to a Committee consisting of one Dominion representative from each side and two representatives each from East and West Punjab. They should meet immediately.

Messrs. Majid and Azhar do not know of the relevant decisions on these points and suggest that these matters should be raised in the Economic Committee of this Inter-Dominion Conference.

(4) As regards the implementation of the Arbitral Tribunal awards, the representatives of East Punjab Government handed over a statement to West Punjab representatives showing the amounts as worked out departmentally which are owing to either of the two provinces. It was explained that this statement had not been thoroughly checked and was, therefore, subject to further scrutiny and correction. The representatives of West Punjab gave representatives of East Punjab another copy of the statement which they had furnished in August last. It was decided that the whole case should now be carefully scrutinized by the Implementation Committee at its next meeting and agreed figures worked out. It was also stressed that the meetings of the Implementation Committee should be held at least once a fortnight so as to finalize these figures at as early a date as possible. If no final settlement is reached within a period of three months, the matter shall be referred to the Partition Committee and to the Dominion Governments for further action.

Pensionary Liabilities

It was agreed that the final settlement between the two new provinces in respect of the pensionary liabilities of the old Punjab province cannot be arrived at till—

(i) lists are prepared by the Accountant General, and

(ii) these lists are scrutinized by actuaries who have to give the capitalized figures. This work will obviously take considerable time. In the meanwhile pensioners are being paid in accordance with the standing agreement between the two Governments.

Lahore Museum

It was suggested by representatives of east Punjab that the exhibits which had been separated and kept in a separate room by Mr. Gupta under instructions of the Arbitral Tribunal should now be handed over to East Punjab Government and that this should be done within a fortnight.

West Punjab Government representatives made it quite clear that they have no intention of holding back the exhibits which have fallen to the share of East Punjab but the work has to be postponed for sometime on account of the following reasons:

- (i) Some exhibits of this Museum were sent to India in connection with some exhibition or exhibitions and have to come back yet. These have fallen to the share of West Punjab.
- (ii) The Dominions have not yet settled their disputes regarding the exchange of Museum exhibits, and
- (iii) Feelings in West Punjab are rather strong on the subject of the Arbitral Tribunal Award in respect of the Museum exhibits and it is feared that if transfer of exhibits to East Punjab is unnecessarily hurried there may be ugly incidents at Lahore.

In these circumstances it is considered that the question of transfer of the exhibits to East Punjab should remain pending till the balance sheet of the final settlement has been drawn up and India has returned the Pakistan articles to the Pakistan Museums.

Historical Records

(7) It was agreed that the Punjab's share of the Historical Records, as determined by the Arbitral Tribunal's award, shall be made available within a month or even earlier, if possible. The East Punjab Government will send their representative to Lahore and Mr. Majid suggested that one week's notice should be given by East Punjab Government before their representative visits Lahore to collect the East Punjab's share of the records. This was agreed to by East Punjab representatives.

(8) It was agreed that other items of the Arbitral Tribunal's Award should be implemented within a period of one month. This supplied to physical apportionment under the Awards. A report shall be submitted to the Dominion Governments after the position has been reviewed by the Partition Committee after one month.

(9) The question of the Provident Fund accounts shall be considered by the Implementation Committee at its next meeting at which the Accountant General, East Punjab, and the Deputy Accountant General, West Punjab, who are members of the Implementation Committee shall be present. It was agreed that where balances were required of certain individuals who had retired or whose cases presented hardship otherwise for lack of this information their cases should, when specifically brought to the notice of the other Accountant General concerned, be promptly attended to. It was agreed that as the Accountants General had to act under their own Auditors General the matter should be brought to the notice of the two Dominion Governments for requesting the Auditors General to have the matter expedited.

(10) The question of loans raised by undivided Punjab from the Central Government and the open market was left to be discussed in the next meeting of the Implementation Committee.

(11) The question of the Provident Fund, etc., of Municipal and local body employees has already been under the consideration of the two Governments of East and West Punjab and it was agreed that the preparation of the statements should be expedited and the matter taken up by the Implementation Committee in their next meeting.

(12) It was suggested by the representatives of East Punjab that the Government of West Punjab should help the non-Muslim employees of the Punjab University and of the Punjab Public Library to get back their Provident Funds and gratuities which are still lying with the Punjab University or the Punjab Public Library. Messrs. Majid and Azhar stated that this was not a matter with which they were concerned, but they had heard that this matter was discussed some days ago at the Inter-Dominion Secretariat Level Conference and that any decision arrived at at that meeting would naturally be implemented by those concerned.

(13) It was agreed that the questions relating to litigants' deposits in Courts and other cases pending in the Provinces, the return of Deposits and valuables lying in Treasuries and Malkhanas, and securities deposited by newspapers with Districts shall be taken up at the next meeting of the Implementation Committee.

(14) It was agreed that the Punjab Partition Committee meetings should be held once a month and that these should be preceded by meetings of the Implementation Committee which, as already stated, should be held once a fortnight so that all decisions of the Punjab Partition Committee and Arbitral Tribunal's awards can be implemented.

PART VIII

INTER-DOMINION CONFERENCE REPORT

OF

THE COMMITTEE ON STORES

RAILWAY STORES

During the discussion the following points were made by the Pakistan representatives :

(1) *Supply of imprest stores from E. I. to E. B. Railway.*—Under the arrangements made for mutual assistance at the time of partitioning, the E. B. Railway were to receive 4 wagon loads of imprest stores per month from the E. I. Railway. From September, 1947, to March, 1948, only 12 wagons were supplied. No supplies of such stores have been received since then.

(2) *Delivery against pre-partition purchase orders to Pakistan Railways.*—(a) Before partition, orders were placed by the Railway Board (India) on Australia for the manufacture and delivery of 222 I. R. S. broad gauge coaching stock underframes. 12 underframes were received in 1947, and the old N. W. Railway received 4 out of these. Two underframes out of these were utilised for the manufacture of two coaches for the "Silver Arrow" train, which are still with the Government of India. Since then, the remaining 210 underframes have been received in India from Australia, but the N. W. Railway has not received its share of 41 underframes more out of this lot. These are required urgently and should be supplied as soon as possible.

(b) *All-steel broad gauge coach body shells.*—250 all-steel broad gauge body shells were ordered for the N. W. Railway and E. I. Railway from the Wagon Manufacturing Panel, Calcutta. 120 shells were earmarked for the old N. W. Railway. On the basis of 63:37, as between the N. W. and the E. P. Railway, 76 shells are due to be supplied to the N. W. Railway. It is requested that these be supplied as soon as manufactured. Pakistan has offered to pay 90 per cent. of the cost on despatch and 10 per cent on receipt.

(3) *Proposed monthly Operational meetings between the N. W. Railway and E. P. Railway.*—As the Inter-Dominion Conference held at Calcutta in April, 1948, the following was recorded :

"The Committee considers that it is a matter of paramount importance that there should be liaison between the officers of the two Dominions at all levels for ensuring close co-ordination and freedom from harassment and delays of every kind."

No such meeting between the N. W. Railway and E. P. Railway has yet taken place, although the former has been reminding the latter about this. Pakistan's view is that, were such meetings held monthly, many of the outstanding problems in regard to movement of stores would have been settled.

(4) *Exchange of coaching stock between the N. W. and E. P. Railways.*—As the result of the coaching stock census held in March, 1948, it was found that 763 N. W. coaches were with the E. P., and 557 E. P. coaches on the N. W.

At a meeting held on 16th June 1948 at Lahore, between the representatives of the Railway Division and N. W. Railway on the one hand, and Railway Board (India) and the E. P. Railway on the other, it was agreed that the exchange of coaching stock should take place by the E. P. Railway sending the first lot of 25 coaches to the N. W. and the latter sending 12 coaches in exchange. Thereafter, the E. P. Railway was to send every week 22 bogies, and N. W. 11. Only two exchanges have so far taken place, and the remaining coaches still remain to be exchanged. It is urged that this exchange should be expedited.

(5) *Finalisation of the distribution of the old B. A. Railway goods stock and floatilla.*—(a) In accordance with the division of rolling stock done on the Notional Boundary basis, 6083 broad gauge wagons were to be given to the E. B. Railway. Later, according to the Radcliffe Award, about 200 wagons were to be transferred to India by the E. B. Railway according to that railway's calculation. This has not been done so far. According to some order of the Railway Board (India) which has been reported by the D.W.I. to the E. P. Railway, 2350, and not about 200, wagons are to be transferred to India. The D.W.I. is now working to an interchange debit against E. B. Railway minus 2350 wagons. In consequence, there is a serious shortage of broad gauge wagons at transshipment points on the E. B. Railway, thus affecting the movement of jute, etc., to Calcutta.

The finalisation of the division of goods stock of the B. A. Railway should be expedited.

(b) There is a difference of opinion about the interpretation of the agreed decision regarding the division of the floatilla. This should be settled soon.

(2) The points made by India were :

(1) Between February, 1948, and October, 1948, a number of coaches, totalling 51, have been detached from trains and have been retained on the E. B. Railway.

The rolling stock belongs to the Assam Railway and has been detached while on the E. B. Railway. This has resulted in a serious shortage of coaching stock on the Assam Railway.

(2) A number of metre gauge coaches, actually 330 units, in terms of 4-wheelers, allocated to India, which were worked into Sandpur Shops for purposes of periodical overhaul, have been repaired and are still in the possession of the E. B. Railway and have not been returned to the Assam Railway.

(3) A 4-cylinder Diesel engine was sent to Pahartal for repairs before partition. The E. B. Railway have not yet returned the engine to the Assam Railway.

(4) At the time of partition, it was decided that the following quantities of foodgrains in the Reserve Depot at Lahore were to be transferred to India :

Wheat	...	...	...	33,683	maunds.
Rice	..	...	...	3,839	"
Sugar	...	...	...	2,986	"

Of this amount, only 6,636 maunds of wheat have been given to the E. P. Railway.

(5) Loco and Carriage and Wagon duplicates were to be supplied for running maintenance of rolling stock from Moghalpura (N.W.) to the E. P. Railway. The Ministry of Communications (Pakistan) instructed the N. W. Railway to send 26 per cent of stock on hand of all items, subject to a maximum of 3 months' requirements of the E. P. Railway. A token supply of 18 wagons was made during January and February, 1948, and since then no further material has been received.

(6) In the case of certain locomotives sent to Moghalpura for p.o.h., it has been reported that some which have had repairs carried out, have been returned with condemned-size tyres, the originals having been removed.

(7) The division of permanent way and bridge materials, though decided at the time of partition, has not been effected by either Dominion though it was agreed at the meeting held in April, 1948, between the Railway Board and the D.G. Railways (Pakistan) that special endeavours would be made to move such material without waiting for each other.

(8) *General Stores.*—In regard to the actual supply of partition stores to be made in accordance with the agreement reached by the Stores Balancing Committee, nearly 400 wagons of general stores are due to India from N. W. Railway. The N. W. Railway has, however, put forward the plea that no movement of stores can be made unless ground balances are first verified. At the meeting in April 1949 between the Railway Board and the D. G. Railways (Pakistan), the latter undertook to obtain further instructions from the Government on this point. Nothing has so far been done.

(9) There are a number of tools and plant, and miscellaneous equipment items which fall to the E. P. Railway's share, such as motor trolleys, ticket printing machines, motor lorries, trailer pumps, lathes and drilling machines, and photo copying machines, which have not yet been handed over by the N. W. Railway.

(10) The N. W. Railway have not agreed to part with the Governor-General's saloons until a decision has been reached on the Government of India and Railway Board saloons.

(11) Regarding finalising the division of B. A. Railway Rolling Stock, it was mentioned that, for some months past, attempts had been made by the Railway Board to get the Pakistan Government to arrange a meeting of the Sub-Committee of the Partition Council. Difficulties from the Pakistan side had so far prevented such a meeting being called.

3. It was agreed that a Sub-Committee should be appointed with the following terms of reference :

(a) To examine and finalise the division of stores including rolling stock and floatilla wherever this remains in question or undecided;

(b) To set up a machinery for implementing decisions reached and to give effect to the transfer of Stores as between one Dominion and the other.

This Committee will be composed of the following :

<i>India</i>	<i>Pakistan</i>
1. Mr. I. S. Puri.	1. Mr. Nizam-ud-din.
2. Mr. V. P. Bhandarkar.	2. Mr. Shoab (or in his absence Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad).
3. Mr. V. Nilakantan.	3. Mr. Suhrawardy.

It should meet on the 20th of December in Karachi and complete its work as early as possible.

It might be advisable to make this Committee responsible also for completing the work of the Railway Sub-Committee of Expert Committee No. II. India is prepared to do so and Pakistan has undertaken to examine this proposal.

(4) Mention was made by India's representatives that India's proposals in regard to the regulations governing Inter-Dominion traffic, in supersession of the existing I.B.C.A. regulations, had been sent to the Pakistan Government some time ago, and it was suggested that the Pakistan Government should reach a final decision early on this important matter.

(5) It was agreed that the Pakistan Railways should arrange to take delivery in India of 15 underframes on payment of full cost and also arrange the shipping. The E. I.R. will assist in transporting the underframes to the docks.

(6) India mentioned the delay in the payment of the net amount due to India by the Pakistan Railways. It was agreed that the D. G. Pakistan Railways should go into the matter and expedite the payments. It was also agreed that the two Railway administrations should take steps to secure that Inter-Dominion traffic is promptly brought to account and cleared.

P. & T. STORES

(7) The meeting of the stores Committee of Inter-Dominion Conference was held at 3 P.M. on the 6th December, 1948, under the chairmanship of Mr. H. M. Patel, Secretary, Ministry of Defence, and it was decided that as regards the P. & T. Stores, Mr. S. A. Majeed, D.G., P. & T. Pakistan will discuss the matter with Mr. B. R. Batra, Chief Engineer, Indian P. & T. and Mr. Saroj K. Kanjilal of the Indian P. & T.

(8) The officers met at 10.30 A.M. in the room of the Chief Engineer, Indian P. & T. on the 7th December, 1948, and decided that the division and the issue of the P. & T. Stores will continue on the basis of 14.9 per cent as done at present subject to review of this percentage by Pakistan and India who may modify it, if mutually agreed. For this purpose, Pakistan will depute an Officer to India this month.

As regards the total valuation of stores as reported by the Chief Accounts Officer, Indian P. & T., these figures will be verified, with him by the Accounts Officer to be deputed by Pakistan. Prior notice of 14 days will be given by Pakistan before deputing that officer.

As regards the stores which India is claiming from Pakistan, Mr. Majeed stated that they will issue as soon as an Officer is sent by India for this purpose. Pakistan will afford facilities for export and transport as provided by India in respect of the transfer of Pakistan's share from India.

The stores of Indian share lying at Peshawar will be brought in by Pakistan to Lahore for delivery to India and the freight and handling charges will be debited to India. Similarly, stores in Pakistan's share at Jubbulpore will be brought in to Bombay by India for delivery to Pakistan and the freight and handling charges from Jubbulpore to Bombay debited to Pakistan.

As regards the workshops production, the Pakistan's representative stated that they had already sent their indents to India. The quantities of raw materials required for the manufacture of those stores may be retained. It was, therefore, agreed that the indents will be complied with on these conditions subject to the proviso that those items which are not manufactured in the Indian P. & T. Workshops will not be supplied.

It was agreed that all stores due to either Dominions will be issued by the 28th February, 1949 except the workshop production which will be issued as it becomes available. The issue of stores implies that the actual handing over of the respective shares of P. & T. stores to the Dominion Representatives concerned at Calcutta, Bombay and Lahore would be completed by the 28th February, 1949.

Disposal of the surplus stores held by the P. & T. Department on the date of the partition on behalf of Defence Services will be regulated by the general arrangements for the disposal of Defence Surpluses.

DEFENCE STORES

(9) It was agreed that Pakistan will pay to India immediately for all the H.M.G. stores and installations located in Pakistan on the 15th August 1947 and for all stores received by Pakistan after 15th August 1947 and upto 30th June 1948. For stores received after 30th June 1948, payment will be made in accordance with the Karachi Agreement.

(10) Regarding the basis on which the division of the stores took place between India and Pakistan, it was pointed out by India that the division took place on a formula which was accepted by Mr. Mohammad Ali on behalf of Pakistan and by Mr. Patel on behalf of India, and that if the question was re-opened, apart from its going back on a formula which had already been accepted there will be practical difficulties which will hold up the transfer of stores to Pakistan. On behalf of Pakistan it was stated that the Stores Committee of the Inter-Dominion Minister's Conference could not deal with the matter because they were not in possession of all the papers and were also handicapped by the fact that the F.A.M.P. of Pakistan was ill in hospital and would not come to Delhi in the Conference, but that the matter could be straightened out in the next meeting of the Inter-Dominion Defence Secretary's Committee or in a special Inter-Dominion meeting called for this purpose.

APPENDIX IX
INTER DOMINION CONFERENCE REPORT
 OF
THE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE MATTERS

PRESENT

For Pakistan

1. Mr. Abdul Qadir.
2. Mr. M. M. Junaid.

For India

1. Mr. Ranganathan.
2. Mr. Ansari.

At the outset it was agreed that the discussions to be useful should not be confined to a very narrow sphere that a literal construction of the terms of reference may indicate and that the discussions should really cover the ground still open after the discussions at Karachi in April 1948 and the subsequent correspondence.

(2) The Pakistan representatives urged that it would be a great hardship to policyholders if their policies were allowed to lapse strictly in accordance with the policy conditions because (primarily) of the inability of the policyholders to make regular payments of premia. They suggested that time must be given by the Insurance Companies up till end of December 1949.

After discussion it was agreed that the Companies should be requested to revive policies that would otherwise lapse, till the end of December 1949, provided, in cases where it would be necessary, they could require the production of medical certificates from medical officers appointed by the Companies resident in the place where the policy holder is resident and further that they could require the payment of the usual interest on arrears of premia, not exceeding 6 per cent. This request to Insuree Companies should be addressed by both the Governments of India and Pakistan to Companies having Head Offices in the respective Dominions, and should be confined to cases of hardship that have arisen out of the partition.

(3) The question of succession certificates causing difficulties in settlement of claims was discussed. It was agreed that this question as affecting property and banks was already under examination in the Finance and Law Ministries of both the Dominions and that whatever decisions was reached there should be adapted, if necessary, to cover Insured Policies.

(4) It was also agreed that the two Governments should try and persuade the Insurance Companies to make payments of claims on life policies not exceeding Rs. 2,000 in each case, without insisting on succession certificates, but on production of a suitable guarantee or indemnity from two solvent sureties.

5. Discussion then proceeded on the larger issue relating to the conditions which would enable Indian Life Companies to revive their operations in Pakistan and the conditions that the Indian Companies had suggested, as in the Government of India letter dated 21st August, 1948 were considered.

(a) The representatives of India said that the Government of India should take no the responsibility to certify that the investment provisions relating to the Pakistan liability of the Companies in terms of the Pakistan Act had been complied with, that there should be no suggestion that the Government of India, should actually undertake the liability on default and further, that, if necessary, it may be explored whether the Reserve Bank of India could not be designated trustee to keep custody of the securities relating to the Pakistan Business. The Pakistan representatives, on the other hand, said that unless the Government of India undertook liability in respect of any default by Indian insurers, Indian companies could not be exempted from the normal requirements of their law that the 55 per cent. of their adjusted Pakistan liabilities should be kept in the custody of trustees resident in and acceptable to the Government of Pakistan. They suggested, however, that if the Indian Companies would wish to nominate the State Bank of Pakistan as trustee, they would be willing to accept such a proposition. They felt that considering that the 55 per cent. of adjusted Pakistan liabilities represented really collections by way of premia from residents in Pakistan, this condition regarding trusteeship should not be considered as particularly onerous and that in any case it was a necessary fundamental condition to inspire confidence in Indian Companies.

The Indian representatives pointed out that this was a matter on which the Indian Companies felt very strongly and expressed the opinion that it would be extremely difficult to persuade the Indian Companies to accept this position.

(b) The composition of the 55 per cent. of adjusted liabilities was then discussed. The Indian Companies had suggested that 25 per cent. of these would be acceptable to them to be in Central Pakistan Loans, but they wanted that of the balance of 30 per cent. they should be free to invest as much as they liked in Indian Government Securities and U.K. Securities. In other words, they suggested that the 30 per cent. should not be confined to Pakistan Approved Securities only, but should include also Indian Government Securities and U. K. Securities. The argument put forward was that U.K. Companies to-day, as the law stands in India or Pakistan, could have all the 30 per cent. in U.K. Securities if they so chose, whereas Indian Companies will be treated comparatively harshly if they could not invest in the same way in Indian Securities, even if U.K. Securities were unacceptable to Pakistan. The Pakistan representatives said that they appreciated the position in regard to U.K. Companies, but to permit Indian Companies to keep their investments in Indian Securities, it would require an amendment of the law which they were afraid public opinion in Pakistan may not support, except to a very limited extent. Having regard to this, they said they could go only as far as this in regard to the composition :

25 per cent. Central Pakistan Securities;

15 per cent. Government of India Securities; and

15 per cent. Pakistan Approved Securities, including U.K. Securities.

The Indian representatives expressed the view that except for the discrimination in comparison with U.K., this distribution could not be held to be particularly harsh. Both the sides appreciated the difficulties in regard to altering immediately the existing special position which U.K. Companies enjoyed.

(6) The Pakistan representatives said that they appreciated that it would not be quite fair to treat India in a less favourable way than U.K., but that in the matter of the 55 per cent. investments it was their intention to require U.K. Companies also to keep invested all the 55 per cent. in either Central Pakistan Securities or Pakistan approved Securities which latter would not include U.K. Securities. They, therefore, urged that when U.K. was made to comply with these requirements, India should also be willing to accept similar requirements. The Indian representatives accepted this position.

(7) The Indian representatives then urged that on the same footing, Indian Companies should not immediately be required to keep these 55 per cent. Securities in the custody of trustees resident in Pakistan, until U.K. Companies also were required to do so. The Pakistan Representatives, however, urged that while theoretically it was so, it would greatly strengthen their hands in their negotiations with U.K. if India would accept the necessity to have this trusteeship immediately on condition, however, that if by the end of December, 1950, U.K. were not required to do likewise, the Indian Companies would be put on the same footing as U.K. Companies in the matter of investments, as also trusteeship. The Indian representative accepted this position.

(8) In the interim period, i.e., until the end of December, 1950, India and Pakistan agreed to the following arrangement :

(i) The composition of investment should be 25 per cent. Central Pakistan Securities, 15 per cent. Government of India Central Securities and 15 per cent. Pakistan approved Securities including U.K. Securities.

(ii) All this 55 per cent. should be deposited in trust with the Pakistan State Bank, unless the Indian Company and the Pakistan Government mutually agreed upon some other trustee resident in Pakistan.

(9) On this basis, the Indian representatives agreed that the Government of India would try and persuade the Indian Companies to restart their activities in Pakistan explaining to them that in their view these terms could not be held to be unreasonable.

(10) The Pakistan representatives were willing to agree to the proposal put forward by Indian Life Companies that for the purpose of changing the deposits, as required by the Pakistan law, a period of 4 years, as under existing Section 27(3) of the Act, would be available.

(11) The Pakistan representatives felt that there would be no difficulty in giving the assurance to the Indian insurers that sufficient notice would be given to enable such of them as may like to withdraw from Pakistan to withdraw if the Pakistan Government later on legislate imposing conditions more onerous than those now offered. In any case it was agreed that once the Indian Companies decide not to write new business, the more onerous conditions would not apply to those Companies.

(12) The Pakistan representatives found themselves unable to accept the proposal made by the Indian Companies that if in future they withdrew from Pakistan, they should be treated on the same basis as the Companies that withdrew from India on the passing of the Insurance Act, 1938. Those that now withdraw of course are in the same position as non-Indian Companies were in 1938, but in future if Indian Companies accept the condition regarding trusteeship, the Pakistan Government naturally would not release the deposits until the liabilities had been satisfied.

(13) The Pakistan representative mentioned that the present Hyderabad Government had withdrawn business from the Eastern Federal Union Insurance Co. which is a Pakistan Company. The Government of India representatives said that this was a matter entirely distinct from the ones referred to the Committee and suggested that it might be taken up in other quarters separately.

