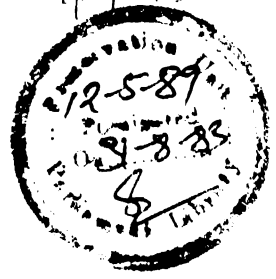


Friday, 8th June, 1951



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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME VIII, 1951

(17th May to 9th June, 1951)

Third Session (Second Part)
of the
PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1951

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THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
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PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Friday, 8th June, 1951

◀ *The House met at Half-past Eight of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

DECASUALISATION SCHEME

*4616. **Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the licence fee realised from the licensed porters under the "Decasualisation Scheme" at Jhansi, Jabbulpur, Nagpur, Poona, Victoria Terminus, Bombay Central, Delhi, Burdwan, Kharagpur Stations on different Railways;

(b) the licence fee charged by the Labour Contractors supplying licensed porters at Tatanagar, Kanpur, Lucknow, Banaras, Moghalsarai, Howrah, Asansol, Patna and Allahabad stations;

(c) whether it is a fact that on introduction of "Decasualisation" at different stations, existing licence fees shall have to be enhanced to cover supervision costs of the Railways without any direct benefit to the porters immediately; and

(d) whether it is a fact that enhancement of licence fees is being resented by the Porters wherever "Decasualisation" has been introduced?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) A statement giving the required information has been laid on the Table of the House.

(b) This is a matter between the labour contractors and the porters engaged by them and Government have

no reliable information about the actual rates of payment.

(c) While it is possible that in some cases the existing licence fees would require slight enhancement to cover supervision and other charges, it would not be correct to suggest that the scheme would not directly benefit the porters.

(d) It is not true that wherever decasualisation has been introduced, this has led to enhancement of licence fees. Nor are Government aware of resentment by the porters in all such cases. In some cases, however, representations have been received, but on scrutiny these have been found to have been based on misapprehensions. To avoid possible misapprehensions in future, Railways have been instructed to explain the implications of the scheme and the benefits accruing to the porters as a result of its introduction.

STATEMENT

Particulars of licence fees realised from porters under the 'decasualisation scheme' at various stations.

Names of Stations ^a	Licence fees per porter.	
	Rs.	
Jhansi	.3/6	} Paid on " per day basis.
Jabbulpur	.3/-	
Nagpur	.3/6	
Poona	.3/-	
Victoria Terminus ^a	.4/-	} Paid on " per month basis.
Bombay Central	3/10/-	
Delhi	4/-	
Burdwan	4/-	
Kharagpur	4/-	

Shri Jagannath Das: Will the decasualised labourer be treated as a regular servant?

Shri Santhanam: No, Sir, he is not treated as a regular railway servant, but as a licensed porter.

Shri Jagannath Das: Will he be entitled to provident fund and other advantages?

Shri Santhanam: No, Sir.

Shri Amolakh Chand: In view of the fact that decasualisation is beneficial to the interest of passengers, may I know whether it is the intention of Government to extend the scheme to all other important railway stations like Banaras, Howrah, Patna and Madras which are at present under a labour contract scheme?

Shri Santhanam: It is our intention to extend the scheme to all the Railways.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*4617. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) what classes and grades of the Railway employees have gained and what of them have lost temporarily or permanently on account of the Pay Commission's report; and

(b) whether it is a fact that certain grades of guards and drivers are adversely affected?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) No railway employee has suffered in emoluments by the adoption of the Pay Commission recommendations. The amount of gain has, however, varied between the various categories in any railway and between the same categories in different railways.

(b) No.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know, Sir, how many classes of guards are there?

Shri Santhanam: I think there are three classes of guards, but I speak from memory.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: I want to know the grades and also the increase or decrease in their emoluments.

Shri Santhanam: I would like to have notice.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if there had been cases in some Railways where employees with greater service have been deprived of their chances of promotion whereas persons junior to them have got promotions?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is too general a question to be answered.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether it is a fact that the railway employees are taking a strike ballot due to non-satisfaction of their pay scales?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I don't think we should encourage that by putting questions here.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know what is the difference in the dearness allowance now granted to these railway employees according to this Pay Commission report?

Shri Santhanam: The dearness allowance was given only as a result of the recommendations of the Pay Commission and therefore we are following the Pay Commission recommendations in all cases.

Kaka Bhagwant Roy: Have the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission been fully implemented in the case of all classes of servants in the E.P.R.?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, Sir, to the extent they have been implemented in other Railways they have been implemented in the E.P.R. also.

Shri Amolakh Chand: May I know if railway porters are also considered as railway employees and is there any provision for their welfare?

Shri Santhanam: There is provision for their welfare, but they are not regular employees—they are only licensed porters.

FOOD SITUATION IN BIHAR

*4618. **Shri Jnani Ram:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether an officer of the Government of India visited Bihar to study the food situation there recently;

(b) if so, the dates and places of his visit; and

(c) what is his report in general on the food situation of Bihar?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes. The Director General of Food visited Bihar last month.

(b) He was in Bihar from 10th April 1951 to 14th April, 1951. The places visited by him were Patna, Daltonganj, Sitamarhi, Darbhanga, Joynagar and Madhubani.

(c) The report that he submitted to the Food and Agriculture Ministry is a confidential document. The present food situation in Bihar, I may point out, marks a considerable improvement

on the state of things prevailing one or two months ago. As a result of foodgrains being despatched to Bihar at the rate of 3,000 tons per day last month and 3,500 tons a day now, it is reported that confidence has been restored in all the scarcity affected areas and the price of foodgrains in the market has shown a tendency to drop and also more foodgrains are coming out from the hoards into the open market. Stocks are being built up in North Bihar against difficulties of movement which will arise after the monsoon breaks.

Allotments are also being progressively increased. From 80,00 tons for April, allotment has been increased to 1,12,000 tons for May and 1,20,000 tons for June. The number of fair price shops has now gone up to over 5,200 and covers a population of 102 lakhs. The quantum of ration is now nine ozs. almost throughout the State against a much smaller ration which was in force at the beginning of the year.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know the steps taken by the Bihar Government to increase the purchasing power of the people?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, Sir. Recently I answered a question about the measures the Bihar Government is taking to put some purchasing power in the pockets of these poor people.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know if the food situation is under control and whether it is expected to remain under control during the rains?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Government hope so.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Is the Food Minister in a position to inform the House of the nature of the arrangements made for the monsoon months in Bihar when the situation is likely to worsen?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Stocks are being accumulated in all the remote areas which will become inaccessible after the monsoon sets in.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether it is a fact that the hon. Prime Minister has contributed a sum of Rs. 50,000 for relief in that area, and whether he intends to visit the affected areas?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Yes, Sir, that is from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, and I do intend going there in the course of the next few days.

Saikh Mohiuddin: In view of the fact that the officer referred to in the

question did not go to the rural parts, may I know whether his report is based on official reports?

Shri Thirumala Rao: He has gone to the rural areas and covered a large part of the interior of the State by jeep and car.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know what percentage of the landless labourers who were going without work have been provided with work now?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I would require notice to give an exact figure.

REFUSAL OF OFFER OF RICE FROM CHINA

*4619. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have refused the offer of any party to supply rice to India from China?

(b) Is it a fact that rice from China is not available to us due to lack of shipping accommodation?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Some offers for the supply of rice from China have been made by private parties. They have not been found acceptable.

(b) No. Government have been able to purchase some rice from the Government of China for which shipping has been fixed.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know what is the quantity of rice and other grains that we have received from China during 1950?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We have concluded an agreement with China for, I think, altogether 400,000 tons of foodgrains of which millo will form the major part; about 50,000 tons of rice also has been bargained for.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: That is for 1951—I want to know for 1950.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Has any inconvenience been experienced by the Government in unloading grains, due to shortage of accommodation?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir.

Shri Shiv Charan Lal: May I know whether the foodgrains from China are also brought over the land routes or only by the sea route?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Only by the sea route.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know why the offer made by certain private parties refused?

Shri Thirumala Rao: With your permission I should like to draw the attention of the House to certain adventurous private parties going about telling Members of Parliament and others that they are able to procure grains at a lower cost, which is not a fact; all our transactions are Government to Government.

Shri Amolakh Chand: May I know if there is any deficiency in rice in India now in view of the trade agreement which has been made with Burma just now?

Mr. Speaker: His question perhaps is whether prices have gone down in consequence of an agreement?

Shri Amolakh Chand: What I want to know is whether in view of the fact that there has been a new agreement for import of rice from Burma, will there be any deficiency now in India.

Shri Thirumala Rao: The deficiency will not be covered by a mere agreement; it will be done only after actual arrivals of shipments.

AMOUNT SPENT FOR FOOD PRODUCTION

*4623. **Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the various States have drawn up any plan of increased food production for the year 1951-52?

(b) If so, what is the amount to be spent by each of them during the year?

(c) Before making the plan have the State Governments consulted the Government of India and the Planning Commission?

(d) What are the important features of the schemes?

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

(b) and (c). The Grow More Food Plans of the States for 1951-52 have been received and are under scrutiny in the Ministry. The total amount to be spent by each State depends upon the money which would be made available by the Government of India on the basis of this scrutiny.

The Planning Commission are concerned with the 2 year and 5 year development plans of the States commencing from 1952-53.

(d) The scheme contained in the State plans have been prepared in accordance with the Government of India's policy to concentrate the G.M.F. work in intensive cultivation areas

laying special emphasis on permanent improvement works.

Shri S. N. Das: As a result of the Grow More Food campaign which of the States which are at present deficit areas, would become self-sufficient by the end of this year?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No State is expected to be completely self-sufficient by the end of the year. It is a programme extended over a number of years.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, which of the States have taken up the scheme of growing subsidiary food in their areas?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Apart from States our information is that in Bihar the peasants themselves are growing subsidiary tubers on a large scale.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, the total estimated increase in acreage of land under food cultivation in the coming year?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have given these figures several times previously. I am afraid I have not got them with me now.

Saikh Mohiuddin: Under the Grow More Food Scheme has Government any plan to encourage cultivators to grow more crops in the same land, wherever possible?

Shri Thirumala Rao: This is the scheme that is being pursued now— an intensive cultivation scheme.