(14) The Pakistan Government representative said that he had received the communication from the Government of India in regard to the re-assignment of policies financed out of Provident Fund balances and said that that matter could be settled by correspondence without much delay.

(15) The Pakistan representatives suggested that claims on maturity or death of certain evacuees were not being paid to the assured or his successor in interest and that it was paid to the Custodian in the East Punjab. This it was suggested was a hardship that ought to be remedied. The representatives of India said this was the first time they had heard of any such difficulty and that they would examine the petition.

(16) The discussions were further carried on on the 11th instant at which Mr. M. A. H. Ispahani joined the Pakistan representatives. Mr. Ansari could not be present.

Minutes of the Proceedings of the Museum Committee set up by the Inter-Dominion Conference to discuss the division of museum exhibits between India and Pakistan.

The Partition Council adopted the following decision under its orders dated the 29th October, 1947 regarding the division of archaeological museum:

"The Museums should be divided on a territorial basis subject to the return to original Museums of exhibits removed therefrom after 1st January 1947 solely for the purpose of temporary display at another place."

(2) At the plenary session of the Inter-Dominion Conference held on the 6th December, 1948 a sub-committee was appointed to recommend the procedure for the division of museum exhibits in accordance with the above decision of the Partition Council. The Sub-Committee was composed as follows:

India—

1. Dr. Tara Chand, Education Secretary, Government of India.
 2. Dr. N. P. Chakravarti, Director General of Archaeology, India.
- Dr. V. S. Agrawal, Superintendent, Central Asian Antiquities Museum, New Delhi.
Mr. Ram Lal, Under Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Education,
and
Dr. K. N. Puri, Superintendent, Department of Archaeology also attended the meetings.

Pakistan

1. H. E. Khan Bahadur Mohd. Ismail, High Commissioner for Pakistan in India.
2. Mr. S. M. Sharif, Counsellor to the High Commissioner for Pakistan in India.
3. Mr. Q. M. Moneer, lately Director of Archaeology, Pakistan.

(3) The Sub-Committee held three meetings on the 7th, 11th and 12th December, 1948. H. E. Khan Bahadur Mohd. Ismail was unable to present on the 7th December, 1948.

(4) The examination of individual lists furnished by the Government of Pakistan was taken up first and the following decisions were arrived at:

(a) *Lahore Fort Museum.*—Nothing was removed from this Museum after the 1st of January, 1947 and hence there is no question of returning anything to that Museum.

(b) *Harappa Museum.*—Some antiquities were removed from this Museum in three lots. The first lot was removed in July, 1946 and the second lot in September, 1946. These two lots, therefore belong to India.

The third lot, consisting mostly of unimportant duplicates was removed in May, 1947 to be utilised as type collections for distribution. A good portion of this lot has already been distributed mostly to Universities outside India. It was decided that the Government of Pakistan should be given four sets of type collections from out of the undistributed items in this lot.

(c) *Mohenjo-Daro Museum.*—Exhibits in Lists 9.13 cover this. As no agreement was reached on these lists, the cases of India and Pakistan are given below. The notes below on Mohenjo Daro antiquities have been drawn up by the parties separately and do not imply that they as a whole or in part have been agreed to by both parties.

INDIA

The Claims of India to Mohenjo-Daro antiquities rest on the following decision of the Partition Council :

- * "That Museum should be divided on a territorial basis subject to the return to original museums of exhibits removed therefrom after 1st January 1947 solely for the purpose of temporary display at another place".

As accepted by the Pakistan Delegation the most important point in the decision of the Partition Council was that museums should be divided on a territorial basis. The first point, therefore, is that on a territorial division the Mohenjo-Daro exhibits fall to India's share because they happened to be in the Central Museum at Delhi within the Indian territory on the day of the partition.

Judged in the light of the proviso to the Partition Council's decision also these objects must belong to India. The three criteria enunciated in the proviso to which the Committee unanimously agreed at the very first meeting and which were applied to the objects from Harappa and Taxila museums are as follows:

- (a) Whether a particular exhibit was removed after 1st January 1947;
- (h) Whether the exhibit was removed from its original museum after 1st January 1947; and
- (c) Whether it was removed solely for the purpose of temporary display.

According to the above the Mohenjo-Daro objects are not governed by the proviso, because they were not removed after 1st January 1947 from their original Museum, namely, the Mohenjo-Daro Museum. They were removed after that date from Lahore Museum which belonged to the Provincial Government of the Punjab and not to the Central Government and which in respect of Mohenjo-Daro antiquities was not an original museum.

The facts of the case disprove the view point put forward by the Pakistan Delegation that Mohenjo-Daro Museum retained a lien on the antiquities sent to Lahore and on the partition of India the proprietary rights reverted to Mohenjo-Daro. At the very outset in 1944, the Director General of Archaeology in India had made it clear in his very first letter No. 384/C., dated 7th May 1944 (Annexure I) (a) that only a small type collection at some central spot all the best things which the Indus Valley site had produced, (c) that the obvious place at which to concentrate these things would be a Central National Museum and (d) that in the absence of such a museum, he would treat the Lahore Museum as a substitute and deposit the antiquities on loan in that museum pending the establishment of a Central National Museum at Delhi. It is clear from this that the Central National Museum was the ultimate destination of the Mohenjo-Daro objects to which they were removed in January 1947 and the Inter-Asian Exhibition only served as an occasion to shift the objects from Lahore to Delhi, otherwise the whole spare material of about 12,000 exhibits would not have been removed. There can be no question of the Mohenjo-Daro Museum having a lien over the objects removed from there. These objects always vested in the Government of India (Of. the last sentence of letter from Dr. John Sargent to Sind Government No. 723-AR/46, dated 2nd March 1947) (Annexure II). The Government of India made this clear to the Sind Government also in their letter No. F. 3.22(2)/45&F&L., dated 15th August 1946 (Annexure III) that the exhibits were deposited on loan to the Lahore Museum without prejudice to any decision that might be arrived at thereafter regarding their exhibition elsewhere. There was no question of the exhibits ever meant to be sent back to Mohenjo-Daro and in order to implement the original purpose for which the exhibits had been removed from Mohenjo-Daro, the Director General of Archaeology in India decided in July 1946 that all the objects required for the National Museum as per selection made by himself and Dr. Agrawala together with all the unexhibited spare Mohenjo-Daro material should be removed to Delhi while leaving behind a representative collection at Lahore. This was given effect to in January 1947 and the Inter-Asian Exhibition just served an occasion when these things were removed under a plan which had been determined before. In fact the instructions to Dr. Agrawala dated the 22nd December, 1946 (Annexure IV) should be read in the light of the decision conveyed in Dr. Wheeler's letter dated the 20th July, 1946 (Annexure V). With the full knowledge of the Curator of the Lahore Museum a representative type collection of 2049 exhibits was left behind at Lahore. It must be pointed out that the Lahore Museum had all the time the status of a substitute for keeping the Mohenjo-Daro objects until their removal for the National Museum, and the claims of the National Indian Museum were always considered to be primary as made clear by Dr. Wheeler in his letter to Dr. Fabri of the Lahore Museum No. 5185, dated 20th July, 1946 (Annexure V). In the discussions at the Committee the Delegation from Pakistan accepted this position of the National Museum and on that basis a compromise formula was at one stage suggested by Dr. Tara Chand.

The Pakistan Delegation gave some emphasis to the word 'Long Loan' to Lahore, but in his D.O. No. 3325, dated 22nd May, 1944 (Annexure VI), the Director General of Archaeology in India made it clear to Mr. Armstrong, D.P.I., Punjab that the word

'Long Loan' was the same as 'indefinite loan'. As already observed the loan was made by the Government of India pending the establishment of a Central Museum in Delhi.

The Pakistan Delegation also put forth the argument that the bulk of the antiquities were intended for Lahore and only a representative collection for the Central National Museum. Although this point of view is irrelevant so far as the title to Mohenjo-Daro objects on the basis of territorial division is concerned, the Indian representatives submitted that what was promised throughout was only (a) one type collection to the Mohenjo-Daro Museum (*vide* letter No. 348/c, dated 7th May, 1944), (b) one type collection to the Lahore Museum, which actually was left behind at Lahore (*vide* D.G.A.'s letter No. 5185, dated 20th July, 1946 and his order dated 22nd December, 1946) and (c) that a representative type collection would be presented to Karachi when a proper provincial Museum was established there. Although the promise made under (c) repeated with the partition of India it could never have been interpreted as a claim from Karachi to 1/3rd of the material.

The Indian representatives, however, approached the problem in the spirit of compromise and accommodation and suggested that the Government of India would agree to leave 2,049 objects already at Lahore for the Lahore Museum and also would give to the Government of Pakistan (for use at Karachi or elsewhere) a similar collection out of the article removed from Lahore on the understanding that the Pakistan Government would in their turn agree to give duplicate of such objects from list I and II of Taxila antiquities which they could spare. The Director of Archaeology in Pakistan actually prepared a list of duplicates which could be spared and the Director General of Archaeology in India was also to prepare a list of the Mohenjo-Daro articles which could be given to Pakistan. This was, however, not ultimately acceptable to the Pakistan representatives.

His Excellency Khan Bahadur Mohd. Ismail made to the Secretary, Ministry of Education, Government of India a suggestion that the whole of the Mohenjo-Daro collection including the 2049 objects at Lahore should be distributed according to a ratio of 2 to 1 India to get 2/3rds and Pakistan 1/3rd and that India should have priority in the selection. The selection was to apply to all the 14 categories of objects and the distribution was to be made in the ratio of 2 to 1 from each category India having the first choice in the selection. This suggestion was acceptable to the Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Education, but was later withdrawn as the Pakistan delegation did not approve of it.

PAKISTAN

The Mohenjo-Daro antiquities were removed from Mohenjo-Daro in May 1945 and deposited on long loan to the Central Museum at Lahore. As they were on loan, Mohenjo-Daro retained a lien on them and on the partition of India, the proprietary rights reverted to Mohenjo-Daro. The most important point in the decision of the Partition Council was that the Museum should be divided on a territorial basis and since Mohenjo-Daro falls in the territory of Pakistan, the objects on loan at the Lahore Museum fall to their share.

The objects were removed from the Lahore Museum after 1st January, 1947 specifically for the Central Asian Conference. In this connection, the letter of Dr. Wheeler, Director General of Archaeology to Mr. Agarwala asking him to proceed to Lahore and remove from there such exhibits as were, in his opinion, suitable to represent Mohenjo-Daro at the Central Asian Conference Exhibition is clear. This letter is a convincing proof of the fact that the articles removed by Dr. Agrawal in accordance with the directions of Dr. Wheeler, were for the purpose of display at the Central Asian Exhibition, which was a temporary show. The contention of the Government of India that these objects were removed permanently to be exhibited in the proposed Central National Museum and that this step coincided with the Central Asian Exhibition is totally inconsistent with the documentary evidence available.

The representatives of the Government of India emphasise the fact that the intention of the Government of India regarding the disposal of the objects is material. On the other hand, the Pakistan representatives maintain that the intention of the Department of Archaeology regarding the future disposal of exhibits is irrelevant and that the main consideration is one of territorial jurisdiction of the two Dominions.

Even, on the question of intention, the Pakistan representatives maintain that the bulk of these antiquities were intended for Lahore and only a representative collection for the proposed Central National Museum. In this connection, the following documents are of importance:

- (i) Letter No. F. 322(2)/45-F. & L., dated the 15th August 1945, to the Government of Sind.
- (ii) Letter from the Director General of Archaeology to Mr. Armstrong, Chairman of the Lahore Museum Committee (No. 2625, dated the 23rd May 1944).
- (iii) Letter No. 5185, dated the 20th July 1946, from the Director General of Archaeology to Dr. Fabri, Curator, Lahore Museum.

These documents clearly show that the Mohenjo-Daro objects were deposited in Lahore on long loan on the following basis :

- (i) Lahore was the most suitable place to exhibit the Indus Valley collection.
- (ii) A part of this collection should go to Karachi when a suitable Museum at Karachi was developed.
- (iii) A part of it should go to the Central National Museum, when such a Museum in New Delhi was established.

The Pakistan representatives maintain that even if the question of intention were considered relevant, the Government of India would merely have a claim to 1/3rd of the total collection, the remaining being the share of the Lahore and Karachi Museums. But in that case they would insist on a share of the Harappa collection, which was transferred direct from Harappa to Delhi and a part of which was clearly intended for Lahore. Dr. Wheeler, Director General of Archaeology, in one of his letters stated in unambiguous language that a part of the Harappa collection lying at Delhi should be exhibited at Lahore. Indeed, he wanted this to be done and it is strange that while under his directions a part of the Mohenjo-Daro collection was removed to Delhi, the Lahore share of the Harappa collection lying at Delhi was not moved from there to Lahore.

Dr. Tara Chand suggested that this question should be approached from the point of compromise and accommodation and not on the basis of legal rights as claimed by Pakistan, or the intention of the Department of Archaeology as claimed by India. The High Commissioner responded to this suggestion and expressed the willingness of his Delegation to an agreed settlement. It was accordingly suggested that the two Directors General of Archaeology, Dr. Chakravarty and Dr. Monier should draw up lists of this collection for division between the two Dominions to mutual satisfaction. The two officers met, but failed to agree on a satisfactory division. At the next meeting, this question was discussed again and it was decided that the two leaders, the High Commissioner for Pakistan in India and Dr. Tara Chand, should informally talk over, to explore the possibility of an agreed division of these exhibits. It was understood that these talks would be informal and that both the leaders would consult their Delegations before reaching a final decision. In the course of the informal talks conducted outside the Committee, the High Commissioner for Pakistan agreed to accept 1/3rd share. But Dr. Tara Chand stated that his Delegation would insist on retaining the unique collection for the Delhi Museum, and to have the first choice in the selection of their 2/3rd share. He further stated that the unique collection might well be less than 2/3rd and thus India might select the best stuff leaving the rest to Pakistan. As this proposition was unacceptable, the pursuit of an agreed solution was dropped. It was understood all along that these informal talks were intended to explore a possible basis of compromise and that these would have no bearing on the claims preferred by either party.

(d) *Return of Exhibits from the Royal Academy.*—Some exhibits of Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa Museums were given on loan from the Central Asian Antiquities Museum to the Royal Academy in 1947.

The title to the exhibits from the Mohenjo-Daro would depend upon the decision reached in respect of the other Mohenjo-Daro exhibits dealt with in (c) above.

The articles from the Harappa Museum belong to India in terms of the decision arrived at above. It was made clear in this connection that all these articles came from the first two batches removed from the Harappa Museum before 1st January 1947 and none of these falls in the third lot of articles removed from Harappa in May 1947.

(e) *Taxila Museum.*—Lists Nos. 1 to 8 furnished by the Government of Pakistan relate to Taxila Museum.

Lists Nos. 1 and 2.—It was decided that articles in these lists with the exception of items 177, 178 and 179 in List No. 1 should go back to Pakistan.

Items 177 to 179 of List No. 1 relate to discoveries made from Bhirmound. These articles belong to India.

List No. 3.—All articles belong to India.

List No. 4.—This consists of 1171 Indian coins and 4 Greek coins. These four Greek coins are also shown in list No. 1 of the Pakistan Government—it was decided that all the coins—India and Greek—should be divided between India and Pakistan on a 50-50 basis.

List No. 5.—It was decided that the articles in this list should go back to Pakistan.

List No. 6.—This should belong to India.

List No. 7.—This should belong to India.

List No. 8.—The articles in this list should go back to Pakistan as they were sent only for repairs.

(f) *Exhibits on loan to the Royal Academy.*—As all the 16 exhibits which are on loan to the Royal Academy come from List No. 1 mentioned above, the title for these articles would vest with the Government of Pakistan.

(g) *Human and Animal Skeletons from Mohenjo-Daro.*—The Chairman said that he had taken up the question with the Department of Anthropology and would arrive at a decision after the report had been received whether any of these skeleton remains could be given to Pakistan.

(h) *Registers belonging to Pakistan Museum.*—As stated at the first meeting on registers from Pakistan Museums had been removed by the Government of India for reference by the Steering Committee and the Partition Council. It was agreed that these should be returned to Pakistan early.

(j) *Blocks of Picture Postcards and Photo Negatives.*—It was stated again that the Government of India have only the blocks of the Mohenjo-Daro Harappa Postcards. When the question of partition was finally settled, the blocks of such of the exhibits as were returned to Pakistan should go to Pakistan. The blocks of the exhibits belonging to India should be retained in India.

The Pakistan Government were welcomed to have duplicate negatives made where necessary from the photo negatives in charge of the Department of Archaeology in India.

The picture post cards of Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa were not with the Government of India, Archaeological Department.

In conclusion, the Committee considered the question of the return to Pakistan of exhibits which are at present in London where they were sent for Exhibition through the India Committee of the Exhibition of India and Pakistan Art in London. It was agreed that there would be no objection to such exhibits which are finally deemed to be the share of Pakistan being sent to Pakistan direct from London.

RAM LAL,

for Dr. Tara Chand, 5th January, 1949.

S M. Sharif.

Comptroller,

for His Excellency Khan Bahadur Mohammad Iqbal,
High Commissioner for Pakistan in India.

ANNEXURE I

No. 348/C

Director General of Archaeology in India,

Camp Karachi, the 7th May, 1944.

Dear Mr. Chaudhari,

I am anxious to concentrate at some central spot all the best things which the Indus Valley sites have produced. The obvious place at which to concentrate these things would be a central national Indian Museum. In the absence of such a Museum the Lahore Museum would apply a very useful substitute, and I am going to ask whether you and the governing authorities of your Museum would care to consider this proposal.

The proposal is that as soon as possible all the best things from Mohenjo-Daro shall be deposited on long loan in your Museum. Whilst at Mohenjo-daro itself only a small type collection shall be retained. Subsequently I shall like to add the bulk of the Harappa collection, together with the smaller series from Chanhudaro and Jharkar.

If you and your authorities agree to this proposal, your Museum, which is already so famous for its Gandhara sculptures, will have an additional claim to fame as the Indus Valley Museum. It will thus have a unique importance.

In the event of approval, it would be my wish to transfer the Mohenjo-daro collection to you immediately, and you could then use the services of Mr. Khag until September.

Would you please be good enough to let me know as soon as you can secure a decision from your governing body, if indeed the decision does not lie entirely in your hands.

Yours sincerely,

R. E. M. WHEELER.

Mohd. Iqbal Chaudhari, Esq.

Lahore.

ANNEXURE II

No. 725-AR/45

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,

New Delhi, the 2nd March, 1946.

FROM

DR. JOHN SARGENT, C.I.E., M.A., D.Litt.,

Secretary to the Govt. of India.

TO

The Secretary to the Govt. of Sind,

Political & Miscellaneous Dept.

MOHENJO-DARO ANTIQUITIES—REMOVAL

SIR,

I am directed to refer to your letter No. 1049/M/45, dated the 4th October 1945 and to say that as already intimated to the Provincial Government in the late Education, Health and Lands Deptt. letter No. F. 3-22(2)/45-F.&L., dated the 15th August, 1946, all objects from Mohenjo-daro now on exhibition at the Central Museum, Lahore, have been deposited there only on loan and without prejudice to any decision that may be arrived at hereafter regarding their exhibition elsewhere. The Government of the Punjab has no lien upon them and the Government of Sind have already been assured that if and when a properly staffed and adequately financed museum is provided at Karachi, the Government of India will be prepared to consider the possibility of transferring to it a fully representative loan collection of Mohenjo-daro antiquities. The interests of Sind in Archaeological matters are being duly safeguarded by the Central Government but a practical move either on the part of the Municipality of Karachi or preferably on the part of the Provincial Government is a prerequisite to further action. I am to add that the proprietary rights in respect of all objects recovered from Archaeological excavations rest with the Central Government and the gold and silver articles and other valuable antiquities transferred to Lahore Museum or kept in a Bank safe, cannot therefore be deposited in the name of the Provincial Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

RAM LAL,

*Assistant Secretary,**for Secretary.*

ANNEXURE III

No. F. 3-22(2)/45-F. & L.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

DEPT. OF EDUCATION, HEALTH & LANDS

Sindia, the 15th August 1945

FROM

P. M. MENON, Esq., M.B.E., I.C.S.,

Dy. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

TO

The Secretary to the Govt. of Sind,

Revenue Department.

SUBJECT:—*Mohenjo-Daro Antiquities—Removal*

SIR,

I am directed to refer to your telegram dated the 21st May, 1945 on the subject mentioned above and to say that a number of Mohenjo-daro antiquities have been transferred to the Central Museum, Lahore. These antiquities have been deposited there only on loan and without prejudice to any decision that may be arrived at thereafter regarding their exhibition elsewhere. There are a large number of duplicates of most of the antiquities and a representative collection, excluding gold and silver objects, still remains at Mohenjo-daro. The ordinary visitor will in fact perceive little change as a result of the removal. The valuable antiquities cannot be exhibited at Mohenjo-daro owing to its remoteness and the insecurity of the district. They have for many years been kept in a bank safe, and have now been transferred to Lahore where they will be accessible to scholars as well as to the general public.

2. I am to point out that Lahore is situated in the area of the Indus Valley civilisation. As regards the suggestion made in the form that the Mohenjo-daro antiquities should be transferred to the Victoria Museum, Karachi, I am to say that it is understood that there is a loan collection of exhibits from Mohenjo-daro at the Victoria Museum but the Government of India are advised that presumably owing to inadequate staff and funds, the standard of maintenance of the Museum, and the arrangement and care of the exhibits are not in accordance with modern standards. When a properly staffed and equipped and adequately financed museum is provided at Karachi the Government of India will be prepared to consider the possibility of transferring to it a fully representative loan collection of Mohenjo-daro antiquities.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
N. HASSAN,
for Deputy Secretary.

No. F. 3.22(2)/45-F. & L.

Copy to Director General of Archaeology in India.

By order,
N. HASSAN,
Assistant Secretary.

ANNEXURE IV

Dr. Agrawala,

In fulfilment of an arrangement already made with the Curator of the Central Museum Lahore, please go to Lahore at an early date and remove such specimens as you think necessary for the purpose of representing Mohenjo-daro in connection with the forthcoming Inter-Asian Conference Exhibition here.

It is important that this Conference, which will include representatives from many foreign countries, shall see something of the very best that Mohenjo-daro has produced. At the same time I want you, please, to leave at Lahore a representative collection, supplemented if necessary by casts.

Together with the exhibits for the above-mentioned exhibition please remove from the Lahore Museum the potsherds, etc., found at Chanhu-daro, and all the boxes and crates of spare material from Mohenjo-daro itself at present deposited in the Lahore Museum but not exhibited.

You will of course take the opportunity of checking all the registers and will give the Lahore Museum (a) a detailed written receipt for all the objects which you remove from it and (b) a detailed list of all the objects which you leave with it on loan.

Kindly arrange with the Curator, Lahore Museum to carry out these operations *not later than the first week of January*, since it is essential that the Inter-Asian Exhibition shall be assembled forthwith.

R. E. MORTIMER WHEELER,
Director General of Archaeology in India.

Dated 22nd December 1946.

ANNEXURE V

COPY OF D. O. LETTER No. 5185, DATED 20TH JULY, 1946 FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY TO DR. C. L. FARRI, CURATOR, THE CENTRAL MUSEUM, LAHORE.

I now put into black and white the main results of our (momentous) discussions last Saturday in regard to the disposal of the Indus Valley Collections. The following were, I think, the points:

(1) Apart from the primary claims of a national Indian Museum, the Government Museum at Lahore is the obvious modern metropolis of the Indus Valley civilisation. It is the most accessible major city within the ancient area of that civilisation.

(2) I have therefore offered to the Punjab Government on loan an important share of the available collections.

(3) The nucleus of these collections is the material derived from Harappa in the Punjab and Mohenjo-daro in Sind. Of these two collections, that from the Punjab should, I think you will agree, be particularly well represented in the Provincial Capital. Archaeologically the collection from Sind should also be well represented by a loan collection

at Lahore, but, in addition to the inevitable claim of a national collection we are here confronted with a potential claim from Sind itself. If and when the Sind Government establishes a properly financed and controlled museum at Karachi a portion of the Mohenjo-daro material will have to go there and this will necessarily involve a partial surrender by Lahore. With this proviso and always with your co-operation, I propose that in the meantime the Mohenjo-daro collection shall be shared by Lahore and by the National Museum reserve.

(4) To implement this general scheme we agreed that within the limits of the present financial year the following action shall be taken:

- (a) That you will be good enough to come to Delhi if possible in October for the share-out of the Harappa material, which will in the meantime be concentrated at the Central Asian Antiquities Museum; and
- (b) That Dr. Agrawala and I will make a selection from the Mohenjo-daro material now at Lahore, and will also remove the unexhibited Mohenjo-daro material which at present encumbers your premises.

These are, I think, the main points. I look forward very much indeed to the completion of this new arrangement.

Meanwhile, I hope that Baramula does all that it should for you, and that even the Indus Valley may for the time being be forgotten.

P.S.—I am returning herewith your most convincing paper on Buddhist Baroque. I am indeed grateful to you for the loan.

ANNEXURE VI

D. O. No 3325

FROM

Director General of Archaeology in India,

Simla, the 22nd/23rd May, 1944.

DEAR MR. ARMSTRONG,

Lahore Museum.—In confirmation of our conversation today I now formally, on behalf of the Archaeological Survey of India, offer you as the Chairman of the Lahore Museum Committee our Principal Indus Valley collection on long loan.

As you know, the great collection of material unearthed during the past 20 years by the Archaeological Survey of India at Harappa, Mohenjo-daro and other Indus-sites has added a new chapter to the history not only of India but also of Central Asia and the Middle East. The collection has indeed entered into the general fabric of the history of civilization and even in wartime continues to be the subject of study and of publication.

At the present time it is scattered over a large number of small museums and remote store-houses and is now, in part, hidden away in a bank safe. In short, it is almost completely inaccessible and it is difficult even for specialists to visualise the full extent and importance of the materials.

I now therefore submit the following proposals to you (1) that all the best things from Harappa, Mohenjo-daro and related sites, including the collections of jewellery, be deposited by us on loan at the Lahore Museum with a view to preparing a really worthy exhibition of this great phase of Indian civilization, and (2) that the reserve material, in so far as it is likely to be required by research workers be also assembled there and stored accessibly.

This boils down in summary to a request for the use of one large exhibition gallery and one reserve gallery or suitable storage room with shelving.

The collection would be deposited on indefinite loan subject to its adequate maintenance by the museum staff, which would receive all possible help from the Archaeological Survey in maintenance and labelling.

Finally, I would once more emphasise the outstanding National importance of this collection and the fact that any museum entrusted with its keeping will thereby acquire a unique importance. In the absence of a central National Museum the Lahore Museum is, on geographical and other grounds, the most suitable repository.

Yours sincerely,

R. F. M. WHEELER.

W. H. F. Armstrong, Esq., F.C.S.

Director of Public Instruction and Secy., Education Dept.

Govt. of the Punjab, Simla.

Thursday
3rd February, 1949

THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE) DEBATES

(PART II — PROCEEDINGS OTHER THAN QUESTIONS AND
ANSWERS)

Official Report

70

Volume I, 1949

(1st February, 1949 to 23rd February, 1949)

Fourth Session
OF THE
CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA
(LEGISLATIVE)

1949



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CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE) DEBATES
(PART II--PROCEEDINGS OTHER THAN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Thursday, 3rd February, 1949.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

11-45 A. M.

COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Mr. Speaker: I might invite the attention of honourable members to the fact that a Committee was appointed by me last session to examine the Rules of Procedure and to suggest such amendments as the Committee might deem proper for the consideration of this House. It was then the idea that the Committee might meet sometime in the third week of January, that is last month. But we were unable to keep up to that timetable. Before I invite a meeting of the Committee and proceed to discuss the amendments that they might like to suggest, I would again remind honourable members that those who wish to make any suggestions may do so by about the 10th or 12th February. On the last occasion there was a time limit fixed; and suggestions were called up to the 1st November and some suggestions have been received. But as the Committee will now be meeting later, this will be another opportunity for honourable members to send in their suggestions on the Rules of Procedure if they so desire.

RESOLUTION RE COMMUNITY-WISE CENSUS OF ASSAM, WEST BENGAL AND EAST PUNJAB

Srijut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri (Assam: General): Sir, I beg to move:

"This Assembly is of opinion that Government of India should take steps for taking census of the figures of population community-wise of the provinces of Assam, West Bengal and East Punjab so as to determine the number of seats to be allotted to each of these provinces and also to facilitate delimitation of constituencies thereof."

There is nothing new in this resolution. A resolution of a similar nature was ballotted in the last Budget Session which stood in the name of my honourable friend Mr. Basanta Kumar Das and it read as follows:

"This Assembly is of opinion that census be taken as early as possible with a view to utilising its results for the purpose of elections to be held under the New Constitution that will be framed by the Constituent Assembly and having reliable statistics for nation-building work."

{Srijut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri}

This resolution was not moved at that time. A short notice question was, however, answered on the floor of this House and the question was put by the same honourable member, Mr. Rasanta Kumar Das and it ran as follows:

"Will Government please state :

Whether Government propose to take a census earlier than the decennial census due in 1951 with a view to utilising its results in the elections to be held according to the New Constitution to be framed by the Constituent Assembly?

If the answer to the first part be in the negative, do Government propose to consider the desirability of having a special enumeration of the population of East Punjab and West Bengal before the next elections to the legislatures are held?"

The Honourable Deputy Minister's reply to the first part of the question was in the negative and to the latter part of the question he said:

"It is proposed to undertake some preliminary operations which are likely to be helpful in the preparation of electoral rolls. The question requires careful consideration in consultation with the provincial governments which have been approached."

This was the reply given in the last Budget Session and I presume that some steps have already been taken in the matter. The only addition that I have made to this resolution is to include the province of Assam along with West Bengal and East Punjab. Also I have stated in my resolution that the figures may be taken community-wise for obvious reasons, because I would like those figures to be ready for the purpose of holding the elections under the new constitution.

Since then the matter has been discussed in the constitution-making body of the Constituent Assembly. At first an amendment was moved by my friend Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad and thus the ball was set rolling. Afterwards my honourable friend Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava brought forward a specific amendment seeking to have a new census at least in the provinces of West Bengal and East Punjab. Of course as usual Assam was not mentioned in that resolution. My honourable friend Dr. Ambedkar in replying to that amendment, which was ultimately accepted by the House, said that he would ask the Government of India to take some measures in this behalf. He promised to speak about Assam in his speech but by the time he came to the end of it Assam entirely slipped out of his memory. So the position has become urgent in view of a direction which has been given by the Constituent Assembly to hold the next elections now under the new constitution as early as possible in the year 1950 and therefore it has become necessary to bring this matter to the pointed notice of the Government.

So far as Assam is concerned the census of 1941 proved very unsatisfactory: firstly in view of the fact that in 1941 the world war was almost at the gates of that province and secondly, the whole census figures and the subsequent compilation were done haphazardly. Furthermore, in view of the fact that a large number of East Bengal refugees have taken shelter in Assam, of which we have no correct figures, the whole arrangement so far as communities are concerned will be very different from what it was in the old census figures.

As regards East Punjab it is well known to the House that a large number of Muslim inhabitants of that province had migrated to West Punjab and correspondingly a much larger non-Muslim population have migrated to East Punjab. So if a new census is not taken the result will be that the Muslim population in East Punjab will get much more seats than they will be entitled to on the population basis and the non-Muslim population of East Punjab will get much less number of seats than they are entitled to get according to population figures. The same argument applies to West Bengal.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra in speaking about this amendment in the other House said that the West Bengal Census was very unsatisfactory so far

as the non-Muslim population was concerned, because power was at that time in the hands of Muslims and the census was practically carried out to satisfy the party in power in the province. So taking every thing into consideration it is highly desirable that the census of the population should be taken as early as possible and no time should be lost in doing it. I have seen suggestions made by certain Members of this House that there should be some verbal alterations in my resolution. My honourable friend Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava suggested the insertion of the article 'the' in some places. I have no objection to put in the article as he suggests. He also suggested that the words 'figures of population' should be dropped. I have no objection to that also. But what I would like the House to carefully consider is whether we should accept the suggestion which has been made that if census is not practicable some other method ought to be found in order to carry out the desired objective. I first of all question why it should not be practicable to hold a census for the purpose of this election. Here it is not necessary to find out how many men there are and how many women there are because all would come under the category of 'adults'. All that we need is information about the adult population and the community to which a particular person belongs. I submit that can be very easily and quickly done since according to the reply which was given to the short notice question some steps must have already been taken. Furthermore, I might remind the House that a Bill was sought to be moved by my honourable friend the Minister in charge of Relief and Rehabilitation last year, but he did not proceed with that Bill, and I have it on his authority that he has been able to complete the census of the figures of refugees in all the Provinces without any resort to legal measures. If that is correct and if the census of the refugee population has been already properly and correctly taken there should be no difficulty in having a census for the purpose of this election. In census I know that you have got to describe a person's occupation, the caste, exact age and so forth. We need not have all those details for the purpose of the election. They may be done subsequently while they are doing the compilation. All that we need now is the exact population and the community to which these people belong in these three Provinces. Sir, I hope the Honourable the Deputy Prime Minister will agree to accept this resolution. If not, I am sure he will be able to enlighten us and show a better and quicker device whereby the object of this resolution can be carried out.

It is needless for me to say that the entire House or the entire country is in sympathy with the object of this resolution, namely that there should be proper allocation of seats, there should not be any prejudice done to any community so that at the time when we usher in fresh elections we can join there with a cheerful and clear mind and not labour under any sense of grievance that our population were not properly taken into account. Sir, I move.

Mr. Speaker: Resolution moved:

"This Assembly is of opinion that Government of India should take steps for taking census of the figures of population community-wise of the provinces of Assam, West Bengal and East Punjab so as to determine the number of seats to be allotted to each of these provinces and also facilitate delimitation of constituencies thereof."

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (Minister for Home Affairs and the States): Sir, I wish to assure the House, and more especially the representatives of the three Provinces affected, that no one is more anxious than the Government to ensure that the distribution of constituencies and of the seats between the general and reserved categories proceeds on a sound and statistical basis. Government are also equally keen that elections under the New Constitution take place as early as possible. I would, however, like honourable members to realize and appreciate

12 NOON

[Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel]

the position and the difficulties involved in the task, and not to rush hastily to conclusions in favour of one or the other alternative in this matter. Honourable members may probably be aware that with a view to making preparations for holding early elections as soon as the Constitution is passed by the Constituent Assembly, Government have issued instructions as early as March last to all the Provinces to take steps for the preparation of the electoral rolls in their respective Provinces. With reference to the position in the Provinces we find that the electoral rolls in some Provinces are completed, and on examining these rolls we find that the adult population as brought on the rolls is about 50 per cent. of the population as registered in the 1941 census. On this basis we can compute the percentage of the various communities in the total population or apply reservations on the basis of proportion in the electoral rolls. That is one way of solving this difficulty.

I shall now turn to the alternative suggested in the resolution moved by the Honourable Member, namely of taking the census. Our calculation is that we will take about one year or more to print the slips and to train the enumerators for the purpose of taking the census. Then we have to complete the numbering of the houses before we can proceed to the enumeration and the recording of necessary details. In none of these three Provinces has administrative action proceeded any step towards making numbering of houses, possible in the near future. We have also to realize that the whole administrative fabric of the Provinces affected has been seriously damaged as a result of partition. The administrations of these provinces are engaged in setting right their own administrative machine, apart from their being engaged in the serious problems resulting from the aftermath of partition. They have still to deal with a large number of refugee rehabilitation problems and other questions of similar importance resulting from partition. If we now start administrative action or direct them to take administrative action in regard to census, it will easily take us near enough to the normal census of 1951 and would be an unnecessary duplication. In these circumstances, I fear I must request the House to reject this alternative.

Now, I come to the other alternative—the sampling system. No sampling system can be relied on for accurate results to the same extent as the actual counting of heads. We can achieve a fairly reasonable approximation to strict accuracy, but sampling must be based on satisfactory ground units, which again require correct house numbering. The fundamental of a sound sample is the possibility theory, which means that every item in the universe—which is a technical word—must have a chance of entering in the sample. The only other possible unit is a village. We asked the three provinces to give us a numbered lay-out of their areas, districts, tehsils within the districts, and the villages within the tehsils, but the work has not progressed beyond districts. Other possibilities of area sampling could be devised, but they would be intricate and again would require careful costing, conduct and check. Results from sampling would have to be scrutinised in the light of fuller records before we can say anything certain about the accuracy. In all these circumstances, I personally am inclined in favour of accepting the basis which is practicable and comparatively easy, namely, electoral rolls to which I have already referred in the earlier part of my speech.

There is another method suggested, namely, that of taking the ration cards. This, however, is very imperfect and perhaps very inaccurate and therefore we cannot safely rely upon ration cards. But I would be prepared to examine the possibilities of sampling and we would try to see what other method could be devised to meet the requirements of the case.

I can assure the Honourable Mover of the Resolution and the representatives of the Provinces affected that we shall explore all possibilities of bringing about a proper distribution and allocation of seats and a proper basing of the constituencies on a statistical basis. We are not in a position to commit ourselves to any specific method. All methods will be properly scrutinised and examined and everything possible will be done to arrive at a proper conclusion which would be fair to all concerned. There would be no injustice caused to any community concerned or to any area concerned. I therefore request the Honourable Mover to withdraw his Resolution and take the assurance of the Government to do everything possible in this matter.

Srijut Rohini Kumar Ohaudhuri: Sir, people in my province as well as the other two provinces will be grateful for the assurance given by the Honourable the Deputy Prime Minister, and I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta (Delhi): Before you put the motion, Sir, may I draw the attention of the Honourable the Deputy Prime Minister to the fact that when he considers other areas, he may also consider Delhi, because Delhi is equally affected in this respect as the population of Delhi has gone up by about five lakhs only on account of refugees' influx. I hope he will bear it in mind and Delhi will also be included in the list of provinces the ascertainment of whose population he may be thinking of.

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Certainly, Sir. Delhi is one of the most affected areas.

Shri R. K. Sidhva (C. P. and Bihar: General): May I also submit that as far as Sindhis are concerned, there are about four and a half lakhs of them in Bombay and according to the Constitution which is going to be passed they would be entitled to four seats. Punjabis have got at least some portion of Punjab; Bengalis have got some portion at least of Bengal; Sindhis have lost their cultural language absolutely; they have no place, and therefore while Assam is being considered for two lakhs of people, I hope the Honourable the Deputy Prime Minister will bear in mind the four and a half lakhs of Sindhis and add also the province of Bombay.

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: While I have great sympathy for the honourable member's views, I am afraid there is no province of Sind in any of the constituencies in the census.

Mr. Speaker: The honourable member wishes to have leave of the House to withdraw. Has he the leave?

The Resolution was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

RESOLUTIONS RE (i) FAILURE OF GROW MORE FOOD CAMPAIGN
(ii) SERVING OF RICE IN NON-VEGETARIAN HOTELS.

Dr. Mono Mohan Das (West Bengal: General): I beg to move:

"This Assembly is of opinion that Government should appoint a committee to investigate the reasons leading to the failure of the 'grow more food campaign', to ascertain the defects in our organisation for planning and executing programme of increasing food production and to make recommendations for improvement of the organisations and to outline an immediate programme."

The most difficult and dominating problem that our National Government has got to face today is how to feed the teeming millions of India. It is a problem of ever-increasing magnitude for the simple reason that every day, every month, every year, our population is increasing by leaps and bounds.

[Dr. Moho Mohan Das]

The British official statistics show that the population of India increased from 338 million in 1931 to 388 million in 1941—an increase of 50 million, that is, five crores of people. It means, Sir, five crores more mouths to feed and five crores more bodies to clothe and shelter. The sponsors of the Grow More Food Campaign would have done better had they added a few words more to their slogan. The words to be added are, I think, "Produce less children", so that the complete slogan will be "Grow more food and produce less children".

The scarcity of food that is prevailing in our country today may be ascribed to four principal causes. First, the rate of increase in our food production is not able to keep pace with the rate of increase in our population. Secondly, West Punjab and Sind—the two surplus provinces where the irrigation system is very near to perfection and where agriculture is completely free from the vagaries of nature—have gone out of the Indian Union leaving behind a large percentage of their population in this country. Thirdly, Burma, Malaya and other neighbouring countries which provided our sources of supply of rice at a cheap price, in pre-war days, are not in a position now to supply us the requisite amount of our food grains for reasons best known to everybody. Fourthly, Sir, with the advent of freedom the conditions of the poor people of our country have improved and the half-starved millions of our country are now getting not only more food, but better food. Large sections of the people who formerly used to live on millets, jowar, bajra, and other similar kinds of food grains are now demanding rice and wheat and to my great satisfaction, I may say, Sir, that they are getting it to a large extent. It must be said, to the great credit of our National Government that if our National Government have failed in so many spheres, if our National Government have failed to give us so many boons, so many blessings of freedom that the people of other countries enjoy, our National Government have at least been able to improve the condition of the under-dog, the poor masses of the country.

Whatever may be the reasons, Sir, for the food shortage that we find in our country to-day, nobody can deny, Sir, that this food shortage if not tackled properly will cause great hardships. This problem of food shortage, which appeared at first to be a temporary one has proved to be a permanent problem and if we cannot solve it now and if we go on buying food grains from abroad worth crores of rupees every year, there is no doubt, Sir, that it will lead within a very short time to very deplorable consequences. The present Government of the country as well as its predecessor Government have been leading this campaign of 'Grow More Food' for more than eight years, but in spite of that, we find today that 200 crores of rupees have silently slipped into the treasuries of foreign countries from our national exchequer.

Sir, for the next year or two, what our Honourable Food Minister's Department tells us is not at all encouraging. Though our Government has made arrangements for import of 40 lakh tons of foodgrains from abroad, our food position during the next year is not going to be very happy. The object behind my Resolution is not an attempt to find fault with our Honourable the Food Minister's Department, because we know under what great handicaps he has achieved quite a commendable amount of success in this direction. Without any sufficient heavy machinery, he has brought under the plough more than four lakhs of acres of fallow land and has been able to produce lakhs of tons of more food than in the previous years. What my resolution aims at is to place before the House the great urgency and importance in this matter and the Herculean efforts that this problem demands for its solution. No one can say that our Grow More Food Campaign has achieved nothing, but the success, which has been achieved by this Campaign is far below the mark and is far below our requirements. The success achieved by the Government in these

directions is inadequate, is insufficient to cope with the situation. Therefore, Sir, tremendous efforts must be made by the Government after due deliberation and planning by the experts on modern scientific lines, so that India, the land of our birth may become self-sufficient within the shortest possible time and so that our Food Minister will not have to go from one country to the other with a begging bowl in his hand.

It is true, Sir, that much depends upon the completion of the huge multi-purpose schemes like the Damodar Valley Corporation, the Tungabhadra Project, the Hirakud Dam and other similar projects, but these are all long term irrigation projects and they are not going to help us in our present difficulties and some of them will take at least ten years to be completed. We must look, Sir, to the short term irrigation works for immediate results. We must look to the proper manuring of our fields; we must look to the proper qualities of our seeds we sow and we must equip ourselves in every possible way to fight the vagaries of nature, which often play a havoc in the agriculture of this country.

There is one point more which I beg to mention here, Sir. Some of our Provincial Governments have imposed agricultural Income-tax. This agricultural income-tax is quite justifiable in the case of farms which employ labour and in the case of people who take agriculture as a profitable business, but to the millions of peasants and cultivators of moderate means, this tax is nothing but a burden and it prevents them from making an all-out effort to produce more food. We tell the people, Sir, to grow more food and when they grow more, we impose a tax upon them. I do not find any sense in it. We cannot create an urge in the hearts of the people, we cannot create any enthusiasm, we cannot exhort the people to produce more by telling them: "Grow more food and pay more taxes." So, I think, Sir, this agricultural income-tax has a very great crippling effect on the efforts of the middle-class peasants to grow more food. If we want to increase our food production honestly and effectively, we must devise some means by which we can relax the grip of the agricultural income-tax upon the cultivators and peasants of moderate and poor means, who form the bulk of the agricultural community in India. With these words, Sir, I beg to place my Resolution before the House for consideration.

Mr. Speaker: Resolution moved:

"This Assembly is of opinion that Government should appoint a Committee to investigate the reasons leading to the failure of the 'grow more food campaign', to ascertain the defects in our organisation for planning and executing programme of increasing food production and to make recommendations for improvement of the organisations and to outline an immediate programme."

I find that there is another Resolution standing in the name of Mr. R. K. Sidhva, which deals with an allied subject. Perhaps some of the ground will be common; so that may be moved and then the amendments might be moved, and then we will proceed with the discussion. I think it will be better that after this resolution and amendments are moved, and if the Honourable Minister is so inclined, he should make a statement, so that the House will be in possession of facts to proceed with the debate.

Shri B. K. Sidhva (C.P. and Berar: General): Sir, I beg to move:

"This Assembly is of opinion that with a view to minimise the import of cereals from foreign countries, steps be taken to issue orders on hotels, restaurants, messes, and public boarding houses which cater for non-vegetarian food, preventing them from serving rice to occupants, guests and visitors."

Mr. Speaker: After this, the amendments also might now be moved only without speeches. Then the Honourable the Food Minister will make a statement.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: My submission is this. The Honourable Minister will take a long time and we would like to express our views and he should give his view at the end of all the speeches.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Minister will have a chance of speaking twice. He will intervene in the debate and give the position of Government over the contents of the Resolution and the honourable members then, being in possession of the facts on which the Government is proceeding, perhaps might be in a better position to discuss.

Shri L. Krishnaswami Bharathi (Madras: General): That is so; we welcome that suggestion.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao (Madras: General): Will an honourable member have the right to speak twice?

Mr. Speaker: The rules are very clear on the point. If the honourable member refers to the rules, he will raise no difficulties. As for the honourable member Mr. Sidhva, if he is anxious to speak before the Honourable the Food Minister intervenes, I shall have no objection at all.

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram (Minister for Food and Agriculture): I would like to speak after the movers of the resolution and the amendments have made their speeches.

Mr. Speaker: That would be to the advantage of the Honourable the Food Minister; but the difficulty is this. These gentlemen will have no other chance to speak after they have heard the Honourable the Food Minister; while, on the other hand, he will have the right of replying to the whole debate. I am however entirely in the hands of the House and the Honourable Food Minister.

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram: I leave it to you, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I think instead of the movers of the amendments, the movers of the resolution might speak.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: Sir, my resolution is a simple and practicable one. I have submitted a very restricted resolution so that there may not be any difficulty in its acceptance to the Honourable the Food Minister and putting it into practice.

Sir, I have tried to find out what will be the saving on this account. I of people who are popularly known as non-vegetarians and who take meat, fish and eggs, rice should not be supplied. It is an admitted fact, that meat, fish and eggs contain a larger proportion of protein than vegetable food and it is scientifically accepted that the protein content in one egg is equal to the protein content in one pound of milk. There is protein in milk and butter; but you will kindly see the difference between the protein content of one egg and the protein content of one pound of milk. Therefore, those who take this class of food will not have any complaint to make that they will be deficient in vitamins or protein if they are not supplied rice in those hotels. I have restricted this resolution to hotels which serve non-vegetarian food; hotels which serve vegetarian food should be entitled to the supply of rice as in the ordinary course.

Sir, I have tried to find out what will be the saving on this account. I must admit that I am not in a position to give any correct figure, because it is nowhere available. I have tried myself to calculate figures from the 1931

census, because the 1941 census does not contain anything about hotels etc, and I have come to the conclusion that—it may be an over-estimate, it may be an under-estimate—in one year, we shall be saving something like nearly two and three fourths lakhs tons of rice of the value of two crores of rupees. It may be a very small sum as compared with the value of the total imports, namely 180 crores of Rupees; but 180 crores is the value of all cereals. We have to make some start somewhere. Who is to make that start? Why should not we, who take this class of food? If we are not prepared to do that, let me tell you we shall not be in a position to do anything, in the near future.