Shri Kamath: Have, Sir, any new steps been taken or are any new measures under consideration after the recent broadcast of the Prime Minister to put the food problem, or the food crisis on a war footing?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, Sir. Even before the broadcast and also after that, every effort is being made to put the food problem on a war footing.

Shri Kamath: What are the steps?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, the total area of land that will be reclaimed this year in all the States?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice of that question.

Pandit Krishna Chandra Sharma: What are the special steps that distinguish a problem being dealt with on a war footing?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): These words have been very often misquoted and misunderstood.

There is no question of the problem being put on a war footing. It is the question of the mentality being put on a war-footing,—the mind approaching it in terms of highest priority and other consequences flowing from it. You do not declare a war, but you tune up your mind to think in terms of a great emergency.

ACCOMMODATION AT JAMMU FOR AIR PASSENGERS

*4626. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian National Airways which is operating the Delhi-Srinagar Service make no arrangements, either of accommodation at Jammu or of return to Delhi, to passengers who may be stranded at Jammu owing to unfavourable weather conditions over Banihal;

(b) if so, on what grounds; and

(c) whether very recently there was any departure from the rule in the case of certain passengers and if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir. Arrangements exist at Jammu for accommodating passengers stranded there due to unfavourable weather conditions over Banihal pass. Passengers may also return to Delhi if they so desire.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Kamath: What is the kind of accommodation provided to stranded passengers and in the case of those passengers who want to return to Delhi, are they provided free return passage, or have they to pay for it?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The accommodation provided is in the Kashmir State Guest House or Dak bungalow. They have to pay for their stay and they have got to pay for their return.

FOOD GRAINS PROCUREMENT

*4629. **Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the quantities of different food grains procured in different States since October, 1950 till now; and

(b) the rates at which major quantities were procured?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXVIII, annexure No. 49.]

(b) A statement showing the approved ceiling prices for procurement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXVIII, annexure No. 50.] The State Governments fix actual procurement prices in different districts from time to time within the prescribed ceilings and it is not possible readily to indicate the actual prices at which foodgrains were procured in different districts from time to time.

Shri Kshudiram Mahata: May I know what are the considerations which are taken into account in fixing the procurement price?

Mr. Speaker: I think it has been answered several times—not once or twice, but several times.

Shri S. N. Das: How does the procurement made in Bihar this year compare with the procurement made last year?

Mr. Speaker: He means quantities or rates?

Shri S. N. Das: Quantity.

Shri Thirumala Rao: From 1st October, 1950 to the first week of May, 1951 the quantity of grain procured in Bihar was 27,538 tons while the quantity procured last year was as much as 40,000 tons.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether it is a fact that there is a general fall in the procurement of foodgrains in the current year?

Shri Thirumala Rao: There is a fall on account of seasonal conditions in several States.

Kaka Bhagwant Roy: May I know, Sir, whether the movement of foodgrains from villages to markets in P.E.P.S.U. and Punjab has gone down by 50 per cent. due to low procurement prices this year?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir. Because Punjab and P.E.P.S.U. have more than one foodgrain to rely upon the producers have got greater holding capacity not to bring their foodgrains to the market.

LEVY SYSTEM ON FOOD GRAINS

*4630. **Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States where levy system on food grains is in operation this year;

(b) the quantities of food grains collected by such States under levy system; and

(c) the rates of prices actually paid to producers as levy prices?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Procurement by means of levy either on the cultivators or on traders is in force in Bihar, Bombay, Madras, Madhya Pradesh, Hyderabad, Kashmir, Madhya Bharat, Mysore, Rajasthan, Saurashtra, Travancore-Cochin, Bhopal, and Vindhya Pradesh. In Assam levy is imposed in the *thanas* bordering Pakistan.

(b) A statement showing the quantities of foodgrains procured by each State from 1st January, 1951 is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXVIII, annexure No. 51.] Separate figures for procurement by levy are not available.

(c) A statement showing procurement prices fixed in the States referred to in part (a) of the question is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXVIII, annexure No. 52.]

Shri Kshudiram Mahata: May I know whether there is any difference between the levy price and the monopoly procurement price?

Shri Thirumala Rao: A study of the statement will make these points clear. There will be slight variation because the country is so vast and conditions vary from State to State. Therefore, a uniform answer cannot be given to that question.

Shri Kshudiram Mahata: May I know whether it is a fact that in Bihar the levy price is Rs. 8 per maund of paddy which is equivalent to Rs. 12 per maund of rice and the procurement price is Rs. 17 and 18 per maund of rice?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice of that question.

Shri T. N. Singh: The hon. Minister has stated that levy is made both from traders as well as producers. In fixing the price for the traders what margin is allowed towards handling charges? What extra handling charges have to be incurred before the grain reaches the actual consumer?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Generally the levy from traders is in vogue in Madhya Pradesh to a large extent, and the margin allowed for transit and other incidental charges varies from place to place slightly. I have not got the exact figures for which I want notice.

Sardar Sochet Singh: What is the Minimum price and maximum price under the levy system for wheat and rice in the country?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice for that question.

Saikh Mohiuddin: May I know whether the difference between the levy price and the procurement price has indirectly affected the Grow More Food campaign?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, it is again asking in another form, for an opinion whether the procurement price is not hampering the Grow More Food campaign.

LAND UNDER CULTIVATION

*4631. **Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land under cultivation per 1000 population in different States of the Union; and

(b) the area of cultivable waste land per 1000 population in different States?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) A statement giving the required information in respect of 1948-49, the latest year for which figures are available, is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) State-wise information is not available as to how much of the land included in agricultural statistics under the heading "Other uncultivated land excluding current fallows" is actually capable of being brought under cultivation. The required information cannot therefore be furnished.

STATEMENT

State	Net Area under cultivation per 1000 population, 1948-49 (Acres)
1	2
(1) Assam	609
(2) Bihar	447
(3) Bombay	976
(4) Madhya Pradesh	1,362
(5) Madras	557
(6) Orissa	450
(7) Punjab	953
(8) Uttar Pradesh	630
(9) West Bengal	481
(10) Hyderabad	1,236
(11) Jammu and Kashmir	525
(12) Madhya Bharat	1,151
(13) Mysore	736
(14) P.E.P.S.U.	1,258
(15) Rajasthan	1,080
(16) Saurashtra	1,080
(17) Travancore-Cochin	316

1	2
(18) Ajmer	505
(19) Bhopal	1,878
(20) Bilaspur	631
(21) Coorg	762
(22) Delhi	142
(23) Himachal Pradesh	598
(24) Kutch	401
(25) Manipur	336
(26) Tripura	514
(27) Vindhya Pradesh	1,182
(28) Andaman and Nicobar Islands	220
All-India Average	718

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether as a result of the increase in the area of cultivation the pressure on land has decreased appreciably, say in the States of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, I have not been able to follow the question.

Mr. Speaker: I have not been able to see the relation of this question to the question asking for information. I can understand that it has some relation very distantly. The question is whether the pressure on land has been reduced to some extent in U.P. as a result of the increase in the area of cultivation.

Shri Thirumala Rao: This has to be considered in view of the growth in the population also. If acreage is increasing the population also is increasing.

HELICOPTERS

*4632. **Shri Amolakh Chand:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the number of Helicopters and the number of Helidromes in India?

(b) Do Government intend to manufacture Helicopters in the Hindustan Air Craft Factory in the near future?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) None.

(b) No.

Shri Amolakh Chand: May I know what is the cost of a Helicopter?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The one that we have recently ordered for from Messrs. Cambatta Industries of Bombay is estimated at Rs. 1,59,543.

Shri Amolakh Chand: May I know whether the Helicopter is the cheapest

mode of transport by air for passengers and goods?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That seems only apparently to be so.

BUILDING FOR POST OFFICE AND RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE AT HOWRAH

*4633. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how far the scheme of construction of a combined building for Post Office and Railway Mail Service at Howrah in West Bengal has been materialised;

(b) the estimated expenditure and time for carrying out the construction; and

(c) whether any residential accommodation is available at Howrah for Post and Telegraph employees?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Plans and estimates of the project are under preparation.

(b) Rs. 9 lakhs approximately. The building will be constructed in about 2 years.

(c) Except for the Postmaster, Howrah who resides in part of the Howrah Post Office building and for the Superintendent, R.M.S., who lives in a building leased for his office and residence no P. and T. employees are provided with residential accommodation.

Dr. M. M. Das: When the proposed building is completed may I know what Government contemplates to do with the old building? Will it be demolished or used for some other purpose?

Shri Raj Bahadur: When the new building is completed the old building will be disposed of as profitably for the Department as possible.

Dr. M. M. Das: Is it the policy of the Government to provide residential accommodation to all the Posts and Telegraphs employees in Howrah?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Government would very much like to do it. But for residential accommodation a congested area is unsuitable.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether there exists any residential accommodation for the P and T employees in Calcutta and Howrah?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have already replied to that so far as this question is concerned.

RICE IMPORT BY INDIAN PLANTERS ASSOCIATION

*4634. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Tea Planters Association has made a special arrangement with the Government of Eastern Pakistan for import of 40,000 tons of rice and wheat from that country for distribution among tea garden labourers of West Bengal and Assam;

(b) if so, whether negotiations for this contract were conducted through the Government of India or approval of Government of India was sought after completion of the negotiations;

(c) whether the said quantity of food grains will be supplied by Eastern Pakistan in addition to the quantity to be supplied by Pakistan according to the trade pact; and

(d) the annual consumption of food grains in the tea gardens of Assam and West Bengal?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) to (c). Under the Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement dated 26th February, 1951, Pakistan Government agreed to supply to the Government of India 40,000 tons of rice and wheat from East Pakistan. This quantity was allocated by the Government of India to the Tea Estates in Assam and West Bengal and it was arranged that they take delivery of the grain direct from East Bengal Government. The Indian Tea Planters Association is one of the Tea Associations who are arranging to receive the grain for the Tea Estates.

(d) About 186,000 tons per year.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether it is a fact that the normal channel of supply of foodgrains to these tea gardens have been food down?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I do not understand what the hon. Member means by 'normal channel of supply'. This is the agreement and they have agreed to lift the required quantity of foodgrains from Pakistan.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether it is a fact that large numbers of tea garden labour are migrating from these gardens due to want of food?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not aware. I want notice.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the total rate, including the freight charges, in respect of this grain im-

ported from Pakistan will be the same as in other parts of the country?