An argument may be advanced, and I am prepared to accept that argument, that an average person, if he takes meat, fish and eggs as a substitute for rice, does not feel that his appetite is fulfilled; for, rice is such a kind of food that although it contains very little vitamin, still when a person takes it, he feels that his appetite is satisfied. There is no doubt about that. But, I would submit that the upper middle classes or the middle class people who generally take non-vegetarian food should confine to this food and the lower class people should be allowed to eat rice because they cannot get any other substitute, and even if you give bananas or tapioca or any other thing, they will not be satisfied unless you give them rice. Therefore, I admit that that class of people who will not be satisfied that they are free from hunger unless they get rice, should be allowed to have rice. A start has to be made somewhere. If anybody has got a better solution, I have no objection. If anybody can make a start anywhere else, I have no objection. Only I want that some start should be made. A saving of two and three fourths lakhs of tons of the value of two crores of rupees is a good start, and if a start could be made through this legislature by an order, I can assuredly say that it will have a direct effect upon the country.

In this matter, I would like to cite the suggestions made by the Food Grains Policy Committee appointed by this Government. They have made an observation not only an observation, but stated that this matter of alternative and supplementary food stuffs requires the serious consideration of the Government. I will read for the benefit of the House the whole of the paragraph which is very small so that the House may know what this Committee has felt in this matter

"Though there is no specific mention in our terms of reference, we believe that the whole question of production, prices, distribution and consumption of supplementary foods is closely related to the problem of meeting the shortage in cereals. The first suggestion is that arrangement should be instituted for ensuring that some part of the cereal ration is surrendered by a consumer who buys meat in proportion to the quantity of meat purchased by him. The purpose underlying this suggestion is to secure a greater equality among consumers and to save cereals. It has not been possible for us within the short time at our disposal to examine the suggestion in detail, particularly as regards the nature of the arrangements which will have to be made, their feasibility and the amount of cereals likely to be saved. We commend the suggestions to the provincial Governments for their examination with reference to these aspects".

This is signed by Messrs Purshotamdas Thakurdas, Birla, Sri Ram, Ram Manohar Lohia—I am reading all the names for the benefit of the House so that they may know the members who were of this view—Phool Singh, Dip Narain Sinha, Hossain Imam, Balu Purshotam, R. L. Gupta, S. Y. Krishnaswami, Sethi, R. A. Gopalswami (*An Honourable Member*: "All wheat eaters; there are no rice eaters.") I do not know whether they are rice eaters or wheat eaters. I am only putting forward the propositions of the Committee.

Then, Sir, it is recommended by them in their final report as well that this matter does require consideration of the Provincial Governments. I do not know what steps have been taken by our Government to consider this recommendation which I have just now read. I do not know whether Provincial Governments ever considered this matter. It is really a year ago that this

[Shri R. K. Sidhva]

recommendation was made and we would like to know from the Honourable Minister as to whether any steps have been taken or he has simply ignored this matter because it is a very small matter which is not going to give any requisite benefit. But as I stated that unless Government makes up its mind and makes a start and not merely depend on a long term policy, they are not going to do anything in the near future and continue to import large quantities of cereals as they have been doing year to year. Every year I have noticed that instead of curtailing the quantity of import of foreign food grains, they are increasing. I would like to state that we are importing this year 28.4 lakh of tons valued at Ra. 130 crores and after payment of this, we are going to lose 30 crores after recovering from the sale of this wheat. We are going to lose a substantial sum of public money of 30 crores. Last year it was 28 crores. You can see that every year we are losing more and in 1949—The Honourable Minister has supplied us statements this morning at 9 and I doubt whether any member could have had time to study and the Minister knows very well that the subject was going to come up and so he could have supplied us earlier—and that is not fair. His Department is an efficient Department as I am told and I don't understand why this information is not supplied to the Members in time—I had a cursory glance at this statement that has been supplied and some of them is useful and some require study and some require to be questioned and I have no time even to question from his Ministry for want of time. The Agriculture Ministry has no agriculture of its own barring some lands in Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara as the Provincial Governments have. Still they are spending 2 crores of rupees as against 58 lakhs of rupees in 1939. Can you understand a Department which has no land of its own, for the purpose of research and guidance to provincial governments is spending four times more than what it used to do before the war. May I know whether the Honourable Minister has given any consideration to this matter. I do not want to request that there should be retrenchment in this Department just now but I say the expenses are piling up for the purpose of guiding the provincial governments as to what should be the right steps. What I say is beyond calling every month—as I read in the newspapers—Conferences of Ministers and Secretaries from various provinces, the Members are not enlightened as to what are the practical results of these Conferences. Direct approach, I admit, is a good thing. I myself advocate it rather than sending circulars and letters but what are the results of direct approach. The other day I asked in my question the result of these approaches and I admit the reply was not satisfactory. I put a supplementary question as to whether the Honourable Minister has any short-term policy in view and to my great surprise, the reply was: "There can be no short term plan to make up a very large deficit". I am very astonished to hear from the Honourable Minister that there cannot be a short term policy. He ought to understand what we meant by short term policy—the sinking of wells, supply of manures so that food can be grown more. The short term policy is discussed in this Report of the Policy Committee and the Mover of the Resolution also just now stated and Government has also stated the short term policy but the Honourable Minister tells me that there cannot be a short term policy. Now with that angle of vision, how can an improvement be made? I quite appreciate that agriculture is a provincial subject and therefore there may be many handicaps for the Ministry to go ahead as they like to do but it is not made clear to us what they are doing day to day beyond giving some views, somewhat indirectly official news and some like direct official news in the newspapers. It is true as the Honourable Minister only last week stated in a public statement that due to loss of Sind and Punjab which is the best irrigated place, 60 per cent of our supply has been lost. But is that to be told after 18 months of partition. This was known

when partition took place and why that argument is put before the public now. What have they done during 18 months that is what we want to know. It is no consolation to anybody to state that Punjab and Sind were the best irrigated provinces and all the world knows that we have lost it. I know the five year schemes that are being prepared. It is a large scheme and we all want that the Government should go ahead with these schemes whatever the economic condition of the country because the schemes which have been passed, when they are completed, I am confident that we shall be self-sufficient in our food grains but that will not be for nearly ten years to come. But within ten years my object and the object of everyone in this House is to stop this import from foreign countries. That is the main point. Every year due to acts of Nature as it has been shown to us, unfavourable monsoon or many other factors over which we have no control, this will go on. Where is the harm in the cultivable area where they have cultivated—from the statement that has been given to us—by sinking more wells and tube-wells or surface wells to increase the crops of whatever nature which is eatable, wheat, gram, rice, barley, Jawar, etc. We are not informed about that. There are detailed figures of importation and also of production but what we want is during the last two years how many areas have been cultivated, in what part, freshly virgin soil. How much new fresh crops have been grown from that? Let us have a statement from which we can at a glance say what has been produced and a comparative statement to give us an idea that really something substantial has been done by this Ministry in conjunction with the Provincial Governments. Then we shall be able to know which Government has failed to carry out the instructions from the Centre. We are giving grants to the Provincial Governments and even then I do not think the results are satisfactory. Considering all these factors, I would suggest to the Honourable Minister to leave the long-term schemes to themselves. They will take their natural course and although they may be of five years, their actual benefits will not be felt till about ten years hence. Let him therefore, concentrate his attention on the short-term policy. He must be able to see what is being done. I want the Government of India to say that within six months this part of a certain land will be cultivated, that certain number of wells will be sunk and that so much crops will be produced. If that line of action is taken by the Ministry, I am positively certain that the Provincial Governments will respond and if they have any difficulty in that respect they will present it to the Honourable Minister.

I hope I am making healthy remarks and criticisms. Let me state that while I am making strong comments, the Honourable Minister must not take them adversely. I am doing in for the good of the country. He is in charge of the portfolio. I am also responsible to the people and I do submit that when I make these remarks he should take it in the same spirit in which I am making them and that he will not believe that I am criticising simply for the sake of criticising. That has not been my habit in life. When I criticise I do so with the best of intentions and it is healthy criticism.

Mr. Speaker: The honourable member has almost reached his time limit.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: I have thirty minutes!

Mr. Speaker: Yes, the thirty minutes are almost up!

Shri R. K. Sidhva: Then with regard to the long-term period, I think Government should come to a decision that in such and such a year there shall not be any foreign import. Today the Provincial Governments are encouraged despite all the help we give them. They say the Centre is coming to our rescue and it is an All-India matter. The Government of India cannot afford to see our people die and there is no point by trying to frighten people in the name of death. But the Government must make a declaration. Let Provincial Gov-

[Shri R. K. Sidhva]

ernments be told that from 1950 or 1951 there shall be no importation of foreign food grains. If for the purpose of grow more food campaign monetary help is needed, let them have it from the loss of Rs. 30 crores every year sustained by us. If we build up our own production it will be a national wealth for all time to come. There is no drive and no enthusiasm about this matter. The Provincial Governments are adopting the attitude of:

"Chalnedo, chalta hai"

when the war was on the same secretariat functioned and even things that could not be produced before were produced in a twinkling of an eye. That same staff is there. Why cannot they do now what was done then? It is a shame to us to have to import food grains when there are acres of waste-lands and there are refugees and unemployment is there. Why is it that we must have always to run to foreign countries? We must tell the officials that they must change their outlook because the national wealth is being lost.

What is happening with regard to the foreign imported goods? Nearly two per cent. of the total amount goes towards the loss in weight of these food grains. In the Standing Committee, according to my own calculation I pointed out that this loss comes to nearly rupees two crores. But the Honourable Minister in the Food Standing Committee has accepted the amount of rupees one crore as the loss of food. In other words, they are paid for full weight whereas actually we get much less in weight of food grains. According to my estimates, we lose about 4½ per cent. in weight for rice; according to the Food Ministry it is three per cent. The Ministry are aware of this situation but they say that they are helpless because the country badly wants rice and hence we have to surrender to these defrauding methods. Can we bear this any more?

May I submit with all humility to the Honourable Minister that does he not feel about it that this money is being stolen from us and consolation is taken that because we want food, we have no alternative. But this is a serious matter. I will not at the moment go into the figures supplied by the Honourable Minister. I shall however ask him to look into it and get the Government to fix a dead line and also to see that the short term plan is taken up.

Now about the amendment of Srijut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri. He says that "more than one pound per diem of" be inserted after the word "serving" in my motion. That is to say that in the hotel if the man wants less than one pound, he may be given rice. If this amendment is accepted it would nullify the very object of my resolution. My friend contends "How can I eat fish without rice?" But we have to make a little sacrifice. I eat fish curry with bread and that has a good taste.

Srijut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri (Assam: General): May I ask if the honourable Mover has ever taken rice and fish curry together?

Shri R. K. Sidhva: In my young days it was my cherished dish. I am not taking rice now. Well, he is not being generous enough when he gets fish not to allow more rice to those who are not getting fish. My friend Shri Brajeshwar Prasad says that wheat must be added. I will straightaway accept the amendment but I wanted to be cautious. If House is going to restrict both wheat and rice for non-vegetarian in the hotel I shall have no objection.

I may say that during the war one of the largest hotels in India, the Taj Mahal Hotel, rarely supplied any bread. They supplied boiled potatoes instead and nobody complained. This was done for four years. We should try and understand these things and not say that because we have a taste for a particular thing we must have it. Then why say to the world that we are going to do something when we are not prepared to make the sacrifice ourselves.

Mr. Speaker: Resolution moved:

"This Assembly is of opinion that with a view to minimise the import of cereals from foreign countries, steps be taken to issue orders on hotels, restaurants, messes and public boarding houses which cater for non-vegetarian food, preventing them from serving rice to occupants, guests and visitors."

Now I will call upon the various Members who have tabled amendments to move them if they so choose.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (East Punjab: General): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in the Resolution moved by Dr. Mono Mohan Das, for all the words occurring after the words 'Government should' the following be substituted:

'among other matters as a part of the 'grow more food campaign' take immediate steps—

- (1) to bring home to every cultivator and land-owner that it is their patriotic duty of topmost priority to increase the production of food grains as far as possible and to grow food crops instead of other crops;
- (2) to insist on the realisation by every provincial government that it is its own duty to provide food for the inhabitants of the province under its charge;
- (3) to provide good incentive to the producer by fixing fair prices of food stuffs so that the producer may get fair remuneration for his labour and the consumer may get food at fair rates;
- (4) to enable the producer to get his own requirements at fair price;
- (5) to expedite as far as possible the rehabilitation on a permanent basis of refugees and adopt a certain and definite policy in regard to zamindaris and tenures of land so that the incentive to keep lands uncultivated may be altogether eliminated; and
- (6) to provide—
 - (a) means for breaking of waste lands;
 - (b) all sorts of water facilities for irrigation by opening new canals, constructing wells, tube-wells and bunds; and
 - (c) good and cheap manures, fertilisers, cattle, seeds and implements of cultivation including improved ploughs and tractors".

Mr. Speaker: Regarding parts (2) and (5) of the amendment I have to make a few observations. As regards (2) it does not seem to me to be clear as to what the honourable member means by saying "to insist on the realisation of every Provincial Government". What he means is "to bring home to every Provincial Government".

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Yes, Sir, that would be better.

Mr. Speaker: So that part may be amended in that way. As regards part (5) I may draw attention to the portion which says: "to expedite as far as possible the rehabilitation on a permanent basis of refugees". This goes beyond the scope of the original resolution and it may not be in order. As regards the other part in which the Honourable member says "adopt a certain and definite policy in regard to Zamindaris and tenures", I am afraid this will be a provincial subject and the Central Government cannot be expected to adopt a definite policy. All that the honourable member means is to recommend to the Provincial Governments to adopt a definite policy in regard to zamindaris and tenures. If that is so.....

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: So far as rehabilitation is concerned my submission is that unless the refugees are settled on land on a permanent basis they will not be interested in cultivation, for if land is given to them on a temporary basis it happens that they do not cultivate them. It is a responsibility of the Government of India to rehabilitate the refugees and not that of the provincial governments. If they insist that the settlement be made on a permanent basis it is certainly the primary concern of the Government of India and they could direct the local governments in this matter.

[Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava]

As regards the second point which relates to the question about the policy in regard to zamindaris and tenures, Ajmer-Merwara and Delhi are definitely under the charge of the Central Government. As regards the other provinces they have only to make recommendations. In regard to the abolition of the zamindaries the Central Government is expected to provide the money whereby it can be carried out and ultimately it is the Government of India which can direct not only the policy but also effectively control it.

Mr. Speaker: As regards the first, the connection seems to be remote. Is it not covered by what the honourable member says in the first para, viz., "bring home to the cultivators, etc."?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I do not want that the Centre should encroach upon the province of the provinces.

Mr. Speaker: Does it follow that he drops or wishes to amend para (5)?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I wish to amend it. I maintain that a good part of land in East Punjab is lying uncultivated on account of the wrong policy of the government.

Mr. Speaker: So he may make a recommendation to the provincial government.

Amendment moved:

"That in the Resolution moved by Dr. Mono Mohan Das, for all the words occurring after the words 'Government should', the following be substituted:

'among other matters as a part of the 'grow more food campaign' take immediate steps—

- (1) to bring home to every cultivator and land owner that it is their patriotic duty of topmost priority to increase the production of food grains as far as possible and to grow food crops instead of other crops;
- (2) to bring home to every provincial government that it is its own duty to provide food for the inhabitants of the province under its charge;
- (3) to provide good incentive to the producer by fixing fair prices of foodstuffs so that the producer may get fair remuneration for his labour and the consumer may get food at fair rates;
- (4) to enable the producer to get his own requirements at fair price;
- (5) to recommend to the provincial governments to adopt a certain and definite policy in regard to zamindaris and tenures of land so that the incentive to keep lands uncultivated may be altogether eliminated; and
- (6) to provide—
 - (a) means for breaking of waste lands;
 - (b) all sorts of water facilities for irrigation by opening new canals, constructing wells, tubewells and bunds; and
 - (c) good and cheap manures, fertilisers, cattle, seeds and implements of cultivation including improved ploughs and tractors.' "

Srijut Bohini Kumar Chaudhuri: I beg to move:

"That in the Resolution moved by Dr. Mono Mohan Das, for the words 'the failure', the words 'unsatisfactory results', be substituted."

Mr. Speaker: Amendment moved:

"That in the Resolution moved by Dr. Mono Mohan Das, for the words 'the failure', the words 'unsatisfactory results', be substituted."

Shri Basanta Kumar Das (West Bengal: General): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in the Resolution moved by Dr. Mono Mohan Das, the following be added at the end:

'and the method of its implementation within a specified time-limit.' "

Mr. Speaker: Amendment moved:

"That in the Resolution moved by Dr. Mono Mohan Das, the following be added at the end:

'and the method of its implementation within a specified time-limit.' "

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

The Assembly re-assembled after Luncheon at Half Past Two of the Clock,
Mr. Deputy Speaker (Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar) in the Chair,

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad (Bihar: General): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in the Resolution moved by Mr. R. K. Sidhva, after the word 'rice', the words 'and wheat' be inserted."

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Amendment moved:

"That in the Resolution moved by Mr. R. K. Sidhva, after the word 'rice', the words 'and wheat' be inserted."

Srijut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: Sir, I beg to move:

(i) "That in the Resolution moved by Mr. R. K. Sidhva, after the word 'serving', the words 'more than one pound per diem of' be inserted."

(ii) "That in the Resolution moved by Mr. R. K. Sidhva, before the word 'occupants', the words 'each of' be inserted."

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Amendments moved:

(i) "That in the Resolution moved by Mr. R. K. Sidhva, after the word 'serving', the words 'more than one pound per diem of' be inserted."

(ii) "That in the Resolution moved by Mr. R. K. Sidhva, before the word 'occupants', the words 'each of' be inserted."

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Sir, I have welcomed this opportunity from more than one point of view. First of all because I feel that it enables me to give to the House a little fuller picture, and more directly than might have been otherwise possible, of what has so far been done and why more has not been done. But I have welcomed it even more from another point of view that it gives to the House an opportunity which I feel is being fully taken advantage of to consider the larger issues involved in regard not only to our food problem but also in regard to agricultural development generally. Before, however, I go further into these matters I wish to express my regret at the inconvenience felt by some of the Members of the House who received such material as could be got together, only this morning. I understand that this inconvenience was felt particularly by those who reside in the Constitution House. (*Honourable Members:* "By others also; by everybody"). Well, so far as the Department was concerned, we issued the material last evening, and I understand that the Assembly Department also issued the material last night.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: At what time? The man came at midnight.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am stating the facts as I have come to know of them. It is not usual when non-official resolutions are moved, for the Department to place any material before the Members. What has been now placed before the Members is almost entirely the same material as has come before them on many earlier occasions either directly or through the press. Most of it is therefore not new to them. It has been collated for convenience of reference except one table of the actual results of the Grow More Food effort which we are receiving, as a result of repeated telegraphic reminders, from the Provinces—and one Province, namely, Orissa has not yet been able to supply us the information we require.

Shri H. V. Kamath (C.P. and Berar: General): May I submit that at least the brochure regarding the proceedings of the Conference of Ministers of Agriculture of Provinces and States called by the Government of India on the 8th and 9th September—that is, six months ago—could have been supplied to us two or three months earlier? It came to us only this morning.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The full text of the speech delivered in September 1948 and the full text of the Resolutions passed at the Conference were published in the papers. That is why I say there is no new material that is being put before you, except that it is put together for convenience of reference.

[Shri Jairamdas Doulatram]

Sir, before I take up the first Resolution I would like to say a few words with regard to the second one moved by Shri Sidhva. I may inform him that the suggestion made by the Food Grains Policy Committee that the Provinces should examine the question of cereals being surrendered in the case of meat-eaters was sent to all the Provincial Governments, and almost all of them have stated that it is impracticable and that they would not be able to enforce it. I do not, however, know how much saving would be caused if rice were surrendered in the case of meat-eaters. I do not know on what basis exactly Shri Sidhva gave us the figure of 2½ lakh tons. He referred to the census of 1931. I would like to know how he has calculated the figure of 2½ lakh tons from the census of 1931.

Shri B. K. Sidhva: I said it was all vague and that I calculated it myself from the various aspects—the number of hotels.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It is difficult to put the number of workers.....

Shri B. K. Sidhva: I said number of hotels because my resolution refers only to hotels and restaurants. I calculated it on the basis of 50 persons attending a hotel.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: As we know, hotels are scattered throughout the country. There are many hotels in the non-rationed areas and it will be difficult to calculate how much saving is going to be made if the restriction applies only to the hotels in the rationed areas. Then there are certain other aspects of the question. In the case of hotels like the Taj Mahal hotel I can easily understand restrictions being placed. But if these restrictions are going to be extended to a large number of those hotels which the lower middle classes and the poor classes visit, then I do not know whether Government will not be inviting curses upon itself if it removes from the diet of these poor people the major item of food and force them to satisfy their appetite by a greater intake of meat or fish or other more costly foods. I do not know what would be the reaction in the Constitution House itself if both rice and wheat were eliminated and the Caterer came in for fresh terms of contract because vegetable, meat and fish has to be increased to satisfy appetite. All that, I think, is practicable is that in most of the European type or restaurants, possibly at the railway stations, possibly in some of the big cities, some amount of restraint may be possible, but in the case of the majority of the hotels where the meat caters go, an increased intake of the more costly potatoes or the more costly meat diet, will not be a solution at all, and I have no doubt it will become an exceedingly unpopular measure.

Shri B. K. Sidhva: My resolution meant only non-vegetarians, not vegetarians.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am also talking of non-vegetarians, because when rice is eliminated, people will have to take instead of rice potatoes, meat or fish or fruits, which are more costly. That is why I said I doubt if it will be popular except in the case of a certain number of restaurants conducted in European style. (*Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:* Is it not possible to reduce the wheat and rice quota proportionately?) That is a possibility which can be considered, but as I said I am prepared to go into this matter so far as a certain section of the hotels are concerned, but if it is extended to all the hotels where non-vegetarians go, then I think it will lead to a serious difficulty.

Shri B. L. Sondhl (East Punjab: General): Do make a start somewhere.

Shri B. K. Sidhva: Start it in the Constitution House.

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram: In the course of Mr. Sidhva's remarks, it was said that there were certain losses in the course of food stuffs being received in India from outside. There is a certain amount of loss in the course of this operation and we are appointing a Committee to go into the question how this loss could be saved or diminished to the maximum extent possible. But there are certain inherent difficulties which we cannot ignore. When crosses of maunds are shipped from distant places and they take weeks to arrive, it is not impossible that there are certain leakages. All that I can say is that so far as the shipments from some of the western countries are concerned, the risk of such loss is very little.

So far as Burma is concerned, we are facing special difficulties. After all, where the Governmental control is not very exact and where trade action is comparatively free and unrestricted, many things happen as we in this country also know. We know of what is called the short length or short breadth in the case of cloth. Foreign merchants have complained of the manner in which our trade sends out certain goods and how quantity and quality suffers. Therefore, in the case of Burma we have been feeling special difficulty because of certain laxities in trade which are not within our control, but, with regard to that also, the matter will be examined and we shall see what is possible to reduce our losses so far as Burma is concerned.

The difficulty is that on account of our allocation of rice being fixed by the International Emergency Food Council, the places from where we have to import are also fixed by them, so that we have no alternative left except to secure all that we need from certain countries, and the difficulties with regard to those countries have somehow to be put up with by us. But, as I said, in any case this matter will also be examined and we will try and reduce the loss to the country.

I may mention that soon after I took charge, I discovered that in regard to one important port where the arrangements were in the hands of local authorities, we were suffering very heavy losses in regard to weight after unloading from the steamer. This matter also was gone into fully and we provided in the new contracts that there must be cent per cent. weight of the lakhs of tons that used to come in bulk in the ships. That means, unbagged food was simply put into the hold and we had to re-weigh it, and therefore this new system or re-weighing every maund of foodgrains was provided for in the new contracts and we have been able to save a very large amount on that account.

Coming to the main question, I am anxious that in this debate I should derive the maximum benefit from the constructive suggestions of the members of this House. It is possible to discuss this question in a manner which may, at the end of it, leave no tangible, concrete result, but as I sense it, the desire of the House is to conduct the discussion in a manner which leaves us with definite, tangible proposals with regard to one of the most difficult problems of the country. I have a feeling that we have not been able, all of us, to consider the difficulties inherent in the situation and we expect certain results from small measures and therefore our disappointment is the greater.

Taking first the smaller problem of our increase in imports this year, it is inherent in the situation that this year we have to import more than we did last year. Not that we desire to import even a single maund or ton, but the present situation is such that there is no other remedy at present possible, unless the provinces rise to the occasion even during this year. I will explain briefly what I mean. We have just re-imposed control. During 1948 when we imported round about 28 or 30 lakh tons, we were progressing gradually towards de-control. Government was giving up its responsibilities for rationing the people and so Government's need for imports was diminished. Need of local procurement was diminished. But we have to re-impose control during this year, that means Government has to hold within its own possession larger quantities of

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food to feed a larger proportion of population. In these circumstances, it was inevitable that we should have to import more. In 1948 we came down to one-fourth of the persons whom Government was feeding directly through its own ration shops in January 1947 but gradually, in September-October-November 1948 this number began to increase; so that today in January the number is double of what it was in the middle of 1948. And the policy of re-control, that by October 1947 we should reach the same extent of rationing, that is cover the same proportion of population as we covered in October 1947; that means directly and indirectly round about 15 crores of men. At present Government is rationing or indirectly supplying or through controlled distribution feeding about seven Crores of men. Six months ago, it was three crores of men. At the end of October 1949, Government has to take the responsibility of feeding directly or indirectly and distributing directly or indirectly to 14 crores of men. Obviously this means that the Government must procure more or import more.

Now with regard to this particular matter of importing and procuring, I want to give you a few more facts. What has happened in the course of these two years 1947-48, 1948-49? Surely our population has increased. Forty lakhs a year is the annual addition to our population. Therefore in the course of these two years--the last year of control and the end of next year of re-control, the population will have increased by about 80 lakhs. What else has happened is that there is progressive urbanisation in our country. More and more people every year are getting drawn to towns for various economic and other reasons. Prof. N. G. Ranga, "Assured rations at controlled prices in towns.") Yes, may be. What I am saying is that it is therefore the responsibility of Government for feeding more people than before.

Shrimati G. Durgabai (Madras: General): May I know within what period this increase of population was effected, from three crores to seven crores.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: During 1948. In two or three provinces rationing has been re-imposed gradually. More and more towns are being included in that control system. Therefore, the responsibility of the Government is increasing. This is visualized and we are planning to cover 1949, (Shrimati G. Durgabai: "It is a period of two years.") During the period of two years, there has been an increase in population. Forty lakhs a year is the natural increase in population. Then there is more urbanisation and then the direct responsibility of refugees.

Then with regard to procurement, since members of the House belong to Provinces and have some influence on the Provinces, I would wish to give you some idea of our procurement. If our local procurement increases, our imports naturally decrease. One method of decreasing imports is to try to procure as much as possible within the country. All the crores that we are sending out would then be paid to our own people. Now, it is here that we come across some amount of difficulty. The procurement also differs from province to province. I will give you the figures, percentages of procurement, to the total production in each province, for this year of 1949 and you will see how different and how varying is the effort to be put forth by the provinces. Madras will procure 20.8 per cent. of its total production and thereby assume control of one fifth of the product of the fields with a view again to redistribute to people. Bengal will procure 14.9 per cent. of the provincial production. Bombay will procure 6.5 per cent. of its total yield (C.P. will procure 9.7 per cent. Assam will procure 15 per cent. Orissa will procure 6.4 per cent. The United Provinces 4.8 per cent. and Bihar 2.6 per cent. Now from this, you will find that there are some provinces which are procuring a much smaller proportion of the total yield of their fields than others. If rationing and control are to be a success and if our imports are to be further reduced, it is only possible when there is a greater uniformity of sacrifice and a much larger proportion to

procured in certain regions of our country. (Shri Sitaram S. Jajoo: "What about the Indian States?") I have not got the figures of the Indian States. With regard to the States, it has been our experience that except a few of the bigger states, it is very difficult to get definite statistics. Their administrative machinery has not yet been tuned to the requirements of the present situation and both with regard to production and procurement, we are always in difficulty with regard to a number of states. But I know that there are some states, for instance, Cochin is procuring 33 per cent. and Travancore round about 20 per cent. (Prof. N. G. Ranga: "They produce so little!") I have tried to explain and give reasons why the scale of our imports need not surprise us until our production has increased and why we are importing more this year than we had to do last year. As I said, it is inherent in the situation.

Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru (L.I.): General: Can the Honourable Minister tell us what proportion of the food grains produced in the U.P. was procured in 1946-47?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It is round about the same figure, four per cent. or there about all these four years—1946, 1947, 1948 and 1949.

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Madras: General): That is for export from U.P.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It is procured by the Provincial Government for the purpose of rationing in the province.

Shri L. Krishnaswami Bharathi: May I know how is it possible to ration with a total procurement of 4 per cent. of the total production, Sir?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Each province calculates the maximum it could procure and then comes up to us for the deficit.

Shrimati Dakshayani Velayudhan (Madras: General): Can not the Government insist on the provinces and say that they should procure a certain percentage?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It is difficult to be ordering about the Provincial Governments; we discuss with them; they explain to us their difficulties and they say this is the utmost that is possible.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: What was procured, was it procured uniformly or are there variations?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: There is no variation within the provinces; they try to procure from all the surplus regions.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: I think there are variations in the procurements so far as the provinces are concerned, variations in procurement from month to month even within the provinces.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The amount which may be procured in a particular month differs from what may be procured in another month. It depends on how near you are the harvesting time, when the crops come to the market and sometimes the Provincial Governments also adjust their amount of procurement to the prices prevailing and there are a number of other factors which govern the total procurement.

I have tried to explain the reasons why larger imports are inherent in the situation so far as we are concerned this year.

Now I come to the major question—permanent schemes of production. As I have said recently and as was referred to by my honourable friend Mr. Sidhu, if we are not seized of the basic factors in the Indian agricultural situation and they do not compel us to try and deal with them, then I am afraid the present nature of complaint will continue. What I wish to say is that a big economic change has taken place since the middle of 1947, and that big economic change has thrown our country to a much larger extent than before on the

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uncertainties of the monsoon. We may say that we knew it in 1947 as we know it today; but what I feel is that we have got to deal with the situation and understand the implications of that situation. It may surprise you if I tell you that one implication of that situation has been that not only with regard to food, but with regard to jute and cotton, the attempt to make India self-sufficient and not to have to depend on Pakistan is making those who are interested in jute and cotton to ask for roundabout forty six lakhs of acres from the existing food acreage. That means, if we are to be self-sufficient in the matter of both jute and cotton, we must hand over from the food area about forty six lakhs of acres. Now here we are compelled to face a deficit in food. We are planning to reclaim land and increase the area under food crops; we are confronted with the problem of increasing the acreage for jute and cotton by handing over acreage from food. Therefore, what I am anxious this House should seriously consider is that the implication of this economic change should be fully discussed and its remedies for the situation implemented.

I will read out to you a few basic figures which though they are merely figures, their full economic import is vastly greater. After the partition, India has to maintain 80 per cent. of the original population; but the rice production on which to sustain this 80 per cent. of the population is only 69 per cent. Here we have got a definite big shortage due simply to the fact of partition. Wheat production is only 68 per cent. as against 80 per cent. of population. The irrigated area under wheat is still less, it is 54 per cent. All this has certain inherent consequences in the sphere of food production. (Shri-mati Renuka Ray: "What is the acreage under tobacco cultivation?") When you realise that the acreage under food is sixteen crores of acres, you will see that even if tobacco is given up, it will make a difference of only a few lakhs of acres.

Shri-mati G. Durgaba: I think that introduces a material change.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: You must prohibit smoking then, or import cigarettes.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Out of sixteen crores of acres under food grains, about 25 per cent. only is under permanently dependable perennial irrigation. So that 75 per cent. of our food has to weather the vagaries of monsoon. We have seen what has happened this year. Portions of Bombay province, Saurashtra and Cutch suffered from lack of rains; excess of rain resulted in damage in the United Provinces and Bihar; Cyclone affected both Bombay and indirectly the Central Provinces. Therefore, the difficulties of a country which is basically agricultural and which has to depend on the monsoons to such a large extent, have to be specially considered and dealt with.

The Food Grains Committee tried to deal with this situation. They made three broad recommendations. When we talk of the failure of the Grow More Food Campaign, the unsatisfactory results of the Grow More Food Campaign, or when we naturally express disappointment when we find that even this year we are short of food, not only with regard to the Government's food budget which is separate from the country's food budget—the Government's food budget is the requirement of the rationed areas, procurement made by the provincial Governments and imports by the Central Government, whereas the country's food budget is entirely different and much vaster, because the entire population is fed and all these sixteen crores of acres under food grains feed them—when we talk of the unsatisfactory results of the grow more food Campaign, we should realise what is this Grow More Food Campaign. The Grow More Food Campaign is only one of the three measures, and in a way the smallest measure recommended by the Food Grains Policy Committee. The Grow More Food Campaign is sustained by three or four crores of rupees.

of loans or grants from the Centre and three or four crores of rupees spent by the provinces, covering last year about eighty lakhs of acres. Eighty lakhs of acres out of sixteen crores under food grains makes round about five per cent. It is five per cent. of our food grains area which has been dealt with last year by this one recommendation of the Food Grains Policy Committee, which is called the Grow More Food Campaign. When my honourable friend Shri Sidhva suggested that we must have some short term policy, the short term policy is this policy recommended by the Food Grains Policy Committee. A short term policy cannot give you in a short period big results. There is no short-cut to get over our basic difficulty. (Shri R. K. Sidhva: "It will give small results, if not big results.") Coming to the small results, I would request the members to dispassionately consider what has been done. Under the Grow More Food Campaign, as visualised by the Food Grains Policy Committee, a target of nine lakhs of tons of extra production was planned for 1947-48, nine lakhs of tons to be produced by about eight or nine provinces. How was this extra production to be put up? Through wells and tanks, through seed, through fertilisers, through other manure. It is not possible for the Agriculture Department to function without the fullest co-operation of many other departments, and many other bodies outside the Agriculture Department. Take the simple question of fertilisers. When we planned for nine lakhs of tons for the various provinces, we planned that we will be able to give so much of fertilisers to the various provinces. Fertilisers are to some extent produced in this country; but a greater proportion has to be imported from outside. How much we should give to our country is not to be determined by us. It is the International Emergency Food Council which makes the allocation of these fertilisers for India. In making this allocation, they include also the local production in this country. Having included the local production in this country, they fix the quota. We asked for a certain quantity; we were allocated only 50 per cent. When we tried to purchase and import, on account of various difficulties and factors, we were able to give to our provinces only one-third of the quantity of fertilisers on the basis of which we had planned the increased production of nine lakhs of tons. You may criticise any provincial Government or the Central Government; here is a basic fact; we planned on the basis of a certain quantity of fertilisers and two-thirds of that quantity did not become available. Naturally, this will affect the quantum of results. It may be that other factors may come to the rescue; but so far as fertilisers are concerned, naturally, the result could be only one-third. Then, take another factor, steel. Steel is wanted for the ploughs; ploughs break; they go out of repair. I know a number of provinces complaining against their own Department of Industries that it does not give an adequate share of steel for the agricultural implements. (Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay: "That is being sold in the black market for building cinema houses.") I am talking of the allocation by the Central Government to the provinces. The Agriculture Departments in the provinces received only 40 per cent. of the quantity of steel on the basis of which they had planned this target of 9 lakh tons. Take another difficulty. I was discussing with a Minister of Agriculture in one of our provinces only the other day and asking why the wells programme had not come off properly, and he said that he tried hard for certain facility for transport. We know how vigorously the transport authorities are trying to help and there is no doubt that progress has been achieved during the last six months but, yet the strain on the transport system is so great that though 800 wagons were promised to one of our big provinces to carry coal dust for bricks for 6000 wells, only 10 wagons could be made available. The result was though other transport was somehow secured and even then, instead of 6000 wells, only 1800 wells could be constructed and many of them after the actual season for irrigating crops had passed. Now

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all these various difficulties cannot be made to disappear by a wave of the hand. (Shri B. L. Sondhi: "What is the position of the new tube-wells?") I hope to give you information in the course of the discussion later on. In spite of these difficulties, according to the latest reports sent to us by the provinces which we have put in one of the appendices given to you, you will find that nearly seven lakh tons has been the extra production in the provinces towards the target of nine lakhs. Now when you say that the Grow More Food Campaign has not been satisfactory, it has not been satisfactory to the extent that instead of nine lakhs we have been able to produce only seven lakh tons. But I have given you many causes which are our handicaps. Suppose we had achieved the target of nine lakhs through these various methods of wells and fertilisers etc., after all what is nine lakh tons as against this huge demand for feeding well over 34 crores of men. The G.M.F. campaign affects only five per cent. of the area under foodgrains. We must realise that though this campaign will go on to increase the yield for the next three to five years, the major effort is to be on the rest of the area which is under foodgrains and unless as I say we realize that new irrigation schemes must place the fields of this country on a more dependable source of supply or unless thousands upon thousands of tube-wells give greater abundance of water supply to our fields, and unless many lakhs of acres of new land are put under the plough, it is not easy to meet the requirements of a growing population which increases at the rate of forty lakhs a year. Therefore I would very respectfully venture to suggest that apart from any criticism which may be perfectly justified to some extent and here and there the administration may not have functioned whether in the Centre or in the provinces satisfactorily, and I do not want to dispute that point—but I really want that we should place our emphasis on the broader issues which are facing the country and not only in the context of food production but in regard to general agricultural production as well. As I said in the case of jute and cotton, both these crops have to grow if India is to become self-sufficient. So also in the case of food, if we are to feed our country properly. As in the case of other countries we ought to produce sufficiently not merely for satisfying ourselves with the minimum requirements but we should have plenty. But I feel there are certain remedies which somehow we are not at present desirous of using or we are not at present decided upon using them and I feel strongly that the situation being what it is, it is in India's economic interest and it is in the interest of India's Industrial development also that we must spare more resources for the development of agriculture, whether it is food or other things. To-day most of our man-power, and money power is going in other directions and we retain the old prejudice which we entertained when the British wanted to place agriculture in the front as against industry—we suspected them—but to-day I realize that unless our country first develops agriculturally it can not progress industrially. Take our provinces. With the best of intentions they are sponsoring various industrial plans. For those plans the provinces need money, technical skill, engineers and dollars for the plant which is necessary and the same deficit provinces come again to the Centre for importing food from outside for which we have no dollars because the provinces want the dollars for the provincial industrial plans. In this country alone some of our friends feel, more money is being spent by the agriculture Department in the Centre than it should. I feel that is not a correct criticism. At least that is not a conception of things which is in consonance with our big developmental plans. Take a country like America where the Federal Government has not an inch of land of its own and yet the Federal Government in U.S.A. is spending Rs. 78 per man for Agriculture. I am not even saying per agriculturist or rural person—but per man—and only 50 per cent. of the population are rural but taking the whole population, U.S.A. is spending Rs. 80/- per man per year. We are spending only one anna per man. The

Federal Government of America though not having any land of its own has taken some responsibility in regard to agriculture and need about 400 Agricultural Officers of the Central authority for every ten million persons. Even Britain—industrially so highly developed—has under the Central Government 20 Agricultural Officers for every 10 million persons, apart from Provincial. (Shri R. K. Sidha: "There are no Provincial Governments in U.K.") Those who have been to America will be able to give more definite information. The Provincial Governments there have representatives in every country. In India the Central Government has for every ten million people six agricultural officers. It is not easy to shape things effectively, rapidly satisfactorily with very inadequate staff. I am not talking of the Centre alone but also of the Provinces. Agriculture in the Centre has eight per cent. share only of the budget. I feel that in the interest of this country agricultural production ought to be given the topmost priority and it is inherently in the interest even of the industrial development of the country. Unless agricultural wealth increases, there is no foundation for full industrial progress. Therefore what I feel is that unless opinion is cultivated in favour of giving to agricultural development its proper place both in the counsels of the people and of the legislatures and all co-operate, we will not be able to reach the goal that we are anxious to reach. There is need of reconsideration of the situation. There is need of co-ordination, and re-direction in this matter and there is need of, if you like, of fresh planning at the top in this matter but I do think that something ought to be done so as to improve the situation in a brief time. It may be, as I said, there is plenty to criticise but I think we should deal with the very important issues in a deliberative and well considered manner.

Shri L. Krishnaswami Bharathi: What is the quota for every province? There is some quota fixed of so much tonnage to respective provinces with regard to actual quantity that may be allotted to provinces from the Centre. I want actual quota of food grains.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It depends on their needs. There is no fixed quota except in relation to needs. Take Madras last time. We knew at the last budget session what the situation was. We thought there was to be a famine there. So we gave more. Take Bombay. We will be forced to give more this time to Bombay. It depends on the local procurement and yield and the extent of rationing necessary, existence of the labour population, and railwaymen and several other factors.

Shri L. Krishnaswami Bharathi: I thought a quota was fixed. The Central Government fixes a quota for every province.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes, it does after knowing how much is procured locally. (Shri Jaspal Roy Kapoor: "What quota has been allotted to the United Provinces?") I could not tell straight off. I will try and give you the information in the course of the debate.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: I am sure the House is indeed very grateful to the Honourable Minister, Shri Jairamdas Doulatram for having put in such an eloquent plea in favour of agricultural development. I am whole-heartedly in agreement with what he has said this afternoon. I think it is necessary for this House to concentrate more on the essentials of the situation than on the details of this Grow More Food campaign. It is true, Sir, as he said, that our country has now become dependent too much upon rain-fed cultivation and rain-fed cultivation is fitful, is dependable, and has become extremely risky. I am sorry my honourable friend did not mention the fact that large portions of Madras also are today in the grip of conditions verging on famine because of the failure of rains and also by the visitation of pests. Now such can-

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ditions are present in large areas of our country because large extents of irrigated areas have been lost to us by the division of our country into Pakistan and Hindustan; also secondly because the irrigation projects have not been developed. I have been most extremely anxious, Sir, that irrigation projects ought not to be postponed but most unfortunately for us, some of the important irrigation projects, I am afraid are likely to be postponed for some years to come. A year lost is not going to come back again. A statesman can have only a number of years to serve his country, and our statesmen, who are today providing the national leadership in such a strong and stable Government, should be enabled to achieve these irrigation projects before it is time for them to lay down their reins of office and retire into private life, as otherwise it may become possible for those destructive social and economic forces which are only waiting for a chance to disrupt this country's social and economic order to establish Fascism on the one hand or to totalitarian Sovietism on the other. This is all the more reason why this country should go ahead with all possible irrigation and flood control scheme and projects that can be developed within the next four or five years and that can be completed within the next ten or fifteen years.

I agree with my honourable friend when he said that we spend so little on agriculture. Some of my friends were wondering whether he was really correct to lay so much stress on the number of officers that America employs for every ten million people and when he was deploring that we were unable to employ as many officers. It is true that we have come to be prejudiced against these officers because many of them have not been able to give us as much service as we would have expected. But nevertheless we cannot get on without officers and we must have more and more of them too, especially in these nation-building departments.

I would remind the House and my honourable friend, Mr. Das that not so long ago Maulana Abul Kalam Azad himself had to come to this House and deplore the paucity of funds placed at the disposal of the Education Department, so that various educational institutions could be developed. It is no use going to the other extreme and starving our own nation-building departments. The very first department that ought to be given first priority so far as nation-building is concerned is Agriculture, and we have been giving it step-motherly attention in the Provinces and in the Centre.

Then, Sir, we want more and more food. But how are we going to get it? You have to see to it that your agricultural labour is properly fed and clothed. Are our people taking sufficient care about it? We should also see that our own peasants are properly fed and clothed. We have been neglecting these people. It has been stated here in report after report that unless a direct link is established between the Government on the one side and the producers on the other, it would not be possible for us to have greater production; and secondly to move more and more of it into our markets. Until now very little has been done in establishing that link between peasants on the one side and the producers and the Government on the other. I am glad to notice that in the recent September Conference of Provincial Ministers the conference was able to realise this need and therefore it was suggested that some sort of link should be established. In Madras an experiment has been made for establishing food councils. I submitted a note to the Minister here suggesting that similar Food Councils should be established all over India. Unfortunately for us, even in Madras these councils were given the go-bye and now today there is no real direct link between the producers on the one side and the Government on the other. I wish to reiterate that suggestion, namely, that these food

councils should be established in a democratic manner from the village upwards, right up to the Central Government, tier by tier so that it would be possible for the Government, to depend on reliable sources with experience, coming directly from the peasants themselves, and sources of contact between the Government and the peasants on the other. Secondly, I am sorry to know that this Conference of Ministers, although it realized the need and importance of the development of co-operatives for the increased production of food, did not realise, or sufficiently stress, the need for organising co-operative marketing societies. If you were to look into these facts, both in regard to the procurement price and issue price, you will find that in several of these provinces there is a great difference as Rs. 2 per maund in the amount between procurement price and the issue price. This terrible difference of Rs. 2/- has been allowed not for the advantage of the consumer, nor for the advantage of the producer, but for the advantage of these middlemen. Surely this could have been avoided if co-operative marketing societies were organised all over India. An experiment was sought to be made in Madras in this direction to have co-operative producers with monopoly power of procurement and then supplying the consumers. But unfortunately vested interests came in and these societies were given the go-bye. I want similar experiments to be made and indeed a drive should be made in this connection so that you can give sufficient inducement to the producers by way of a higher price without at the same time making the consumers suffer in any way.

Then Sir, comes the vexed question of price. Many a time I have had to refer to it. I wish only to mention it and then proceed further. Until and unless this House and this Government make up their minds and offer a remunerative price, a price that will induce the peasants to place more and more of their land under foodcrops and grow more and more food also on their own land, it will not be possible for you to make this country at any time self-sufficient in regard to food. Secondly, even after offering a remunerative price it is most necessary that you adopt the other suggestion that I had made sometime ago, viz., that the Government should come forward to purchase in advance of the harvest 50 per cent. of the produce that the peasants are prepared to put into the market. The Government have not been willing to do so. I have had occasions to bring to the notice of the Honourable Minister the complaints of the peasants in the South, for their produce is now being purchased by merchants at a considerably lower rate than the controlled price itself. It is a fact that more than 40 per cent. of the peasants are prepared to sell their produce within two weeks after the crop is harvested in order to be able to pay the taxes, rents, interest on loans and to purchase in the new year his requirements in clothing and other articles.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao (Madras: General): Is it also a fact that people are not able to buy at the ceiling price fixed by the Government and so the peasants are prepared to sell at something less than the ceiling price?

Prof. N. G. Ranga: My honourable friend seems to be inverting all the facts. The fact is that there is a ceiling price fixed by the Government itself to the consumer. The consumer is being made to pay that ceiling price. Even today, unfortunately, the middleman goes to the peasant, takes advantage of the need of the peasant to place all his produce in the market, buys the produce at a lower price and obtains from him a receipt to the effect that he has been paid the ceiling price and then pockets all the difference. Who is benefited?

Shri B. L. Sondhi: That may be so in Madras but not in our provinces.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: That only shows to you that more than 40 per cent. of our peasants are not able to keep the grains even in their houses for a fort-

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night. There is a merchant to my back and a landlord in front of me and to them these things cannot be apparent. I know where the shoe pinches and it pinches me also because I am one of the producers. (Shri B. L. Soudhi: What do you produce?) Therefore it is most necessary that these middlemen should be eliminated.

There is the question of the inducement to the peasants. There was one suggestion made sometime ago, when there was a full-dress debate in this House, by my honourable friend Mr. Santhanam, that prizes should be offered to all those peasants who show better and better results of production from their own fields. I have submitted a memorandum to the Government on that particular point and till now we have not had either a proper response or any result of that suggestion.

We must also take sufficient steps to persuade our peasants to shift from non-food crops to food crops. It is very easy for some of my honourable friends to suggest 'why not force them to change to non-food crops.' It is very easy to say so but not in actual practice. First of all, it may be impossible for provincial governments to coerce the peasants. It is not going to be easy, it is not going to be wise or even in the interest of the country itself. On the other hand it is much better to adopt the policy that the American Government has adopted of starting what is known as the 'Agricultural Finance Corporation' and then financing from it only the production of certain crops and in that manner induce the peasants to take to those crops which are desired instead of going on producing non-food crops. Similar steps should be taken in this country. Sometime ago we suggested in this House also that there should be something corresponding to the Industrial Finance Corporation for agriculture also, that there should be an Agricultural Finance Corporation. Till now no steps have been taken in that direction.