Shri Thirumala Rao: All those details I have not got. If he puts down a separate question I will get the information.

Shri Chaliha: May I know whether there is any ban on private parties to enter into negotiation for the supply of grains from Eastern Pakistan and whether it is the intention of Government to allow the normal flow of food from Eastern Pakistan to Assam as it used to be before partition?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The normal flow of food is now regulated between the two Governments. At present they do not want to alter the arrangements.

TARGET FOR JUTE AND COTTON PRODUCTION

*4635. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the answer given to a supplementary question on Starred Question No. 3938 on the 8th May, 1951 regarding target for jute and cotton production and state:

(a) whether there has been any increase in the target figure fixed for jute production for the period 1950-51 over the target figure of 1949-50;

(b) whether Government have granted some money for increasing jute production in the year 1950-51 and if so, how much; and

(c) what amount of money Government propose to spend this year on increasing jute production?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Yes; as against a target of 30 lakh bales for 1949-50 an increased target of 41.79 lakh bales was fixed for 1950-51.

(b) Grants and loans amounting to Rs. 9,50,514/12 were sanctioned to the various State Governments during 1950-51 for increasing jute production.

(c) A sum of Rs. 19,89,000 has been provided in the budget for 1951-52 for giving financial assistance to the various States for increasing jute production.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know what proportion of our total requirements of jute and cotton is produced in India, and what steps do Government propose to take to be self-sufficient in them in view of the fact that the import prices of those goods are very high?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have given the information to the House more

than once recently. Our requirements are about 60 to 70 lakhs of bales, but I have not got all those figures with me now.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is it a fact that Madhya Pradesh is the biggest producer of cotton and, if so, what share of the quantity allocated has been given to Madhya Pradesh?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, the question relates to jute, not cotton.

Kaka Bhagwant Roy: May I know what steps Government has taken to replace short staple cotton, which is not consumed in India, by long staple cotton?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Sir, I could not hear the question.

Mr. Speaker: He may request his neighbours not to carry on loud conversation which might leave room for him to hear the question.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab): I am sorry, Sir.

Kaka Bhagwant Roy: I want to know what steps Government has taken to replace the short staple cotton, the bulk of which is not used in India, by long staple cotton which is urgently required by the country's mills.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Our various Institutes are evolving the type of cotton that may be produced in our country suitable to our requirements. And we are making large grants to the State Governments in this behalf.

Mr. Speaker: I think the hon. Minister might answer Dr. Deshmukh's question, if he is in a position to.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have not got the information. From memory I cannot say.

Salkh Mohiuddin: May I know what are the different methods of giving assistance to the jute growers?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We are supplying good seed to these people, and by the diversion of paddy growing areas to jute cultivation the jute grower is really benefiting much more than to require any other help.

SURVEY OF GROUND WATER RESOURCES

*4637. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been recently finalised with any foreign firm for a survey in various States of ground water resources;

(b) if so, the name of this firm and the cost that Government will have to bear on this survey; and

(c) whether the agreement envisages any contract for the method of utilisation of the ground water resources also and if so, in what way?

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

(b) The name of the firm is Messrs. Persons-Johnston-Brush International, Los Angeles, U.S.A. The estimate of total cost is about Rs. 2 lakhs which the participating States had agreed to bear.

(c) No.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know whether Government has formulated any full-fledged scheme for the survey and utilization of ground water resources, and if so by what time this scheme is going to be implemented?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We have entered into an agreement with this firm to give us a report after visiting the States of Madras, Orissa, Saurashtra, Kutch, Bhopal, Delhi and Ajmer and when their report is submitted, we will be in a position to plan further about this matter.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know whether the preliminary work has been started yet or not?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Three of their experts are already in India. That is the only information I can give the hon. Member.

Seth Govind Das: May I know the reason why the work of this survey has been given to a foreign concern? Was no such concern available in India?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Their experience and their standing entitle them to get this work.

Seth Govind Das: Was no such firm available in India?

Mr. Speaker: It follows from that.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know the period for which the contract has been made?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The report is expected very soon, within a month. They have almost completed the work.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know whether this contract goes anywhere beyond mere survey? Are we committed to any further items?

Shri Thirumala Rao: For the present we have not got any further payment except to pay their fees and their travelling allowances.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May I know if it is a fact that a Central Ground Water Organization was in existence till two years back and that it was wound up?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have not got any information on the point just now. I want notice.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know whether any payments have been already made, and if so, what amount?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Payments must have been made in fulfilment of the contract. The report is expected very soon. They have almost completed their work.

FOREIGN EXPERTS UNDER MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

*4638. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how many foreign experts are working at present in India under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture?

(b) What is annual expenditure on them?

(c) What is the allocation of their work?

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

(b) and (c). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXVIII, annexure No. 53.]

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know whether Government intends to import any more foreign experts in this Ministry to implement its programmes?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Under the Colombo Plan and the Point Four Plan some of the experts are offered to us and for the present, we are getting only those experts.

Shri Krishnanand Rai: May I know whether sufficient number of experts had been called to work the Grow More Food and Grow More Trees schemes?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir. It may be that a botanist may advise us with regard to the tree business. Nothing more than that.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know for what period these experts have been engaged here?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice of this question.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know out of these ten experts how many are experts on food and how many are experts in agriculture?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The statement gives all the details. I would invite the attention of hon. Members to this statement.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know to what countries these experts belong?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Some from the U.K. and some from America.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

IRRIGATION WORKS IN WEST BENGAL

*4639. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the answer given to my Starred Question No. 2940 asked on the 9th April, 1951 regarding irrigation works in West Bengal and place on the Table of the House the detailed information regarding irrigation works both major and minor in the State of West Bengal up to date?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): A statement giving the information on minor irrigation works in West Bengal is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXVIII, annexure No. 54.] The question No. 2940 did not ask for information regarding major irrigation works. If this is now desired, it will be obtained and laid on the Table of the House.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Which of the minor irrigation works done by the West Bengal Government were financed by the Central Government and which from the State Government?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The number of works completed is 588. With regard to tanks excavation the subsidy given by the Central Government was Rs. 6,25,000 and the number of works—small irrigation schemes (costing Rs. 10,000 or less per scheme) is 224 and the subsidy given was Rs. 16,50,000. The number of minor irrigation works completed is 26 and the subsidy given was Rs. 6,98,500.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the projects mentioned by the hon. Minister include those which were voluntarily done by the villagers?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have not got that information in detail.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how much acreage of cultivable lands have been benefited by the completion of these projects?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The total acreage benefited is 15,20,111 acres.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the subsidy given by the Centre to the West Bengal Government was in the form of a grant or loan?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Subsidy is not generally a loan but it is a grant.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any amount was given as loans to the West Bengal Government for these minor irrigation schemes?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want notice for that question.

FOREST INSTITUTE, DEHRA DUN

*4640. **Shri Jnani Ram:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Rangers and D.F.O's trained in Forest Institute Dehra Dun from different States; and

(b) the contribution, if any, paid by the States?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) The number of Officers and Rangers trained at the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun since 1947 is as under:

1947-49, Training Course	{	Officers ^a 61
		Rangers ^a 72
1948-50, Do.	{	Officers ^a 37
		Rangers ^a 63
1949-51, D.	{	Officers ^a 30
		Rangers ^a 57

(b) No contribution is paid by the States sending up Officers and Rangers for training at Dehra Dun. The States, however, bear the actual cost of training of their nominees which is as below:

Officers—Rs. 12,900 per officer for the entire course.

Rangers—Rs. 6,500 per Ranger for the entire course.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know the number of officers trained by the Central Government?

Shri Thirumala Rao: If the officers are all added up, you will get the answer, i.e., 61 plus 37 plus 30.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know if the seats for the trainees have been

extended during recent years and if so, what are they?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know if the research made and experience gained is of any advantage to any other State other than U.P.? If so, in what States improvements on the model of the activities of the Institute at Dehra Dun have been carried out?

Shri Thirumala Rao: This relates to the question of training officers in the Forest Institute.

Shri Dwivedi: I want to know whether the experience gained at the Institute is made available to other States.

Shri Thirumala Rao: That is a Central Institute for the whole of India and every State is sending its problems to the Institute and each State is taking advantage of the Institute.

TELEPHONIC CONNECTIONS

*4641. **Shri Jnani Ram:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places where Telephonic connections have been installed in the year 1950-51 for the first time; and

(b) the cost of the installations?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A list is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXVIII, annexure No. 55.]

(b) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know the number of exchange offices and public call offices opened during this year?

Shri Raj Bahadur: A complete list has been placed on the Table.

Mr. Speaker: He may refer to the list.

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know if applications from Daltonganj, Kodarma and Topchanchi in Chota Nagpur are pending?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I should like to have notice.

Kaka Bhagwant Roy: What is the number of Telephone Exchanges opened in Part B States and at what cost?

Mr. Speaker: Is it not in the statement?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The entire information is contained in the statement.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member may refer to the statement.

DAMAGE CAUSED TO TISTA BRIDGE

*4642. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was some damage caused to the Tista Bridge (Assam Railway) during the last rainy season;

(b) if so, whether it was due to some defect in the construction of the Bridge; and

(c) the total cost of repairs?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The bridge structure did not suffer any damage but the approach banks and the guide bunds were breached.

(b) The reply is in the negative.

(c) Rs. 20.5 lakhs approximately, including extension of bridge by 3 spans.

Shri A. C. Guha: What was the reason for this damage?

Shri Santhanam: The normal flood is of the order of 175,000 cusecs. The 1950 June flood was of the order of 650,000 cusecs. The bridge as designed was intended to carry only a discharge of 425,000 cusecs which is nearly 2½ times the normal. But, the floods in 1950 were so abnormal that the approach bunds were damaged.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know, if in case there is any flood in the future, the bridge is also liable to be damaged?

Shri Santhanam: We are expanding the bridge to cope with floods of a little higher order than what happened in 1950. If that too is exceeded, we cannot say what will happen.

Shri A. C. Guha: What was the original cost of constructing the bridge?

Shri Santhanam: It was a part of the Assam Railway link. I cannot give the cost of the bridge separately.

LIVESTOCK CENSUS

*4644. **Dr. Ram Subhas Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) when the livestock census was taken last;

(b) what was the total number of livestock in this country according to that census; and

(c) whether Government propose to take any livestock census in the near future?