It should also be possible for the Government to compensate the peasant to some extent by saying that for every acre of land that they shift to food production from non-food products they would be willing to give a certain amount of subsidy. They did so during the war when they wanted the peasant to give up cotton cultivation and take up some other crop. Similar steps should be taken in order to induce our peasants to place more and more of their land under food. I want to sound a warning that there has been a flight of land from food production to production of non-food crops. Let us also remember one other fact. There are places where food crops cannot be grown, because of their entire and exclusive dependence upon rains and hence only non-food crops can be grown. We should consider how we can prevent this by pursuing the present Grow More Food Campaign in the way of advancing money to peasants in order to enable them to sink more and more wells, tubewells, dig small tanks, or place small anicuts across small rivulets and thus bring more land under food. In these directions some progress has been made and that must be said to the credit of the Grow More Food Campaign. It is true that there has been a certain amount of corruption, there has been a certain amount of leakage and waste of money also. The Government also admits it and the only way in which you can prevent it is by what the Government itself at last has come to realise, namely by establishing direct contact with the peasant through their own organisations and also individual *ad hoc* organisations that have come into existence such as food committees.

The Centre must induce provinces like the United Provinces and Bihar who are placing only ten or twelve per cent. of their total estimated production at the disposal of your procurement officers, to place more and more of their food at their disposal. What you ought to do is to give them every possible

encouragement by way of consumer goods and also producer goods. Very little has been done in this direction. We have been asking for these things again and again but with very little effect. Therefore I suggest that it is most necessary that at the Centre anyhow, as well as in the provinces, the Industries Minister, the Agriculture Minister and here is my friend the biggest transport bottleneck, the Transport Minister, these three ministers should go into a sort of special committee and they should make it their job to see for themselves, once in every three months, how much of iron they have been able to supply to the peasants and not merely iron in the form of iron ploughs, sickles and other implements that the peasants want, but how much of building material they have been able to make available to the peasants, also clothing, kerosene and other essentials, in regard to which there is today a shortage and control and which they are unable to get normally even in towns with ration cards in their possession. Unless such steps are taken in order to induce our peasants and through the peasants our provincial governments, it will not be possible for us to maximise our total procurement.

When you impose this compulsory procurement, do not take away from the peasants even that portion of grain which they themselves need for their own consumption and for the consumption of their labourers as also for their use as seeds and for other agricultural purposes. Secondly, when you reserve a certain portion for the local agricultural labour, do not keep it with the peasant himself. He may not behave himself properly. Take it away from him and keep in charge of the local village store and make it incumbent upon the store to distribute this grain at controlled price to the local agricultural labourers as well as non-agricultural labourers in that area. That is the only way in which you can protect the rural non-agricultural population from any kind of black-marketing or very high prices.

I wish to add in conclusion my high sense of appreciation not of the speech of my honourable friend Shri Jairamdas Doulstram (anybody can make a speech like that) but of the sentiments that he has expressed and of his realisation of the fact that agriculture should be given the first place in our national economy and agricultural development and agricultural schemes should be considered to be of as high importance as the development of industrial concerns in our country.

Shrimati Renuka Ray (West Bengal: General): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think that all Members in this House and people outside in the country will agree, as Prof. Ranga has just pointed out, with what the Food Minister has said, that in these times when the food situation of the country is so extremely grave, it is essential that agriculture and agricultural production should be given prior consideration. We may not be facing the spectacular days of the Bengal famine when before our eyes hundreds and thousands died on the streets of a city. Nonetheless malnutrition is taking its toll and is seriously affecting the efficiency of the race. As a result of this it is really impossible for any scheme of national development to be fruitful in other spheres either. In pre-war days it was a well-known fact that the people of this country lived on a diet which, to quote an eminent foreign dietitian, Sir John Magaw was not fit for rats to survive for more than a certain number of weeks. Since war-time we know how much worse it has become. In spite of this Grow More Food campaign which, according to the reports that the Honourable Minister has placed before us, has been intensified since 1947, we cannot say that we see the slightest signs of a returning—self-sufficiency. The amount of food grains, as he has acknowledged, imported within the year is greater than before and at abnormal prices. This cannot but affect our national economy very adversely. For increased production India needs machine and machine tools, but it is quite impossible for us to concentrate on this aspect

[Shrimati Renuka Ray.]

if the money of this country is drained in bringing in food grains—and this is a predominantly agricultural country.

Long term schemes we have, like multi-purpose, river valley projects and development schemes, which will within ten or fifteen years perhaps bring an increasing measure of prosperity and smiling plenty to this country, but we have got to face the situation as it is now. We have to do this effectively and well and I do feel very strongly that whatever has been done by this Government and the Provincial Governments so far in the direction of bringing in quick returns has not been achieved on any widespread scale. I would even say, in all humility, that the report would be creditable if it were the work achieved by non-official agencies who have not all the facilities at their command than that of a Government which has every facility and is able to Command all resources to encourage and implement such work.

I will not go into all the details of what should be done to bring in schemes whereby we can get quick returns, but I should merely like to stress one or two aspects. With regard to small, scale irrigation schemes, though we have seen in the report that a certain number of schemes are being implemented and more schemes are on paper, I do feel that much greater strides could be taken if proper attention is focussed in this direction. I have no desire in particular to make any special criticism of Provincial Governments as such, but I do feel that Provincial Governments as well have not given as much thought to the problem of implementation of schemes as they should have; and I do not think, apart from the large number of committees, Commissions Paper reports, and such things, the Central Government too has achieved anything worth while. If we really want to reclaim land it can be done by small irrigation projects if they are launched and implemented immediately.

Turning to the question of co-operatives, I see from the report that near Delhi a small number of schemes of co-operative farming at Chatarpur and other places have been started which are already showing signs of success. We are all aware that in an increasing measure fragmentation of land is going on. Some years ago forty per cent. of holdings in this country were less than one acre holdings. Today that has increased much—and this, I might say for those who are particularly interested in the matter, in spite of the fact that daughters have no rights of inheritance! We are faced with this very grave situation in this country and the question of fragmentation of land must be taken up immediately if we intend that scientific methods of agriculture should succeed in any big way, or even in the smallest way. You cannot increase tractor production, you cannot eliminate pests or any of these things unless these things are done on a fairly large scale. You cannot do it in farms which are less than one acre holdings. I would therefore say that co-operative methods of farming must be introduced immediately, and both by legislative action, and by implementation of such schemes Government must go ahead with the work. I notice that in the East Punjab some legislation is going on on these lines, but a good deal more has to be done and I would suggest that the Government of India should focus its attention in those directions.

I do not want to go into a great deal of detail, nor do I wish to reiterate what other speakers have said, nor again do I wish to discuss all the acts of omission and commission which are formidable. I would rather like to make one concrete suggestion for the future. I do feel that the administrative machinery, both in the Centre and in the Provinces, which has to deal with these agricultural schemes has not been adequate as for the purpose. By this I do not mean to cast any personal reflection on any particular person but I feel that it is so in all Departments to some extent. This is a vital point if we should go ahead. We must find some other machinery by which we can go ahead. We must cut red tape. We must cut out the fact that there is

no inter-departmental cooperation as has been pointed out in some of the speeches. Prof. Ranga said that we should get the Agriculture Minister, the Transport Minister and other Ministers' departments to meet together; but all these things mean to some extent, delay. I would therefore humbly suggest that it would be much better if we could have some kind of a department dealing in particular, say, with reclamation of waste lands, irrigation and co-operatives, which would be somewhat like a Development Board. It would be somewhat on the lines perhaps of the Boards of these long term river valley projects, where you have an Administrator with certain technical staff to help him who are given full powers to go ahead, and there should be proper financial check from the Finance Department. There should be such a Board or department under the Agriculture Ministry in the Centre and similarly in the Provinces. There should be co-ordination between the Centre and the provinces in this way. It shall be the function of the members of this Board in the Centre not to sit over files in Delhi, but to go round in the districts and the provinces and see that plans are actually implemented. We can have the finest of plans. The last Government had fine plans also, but they were lying in the archives of the Secretariat, and I do think that if we are to go ahead this is the only way.

I would make a further suggestion. There are many things that it is for the public to do and without proper co-operation between Government and the people, we cannot go ahead. The public also must play its part. For instance, they may get used to a different diet. Then there is the other very important point which the Honourable Minister raised,—the question of the increasing pressure of population on land. I do think that it is very essential that family spacing should take place in this country. It is needed for improving the efficiency of the race itself, and for relieving the very grave situation that faces us. In order that people understand the very great necessity for changing the diet, for family spacing, etc., I think that non-official Boards may be attached to these Development Boards, who will advise the latter as well as put before the country the programme that needs their active co-operation. (Shri B. Das: "Why do not associations like the All-India Women's Conference advocate these things?") One of the Resolutions of the All-India Women's Conference held this year at Gwalior did stress this subject of family spacing.

I would like to say that certainly an association like the All-India Women's Conference and various social welfare associations and other economic organisations should be represented on this non-official body which will help the Development Boards to go ahead with the schemes. There should be experts also on these non-official Boards. With the help of such non-official organisations, the Development Boards would be able to go ahead much more quickly and make much greater strides than any Department of Government which is so overwhelmed with red tape can possibly do.

This question of food is a very important question for this country. We are now faced with the question of maintaining minimum standards—these minimum standards which were considered below the minimum in pre-war days. But surely, today we have not only got to see that people get that amount of food that they got in pre-war days, but we have to improve the nutritional level of the country as a whole. I would say that this should be given prior consideration by the Government today, and I would request the Honourable Minister to accept this suggestion of these non-official bodies being helpful and to set up development Boards for these particular matters, where we must have quick returns at once. When all the big schemes of River Valley Projects and Multi-purpose schemes which have been stated or are going to be launched in the future do come to bear fruit India will again become a land of plenty and prosperity, but until such time we must focus our attention on this problem, because without food we cannot get on in any other aspect, and India cannot advance in any sphere of national life.

Shri Biswanath Das (Orissa: General): I am very sorry that a question of this magnitude should have been relegated to a half-day out of one non-official day.

Shri B. L. Soudhi: No, no. We can continue tomorrow.

Shri Biswanath Das: May be, but my complaint is and is bound to be that the Government of the day should make it its responsibility and its duty to come before this House year after year and at least once in six months and lay before it the steps that have been taken in this direction. We clearly and fully realise that you are spending Rs. 150 crores, as it is stated to be the case this year, on the purchase of food grains. This is not a joke. As a result of 150 years of British rule, what have we got? We got two things, namely, one—extensive cultivation of lands, hills, dales and vales, and the other is—a progressive deterioration of soil and yield. In the result, Grow More Food or Perish is the only slogan with which we approach the country. I quite understand this. Having had shaken off British rule and we have to go on with this slogan. But I do not quite realise why my honourable friend the Minister for Agriculture comes before us with a big bill for over five million tons of cereals for the coming year. To me it looks strange. Before me, I have got two reports, namely, the Bengal Famine Enquiry Committee which gives the imports of a decennial period. Nowhere do I see in that report more than 16 and odd lakhs of tons being imported into this country.

The Honourable Shri Jajramdas Doulatram: That was undivided India when Punjab was in India.

Shri Biswanath Das: I am coming to it. I have it in view. There, the maximum that I could see is 19 lakhs and 60 thousand. Even here you have got what is called "re-exports", that is, export to other countries from India. Therefore, the net result is that in no year were we under the necessity of importing more than 17 lakhs of tons. That being the position, we have today to our credit more lands being brought under cultivation, more fertilizers being used for extensive cultivation and so on. The result of all this, as Government state, is an increase of seven lakhs of tons of cereals. I thank my Honourable friend and his activities for all that. But, why on earth should you require more than five million tons of cereals?

My honourable friend says "Pakistan". Well, Pakistan has taken from us very good areas, namely, the barrage area of Sind and certain areas of Punjab. True it is. But it has also taken away with it...

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Only two districts of Western Punjab produced more than the whole of present East Punjab.

Shri Biswanath Das: I know, but it has taken along with it also quite a big area, namely, Frontier Province and East Bengal, which was always a deficit area and a hanger-on on India. Therefore, both these put together, I do not think, we lose very much in the adjustment.

Added to it, you have also snatched away land from other cultivations. Looking at the Cotton Committee report, you find that there is a call and a need for extended cotton cultivation. Similar is the case over all other money crops. All those put together should, I think, entitle you not to need five million tons of cereals. My complaint is, and has been, that you have not got a proper statistical department. You are not publishing your statistics. How on earth can we be useful or helpful to you? I know that provinces like Madras and Bombay have got fairly reliable statistical organisation, but other

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Provinces and States have none. Under these circumstances, I would not stand on the statistics and I would appeal to my honourable friend, the Minister in charge of the Department to see personally to these things and see that these unnecessary swelling of figures are not published without necessary scrutiny, because they themselves give scope for black marketeers to store up paddy and create a situation and bring about an artificial rise in prices.

Sir, having stated so far, I come to the other question, namely: What else are we to do? Britain has gone. Well, we have to think for ourselves. Sir, looking to the Agricultural Commission's report, I see that Lord Linlithgow, the Chairman of the Committee has stated that for proper organisation of agriculture, agriculture animal husbandry and forestry are necessary to be kept under a unified control. The Centre has all these activities together under one Ministry. Why then do I not see the desired result? The reason, as has been pointedly stated by my honourable friend, Prof. Ranga, is that there is very little coordination worth the name among the ministries. For myself I feel that the ministries are responsible; they have to put their heads together if they want to ease India from this unnecessary and artificial trouble. (An Honourable Member: "The whole Government.") I say the four Ministries. They are the Ministry for Agriculture, the Ministry for Finance, the Ministry for Railways and Transport and the Ministry for Industries and Supplies. Unless and until these four ministries put their heads together, for myself would never believe any results can be achieved. I was also in charge of administration and I know the difficulties and benefits of Co-ordination. (Shri B. L. Sondhi: "What about the Commerce Ministry?") You can have your say when you get your chance. You are entitled to supplement. Sir, these four ministries have to put their heads together. I will explain how it is necessary. Of these four, Finance is very important. When I say Finance, I mean the banks including the Reserve and the Imperial Bank and they are no help to agriculture. They know how to wean away all the benefits from the agriculturists and agriculture. You have to make the Finance Ministry to change its tools and to change its ways and be helpful and useful to the Agriculture Ministry and the agriculturists.

Sir, there is no use going in for the foreign useless stuff of Ammonium Sulphate and the like, throwing away your good oil-cakes and bones to the winds. I was appealing to the Honourable Minister for Finance to levy heavy taxation on the export of oil seeds, oil cake and bone. There is no country in the world which would think of throwing away their oil-seeds into the Bay of Bengal as India does today and without sending manufactured goods to outside countries. Sir, why on earth are you sending your oil cakes? How do you expect that that would improve the milk production of your country by sending away the cotton seeds out of your country? It is absurd to talk of more milk production? I will catch hold of the tongue of one who talks of more milk production and at the same time sells away the oil seeds out of my country. (An Honourable Member: "Non-violence?") I agree in a non-violent manner. Sir, my honourable friend talks of milk production. The milk cow requires salt. Are you producing salt? My province would have given you at least ten or fifteen lakh maunds of salt, but unfortunately the machinery is such, the tools of my ministers and the Ministry are such, that instead of Orissa exporting salt, it is itself importing. I have been begging the Ministry and the Minister for the last two years to extend cultivation of the waste salt lands and they have not done so. When the agriculturist does not get salt for himself how could you expect agricultural husbandry to get salt and how could you expect the agricultural husbandry to utilise salt for agriculture. All these tools which my honourable friends have in their hands, must either be sharpened or be thrown out. We have reached a time when we will have

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to decide one way or the other. There are limitations and we have reached the limitations.

Having stated so far, Sir, I will come to the spending capacity of the Government. True it is that the Government of India is spending little. It is not even a step-motherly treatment, because a step mother has some affection, comparing what little has been allotted for Agriculture by my honourable friend, it is not even a step motherly treatment. Sir, England has gone; we do not want to learn much from England but are we not to learn what England has done in England herself. England was always a food deficit country; they were purchasing food from outside and what did England do during the hard war years? The British Cabinet thought it necessary to invest over 100 crores of rupees (calculated in Indian money) and the result was today you have in England production more than 50 per cent. even during the war years. Is not India capable of doing these things? You are spending at least 100 crores annually. Why not you spend about an equal amount for Agriculture and extend the activities of agriculture? I for myself would be a dog and bay at the Moon than to ask my honourable friend to throw this money into the hands of the black marketeers. I have great respect for honest officials, but I must say it is no use throwing the money into the hands of these wild animals to improve black marketing. Therefore unless state organisation is changed and unless the conditions are changed, and unless as my honourable friend, Prof. Ranga stated, direct relationship through some medium, which the Ministry has to choose, is established between the producer and the Government there is not going to be tangible improvement. (Interruption). Some of the agriculturists are also blackmarketeers. They are worst black-marketeters. But how on earth could you improve? I have appealed to a number of producers and they say, "With what face do you approach us. You are not able to supply us the necessaries, even the ordinary requirements in iron. I have not got a rim for my ploughshare, but there is enough iron for putting big buildings". Has the Honourable Minister or the Ministry in the Government of India enquired how many buildings are being constructed in every town and every city? Give me the money. I will give you any quantity of iron that you require on two conditions. Firstly, I should not be asked to state the source from which I purchased; secondly, I should not be asked to tell you the price that I had to pay. Given these two things, I will get you any quantity. Where is all this steel coming from, it is for the Supply Minister to tell us. Therefore, I say, and I repeat that unless there is co-ordination, nothing will be possible and all this talk will be of no avail. With these conditions being fulfilled, I demand and I do assert that the utmost effort should be made, without caring for inflation, to spend money on agriculture.

Sir, Mr. Guntherstein, writing in 1947, gives you certain prices ruling in the American markets. Butter, Eggs, are cheapest in America, the richest country in the world compared with the Indian prices. How on earth could society subsist under these hard conditions, how can you expect these poor labourers to get on under these hard conditions? Therefore, you have either to bring down prices thoroughly controlling the black-marketeters and producers or you have always to increase the wages of labour and the pay roll of the subordinate officials and the like. These conditions are impossible to be tolerated and I want you, Sir—I am sorry that I do not find the other Ministers also except one—to realise the gravity of the situation and to gauge our feelings in the matter. I call for priority to the needs of agriculture. The Agriculture Minister must make it clear to the Honourable Minister for Supply that this quantity of iron and steel and other things are required for agricultural implements and unless this is done, let him tell him—you go your way and I go my

way. I feel sure the Cabinet constituted though it is of Congress and non-Congress men, the leadership is that of the Congress. There is no friend greater than the Honourable Sardar Patel and Pandit Nehru of agriculture and agriculturists. Therefore, you are safe in their hands. I appeal to you who have nothing but sacrifice on your side, not to be worried over these things, to fight hard and impress upon the concerned gentlemen that either you go with me or go your way.

I am thankful to you, Sir, for having given me time. I have got lots of things to say; but I do not want to trespass on others' time.

سردار بھوپندر سنگھ مان : صاحب صدر! خوراک کا مسئلہ ایک بہت بڑا اہم مسئلہ ہے۔ اس چیز کو مدنظر رکھتے ہوئے وزیر خوراک نے یہ سوچا کہ اس چیز کو تہی نہایا جا سکتا ہے جب کہ پہلے فوڈ سکریتھریٹ کی تمام مشنری کو خوب ٹھپ ٹاپ کیا جائے۔ چنانچہ انہوں نے grow more food campaign کے لئے ایک بڑی اچھی تجویز نکالی اور وہ یہ کہ انہوں نے grow more food کے لئے grow more secretaries کی ایک بڑی اچھی چیز پیدا کی۔ اور اس طرح سے grow more food کی انہوں نے پہلی منزل کامیابی سے طے کی۔ ساتھ ساتھ یہ چلا کہ grow more secretaries تو ہے۔ لیکن سلسلہ کی زرخیز زمین نہیں ہے۔ partition کی وجہ سے وہ چلی گئی اور اب ان کا اس پر کوئی بس نہیں رہا۔ زمین تو گئی لیکن آدمی تو نہیں گئے اس لئے grow more secretaries کے ساتھ ساتھ انہوں نے enlist sindhis کا فارمولا بھی چلایا۔ اور میں انہیں اس بات کی مبارک باد دیتا ہوں کہ اس طرح سے انہوں نے grow more food کی دوسری منزل طے کی۔ انہوں نے سلسلہی دماغ کا دل کھول کر استعمال کیا اور فائدہ اٹھایا ہے۔ لیکن وہ ایک بات میں چونک گئے کہ جب انہوں نے یہ enlist more sindhis کا شروع کیا تو وہ بھول گئے اس بات کو۔ کہ جو آدمی انہوں نے enlist کئے وہ بھوپاری اور نوکر ہمیشہ تھے۔ اور بھوپاریوں کی ذہلیت رکھتے تھے۔ وہ صرف خریدنے اور فروخت کرنے میں ہی کامیاب ہو سکتے ہیں۔ لاجتالان اور آسٹریلیا سے مکنی۔ باجرہ اور دیگر چیزوں کی قیمت تھپو سکتے ہیں۔ لیکن جہاں خوراک پیدا کرنے کی بات آتی ہے تو وہ ان کے بس کی نہیں۔ ان کا دماغ Agriculture میں نہیں چلتا۔ لیکن جہاں تک کہ grow more food کا لگاؤ Commercial پہاؤ سے ہوتا ہے یہ کامیاب ہوتے ہیں۔ آپ بڑے بڑے دیارے سٹیشن کو دیکھئے۔ کلات سرکس کے بازار میں دیواروں پر دیکھئے تو آپ کو بہت بڑے بڑے اور خوبصورت اور رنگدار اور شاندار پوسٹرو grow more food کے متعلق دکھائی دیں گے۔ اور ان کو دیکھو کلات سرکس کے دوکان دار لوگ یہ سوچتے ہیں کہ کیا یہی grow more food campaign ہے اور کیا اسی سے لوگ مستفید ہو سکتے ہیں۔

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir on a point of order. Are we discussing the merits and demerits of the different people belonging to the different provinces.

Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man: We are discussing the efforts made by the Food Minister to implement the Grow More Food policy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The honourable member will confine himself to the subject and not refer to personalities.

سردار بھوپندر سنگھ مان : اب دوسرا پہلو سوچا جائے وہ یہ ہے کہ خوراک کو پیدا کرنے کے لئے لڑے اور کہا چھڑیں ضروری ہوتی ہیں۔ انہوں نے Central Tractor Organization بتائی ہے۔ موجودہ اور نئے دو میں ٹریکٹرز ایک بہت ہی ضروری چیز ہیں۔ اب حالت یہ ہے کہ یہ ایک ہی Central tractor Organization میں جاتے ہیں۔ اور تمام tractors اسے ہی فراہم کیے جاتے ہیں۔ اور اسی سے تمام صوبوں کو tractors فراہم کیے جاتے ہیں۔ اور اگر کسی جگہ جہاں پر کہ پرائیویٹ آدمیوں نے یا کسانوں نے کوئی کوآپریٹو سوسائٹی بنائی ہو اور وہ درخواست کریں کہ انہیں tractors کی ضرورت ہے تو ان کو یہ کہا جاتا ہے کہ یہ سب Central Organization سے ہر صوبے کو ملتی ہے۔ تاکہ وہ زیادہ خوراک پیدا کرے۔ اور پرائیویٹوں کو وہی سٹورل Organization ہی supply کرتا ہے۔ اور اگر Central Organization کو apply کیا جائے تو وہ یہ کہتے ہیں کہ یہ provinces کو grow more food campaign کے بارے میں دئے جاتے ہیں۔ اس لئے آپ اپنے پرائیویٹ والوں سے درخواست کریں۔ چنانچہ وہ کسان لوگ اسی دوز ڈھونپ میں پریشان رہتے ہیں اور ان کو کبھی بھی یہ tractors نہیں ملتے۔ جناب عالی! آپ کو دعوت دی گئی ہے۔ کہ آپ ہستناپور، یو۔ پی۔ گورنمنٹ کے ایک حکم کے بارے میں تشریف لائیں۔ اور آپ وہاں جا بھی رہے ہوتے۔ میں بھی ہستناپور بہت دفعہ گیا ہوں۔ چونکہ ہم refugees ہیں اس لئے ہم نے وہاں پر co-operative کے طور پر farming شروع کی ہے۔ اور اس وجہ سے ہم کو وہاں کے اصلی حالات کا پورا پورا علم ہے۔ جب آپ وہاں جائیں گے تو آپ کو وہ لوگ وہاں لے جائیں گے جہاں sugar cane کے اونچے اونچے کھیتوں ہیں۔ اور جن کھیتوں میں اچھی اچھی فصلیں لگی ہوں اور کھیتیں لہلاتی ہوں۔ لیکن آپ کو وہ یہ نہیں بتائیں گے کہ tractor کی کیا average ہے۔ اور ایک ایک پر کتنا خرچ آتا ہے۔ میں آپ کی توجہ خاص طور پر اس طرف دلاتا ہوں کہ جب آپ وہاں جائیں تو آپ یہ دیکھیں کہ وہاں پر کتنے tractor ہیں اور ان کی average کیا ہے۔ آپ کو معلوم ہوگا کہ یہ دو ایک سے لے کر پانچ ایک سے زیادہ ہیں۔ حالانکہ 4 یا 5 ٹریکٹر کا average پندرہ سے بیس ایک ہے۔ مجھے یاد ہے کہ میں بھی مشکلوں سے چھوٹنے کی جدوجہد کے بعد دو ٹریکٹر ملے تھے اور صرف پندرہ دن کے بعد وہ ہم سے چھوٹے گئے۔ کیونکہ ان کو یہ پتہ چلا تھا کہ ہمارا کام ان سے بہتر ہے اور ہماری average پچیس ایک ہے اور گورنمنٹ کی average صرف پانچ ایک ہے۔ تو اس بات سے پتہ چل سکتا ہے کہ جہاں پر ریفریجری محنت کا معاملہ تھا وہاں پر کیا average رہا ہے۔ اور گورنمنٹ کا کیا ہے۔ اس کے ساتھ ہی میں

آپ سے یہ درخواست کرونگا کہ جس طرح سے آپ نے مختلف industries کے لئے قرضے رکھے ہیں اسی طرح سے آپ agriculture کے لئے بھی قرضے رکھیں۔ ہم کو tube wells یا tractors اور دوسری چیزوں کے لئے روپیہ کی ضرورت پڑتی ہے مثلاً tube wells کے لئے بیس ہزار کی ضرورت ہے اور tractors کے لئے پچیس ہزار کی ضرورت ہے۔ یہی کل پینتالیس ہزار کی ضرورت ہے۔ اگر آپ اس کے لئے قرضہ نہ رکھیں تو آپ ہی بتائیں کہ یہ قرضہ ہم کو کہاں سے ملے گا۔ جس طرح سے آپ نے اور دستکاریوں کے لئے بجٹ میں قرضہ دینے کا provision رکھا ہے اس طرح سے مہری گزارش ہے کہ Agriculture کے لئے بھی ایسے بجٹ میں قرضہ کا provision رکھیں۔ میں یہ سمجھتا ہوں کہ وزیر خوراک کو خواہ ہونا چاہے کہ جو دوسرا ریزولوشن مسٹر سدھوا نے پیش کیا ہے۔ اس میں انہوں نے بنایا ہے کہ restaurants میں non-vegetarians کو چاول نہیں ملے چاہئے۔ ایک اور صاحب نے کہا ہے کہ ارن کو wheat بھی نہیں ملنا چاہئے۔ مہری تجویز یہ ہے کہ جو لوگ دودھ، دہی کھاتے ہیں ان کو سبزیاں نہیں ملنی چاہئے۔ اور جو دو دو اور تین تین سبزیاں کھاتے ہیں ان کو wheat اور چاول دونوں نہیں ملنے چاہئے۔ ایسا کرنے سے نہ رہے گا اس اور نہ بچے کی بانسری اور خوراک کا مسئلہ حل ہو جائیگا۔

(English translation of the above speech)

Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man (East Punjab: Sikh): Sir, the food problem is a very important one. Keeping the importance of this problem in view the Honourable Minister of Food thought that this importance can be maintained only when the whole machinery of Food Secretariat be made tiptop. So he devised a very nice scheme for 'Grow More Food Campaign', and that scheme is to grow more secretaries for the Grow More Food, and thus be very successfully crossed one stage in the Grow More Food Campaign. The scheme of grow more secretaries is quite nice but we are not in possession of the fertile lands of Sind. Due to partition they have gone out of our control and so he is helpless in this respect. But though the fertile lands have gone out of control yet the people have not. So he worked out the formula of enlist more Sindhis side by side with the scheme of grow more secretaries. And I congratulate him on his crossing the second stage of his grow more food scheme in such a way. He utilized the Sindhi brain most advantageously but he fell short in one respect namely that when he started his enlist more Sindhis Campaign he completely forgot the fact that the persons he enlisted were tradesmen and clerks and possessed tradesmen's mentality. They can be a success only in business. They can negotiate the prices of maize, millets and other commodities with Argentina and Australia but as far as the question of grow more food is concerned it is beyond their capacity. They cannot comprehend the question of agriculture. But as far as the commercial aspect of the grow more food is concerned they are a success. If you visit the big Railway stations, or look up the walls of the shopping side of Connaught Circus you would see huge, beautiful multicoloured and gorgeous posters concerning grow more food, and after seeing those posters the shopkeepers of Connaught Circus think over if this was 'Grow More Food Campaign' and can the people be benefited by this.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta (Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on a point of order, are we discussing the merits and demerits of the different people belonging to different provinces?

Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man: We are discussing the efforts made by the Food Minister to implement the grow more food policy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The honourable member will confine himself to the subject and not refer to personalities.

Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man: Now let us consider the other aspect, namely what other things are necessary for growing more food. He has set up Central Tractor Organisation. In the present times the tractors are very very important. Now the present position is that there is only one Central Tractor Organisation and all the tractors are given over to this organisation, and from this organisation all the provinces receive tractors afterwards. If at any place private individuals, Pakistanis, start a co-operative society and if they put in an application that they stand in need of tractors then they are told that the Central Organisation gives tractors to the provinces so that they may grow food; and all the provinces are supplied by this very Central Organisation. But if an application is placed before Central Organisation then the reply given is that the tractors are supplied to provinces for grow more food campaign, so the provincial authorities may be approached. The result is that these farmers get fed up with this running here and there and they do not get these tractors also.

Sir, you have been invited to visit the U. P. Government scheme at Hastinapur and I hope you might be going there. I have also been to Hastinapur many times. As we are refugees so there we have started farming on co-operative basis and for this reason we are in the know of the real state of affairs there. When you would go there the people would take you to those places where luxurious sugar cane crops stand, and to those fields where other rich crops may be flourishing. But they would not tell you the average work of a tractor nor would they tell you the expenditure incurred per acre. I want to draw your attention particularly towards this point that when you go there you must see how many tractors are there and what is their average. You would come to know that the average is not more than 2 to 5 acres, although the average of D4 tractor is about 15 to 20 acres. I remember that with great difficulty we got two tractors after a strenuous struggle of 2 months and they also were taken back from us after only fifteen days, because they came to know that our work is better than theirs and our average is twenty five acres while the average of the Government is only five acres. From this it can be ascertained that as far as the work put up by refugees was concerned what the average has been and what has been the Government average. Besides this I would request you that as you have made provision for loans to different industries in the same way loans must be provided for agriculture also. We need money for tube-wells, tractors and other things. For example for tube-wells we need Rs. 20,000 and for tractors Rs. 25,000 *i.e.*, we need Rs. 45,000 in all. If you are not to provide loans for this then kindly tell us from where are we to get this loan. I request you Sir, to make provision in the Budget for agricultural loans as well, in the same manner as you have made provision in the Budget for giving loans to other industries.

I think the Honorable the Food Minister must feel happy about the second resolution moved by Mr. Sidhva wherein he has demanded that in restaurants rice must not be served to non vegetarians, and one other gentleman has suggested that wheat also must not be served to them. I suggest that vegetables must not be served to those persons who take milk and curds and those who take two or three vegetables must not be served wheat and rice both. By acting on these suggestions there will neither be fire nor smoke and food problem will be solved.

चौधरी रनबीर सिंह : सभापति महोदय, मैं आनरेबिल जैरामदास जी और प्रोफ़ेसर रंगा से १६ आने सहमत हूँ। मेरे कई एक दोस्तों ने जोर दिया है कि "Grow More Food" के अन्दर कोई खातिरखाह तरक्की नहीं हुई है। मेरे साथी सरदार भूपेन्द्र सिंह मान तो कुछ हद से भी बाहर चले गए। मैं कुछ आंकड़े आपको देना चाहता हूँ और यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि जितना आपने गुड़ डाला है या जितना आपने मीठा डाला है, आपका शरबत उससे ज्यादा मीठा हुआ है। जब कोई घबराया हुआ इस हाउस से कहता है कि यह जो रुपया खर्च हुआ है उसका हमें पूरा बदला नहीं मिला है, तो मैं इसको दूसरे ढंग से समझता हूँ। इस हाउस के अन्दर बहुत से दोस्त बैठे हुए हैं जिनका खेती करने वालों से कोई वास्ता नहीं है। खेती पर जब उन्हें कोई रुपया जाता दिखाई देता है तो वह उन्हें भाता नहीं, चूँकि वह पढ़े-लिखे लोग हैं और उन्हें अच्छे ढंग से बोलना आता है और वह उस रुपये को किसी दूसरी तरफ़ डालना चाहते हैं, इसलिये यह कह देते हैं कि खर्च फ़ज़ूल किया है। मैं आपको आंकड़ों के द्वारा यह बतलाऊंगा कि आपने कितना कम रुपया खर्च किया और आपको उसके बदले में कितना (Return) मिला। गवर्नमेंट की रिपोर्ट के बारे में सिधवा साहब ने यह शिकायत की है कि यह रिपोर्ट देर से मिली। यह दुरुस्त है कि देर से मिली, लेकिन चूँकि मुझे इस चीज़ से प्रेम है इसलिए मैंने उसका एक एक शब्द पढ़ा। अगर उन्हें भी इस चीज़ से प्रेम होता तो वे शिकायत तो बेशक करते लेकिन यह नहीं कह सकते थे कि वह पढ़ कर नहीं आये हैं। जो शहर के रहने वाले हैं, उन्हें खेती से न कोई प्रेम है और न कोई वास्ता। वह बहाने बना सकते हैं और अच्छे ढंग से बोल सकते हैं, अंग्रेजी के (bombastic) शब्द इस्तेमाल कर सकते हैं, और कह सकते हैं कि रुपया फ़ज़ूल खर्च हुआ है, तो मैं आपको यह बतलाना चाहता था कि थोड़े से रुपया के अन्दर हमने कितनी तरक्की की है। आप यह नकशा उठाएँ जो आपने सन् ४७ व ४८ का दिया है। उससे आपको पता चलेगा कि मद्रास के अन्दर एक साल में ८१४१ कुबें बने। अब देखिये कि मद्रास को आखिर आपने रुपया कितना दिया था।

श्री महावीर त्यागी : मद्रास के पास इसके अलावा और भी रुपया है।

चौधरी रनबीर सिंह : गवर्नमेंट ने कुल चार लाख रुपया इसके लिए दिया है। मैं जानता हूँ कि मेरे दोस्त त्यागी जी एक किसान हैं और मेरी तरह से किसानों के लिए उनके दिल में हमदर्दी है। लेकिन उन्हें (criticism) का शौक है और कुछ और भी ख्याल है। मैं मानता हूँ कि यह जो कुबें बने वह सब सरकार के खर्च से नहीं बने हैं, पर इस चार लाख से कुछ (propaganda) तो

[बीधरी रनबीर सिंह]

जूरर हुआ होगा और लोगों को उस तरफ रागिब किया गया होगा कि यह कुवें बनावें। मद्रास के अन्दर तकरीबन आठहजार से कुछ ऊपर कुवें बने हैं और सरकार का चार लाख रुपया खर्च हुआ है। इसी तरह सी० पी० में ५६०० कुवें बने और आपकी सरकार ने कितना रुपया दिया? सी० पी० और बरार के लिए जो आपने ग्रांट (grant) दी खेती करने वाले के लिए वह १.२ लाख रुपया थी, और जो (criticism) त्यागी जी ने किया उसका भी जवाब मौजूद है कि आपने ४९.७ लाख कर्जा भी दिया। तो इस तरह से आप सारा हिसाब लगायें तो आपको मालूम होगा कि सारा रुपया जो दिया गया यह १.७ करोड़ था और उसके बदले में २३ हजार कुवें बने। या तो हम यह मान लें कि यह आंकड़े तमाम गलत हैं और अगर हम ऐसा नहीं मानते हैं तो हमें मानना होगा कि हमें काफ़ी (Return) मिला। मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारी (Provincial) सरकारों की जो (agency) आंकड़े इकट्ठा करने की है अगर उस पर रुपये में दस आना बारह आना भी ऐतबार किया जाये तो भी मैं समझता हूँ कि यह आंकड़े बहुत ज्यादा हिम्मत दिलाने वाले आंकड़े हैं। इसी तरीके से पीछे की बात कही जाती है कि सन् ४३ से ४६ तक इस सिलसिले में १६, १६, ८४, १५, ९ रुपया खर्च हुआ है। तो इस रुपये में उनको ग़ौर भी चीजें जैसे खाद वगैरह भी दी गई थी। लेकिन एक चीज जो हमेशा के लिए रहेगी चाहे उसे देने वाली गवर्नमेंट रहे या न रहे यह ५०००० कुवें हैं जो कि बनाये गये। इस सिलसिले में मैं आपसे एक प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ। पिछले साल हमने देश के लिए दूसरे देशों से १२९ करोड़ रुपये का अनाज मंगाया, मुझे ठीक आंकड़े याद नहीं हैं, और वह अनाज हमारे वकील भाइयों और शहरी भाइयों को और पड़े लिखे आदमियों को सस्ता बेचा जिससे हमारी सरकार ने २८ या २९ करोड़ का एक साल के अन्दर घाटा खाया। तो मैं आपसे यह पूछता हूँ कि सरकार हर साल २८ या २९ करोड़ का घाटा महंगा अनाज दूसरे देशों से खरीद कर सस्ता बेच रही है तो उसपर तो कोई ऐतराज नहीं किया जात। बल्कि दूसरी किस्म की बातें कही जाती हैं। दूसरी तरफ़ जहां आपने तीन साल के अन्दर सिर्फ़ १६ करोड़ रुपया दिया उसके लिए इतना ग़ौर है। मैं तो इसका अर्थ बिल्कुल दूसरे ढंग से समझता हूँ जैसा कि मैंने पहले आपसे कहा था कि यहां बहुत सारे ऐसे भाई बंटे हुए हैं जिनका खेती करने वालों से न कोई ताल मेल है और न यह उनकी तकलीफ़ें समझते हैं। एक बात मैं भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि मैं यह तो नहीं मानता कि तरक्की बिल्कुल नहीं हुई, लेकिन मैं मानता हूँ कि मुश्किलत हैं और उन्हें बहुत अच्छे ढंग से हमें सोचना होगा। हमारी गवर्नमेंट को, सरदार बल्लभभाई पटेल

को, पंडित जवाहर लाल नेहरू को और हमारे जैराम दास जी को उनका हल निकालना होगा। आप चाहते हैं कि देश को ज्यादा अनाज मिले। देश के लिए ज्यादा अनाज हासिल करने के लिए आपको यह देखना होगा कि जो लोग अनाज पैदा करते हैं उनको आप कहां तक लुप्त करते हैं, उनकी (psychology) को आप कहां तक बदलते हैं। जिस वक्त जैराम दास जी बोल रहे थे उस वक्त मेरी बहिन रेनुका ने तम्बाकू के बारे में कहा था। कोई पहले का वक्त होगा, १०० या २०० वर्ष पहले का, जब कि किसान को अपने नुकसान का पता नहीं होता था। आज बहुत सारे किसान पूरे नहीं तो आधे परधे जागे हुए हैं। अगर कोई आदमी वह चाहता है कि जिस फसल से उनको ज्यादा रुपया मिलता है उसको वह एकदम बन्द कर दे तो यह आसान काम नहीं है। हमारे रंगा साहब ने कहा कि शायद कोई गवर्नमेंट मजबूर कर देगी। मैं तो उससे भी ज्यादा कहता हूँ।

मैं कहता हूँ कि पिछली दफा यह अखबार नवीस और दूसरे भाई बड़े जोर से यह बात कहा करते थे कि हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर बलवा हो जायगा यदि शहर वालों के लिये सस्ता अनाज नहीं मुहय्या हुआ, तो मैं तो यह कहता हूँ कि उन बलवा करने वालों के हाथ में न दम है और न तलवार है। और जिन आदमियों को आप मजबूर करना चाहते हैं या जिन को आप दबाना चाहते हैं उनके हाथ मजबूत हैं और उनके हाथ में तलवार है, बलवा हुआ तो ऐसी चीजों से होगा। इस लिये आप को अपने किसानों को ऐसी बातों के लिये मजबूर न करना चाहिये जिसमें उनका कुछ फायदा न हो। अगर आप चाहते हैं कि किसान आपके लिये अनाज पैदा करे, अगर आप चाहते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान दूसरे देशों पर अनाज के लिये मुनहसिर न रहे तो आपको किसानों के दुखों को सुनना ही पड़ेगा। और उमका इलाज भी करना पड़ेगा। आप बेशक कितने ही हथियार रखें, कितने अच्छे ढंग से पढ़ायें लिखायें कितना ही यह कहें कि "Grow More Food Campaign" फेल होगया इस लिये हम रुपया नहीं देना चाहते हैं, पर इससे कुछ काम नहीं चलेगा। कितने ही देहात के लोग अनपढ़ हों लेकिन वह आज जागृत जरूर हैं। मेरे भाई सिधवा साहब तो मजदूरों की बात करते हैं। मैं उनसे कहता हूँ कि यह हिन्दुस्तान किसानों का देश है, अब किसान सोये हुए नहीं हैं, अगर आप चाहते हैं और हमारी सरकार और पार्टी चाहती है कि वह राज्य करें, वह खिन्दा रहें, तो उनको किसानों की बात सुननी होगी।

मैं कुछ एक बातें आपको इस सिलसिले में कहना चाहता हूँ कि किस तरह से हम किसानों को रागिब कर सकते हैं जिससे वह ज्यादा अनाज पैदा करें।

[चौधरी रणवीर सिंह]

उन को क्या (incentive) हम दे सकते हैं कि उनको होसला मिले। यह दो चार बातें जो रंगा साहव ने कहीं उनके अलावा मैं कहना चाहता हूँ। आज जब हम देहात में जाते हैं तो हर एक देहात वाला हम से कहता है कि जरा सोचिये और बताइये, रोहतक ज़िला यहाँ से ४४ मील के फ़ासले पर है वहाँ चना का भाव इस वक्त आठ ६० है। उसके मुकाबले में दिल्ली है जो ४४ मील पर है, लेकिन यहाँ १४ ६० का भाव है। तो आखिर इस से किसको आप खुश कर सकते हैं, किसके दम पर हुकूमत चला सकते हैं। अगर आप चाहते हैं

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: East Punjab Government is responsible for it.

चौधरी रणवीर सिंह: यह तो मुझे पता नहीं कि कौन सी गवर्नमेंट इस में (responsible) है। लेकिन एक बात मैं जानता हूँ कि ईस्ट पंजाब की गवर्नमेंट का यह हुकूम नहीं हो सकता क्योंकि उसके अन्दर कम से कम पांच आदमी ऐसे हैं जो किसान घरानों में पैदा हुए हैं जिनको उनके भाई और रिश्तेदार मजबूर कर सकते हैं कि वह किसानों के नुकसान में न रहें। मैं इसको इस ढंग से समझता हूँ कि उनके ऊपर दबाव से करवाया जाता है, या वे दूसरे अखबार वालों के दबाव से करने पर मजबूर हो जाते हैं

पं० ठाकुरदास भार्गव: ईस्ट पंजाब की गवर्नमेंट की जिम्मेदारी है।

चौधरी रणवीर सिंह: मैं दो एक बातें और कहना चाहता था क्योंकि मसला भी ऐसा था लेकिन कुछ तो घंटी भी बज चुकी है। मेरा दिल तो था कि कम से कम दस पंद्रह मिनट और भी बोलूँ पर इस बात को खत्म करके मैं यह बातें कहना चाहता हूँ और मुझे आशा है कि सभापति जी, क्योंकि यह किसानों का मसला है, इस लिये मुझे थोड़ा समय देंगे।

आज खास तौर से नौ बजे कागज़ात मिलने के बावजूद मैं दावा करता हूँ कि मैंने इसका एक एक हरफ़ पढ़ा है, इस लिये मुझे और भी आशा है कि कुछ सुविधा सभापति जी जरूर देंगे।

मैं आप को बता रहा था कि अगर आप चाहते हैं कि अनाज किसान ज्यादा पैदा करे, तो आपको यह चीज़ हटानी पड़ेगी। आपको जो आंकड़े दिये गये हैं उसमें से देख लीजिये। आप चावल को ले लीजिये। सी० पी० गवर्नमेंट (Rice) ११ ६० ६ आना फी मन के हिसाब से हासिल करेगी। इसी तरह मद्रास के अन्दर चावल ७ ६० १४ आ० ३ पा० के हिसाब से किसानों

से हासिल किया जायेगा। लेकिन जो गवर्नमेंट देगी, मेरा मतलब यह नहीं कि उन्हीं सूबों की बल्कि आखिर हिन्दुस्तान एक देश है हिन्दुस्तान की कोई न कोई गवर्नमेंट जो लोगों को देगी उस भाव का भी आप अंदाजा लगाइये। यू० पी० के अन्दर (Issue Price) ३० रु० मन होगी चावल की। बम्बई के अन्दर ३४ रु० २ आ० ८ पा फी मन के हिसाब से चावल दिया जायगा। इसी तरह से आप (wheat) का हिसाब ले लीजिये। (Wheat) राजस्थान के अन्दर १० रु० फी मन के हिसाब से हासिल किया जायगा। (Procurement scheme) के तहत में और दिल्ली के अन्दर १४ रु० ८ आ० के हिसाब से हासिल किया जायगा। और दिल्ली के अन्दर एक और अजीब बात है कि दिल्ली में जो लोगों को दिया जायगा वह १२ रु० कुछ आने फी मन होगा। लेकिन दूसरे सूबों में (Issue price) जिस पर गवर्नमेंट देगी वह भी आप अंदाजा करके देखिये। हैदराबाद के अन्दर २५ रु० ३ आ० फी मन के हिसाब से गवर्नमेंट देगी। सी० पी० के अन्दर २० रु० ३ आ० के हिसाब से दिया जायगा। इसी तरह से दूसरी चीजें ले लीजिये। चना लीजिये। यह जैपूर के अन्दर ६ रु० ३ आ० मन के हिसाब से हासिल किया जायगा। ईस्ट पंजाब के अन्दर ८ रु० मन के हिसाब से हासिल किया जायगा। राजस्थान में सिर्फ ५ रु० मन के हिसाब से हासिल किया जायगा। लेकिन सौराष्ट्र के अन्दर १६ रु० ११ आ० में और यू० पी० के अन्दर १२ रु० १० आने में बेचा जायगा। आप जरा सोचें वह देश किसानों का है और किसान भी वह लोग हैं जो पढ़े लिखे नहीं, जो आपकी इस बात को नहीं समझ सकते कि यह ईस्ट पंजाब सरकार का कसूर है, या सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट का या दूसरी सरकार का कसूर है, या अखबार वालों का है। वह समझते हैं कि उनके साथ अन्याय होता है। अगर आप चाहते हैं कि वह ज्यादा अनाज पैदा करें तो आप यह कीजिये कि (highest procurement price) और इशू प्राइस (Issue Price) जो हिन्दुस्तान में हो उसमें ज्यादा फर्क नहीं होना चाहिये। इतना फर्क हो जितना कि किराया लगे। इससे ज्यादा होगा तो आप याद रखिये आपकी गवर्नमेंट के पास चाहे जितनी मजबूत पुलिस हो, कितनी ही ताकत आपके पास हो (Black-market) नहीं रोक सकेंगे। (Black-market) का बजार गर्म रहेगा।