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

(a) The last livestock census was taken in 1945.

(b) According to the 1945 livestock census, the total number of livestock of various categories in India was as follows:

	(Millions)
Cattle	136.74
Buffaloes	40.73
Sheep	37.73
Goats	46.30
Horses and ponies	1.40
Mules	0.05
Donkeys	1.13
Camels	0.66
Pigs	3.71
Total	268.45

(c) Yes. A circular has been issued to the States in April, 1950 asking them to conduct the usual quinquennial livestock census in May, 1951. The census is already in progress in many of the States and is likely to be completed by 31st May, 1951. It must have been completed by now.

Dr. Ram Subhas Singh: May I know whether the quality of our present livestock population is deteriorating?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Compared to the census figures of 1940, there is a slight deterioration in the numbers of cattle, sheep, goats, horses, and donkeys. There is an increase in pigs, camels and buffaloes.

Dr. Ram Subhas Singh: I wanted to know about quality.

Mr. Speaker: I think he should better await the result of the census. The census has just now finished.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether there is any classification of useful and useless bovine cattle on the basis of these figures?

Shri Thirumala Rao: In the report given by the Cattle Utilisation Committee in 1947, they have arrived at some figures with regard to useless cattle.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: I wanted to know the approximate figures.

Shri Thirumala Rao: About 28 lakhs are stated to be useless cattle, and another 123,000 as completely useless.

Shri Rethnaswamy: May I know the reason why monkeys have not been included in this classification?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Seth Govind Das: The hon. Minister just now said that there is a certain deterioration as far as cattle is concerned. May I know the reasons for this deterioration?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): Number or health?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Because the people who are keeping the cattle are not looking after them properly.

Mr. Speaker: I think we shall better go to the next question.

ALLOTMENT OF FOOD GRAINS IN NON-INDUSTRIAL AREAS

*4645. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the quantity of foodgrains allotted per head per week in non-industrial areas of West Bengal?

(b) How does it compare with the allotment of foodgrains to non-industrial population of other States of this country?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). The classification for purposes of rationing is not industrial and non-industrial, though in determining the type of rationing whether a particular place is industrial or not is taken into account.

Broadly Government distribution of foodgrains consist of (i) statutory rationing and (ii) non-statutory rationing. In the former a specific ration is assured to the population concerned and no free market is allowed to function in the area concerned. The latter takes different forms, e.g., supplies through relief quota shops, through controlled distribution, etc. The main feature in this case is that a free market is allowed to function in certain areas, the aim of Government being only to supply the minimum quantity required depending upon availabilities for low income groups, vulnerable section of population at control prices. In all statutory rationed areas, at present the size of the ration is 9 ounces per adult per day. Under other forms of rationing, the quantum per adult per day varies, for instance, in West Bengal 6 ounces; in Madras 6 to 8 ounces; in Saurashtra 7.4 ounces.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know what proportion of West Bengal population is supplied foodgrains at controlled prices?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have more than once laid a statement on the Table of the House giving State-wise number of statutory-rationed people and the number informally rationed. I have not got the figures just now.

ALLOCATION OF IMPORTED FOOD GRAINS

*4646. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken as regards the proportion in which imported foodgrains will be allocated to the various deficit States in the country;

(b) if so, what that proportion is;

(c) what is the stock of food reserve at present; and

(d) the food reserve that is proposed to be built up during 1951-52?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). The Basic Plan for 1951 as revised to date envisages a total distribution of 38.4 lakh tons of grains. Out of this 3.55 lakh tons are expected to become available from internal supplies and the balance of 34.85 lakh tons will have to be supplied from imports from abroad.

(c) At present the Centre has no reserve stocks except a few thousand tons as whatever is received is being despatched to the States.

On 12th May, 1951, the total stocks with State Governments amounted to 14,06,997 tons.

(d) It is not possible for us now to say whether we will be able to build up a reserve.

Shri Kamath: Out of the 34.85 lakh tons expected to be allocated to the various States, how much has already arrived from abroad?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I think nearly 14 lakh tons have already arrived.

Shri Kamath: How much more is expected?

Shri Thirumala Rao: About 16 to 17 lakh tons are expected within a month or two, apart from the purchases we have made recently.

Shri Kamath: Have Government received any definite communication

from the Government of the U.S.A. as to whether their foodgrains of two million tons would be available within the next two or three months?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not in a position to say anything definitely whether any communication has been received from the U.S.A.

Shri Kamath: With reference to the answer to Part (d) of the question, am I to understand that Government have no plan whatever to build up an adequate food reserve during this year?

Shri Thirumala Rao: It is too soon to inform the House with regard to the plans of Government. We must have sufficient stocks in our hands to build up a reserve.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is it correct to say that the two million tons of wheat or foodgrains that are likely to come from the U.S.A. have not been taken into account in giving these figures?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No, Sir; they are not taken into account.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: By the end of 1951 or beginning of 1952 will there not be a good reserve if the two million tons are received from America?

Shri Thirumala Rao: In view of the present experience when we are despatching the foodgrains from the ports to the States, it is too early to give any idea of the possibility to build up a reserve.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know what is the necessary quantity of reserve that Government consider necessary for emergency purposes?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Previously we were having about a million tons on our hands with all the States.

Shri Kamath: How much increased foodgrain production does Government hope to achieve during this year with a view to building up any reserve?

Shri Thirumala Rao: We cannot say. From the Grow More Food Scheme we estimate 13 lakh tons.

FACILITIES FOR COMMUNICATIONS DURING ELECTIONS

*4647. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the question of postal facilities and concessions to candidates and their authorized agents, so far as

their communications with the electors are concerned during the next general elections; and

(b) if so, what are they?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Kamath: Does Government propose to consider the matter at the time the rules for election matters are framed by the Rule-making Authority under the Act?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The whole matter is already under consideration and the decision will be notified, as and when it is taken.

Shri Kamath: Will it find a place in the rules?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That is too early to say.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether the question of some concession to be given to the candidates is under consideration?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The Ministry of Law has referred this to us. We have explained the difficulty. The difficulty is that there will be 80 million voters and it is expected 8 million letters will be sent. The cost will be four crores. All these matters are under consideration.

Shri Kamath: What is the position in regard to this matter in the U.K. and U.S.A.?

Shri Raj Bahadur: In U.K. the right of the candidate is that in Parliamentary elections they are entitled to send free of any charge—postage—to each elector one postal communication pertaining to elections not exceeding 2 ozs. in weight. In U.S.A. no such concession exists.

DEMAND FOR WAGONS

*4651. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the demand for goods carrying wagons has been steadily increasing during the years 1949, 1950 and 1951?

(b) Are the Railways able to meet the demand effectively?

(c) Is it a fact that wagons after unloading goods very often return empty to their own centres of supply?

(d) Have Government received complaints to the effect that trade and industry very often unnecessarily detain wagons unloaded at way side stations and destinations?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes,

(b) On the Broad gauge generally the demand had been met satisfactorily until of late when the position became difficult. On the metre gauge, particularly the Northern system, the position has, however, been difficult throughout.

(c) Yes, in some cases. For instance, a large number of wagons particularly opens have to be worked back empty to coalfields.

(d) Despite the liability for demurrage charges for detention of wagons beyond the free time allowed to consignees for unloading the contents, wagons are some time detained at destinations on account of failure of the consignees to unload them promptly.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know what is the actual yearly increase in the demand of wagons and what is the supply position so far as Indian manufacturers are concerned?

Shri Santhanam: There is no question of annual increase in the demand of wagons. There is a certain quota which has to be replaced. It is about one-fortieth of the entire wagon stock and of course we may have to increase it according to the needs of traffic and the hon. Member, if he wants more particulars, should put a specific question in the matter.

Kaka Bhagwant Roy: May I know whether it is a fact that a large quantity of agricultural implements are lying at the port of Bombay awaiting loading for P.E.P.S.U. and East Punjab which is urgently required for the coming season?

Shri Santhanam: I don't know of large quantities of agricultural implements lying there. I got one or two complaints and instructions have been issued to move these implements on a priority basis.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether demand for wagons for supply of foodgrains to North Bihar is being fully satisfied?

Shri Santhanam: Yes, we are moving all the grain that is necessary for Bihar.

Dr. Deshmukh: Does not increased demand for wagons bear any relationship to the increase in the population?

Shri Santhanam: No. Increased population may, in certain circumstances, result in decreased demands for wagons.

FOOD GRAINS FROM RUSSIA

*4652. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of foodgrains received from Russia during the last three months;

(b) whether any long-standing agreement has been entered into or proposed to be entered into for the import of foodgrains from Russia;

(c) whether the terms of the agreement are on barter or cash basis;

(d) whether the shipping arrangements have to be made by India or Russia or any other countries; and

(e) whether these terms include shipment by India of certain essential strategic materials to Russia?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) to (e). As the negotiations are going on still with the Government of U.S.S.R. I take it that it is not in the public interest to give the information at this stage.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Has any consignment of foodgrain arrived from Russia?

Shri Thirumala Rao: Yes, they have arrived.

Mr. Speaker: I think it has been dealt with.

Shri Rathnaswamy: What is the quantity of foodgrains for which an agreement has been entered into?

Shri Thirumala Rao: No agreement has been finalized yet.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know whether Russia has indicated the quantity of foodgrains that she will be able to supply?

Mr. Speaker: The whole thing is under negotiations.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

*4653. **Saikh Mohiuddin:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have up till now set up the survey committee for the development of agricultural implements and machinery as suggested by Planning Commission in their five year plan; and

(b) whether there is any scheme to set up different committees for different purposes?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) No.

(b) The whole matter is under consideration. Among the various proposals being considered are suggestions about (i) a detailed examination of soil conditions, to be undertaken by a team of experts working in close collaboration with the cultivators, to establish items of implements to be developed; (ii) a sample survey of implements in villages in different regions, to be undertaken in order to establish which implements are inefficient; and (iii) setting up of Regional Organisations. No final plans have yet been made.

Seth Govind Das: May I know in how many States so far any definite investigation with respect to this question has been made and whether the State Governments have been taken into confidence as far as this scheme is concerned?

Shri Thirumala Rao: The matter has been the subject of discussion between the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the State Governments are being consulted in the matter.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know how many proposals which were ripe for action have been held up because there was a proposal to discuss them with the Planning Commission?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I have not got any information on that.

Mr. Speaker: The question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

COMMUNIST MOVEMENT IN HYDERABAD

*4620. **Shri Sidhya:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the leader of the communist movement in Hyderabad has been arrested on or about the 24th April, 1951?

(b) Has any body else been also arrested?

(c) What kind of ammunition was found in his possession during the arrest?

(d) At what place was the arrest made and whether any shots were exchanged at the time of the arrest of this terrorist?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) to (d). Raj Bahadur Gowd, a leader of the communists movement in Hyderabad, was arrested on the

24th April, 1951 along with two others. One 303 rifle with 30 rounds of ammunition and one guider gun with 10 rounds of ammunition were seized from him. These three persons were arrested at Rajkonda Hills in Nalgonda District after an exchange of fire.

On the 7th May, 1951, Maqdoom Mohiuddin, another leader of the communists was arrested along with three others. They were arrested at Habshiguda, near the University Camp, Hyderabad District. There was no exchange of fire in this case.

COMMUNISTS IN HYDERABAD

*4621. **Shri M. L. Gupta:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to refer to the answer given to my Starred Question No. 3569 on the 27th April, 1951 regarding communists in Hyderabad and place on the Table of the House an interim report containing the information which is readily available?

(b) Is it a fact that Rajbahadur Gowd, the alleged top communist leader of Telengana, has been arrested?

(c) If so, has the arrest resulted in any decrease in the violent communist activities in Telengana?

(d) How many more violent communist leaders are suspected to be at large in Telengana?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) The information has since been placed on the Table of the House.

(b) Yes.

(c) It is too early to say whether there has been any decrease in the violent activities of the terrorists on account of his arrest.

(d) It is not possible to state the number of other terrorist leaders at large.

EXPENDITURE IN KASHMIR

*4622. **Prof. S. L. Saksena:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state the total amount of expenditure incurred by the Government of India in Kashmir under the following heads:

- (i) on the defence of Kashmir during 1950-51;
- (ii) on aid to the civil administration during 1950-51;
- (iii) on the Kashmir Department of the Government of India since 1947-48 up to date; and
- (iv) on the Kashmir case in the U.N.O. from its beginning?

(b) What is the estimate of the expenditure which will be incurred on Kashmir under the above heads in the current year 1951-52?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami):

(a) (i) Attention is invited to the reply given by the hon. Minister of Defence to Starred Question No. 866 on December 13, 1950.

(ii) During 1950-51 an amount of Rs. 3,18,94,700 is estimated to have been incurred on aid to the State. The estimated expenditure for 1951-52 is Rs. 63,26,000.

(iii) There is no Kashmir Department in the Government of India. Work relating to Kashmir is handled in the Ministries of States and External Affairs, and the expenditure incurred is met as part of the expenditure on these Ministries.

(iv) The expenditure on sending delegations to the U.N.O. in connection with the Kashmir case is as follows:

1947-48	..	Nil
1948-49	..	Rs. 2,73,000
1949-50	..	Rs. 42,943/3/-
1950-51	..	Nil

(b) No estimate of the expenditure that might be incurred in 1951-52 is possible at this stage.

LAND RECLAMATION

*4624. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how much land has been reclaimed and brought under cultivation in the year 1950-51 (i) by the Government of India in the Centrally Administered Areas; (ii) by the State Governments; and (iii) by individual private enterprises?

(b) How much fresh land is proposed to be brought under cultivation in 1951-52 (State-wise)?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) A statement giving the information in respect of land reclamation carried out in the Centrally Administered areas and by State Governments is placed out in the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXVIII, annexure No. 56.] Similar information with regard to land reclaimed by individual private enterprise is not available.

(b) According to present plans, the following areas will be reclaimed by

the Central Tractor Organisation during 1951-52:

Madhya Pradesh	..	80,000	acres
Uttar Pradesh	...	75,000	"
Bhopal		80,000	"
Madhya Bharat	...	80,000	"
Total		3,15,000	

Similar information is not available with respect to the plans of State Governments and of private individuals.

IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES UNDER MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

*4625. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the total book value of all the immovable properties viz. buildings under the charge of the Ministry in the whole country including Delhi?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): The book value of immovable properties, viz., buildings and other structural works, other than permanent way, under the charge of the Ministry of Railways, is Rs. 325.54 crores excluding those on E. P. and Assam Railways, whose accounts on the partition of the ex-N. W. and B. A. Railways have not yet been finalised.

EXPORT OF MANGOES FROM RATNAGIRI

*4627. **Shri Sonavane:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the motor launch owners, who used to carry the mangoes from Ratnagiri to Bombay harbour have been forbidden to do so by the Mercantile Marine Department;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for prohibiting the export of mangoes from Ratnagiri;

(c) what steps Government are taking to give immediate facilities to mango-exporters to bring mangoes to the Bombay market; and

(d) what amount of mangoes were exported from Ratnagiri last year?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). It is not a fact that the Mercantile Marine Department has prohibited the transport of mangoes from Ratnagiri to Bombay Harbour in motor fishing launches. In 1950 the Mercantile Marine Department circularised all owners to arrange for their launches to be inspected for the issue of loadline certificates in case they wished to carry cargo other than fish;

and they were warned that the rules would be more strictly enforced from the 1951 season. In February, 1951, a representation was received from the Fish Merchants and Launch Owners of Bombay asking for general exemption of their motor fishing launches from the statutory requirements in respect of surveys for loadlines and life saving appliances while employed on the transport of mangoes to Bombay. These requirements conform to general International Standards of Safety of Life at Sea and relaxation therefrom can be allowed only to the extent considered reasonable without involving serious risk to the craft and their crew. The Government informed the launch owners that they were unable to grant general exemption to motor vessels but that each case would be considered on merits by the Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department, Bombay. During 1950, 9 vessels were permitted to ply with mangoes as cargo and during this year the number permitted up to now has been reported to be 7.

(c) So far as Government are aware, mangoes are transported to Bombay by road, by rail, and by sea. Sea transport includes several home trade ships as well as launches permitted to carry cargoes which serve Ratnagiri and other ports. The available facilities have not materially changed.

(d) Government have no information.

CONTROLLED AND FREE MARKET SUGAR PRICES

*4628. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the answer given to my Unstarred Question No. 228 asked on the 20th April, 1951 giving control prices and free market prices of sugar and state what is the reason of difference in price of nearly 90 per cent. between free market and controlled sugar?

(b) On what basis sugar for free market is released?

(c) What control do Government have to check that sugar produced for free market is not accumulated by the industrialists for an indefinite period, so as to get higher prices?

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

(a) Presumably because demand for sugar is more than the quantity available in the free market. Lack of adequate transport and tendency to hoard or corner stocks is also reported to be responsible for the stringency in the market.

(b) Attention of the hon. Member is invited to my statement placed on the Table of the House on 27th April, 1951.

(c) No control was intended to be exercised on the distribution or price of sugar released for sale in the free market. The Industry has, however, been advised to release the free market sugar in a regulated manner and to open fair price retail shops themselves. It is understood that the Indian Sugar Mills Association, which represents all factories in India, has taken action in the matter.

TELEPHONES IN BANGALORE

*4643. **Shri Ethirajulu Naidu:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pending applications for installation of telephones in Bangalore City;

(b) the number of telephones now in service;

(c) the rental that was being paid for each telephone before the Central Government took over the telephone system; and

(d) the charges that are now being levied?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) On the 15th May 1951.

(i) For direct connections ... 1,161.

(ii) For extensions ... 38.

(b) On the 15th May, 1951,

(i) Direct connections ... 1,536.

(ii) Extensions ... 288.

(c) and (d). The information has already been furnished in reply to Starred Question No. 4161 by Shri Rudrappa on the 15th May, 1951.

POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES IN TRIBAL AREAS

*4648. **Shri Kannamwar:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post and Telegraph Offices in the Tribal areas of Sironcha Tahsil in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the average distance at which each of these offices is situated in Sironcha Tahsil?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 4, of which, 2 are combined Post and Telegraph Offices.

(b) Distance between Sironcha and Ahiri is 61 miles, between Sironcha and

Ankisa is 21 miles and between Ahiri and Asralli is 4 miles.

BALHARSHA-BHOPALAPATNAM RAILWAY LINE

*4649. **Shri Kannamwar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether a proposal is under consideration to construct a branch railway line from Balharsha railway Station to Bhopalapatnam in Madhya Pradesh?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): No proposal for the construction of a line between Balharsha and Bhopalapatnam is or has been under consideration of the Government.

CATTLE MORTALITY

*4650. **Shri M. Nalk:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have any estimate of cattle mortality due separately to cattle epidemics and old age?

(b) Is there any long term programme in hand under which the results of the Veterinary Research Institutes may easily reach the farthest interior of the land in order to bring under control the cattle epidemics and livestock diseases?

(c) How far is India self-sufficient in respect of production of animal serums and to what extent it is dependent on foreign countries in that respect?

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

(a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) India is not only self-sufficient in respect of animal sera for prophylactic measures but also exports these products to foreign countries like Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Egypt, Ceylon, Thailand, Malaya, and China.

TIMBER FROM ANDAMANS

*4654. **Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trees that were felled in the Andamans in each of the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(b) the cost per cubic foot of timber for felling and assembling;

(c) the rate per cubic foot at which the same was sold;

(d) the period of time required to dispose of the timber from the date of felling;

(e) whether any quantity of this timber has been brought to India for Government use, if not, why not; and

(f) the quantity of timber required by Government and how and where from is it obtained?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) to (f). Information required by the hon. Member is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

FOOD GRAINS ALLOTTED TO MADRAS

*4655. **Shri A. Joseph:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tons of foodgrains allotted to Madras from January, 1951 to May, 1951; and

(b) whether the State Government requested the centre to allot more food grains to Madras?

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

(a) 1,84,300 tons.

(b) Yes. The State Government have represented that the ceiling quota for 1951 should be raised.

MASULIPATAM HARBOUR

*4656. **Shri A. Joseph:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to develop the harbour at Masulipatam?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): The port of Masulipatam, being a minor port, is under the control of the Government of Madras. The Government of India have, therefore, no information in the matter.