एक और दूसरी चीज में आप से कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो आपको आंकड़े मिले हैं इससे आप देखें; कभी कभी कहा जाता है कि किसान जो है वह ब्लैक मार्केट (Black-market) करता है, लेकिन आप इन आंकड़ों को देखेंगे तो आपको पता चलेगा कि बात कुछ हद तक दुस्त नहीं है और करता भी है तो इसकी जिम्मेदारी हमारी ममाज, हुकूमत और हमारे ढंग पर है। क्योंकि जब फसल आती है उस वक़्त अनाज का भा

बीधरी रनबीर सिंह]

लेकिन जब फसल के बोनो का वक्त आता है तो वह भाव दूना और तिगुना होता है। अगर आप यह चीज कर सकते हैं कि फसल के वक्त में और बोनो के वक्त में तकरीबन एक आध रुपये का ज्यादा से ज्यादा फर्क हो और इससे ज्यादा फर्क न होने दें तो किसान जितना उसके पास फालतू अनाज होगा वह कभी अपने पास न रख छोड़ेगा। दिसम्बर के पहले सप्ताह में हिन्दुस्तान में अनाज के १९४७ के भाव का (Index) १०० था तो आपको पता लगेगा कि अप्रैल १९४८ के अन्दर पूर्वी पंजाब (Wheat) की कीमत का (Index) नम्बर १३० था और फिर नवम्बर के अन्दर २३४ था। यह फसल और बोनो के वक्त का फर्क है। अगर इसको आप ठीक कर सकते हैं तो किसान किसी हद तक राजी हो सकते हैं।

एक चीज में पंजाबी होने के नाते कहना चाहता हूँ। हमारे पंजाब को तकरीबन ५४ लाख ६० कुओं के लिये दिया गया था लेकिन चूँकि पंजाब के अन्दर पिछले साल उथल पुथल हुई, एक तरफ के लोग दूसरी तरफ गए, अमन नहीं रहा, वहाँ कुएँ नहीं बन सके। मैं अपने आनरेबिल मिनिस्टर साहब से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह रुक्या पंजाब को जरूर दें। और इससे जो आगे का हिस्सा है उसमें कोई कमी नहीं होने दें क्योंकि पंजाब ही एक ऐसा इलाका है जिसमें कुएँ खोद कर ज्यादा से ज्यादा आपके लिये अनाज पैदा किया जा सकता है। मैं अब ज्यादा हाउस का समय नहीं लेना चाहता और इसके साथ साथ मैं आनरेबिल मिनिस्टर साहब को मुबारकबाद पेश करता हूँ और कहता हूँ कि उनका जो (Criticism) किया गया है वह सोलह आने गलत है, और जो उन्होंने कहा है कि हिन्दुस्तान अगर चाहता है कि उसको तरबकी हो तो उसको खेती की तरबकी पहिले करनी होगी, १६ आने सही है।

(English translation of the above speech)

Oh, Ranbir Singh (East Punjab: General): Mr. Deputy Speaker: I am whole heartedly in agreement with what has been said by the Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram and Prof. Ranga. Many of my friends have emphasized that no satisfactory progress has been made in the 'Grow More Food Campaign'. My Honourable friend Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man even went somewhat beyond the limits. I would like to place before you some statistics and explain to you that the syrup prepared is relatively more sweet as compared to the quantity of sugar put in by you. When anyone in a confused state complains to this House that we have not been able to get proper return on the money spent on this account, I take it in the different way. Many of my honourable friends in this House have got no concern with the peasants. They do not approve of any amount being spent for the development of agriculture because they are educated people and know how to speak in a discreet manner. They want to

utilize that money in some other way. Therefore they say that the money has been wasted. I will quote the statistics to prove that how much money we spent and the comparative return we got for that. Mr. Sidhva has complained against the belated receipt of the Government's report. It is a fact that it was received late, but as I have got love for this, I read its every word. Had they also got any attachment for this, they might have complained against the delay but could not say that they have not read it. These people live in the cities. They have neither any attachment nor any connection with agriculture. They can mince matters, speak glibly, use bombastic words in English and can even go to the length of saying that the money has been wasted. I, therefore, wanted to explain to you the extent of the progress made by us with the meagre resources at our disposal. I would invite your attention to the conditions existing during the year 1948 from which you would find that 8,141 wells were constructed in the Madras province during one year. Now you may see as to what amount was ultimately allotted by you to Madras.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi (U.P. General): Besides this, Madras was also given some additional money.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Government have allotted Rs. 4 lacs in all for this purpose. I know my honourable friend Mr. Tyagi is an agriculturist and like myself his heart is full of solicitude for the peasants. But he is very much fond of indulging in criticism and has got some other notions as well. I agree that all these wells were not constructed at Government expense, but the amount of Rs. four lacs would have been surely utilized for some propaganda. In Madras approximately little over 8,000 wells were constructed and Government spent Rs. 4 lacs over it. Similarly 5,600 wells were constructed in the Central Provinces and may I know how much money was allotted by your Government? The grant sanctioned by you for the benefit of the peasants in the C.P. amounted to Rs. 1.2 lacs and the criticism levelled by Mr. Tyagi can be counteracted by the fact that you also gave a loan of Rs. 49.7 lacs. So if you take all this into account, you will find that the aggregate amount given by you was Rs. 1.7 crores and against which 28,000 wells were constructed. Either we should admit that all these figures are wrong and in case we do not see eye to eye with this, we shall have to say that we got adequate return. Personally I feel that even if we believe to some extent in the accuracy of the statistics collected by the agencies set up by our Provincial Governments, the figures appear to be very much encouraging. The same can be said in regard to the expenditure amounting to Rs. 16,16,84,156 incurred previously during the years 1943 to 1946. This amount also includes the cost of other articles such as manure etc. supplied to the peasants. But one thing which will last for ever irrespective of the fact whether the Government responsible for taking such steps remains in office or not is that 50,000 wells have been constructed. In this connection I would like to tell you further that during the past year we imported from abroad foodgrains worth Rs. 126 crores for the use of our country. I do not remember the exact figures. These foodgrains were sold at cheap rates to our brethren lawyers, persons living in the cities and the intelligentsia and as a result of this the Government sustained a loss of about Rs. 28 or 29 crores during the course of one year. May I know why no objection has ever been raised to the loss of Rs. 28 or 29 crores annually sustained by the Government on the purchase of foodgrains from foreign countries and its subsequent sale at cheap rates? On the contrary things are viewed from a different angle, and so much hue and cry has been raised against the allotment of Rs. 16 crores made by you during the past three years. Personally I take it in the other way. Just as I have already stated before many of my honourable friends sitting in this House have got neither any contact with the peasants nor can they realize their difficulties. I would also like to say one thing, i.e., I do not quite agree with this that there has been absolutely no progress. But I do realize that there are difficulties and we shall have to tackle these tactfully. A solution for this shall have to be found by our

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Government, the Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, and the Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram. You want to make this country self-sufficient in regard to food. In order to provide more foodgrains to the country, you shall have to see that how far you can please those who are the producers and how far you can change their psychology. While the Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram was speaking, my honourable sister Shrinati Renuka Ray made some observations in regard to tobacco. It might be sometime in the past *viz.*, 100 or 200 years ago when the peasant was no wary of his loss. To-day, if not the entire agriculturist community but at least a great majority of them have been awakened. If any body wants that they should at once cease to grow crops which yield huge money, that would not be an easy job. My honourable friend Prof. Ranga pointed out that perhaps some Government might resort to coercion. I would go one step further than that even. Last time the Pressmen and our other brethren used to say emphatically that riots would break throughout India if arrangements were not made to supply foodgrains at cheap rates to the people living in the cities. I dare say that those agitators have got neither guts nor sword in their hands. On the contrary the hands of those persons whom you want to coerce or suppress are comparatively much stronger and they have got swords. These factors will contribute to the out-break of riots, if at all such a contingency arises. Therefore you should not compel the peasants to adopt such a line of action which will not benefit them in the least. If you want that the peasant should produce foodgrains for you; if you are anxious to see that India should no longer remain dependent on other countries for the supply of foodgrains, you shall have to accord sympathetic hearing to the hardships experienced by the peasants and find a solution to redress these. You might possess any number of weapons, conduct any sort of subtle propaganda that the 'Grow More Food Campaign' has failed and thus refuse to sanction funds. But this will not obviously serve any useful purpose. How much illiterate might be the people living in the rural areas, they are certainly awakened to-day. My honourable friend Mr. Sidhva talks about the labourers. I would tell him that India is the land of agriculturists. The peasants to-day are no longer sleeping. If our Government and our party want that they should continue to hold the reins of administration in their hands, they shall have to listen to the demands of the peasants. I would like to tell you something more in this connection than what Prof. Ranga stated as to how we can induce the peasants to grow more food products and what incentive can we give to encourage them? To-day when we go to the rural areas every villager asks us just to think over and tell him: How is it that in Rohtak which is situated at a distance of 44 miles from Delhi, grains are sold there at present @Rs. 8/-; whereas here these are sold @Rs. 14/-? In this way whom can you please? On whose support can you run the Government? If you want.....

Shri Deebbandhu Gupta: East Punjab Government is responsible for this.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: I am not aware as to which particular Government is responsible for this. But one thing which I know is that this cannot be the order of the East Punjab Government, because this consists of at least five such persons who have been born in agriculturist families—who can be forced by their brethren and relations not to act in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the peasants. I take it in the other way, *i.e.*, either some pressure is put on them from above or they are compelled to do so under the influence of the Press.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: This is the responsibility of the East Punjab Government.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: I wanted to say a few things more because an important issue is involved. But the bell has rung. I had a mind to speak at least

for another 10 or 15 minutes. But after saying this, I would like to refer to those things and I hope, Mr. Deputy Speaker, you will give me a little more time as this matter vitally affects the agriculturists. In spite of the fact that I received the papers today at Nine O'clock, I aver to have read every word of it, and for this reason I have a fervent hope that you will surely accord some consideration. I was just telling you that if you want that the peasants should grow more food-products, you shall have to waive this. You can refer to the figures quoted by me. For instance, you may take the case of rice. The Government of Central Provinces shall procure this @Rs. 11/6/- per maund. Similarly in the Madras Province, rice shall be procured from the peasants @ Rs. 7/14/8 per maund. But what my submission is that you should not only estimate the price that would be paid by the Governments of these Provinces but that also which would be paid to the people by the Government of India, as after all India is one country. The issue price of rice in U.P. will be Rs. 30/- per maund. In Bombay it shall be sold @Rs. 34/2/8 per maund. Similarly you may take the case of wheat. In Rajasthan wheat shall be procured @Rs. 10/- per maund. In Delhi Province it shall be procured @Rs. 14/8/- per maund under the Procurement Scheme. In the case of Delhi, there is something peculiar i.e., the rice will be sold to the people @Rs. 12/- and some annas per maund. But you may just imagine the issue price at which it will be sold by the Government in other Provinces. The Government shall sell it @ Rs. 25/8 per maund in Hyderabad. In C.P. it will be sold @Rs. 20/3/-. Similarly take the case of other commodities viz., gram which will be procured @Rs. 6/3/- and 8/- per maund in Jaipur and East Punjab respectively. In Rajasthan it will be procured at the rate of Rs. 5/- per maund only. But it will be sold @Rs. 16/11/- and 12/10/- in Saurashtra and U.P. respectively. You may just imagine that this is an agricultural country and the agriculturists too are not even literate who can understand the implications of your remarks whether this is the fault of the East Punjab Government or Central Government or any other Government, is to be blamed or the blame rests on the shoulders of the Press. They feel that injustice is being done to them. If you want that they should produce more food you should see that there is not any appreciable difference between the highest procurement price *vis-a-vis* the issue price. The difference should only be limited to the extent of freight payable. In case this exceeds this limit, you should remember that you cannot check the black-market—however strong Police force might be at the disposal of your Government and whatever power you might have. The black-market will go on flourishing.

I would also like to tell you another thing. You may see the figures which have been supplied to you. Sometimes it is said that the peasant indulges in black-marketing. But if you see these figures you will know that this is not correct to some extent, and if at all he does so, the responsibility for this devolves on our society, Government and the methods employed by us. Because when the crop is harvested, the foodgrains are available at cheap rates. But when the time for sowing of the crop comes, then that price is doubled or even trebled. If you can manage to regulate the difference between the prices prevailing at the time of sowing and harvesting to the extent of Re. 1/- or so at the most, then the peasant will not withhold any part of his surplus stock of foodgrains.

During the first week of December, the index of the price of foodgrains ruling in India in 1947 was 100. From this you will also find that in April '48 the index price of wheat in the East Punjab rose upto 130 and later on in November it shot up to 284. This is the difference between the rates prevailing at the time of sowing and harvesting of the crop. If you are capable of reconciling this difference, then of course the peasants could be appeased to some extent.

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One thing more I would like to say as a Punjabi. Our Province was allotted approximately Rs. 54 lacs for the sinking of wells. But as you are aware, Punjab had to pass through a topsy turvey state during the last year resulting in the mass migration of people from one corner to the other and coupled with the unsettled conditions, wells could not be constructed there. I would request the Honourable Minister to allot funds to Punjab as well and not to reduce its share in the amount previously allocated, because Punjab is the only place where more foodgrains can be produced for you by the sinking of wells. I do not now want to take any more time of the House and would congratulate the Honourable Minister. I would also like to say that the criticism levelled against him is quite unjust and I perfectly agree with him that if India wants to make its headway it should first of all develop its agricultural resources.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: Sir, the food problem is one of the most serious problems that confront the Government today. Food for the stomach is the source of life and all the activities of life and so all other human activities are dependent on this problem and its solution. We see that the agricultural economy of this country is at a standstill and I may tell the Government that if it goes on like this for sometime more it is bound to break down. I see from the figures that during the last five or six years since 1943 till today, the Government of India have spent about 20 crores of rupees on the Grow More Food Campaign. Out of this nearly 16 crores were spent by the previous Government and how was it spent? Mostly on advertisements. Every department of the Government in those days was utilised for the sole and single purpose of winning the war and getting as much support as possible from all sections of the people. I refer to the advertisement of the Grow More Food Campaign which was carried on in advertisements through wall posters in hotels, railway station and in all other places where people have never grown a single blade of grass and it was done in English just like the "Travel Less" Campaign, which was carried on through wall posters in places where the bulk of the people were uneducated and in English language which they did not know. Also very many newspapers got subsidies by way of advertisement during those days.

Coming to the present situation, whatever the excuse might have been to a foreign government there is now a government of our own. If you see the figures of production that have been given here the largest amount of production that our country has had was in 1942-43 and 1943-44. It was 106 for 100, and there was the famous Bengal famine (*Shri H. V. Kamath: Infamous*) which the country faced during that year. There was no co-ordination between the people in the country and the quantity of food that was grown during the previous regime. Claiming as we do to be a responsible government and the Ministers being the natural leaders of the people with the hacking of the people behind them, the people look to them to at least to give them a square meal a day. How far have we fared in this respect is a matter that we have to see with a little circumspection. Let it not be misunderstood when some of us offer you some suggestions with a little heat or emotion. If we say any unkind thing to you it is because we strongly feel about them and we do not want to conceal them from you, because he is no friend of yours who conceals the truth from the Government. We are not satisfied with the progress not only of this Department but also in other departments as well. Your department is not an isolated department in this respect. There is the Industries and Supplies, the Commerce, Finance and Transport. Unless there is coordination between the four departments you cannot achieve your object of improving the agricultural production of this country. As long as the supply of agricultural commodities, as my friend said, rests with the provincial government and the distribution of important commodities like iron and cement rests with the Industries Department of the Provincial Governments you will not be able

to do anything. Whether he be a *kisan* or non-*kisan* human nature is the same. Corruption has permeated every department of society and every section of our people without let or hindrance. I know how our Industries Minister in the province is pestered for a little iron. Whether it be for building a cow shed, or alterations to his house or some other purpose if a man gets two tons of iron the major portion of it goes into the black market. I want to ask the provincial ministers who are in charge of the Industries Department how this nefarious thing goes on? Is it in the interest of the party or by recommendation? I do not charge the ministers themselves to be corrupt but they are helpless against the state of affairs which sweep them away even if they want to stem the tide of corruption. Therefore what I say is that if you are able to give the necessary commodities which the primary or agricultural producer wants at controlled prices then the problem of inflation will be resolved. My friend Prof. Ranga said that the spiral of prices of primary products should rise. They rise or fall equally with the other I understand that argument, though I am unable to sympathise with it. I want to know from my friend what is the definition of a *kisan*? Who is the *kisan*? What is the minimum quantity of acreage which a *kisan* must hold under the definition of the Professor? Is he a man who has 50,100 or more acres? I know people who have sold 4,000 bags of paddy produced in their fields at the rate of Rs. 25 a bag when the controlled rate was Rs. 13.

Shri L. Krishnaswami Bharathi: Did you bring it to the notice of the Government?

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: My source of information was the Government itself.

Shri L. Krishnaswami Bharathi: Did the Government take any action on that?

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: You put the question to the Government. This gentleman who sold 4,000 bags in the black-market, on the next day he wants to build a cinema hall and comes for iron and cement to the Industries Minister.

Shri L. Krishnaswami Bharathi: And perhaps it was sanctioned by the Government?

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: This is democracy in excelsis. In democracy we always go by slogans and shibboleths. There should be a revolutionary set up in the Central Government where we have to rule with an iron hand, even if it smacks a little of dictatorship it does not matter. I know what we have done so far. I am anxious that the prestige of the Congress and the life of this Government should be ensured and secured, because it must fulfil the purpose for which they have come into power. That is the only thing that I want. If the Congress goes into wilderness and is discredited there is no future for this country. That is my fear and it is that which impels me to express very strongly about these matters. Let not the Transport Department go its own leisurely way. Let them explore all possible avenues of transport—bullock cart, canal boat transport, road transport and the like. Let seafaring and ordinary country craft come into play. Let the railways come into full use. Let all modes of transport be fully utilised for removing the bottleneck and for enabling further production of food.

I am sorry about the procurement figures which my honourable friend has given. The relative efficiency of these Governments can be read from their procurement figures. The figure for Bihar is 2:7 per cent, for Madras 20:8 per cent, for Bengal 14:9 per cent. What is this? Why are they so slack? It is because if they have less food they are under a sense of security in that they can always come for a dole to the Central Government and the Central

[Shri M. Tirumala Rao]

Government is prepared to send its representatives to buy food from abroad and supply it to these deficit areas. A sum of Rs. 135 or Rs. 150 crores is spent on food imports and Rs. 30 crores on subsidising food. Are you apportioning to the Provinces that are remiss in procurement, the amount of money that we are losing from the Central exchequer on this account? I am very much surprised that the United Provinces, one of the most forward Provinces for everything and for patriotism in this country, comes with 4.8 per cent of procurement. (An Honourable Member: It is a surplus Province). It is not a surplus Province I am told. C.P. is surplus, and it has procured only 3.7 per cent. It has to supply to other Provinces. I do not understand why the Provincial Governments should be so remiss in the matter of procurement. There is a fundamental defect in our very set up. If the Central Government undertakes and assumes the responsibility of feeding all the 35 crores population in this country, let them also assume the responsibility of administering the Food Department, in all the Provinces from here. Have you not integrated India to a single homogeneous unit? Have you not amended the Government of India Act by a motion moved by the Honourable the Home Minister in the other House, in the Constituent Assembly, to see that all the States are integrated and greater powers are taken by the Centre? I know that the Agriculture Departments in the Provinces are the most indifferent Departments. Agriculture, Jails, Law, Registration and all miscellaneous items are put under the charge of one Minister. What can he do? Even a single Minister assigned the portfolio of Agriculture is not able to do much. I entirely agree that the Agriculture Department is woefully under-manned. We want very many more technical and trained people—at least one officer for every taluk of a lakh of population, to go and do the job of inculcating new methods among our population and see that production is augmented in this country.

I want to deal with one or two more points. With regard to statistics, from the top, from the Prime Minister downwards everyone of us has agreed that our statistics are more empirical than real. The Honourable Minister himself has in his latest presidential address to the Provincial Ministers stated that our statistical reports are based on absolutely empirical and ignorant data, given by the village *kulkarni*, the *karnam*. You get in the Provincial gazettes every week a weather forecast, a rain forecast, a crop forecast. Where from does it come? It comes from the village *karnam* in a routine way. If he has put a little less last week he will put a little more this week so that the average may be like the same as last year. Does he go to the field? You get the same crop forecast which he is accustomed to give for years. From him it goes to the Revenue Inspector, then to the Tahsildar, then to the Deputy Collector, to the Collector, to the Secretary of the Revenue Board and then it is passed on to the Government press. It becomes sacrosanct when it is printed. Where is the data? The price of paddy is fixed in my Province at Rs. 17. Let alone the middleman—I am not a supporter of the middleman. There is same agency through which the village ryot, who has no means of transport, is obliged to reach the marketing centre, and the middleman comes that way. The Government cannot supplant the middleman unless by a cooperative marketing society. But today the ryots say "there is nobody who asks paddy for Rs. 17/4" which is the ceiling price fixed by Government. Government is not able to buy it up. Therefore he is prepared, to offer it for something less. You must have proper statistics of how much each village produces and how much each village consumes and how much can be got by way of procurement from each village. If these statistics approximate to truth as much as possible then procurement will be easy.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: May I know whether this debate will be carried over to the other day?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It will be carried on as long as there are speakers to speak. It automatically stands over to the other non-official day—not tomorrow but the next non-official day.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: I suggest that another day—an official day—might be given for this. The request may be conveyed to the Leader of the House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Under the rules it automatically stands over to the next non-official day. The honourable member can move Government to fix an official day.

Honourable Members: We want you, Sir, to convey that to Government.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: With regard to small holdings I want to say that it is time that the Government of India makes a beginning and see that large scale co-operative farming is compulsorily introduced and that the waste involved in the small units is eliminated. You can ask Provinces to introduce them and take land where it is reclaimed. This has got to be done on a large scale.

Then I would refer to the question of starting a Commodity Credit Corporation. If you start a big Commodity Credit Corporation which will deal entirely with the villages like cooperative societies, you will be creating an agency wherefrom the agriculturist will get all his needs at controlled prices. There should not be any black-marketing about it. When you control the prices of his requirements you can impose a control price upon the produce he produces.

There is another thing I want to suggest. If there is the possibility the State should enter into trading itself and buy up the whole produce in the villages, build their own warehouses, store them there and ultimately eliminate the middleman as much as possible. You will then be able to secure and guarantee a decent minimum earning to the primary producer.

I want to suggest one more thing and that is that the restoration of small tanks and wells and minor irrigation schemes must be pursued with energy. There is a scheme in Madras run by the Public Works Department, but it follows the same old routine of files and formalities before a thing is done. You must give a tempo and drive from the Centre and see that a certain amount of money is spent on these schemes and the schemes are augmented.

Sir, I am coming to a close. I want the Central Government to encourage community-eating. I mean that you should try to organise as many eating houses as possible in industrial areas and in places where agricultural labour also is concentrated during agricultural seasons. And you should ensure a standard diet for a minimum price, that is balance its nutrition value as well as its cost, and discourage people as much as possible from private cooking and make them go to eating houses and have their food. If you see that eating houses are started in industrial areas and in agricultural areas and enable people to go there and take their food, wastage of food will be greatly minimized.

With these remarks and hoping that a new set-up will come about—I mean with the same personnel at the head a new life will be infused—and that Government will take it up in a centralised way by giving a strong drive and in seeing that food is produced in sufficient quantity the crisis is averted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I have conveyed the wish of the House—if that is the wish of the House—to the Chief Whip, that we ought not to lose the thread of the discussion and therefore we might carry on this discussion tomorrow. I understand it may be arranged if we forego the other non-official day, that is the sixteenth.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Every session a day is allotted for discussion of the food problem and it is an official day. Therefore, tomorrow

5 P.M.
is.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I will make the suggestion to the Leader of the House that we shall have this continued tomorrow, and if the Leader agrees we will have another non-official day also. If it is not possible, we will have tomorrow substituted for that day.

The Honourable Shri Satyanarsyana Sinha (Minister of State): If the House foregoes the non-official day on the 16th, we can very well have it tomorrow.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The debate will continue tomorrow with the consent of the Chief Whip. He speaks on behalf of the Government. The question as to whether we shall have the other non-official day or not, will be negotiated later on.

The Assembly then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Friday the 4th February, 1949.