LIGHT-HOUSE AT MASULIPATAM

*4657. **Shri A. Joseph:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Lighthouse at Masulipatam is not in good condition?

(b) If so, when will the work of repairs be taken up?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Masulipatam Lighthouse is a local light and is under the administrative control of the Government of Madras who maintain it. It is understood that the light is in good condition and that therefore there is no proposal for its improvement in the near future.

(b) Does not arise.

PORT DEVELOPMENT IN ORISSA

*4658. **Maulvi Haneef:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to refer to the answer given to my Starred Question No. 2432 asked on the 21st March, 1951 and state whether the report on the investigation about the possibility of port development in Orissa has been received by Government and if so, will it be laid on the Table of the House?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): The report of the group of French Experts on the likely sites for a port in Orissa has not so far been received. It will be placed in the Library of the House when received.

CROP INSURANCE SCHEME

*4659. **Shri V. K. Reddy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to introduce crop insurance schemes; and

(b) what are the States in which it is to be introduced in the initial stage?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). A research pilot scheme of crop insurance covering certain selected crops in Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, Madras and Uttar Pradesh has been prepared and is under consideration of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, which has consulted the State Governments concerned in the matter. The scheme is to be considered at the next meeting of the Advisory Board of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

RUBBER PLANTATION

4660. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the acreage of rubber plantation grown wild or otherwise in Assam;

(b) whether rubber has been extracted therefrom; and

(c) if not, why not?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) About 9,500 acres were estimated to be covered with the *Ficus Elastica* variety of rubber trees in Assam in 1934. The acreage has been declining subsequently, but exact figures are not available.

(b) No.

(c) The *Ficus Elastica* variety of rubber trees produces rubber which contains some resin and is not equal

in quality to the rubber produced from the more common *Havea Braziliensis* variety. In no part of the world is any rubber produced from *Ficus Elastica*.

POST OFFICES IN "MAJULI" IN ASSAM

*4661. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post Offices run departmentally, extra departmentally and on experimental basis in the Island of the Brahmaputra—called "Majuli" in Assam;

(b) whether more Post Offices will be established there on 2,000 people population basis;

(c) whether there are telegraphic and wireless communications there; and

(d) how long it takes to carry mails from Jorhat to Majuli and by what means the mails are carried?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) (i) Departmental Post Offices ... nil

(ii) Extra Departmental Post Offices ... 7

(iii) Experimental Post Offices ... 2

(b) Does not arise as there are no villages with more than 2,000 population in Majuli.

(c) No.

(d) (i) 28 hours.

(ii) From Jorhat to Kokilamukh mails are carried by motor vehicles. From Kokilamukh to Kamalabari the mails are taken across the river by the ferry in charge of a runner. Beyond Kamalabari the mails are conveyed by runner to Dakhinpatsatra. From Dakhinpatsatra to Majuli the mails are carried by an extra departmental mail carrier.

छोटानागपुर, बिहार में डाकखाने

*४६६२. श्री झोराब : क्या संघर्ष मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बिहार के छोटानागपुर डिवीजन के प्रत्येक जिले के निवासियों से डाकखाने खोले जाने के लिए १९४९ तथा १९५० के वर्षों में कितनी याचिकाएँ प्राप्त हुई हैं ;

(ख) उन में से कितनी स्वीकृत हुई तथा किन किन स्थानों पर डाकखाने खोले गये हैं; तथा

(ग) कितनी याचिकाएँ अभी भी विचाराधीन हैं; तथा उन में कितनी अस्वीकृत कर दी गई हैं?

POST OFFICES IN CHHOTANAGPUR IN BIHAR

[*4662. Shri Orson: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many petitions were received during the years 1949 and 1950 from the residents of every district of Chhota Nagpur Division, Bihar for opening Post Offices;

(b) how many of them were accepted and the places where Post Offices have been opened; and

(c) how many of the petitions are still under consideration and how many of them were rejected?]

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 51.

(b) 10. A statement giving the names of places where Post Offices have been opened is placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Under consideration ... 39.
Rejected ... 2.

STATEMENT

Post Offices opened as a result of the petitions—

Radhanagar, Tillyadam, Sagadim, Maithan, Bharkatta, Kesargarh, Bhuli, Gobindpur, Chakradharpur Bazar and Seriadhela;

Post Offices opened without receipt of any petition—

Saltore, Pandoo, Jituguri, Mahal, Angara, Balliguri, Pilka, Loweldaga Bazar and Thethanagar.

"JIRATIA TENANTS" IN TRIPURA

*4663. Shri G. S. Guha: Will the Minister of States be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 4154 asked on the 15th May, 1951 and state:

(a) what is the approximate number of Pakistani subjects who are entitled

to the concession of taking away 40 maunds of paddy per family;

(b) what is the approximate number of Indian citizens living in Tripura State who are entitled to the same concession in Pakistan territory;

(c) what is the total area of land cultivated by "Jiratia tenants" in Tripura State and that cultivated by Indian citizens of Tripura in Pakistan;

(d) what was the amount of paddy that "Jiratia tenants" of Tripura State were allowed to take per family before the Partition; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the people of Tripura are now suffering from insubiciency of rice?

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami):

(a) Approximately 20,000 families.

(b) Government have no information.

(c) Attention of the hon. Member is invited to my reply to Starred Question No. 4154 on the 15th May, 1951. We have no information regarding the total area of lands cultivated by Indian citizens of Tripura in Pakistan.

(d) During the pre-war days there was no limit on the export of paddy from Tripura. During the war days, this was allowed to the extent of actual family requirements under a permit system.

(e) Some difficulty is experienced by the people of Tripura in this respect.

PLANE CRASH AT KARUMBAKAM

*4664. Shri Rathnaswamy: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a plane crashed at Karumbakam near Chinglepet (Madra.) on Saturday the 5th May, 1951 and if so, what are the causes that resulted in this crash;

(b) whether any body was killed and injured and if so, how many; and

(c) whether any inquiry into the causes of this accident has been ordered?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (c). Yes Sir. A private Stinson Sentinel L-5 aircraft crashed during the early hours of the morning on the 6th instant near Chinglepet. The accident was investigated. The Report on the investigation has just been received and is under examination.

(b) Yes, the pilot and a passenger, who were the only occupants, were killed.

CHURAIBARI-AGARTALA ROAD

*4665. **Shri G. S. Guha:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) how many miles of the projected road between Churaibari (Assam) and Agartala has been completed;

(b) what length of the road has been metalled or gravelled;

(c) how many bridges have been constructed out of the number proposed;

(d) how much money has been spent out of the total estimated cost; and

(e) how long it is expected to take to complete the road for regular motor traffic between Agartala and Assam?

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

(a) The formation has been completed in more than half of a total length of 134 miles, including 5 miles of an approach road from Dharamanagar.

(b) Seven miles from the Agartala end have been gravelled.

(c) Semi-permanent timber bridges have been constructed in the Tellamura Valley, i.e., between miles 24 and 32, and ARMCO culverts in several miles at the Churaibari end. Service bridges have been constructed across streams in other parts of the road, with ferries across rivers. These service bridges are being replaced by semi-permanent timber bridges or ARMCO culverts. If the hon. Member still wishes to know the exact number of bridges and culverts constructed by any particular date, I shall call for the information from the Assam Public Works Department.

(d) About Rs. 165 lakhs up to March, 1951.

(e) It is hoped that regular motor traffic will be able to use the road by the rains of 1952. It will, however, not be possible to complete all the estimated work before 1953.

ROAD COMMUNICATIONS OF AGARTALA

*4666. **Shri G. S. Guha:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to connect the various Divisional Head-quarters of Tripura State with its capital Agartala by roads running within the State;

(b) if so, has a beginning been made; and

(c) how long it is expected to take to complete the main roads of an internal communication system and at what estimated cost?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). The answer is in the affirmative.

(c) Subject to availability of funds, it is proposed to construct nine internal roads estimated to cost Rs. 137 lakhs roughly in a period of about five years.

FIVE-YEAR PROGRAMME OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

*4667. **Shri P. Basi Reddi:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the target amount of original works expenditure of the five-year programme of the National Highways;

(b) the progress of expenditure up to the end of the financial year 1950-51;

(c) if the progress has not been up to the mark, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government have prepared a fresh programme of Original Works (National Highways), as the present five-year programme is ending with the current financial year; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

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

(a) Rs. 23-50 crores.

(b) Rs. 6-27 crores.

(c) Mainly lack of funds.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

GATE-CRASH AT BEGUMPET AIRPORT

*4668. **Shri P. Basi Reddi:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was an accident of a Gate-crash on the 17th May, 1951 at the Begumpet Airport, Secunderabad resulting in certain casualties;

(b) if so, what is the number and the nature of the casualties of the accident; and

(c) what are the causes of the accident?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) Two killed, one seriously injured.

(c) The collapse of the structure of the hangar has been reported to be due to a gale blowing at 73 miles per hour.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR SCARCITY AREAS OF BIHAR AND MADRAS

335. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have suggested to State Governments that they should maintain sealed boxes at all ration shops wherein contributions for the scarcity areas of Bihar and Madras may be collected; and

(b) if so, how much has thus been collected in each State so far?

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

(a) Yes. The State Governments have been advised to keep sealed boxes at all ration shops to collect contributions of foodgrains offered by the ration card holders.

(b) Reports are awaited.

RICE DEAL WITH BURMA

336. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state at what rate the Burma rice deal has been closed by the Minister who went to Burma for the purpose?

(b) Before departure to Burma did any negotiation take place regarding the quantity and price of rice?

(c) What was the price quoted in official correspondence?

(d) Is it a fact that a private firm quoted lower price for Burma rice than the price agreed upon on Government to Government basis?

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

(a) It will not be in the public interest to disclose at this stage the rates to be paid for rice to Burma under the new contract.

(b) No, but Burma Government had indicated that they would supply 120,000 tons rice to India.

(c) No definite price was quoted by Burma Government.

(d) No.

SHIPMENT OF FOOD GRAINS

337. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the number of ships carrying

cereals together with names of countries from where-supplied and quantity received in Indian ports from 1st January, 1951 to date?

(b) What is the total value of grains received during the above period?

(c) How was this quantity distributed to States?

(d) What were the requirements of the States during the above period?

(e) How much quantity of food-grains moved from one State to another State during the above period?

(f) Is the payment for all the food-grains received made at the port of shipment or after arrival in India?

(g) How much realised by sale of these foodgrains by State Government is paid to Union Government?

(h) How much payment has so far been made by State Governments?

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

(a) (i) 221 ships carrying 1,440 tons of foodgrains arrived in India during the period 1st January, 1951, to 20th May, 1951.

(ii) The break-up by supplying countries of this quantity of 1,440 thousand tons is as follows:

	Figures in thousand tons.
(1) U.S.A.	493.5
(2) Canada	259.3
(3) Argentine	235.3
(4) Australia	123.8
(5) Uruguay	29.1
(6) Burma	93.5
(7) Thailand	94.8
(8) Egypt	3.4
(9) China	48.0
(10) Pakistan	60.3

Total 1,440.0

(b) 57.87 crores of rupees.

(c) A statement is attached showing the allotments of these foodgrains to the different States. [See Appendix XXVIII, annexure No. 57.]

(d) A statement showing the actual issues of foodgrains from Government stocks during the period 1st January to 12th May, 1951, in the different States is attached. [See Appendix XXVIII, annexure No. 58.] It should however, be borne in mind that due to want of stocks the scale of ration had to be lowered on an All India basis since the middle of February to

9 ozs. per adult. But for this the issues would have been correspondingly higher.

(e) A total of 65,694 tons of food-grains were despatched from one State to another during the period 1st January, 1951 to 15th May, 1951.

(f) The payment for the cost of imported foodgrains is usually made on the basis of quantity shipped after the shipment has been effected.

(g) The cost is realised from the recipient States, through book adjustment or cash deposits as soon as the grain is released to them at the port.

(h) In respect of grain supplied to part 'B' States and private parties, from whom recovery is made in advance, the amount realised from 1st January, 1951 to 24th May, 1951 amounted to rupees 10.34 crores. In regard to part A, C and D States, the debts are raised by the Accountant General, on receipt of details of supplies from the ports. The actual amount realised from 1st January, 1951 to date is not yet available.

GRADES IN POST AND TELEGRAPH SERVICES

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

(a) the different grades in the Post and Telegraph services, stating pay for each grade;

(b) the number of personnel in each grade that existed before 1948;

(c) the number in each grade recruited since 1948; and

(d) the number of scheduled castes and Tribes that existed before 1948 and recruited since 1948?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (d). The information which has to be gathered from the various units all over India is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

JUTE BAGS

340. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the value of the jute bags purchased for the use of the Post and Telegraph department during the last three years, separately; and

(b) the steps taken for the prolongation of their lives?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a)

1948-49	Rs. 12,47,325
1949-50 ...	Rs. 8,16,713
1950-51 ...	Rs. 6,77,018

(b) There are strict orders that bags are not to be dragged on the floor of the office or on Railway platforms. Experiments are also being made to find out whether the life of the jute bag could be increased by having it treated chemically. The result of the experiment is not yet known.

SUGARCANE CULTIVATION

341. **Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the total acreage of land under the cultivation of sugarcane in Bihar State in the years 1949, 1950 and 1951?

(b) What is the total production of sugarcane in those years?

(c) How much of this production went for sugar production and how much for Gur manufacture?

(d) What is the total production of sugar and Gur in these years?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) to (d). A statement giving the required information, so far as available, is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXVIII, annexure No. 59.]

LAND UNDER CHILLIES CULTIVATION

342. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total acreage of land under the cultivation of chillies in the years 1949, 1950 and 1951;

(b) the total production during these years; and

(c) the total quantities exported from the State of Bihar?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). The total acreage and production of chillies in India is not known, since it is not one of the crops covered by the All India forecasts. As a result of a special enquiry, however, the production in the three important chilli-growing States of Madras, Bombay and Hyderabad during 1950 and 1951 has been estimated as under:

State	1950 (t n ^a)	1951 (ton ^a)
Madras	133,730	133,300
Bombay	75,000	75,000
Hyderabad	59,998	59,998*

*1950 figure has been repeated.

(c) Exports of chillies from Bihar are not recorded in the Rail-borne Trade Accounts and the information cannot therefore be given.

टेलीफोन

३४३. श्री खापर्डे : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत में कुल कितने टेलीफोन हैं, भाग क, ख तथा ग में कें राज्यों में से प्रत्येक राज्य में कितने कितने टेलीफोन हैं, 'अपने टेलीफोन का स्वामित्व प्राप्त करो' योजना के अन्तर्गत कितने टेलीफोन हैं तथा 'काल सिस्टम' के अनुसार चलने वाले कितने टेलीफोन हैं ;

(ख) 'अपने टेलीफोन का स्वामित्व प्राप्त करो' योजना को कितने व्यक्तियों ने अपनाया है, एवं मार्च १९५१ तक इस योजना के अन्तर्गत कितना रूपया प्राप्त हुआ है तथा 'काल सिस्टम' के अनुसार चलने वाले टेलीफोनों से सरकार को सन् १९५० में कितनी आय हुई है ; तथा

(ग) भाग ग में के कितने राज्यों में सन् १९५० में टेलीफोन व्यवस्था चालू की गई तथा उन में से कितने स्वयंपातिक टेलीफोन थे ?

TELEPHONES

[343. Shri Khaparde: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of telephones in India, their number in each of the Part A, B and C States, the total number of telephones under 'Own Your Telephone' Scheme and the number of telephones that are operating on call system;

(b) the number of persons who have so far responded to the 'Own Your Telephone' Scheme and the money realised by this Department on that account upto March, 1951 as also the income that accrued to the Govern-

ment during 1950 from the telephones operated on the call system; and

(c) the number of cities of Part C States where telephone system was introduced in 1950 and how many of these were automatic telephones?]

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) (1) A statement is placed on the Table of the House showing number of telephones in each of Part A, B and C States on 20th May, 1951. [See Appendix XXVIII, annexure No. 60.]

(ii) Total number of telephones under 'Own Your Telephone' Scheme is 8,511 (on 20th May, 1951).

(iii) Number of telephones operating on message rate system is 99,530 (on 20th May, 1951).

(b) (i) Number of persons who have paid under 'Own Your Telephone' Scheme up to 31st March, 1951 is 9,734.

(ii) Amount collected under 'Own Your Telephone' Scheme up to 31st March, 1951 is Rs. 2,27,48,500.

(iii) Income that accrued to the Government during 1950 from telephones under message rate system is Rs. 2,94,99,000.

(c) (i) Number of cities of Part C States where telephone system was introduced in 1950 ... 1 (Manipur Road P. C. O.)

(ii) Number of automatic telephones in case of the above. ... Nil.

HOUSES FOR RAILWAY LABOURERS

344. Shri A. Joseph: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of houses under construction for the Railway labourers and those completed in the years 1949, 1950 and 1951?

(b) How many were given to the labourers and on what basis?

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

(a) It is presumed that the hon. Member requires information regarding quarters for Class IV staff. The figures for quarters constructed are not available by calendar years, but are available for each financial year. 7,232 quarters for Class IV staff were constructed during 1949-50. As regards 1950-51, the position at the end of December, 1950 was that 3,273 quarters have been completed and 5,413 were under construction.

(b) In the matter of allotment of quarters, priority is given to essential operating staff, i.e., essential in the sense that they are liable to be called out for duty in emergencies outside normal working hours or to attend

work at inconvenient hours and, therefore, are required to reside near the site of work.

SUNDAY WINDOW-DELIVERY

345. Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Sunday window-delivery has been arranged;

(b) if so, at which G.P.O.'s, between what hours and from which date; and

(c) whether it is general or only for a limited section of the population served by each of those G.P.O.'s?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) Nagpur G. P. O., between 1-30 P.M. and 3 P.M. from 13th May, 1951.

(c) The delivery is limited to fully prepaid unregistered articles and is given to post box or post bag or window delivery ticket holders.

TACKLING OF FOOD CRISIS ON WAR FOOTING

346. Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special or new steps have been taken, or are under consideration, for tackling the food crisis on a war footing, as adumbrated in his recent broadcast by the Prime Minister; and

(b) if so, what are they?

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

(b) (i) A Food Committee of the Cabinet with the hon. Prime Minister as Chairman has been formed. This Committee meets daily and reviews the food position in the country.

(ii) All possible steps are being taken to import the required quantities of foodgrains from abroad. Against 37 lakh tons intended to be purchased at the beginning of the year, the total quantity so far purchased amounts to 4 million tons.

(iii) Steps have also been taken to import these quantities with the utmost speed. Government are chartering as many steamers as possible with earliest sailing dates. The Govern-

ment of U.S.A. have been requested to release vessels from their reserve fleet for shipment of foodgrains to India. As against the average import of about 3 lakh tons during the first 4 months of the year, in May the expectation is 4 lakh tons, in June 4.8 lakh tons and in July 5.5 lakh tons.

(iv) Movement of Foodgrains within the country has been given the highest priority next only to operational and other military movements. A plan has also been worked out in consultation with the Ministries of Transport and Railways under which food ships will be cleared without delay as soon as they arrive at ports.

(v) The machinery for storage and distribution of foodgrains in the affected areas has been strengthened and expanded.

(vi) Wherever possible internal procurement has been tightened up. To obtain maximum results the procurement prices in certain States were raised either for short periods or for the whole season as requested by the State Governments and in others, the higher prices allowed in the initial stage of the season, were extended.

(vii) An appeal has been made for private gifts for the affected areas.

(viii) The affected areas have planned works for providing employment and arrangements for relief to the destitute have been made.

RAILWAY CROSSING AT SANTA CRUZ STATION IN BOMBAY

347. Shri Sidhva: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to Starred Question No. 4174 of 15th May, 1951 and state:

(a) whether the route to Santa Cruz International Aerodrome is *via* the Railway crossing at Santa Cruz station;

(b) in how many cases vehicles and transport of passengers bound for Santa Cruz aerodrome have been detained at this crossing during the year 1950; and

(c) what is the longest duration of period for closing this crossing?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes, but there are two other routes also. One of them is through an underbridge on the B.B. and C.I. Railway tracks about a quarter of a mile

away from the Level Crossing at Santa Cruz and the other from the Bombay Agra Road via Kurla.

(b) Government are not aware of any such detentions.

(c) The Level Crossing is ordinarily closed for 5 to 7 minutes at a time for the passage of trains, but in the case of Down Goods Trains leaving Bandra Marshalling Yard, it is sometimes closed for 12 to 15 minutes.

SUGAR QUOTA FOR FRUIT PRESERVATION INDUSTRY

348. Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that though the work of allotment of sugar in the States has been transferred to the State Governments, the quota for Fruit Preservation Industry is still reserved to the Centre;

(b) whether it is a fact that in April, 1951 the Centre allotted only 25 bags for the Fruit Preservation Industry in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) how many Fruit Preservation units or factories are working in Madhya Pradesh, and how much sugar was allotted to each of them in April, 1951; and

(d) whether it is a fact that owing to sugar scarcity, some of the units in Madhya Pradesh have closed down or are on the verge of doing so, if so, how many?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (b). Consequent on the abolition of the post of Asstt. Fruit Development Adviser, as a measure of economy, the Government of India in March, 1951 decided that future allocations of sugar to individual licensed manufacturers of fruit products should, with effect from the 1st April, 1951, be made by the State Governments concerned who were given ad hoc quotas on the basis of allotments made in 1950. Accordingly a quota of 22.88 tons was sanctioned for Madhya Pradesh for distribution among licensed fruit preservers during the period April to December, 1951. The State Governments have a free hand to distribute this quota to individual manufacturers. Although it is not possible for the Central Government to increase the ad hoc quota

sanctioned for the Fruit Preservation Industry, the State Governments have been informed that the Government of India will have no objection to the State Governments diverting any quantity from their normal consumption quotas. Sugar is also now available in the open market. Since it has now been decided that the administration of the Fruit Products Order should be with the Centre and not the States, the work of allocation of sugar and other controlled materials will be taken back from the State Governments from the next quarter beginning with July, 1951.

(c) and (d). The required information has been called for from the Government of Madhya Pradesh and will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

RAIL WAGONS HELD UP IN PAKISTAN

349. Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pakistan Government have held up in their territory several railway wagons and carriages which travelled to Pakistan from India since August 15th, 1947 and even before that date;

(b) if so, how many; and

(c) what steps have so far been taken by Government for the restoration of such wagons and carriages by Pakistan to India?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) A number of Indian Railway coaches and wagons are on Pakistan Railways some of them from dates earlier than 15th August, 1947.

(b) A total of 169 Broad Gauge and Metre Gauge coaches and 169 units of special type of goods stock.

(c) The matter is under negotiation with the Pakistan Government.

As regards goods stock, the Pakistan Railways have at present a credit balance of E. G. wagons with the Indian Railways in the general pool. Specific units of special type of goods stock are being exchanged according to special arrangements made between adjoining India and Pakistan Railways.

AIRWAYS (INDIA) DAKOTA CRASH NEAR TANGAIL (REPORT)

350. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, with reference to the Report of the investigation into the Airways (India) Dakota crash near Tangail (East Bengal) on the 17th December, 1950, the appendices of evidence mentioned in para. 4 thereof have not been in-

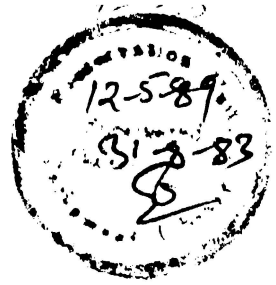
cluded in the copy of the Report placed in the Library of Parliament; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The appendices constitute the record of the evidence in the inquiry. They are not a part of the Report. Only the Report is published.

Friday, 8th June, 1951



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

Third Session

of the

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1950-51

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Papers laid on the Table —

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OFFICIAL REPORT

10450

10451

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Friday, 8th June, 1951

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

9-30 A.M.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

**EXCLUSION OF HINDI FROM THE
SYLLABUS OF I.A.S.**

Mr. Speaker: Now I shall take up the postponed adjournment motion regarding the exclusion of Hindi from the syllabus of administrative service examinations, such as I.A.S. etc. I call upon the hon. Home Minister to give the information on the subject which he promised, after which I will decide upon the motion.

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): There is no question of exclusion of Hindi from the syllabus by any order issued recently. The question of including Hindi was raised by the Sahitya Sammelan who desired it to be made a compulsory subject in the Combined Competitive Examination. The Union Public Service Commission's considered view on the subject was that effective measures should be taken for the teaching of Hindi throughout the States before including Hindi as a subject in the Competitive Examinations for the Administrative and other Services. They were of the opinion that a premature step in this direction would be looked upon as discriminatory by candidates whose mother-tongue happened to be other than Hindi. In the view of the Union Public 200 PSD

Service Commission, further, if Hindi be made an optional subject, it would also give an undue advantage to a section of candidates who would be able to score heavily in that subject. If Hindi was to be introduced as an optional subject, it was their opinion that other Indian languages also should be included as alternatives. Apart from involving a large measure of arrangement for examining candidates in all these languages it is obvious that it would be of no great use in testing the comparative merits of candidates who have already gone through a good course of University education and whose special fitness for absorption into higher cadres of the public services is to be tested in the Competitive Examination. The Commission came to the conclusion that considering all the circumstances Hindi might be made a compulsory subject for the Combined Open Competitive Examination for the Indian Administrative Service and other Services with effect from 1955, provided that the standard was not high, that the test was merely a qualifying one, and the marks obtained in that subject are not added to the total for ranking the candidates. They desired that an immediate announcement to this effect may be made so that people may be ready by 1955. The Cabinet, after full consideration, decided not to issue this announcement at present but rather to lay stress on including Hindi in the Departmental Examinations which candidates had to take after entering the Services. The view held by the Government is that before making it a subject in the Competitive Examinations effective measures should be taken to spread the study of Hindi. There are large areas where it is not the language spoken by the people. Nor is it understood even among the educated sections of the people in those areas. Whatever steps we may initiate to make Hindi take its proper place, they should be such as not to rouse a feeling that undue advantage is being taken by those whose mother-tongue happens

[Shri Rajagopalachari]

to be Hindi and that the people of other areas are put under a disadvantage in the matter of public employment. We should remember and appreciate the considerable work that has been done in those areas with the full support of the people in those areas during the last 30 years for the spread of Hindi even before it was made the State language and it would be unwise to create any wrong impression that discriminatory steps are being initiated under the new Constitution placing the intelligentsia of certain areas at a very great disadvantage which might block for them the avenues of public service. In accordance with this view the Cabinet decided on December 8, 1950 that provision for Hindi should be made in the Departmental Examinations which candidates have to take after entry into service and that it might be explained that a knowledge of Hindi would be of advantage to those who enter the Services and enable them to pass the Departmental Examinations.

I contacted the Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission again on receipt of the notice of this motion. He adheres to the view already expressed.

Speaking on a personal plane, Sir, with your permission I may say that I took my part in the work of encouraging the study of our national *lingua franca* 32 years ago and have continually worked for it, through an organisation in Madras which I may claim truthfully and with pride has done more work than any other single body in India for this cause. I introduced the compulsory teaching of Hindi in the province of Madras during the first three years of the secondary course in all schools. This resulted in a mock *Satyagraha* on the part of certain well organised parties in Madras, who made life unpleasant for me during the two years of my premiership in Madras but the work went on. Advice given by me may not be discarded by my friends in North India.

Seth Govind Das rose—

Mr. Speaker: The question now is whether the adjournment motion is to be accepted or not. Obviously I cannot accept the motion.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE.

(i) APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS (CIVIL) 1948-49

(ii) APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS (POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS) 1948-49.

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I beg to lay on the Table a signed copy of each of the following documents under Article 151 of the Constitution:

(i) Appropriation Accounts (Civil) 1948-49 and the Audit Report 1950. [Placed in Library. See No. IV.O.1(1)].

(ii) Appropriation Accounts (Posts and Telegraphs) 1948-49 and the Audit Report 1950. [Placed in Library. See No. IV. N.O.(6)].

STATEMENT SHOWING PROGRESS MADE *re* RECOMMENDATIONS OF ESTIMATES COMMITTEE.

The Minister of State for Finance [See Appendix XXXI] I regret that Parliament on 30th May 1951 to Question No. 4683 put by my hon. friend Shri Sidhva, I had stated that we would lay on the Table of the House, before the conclusion of the present session, a statement showing the progress made in regard to the recommendations of the Estimates Committee.

I have much pleasure now in laying the promised statement on the Table. [See Appendix XXXI] I regret that owing to other pre-occupations, we have not yet been able to finalise the statement in regard to the recommendations contained in the Third Report relating to the Ministry of Commerce as well as certain recommendations included in the Fourth Report. The matter, however, is under active examination and at the earliest opportunity, I hope to submit a further statement to Parliament. I may also mention that these Reports contain certain recommendations of a general nature which also find place in other Reports. The progress made in regard to such recommendations has been indicated in the statement pertaining to the latter Reports.

In regard to the statement placed below, I would also like to emphasise, that all the points dealt with therein, will remain under constant review until final decisions are taken in respect of all items.

Finally, I should like again to thank the members of the Estimates Committee for the valuable suggestions contained in most of their recommendations, which have received and are further receiving the most serious consideration of Government.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES

The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satyanarayan Sinha): I beg to move:

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (4) of rule 145 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Parliament, one Member from amongst their number to serve on the Committee on Estimates for the unexpired portion of the financial year 1951-52 vice Shri Raj Bahadur, resigned."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (4) of rule 145 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Parliament, one Member from amongst their number to serve on the Committee on Estimates for the unexpired portion of the financial year 1951-52 vice Shri Raj Bahadur, resigned."

The motion was adopted.

STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR

Shri Satyanarayan Sinha: I beg to move:

"That this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the hon. the Speaker may direct, one Member to serve on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects dealt with in the Ministry of Labour for the unexpired portion of the financial year 1951-52 vice Shri R. Venkataraman, resigned."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the hon. the Speaker may direct, one Member to serve on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects dealt with in the Ministry of Labour for the unexpired portion of the financial year 1951-52 vice Shri R. Venkataraman, resigned."

The motion was adopted.

STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

"That this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the hon. the Speaker may direct, one Member from amongst themselves to serve on the Standing Finance Committee for the unexpired

portion of the financial year 1951-52, vice Shri R. Venkataraman, resigned."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the hon. the Speaker may direct, one member from amongst themselves to serve on the Standing Finance Committee for the unexpired portion of the financial year 1951-52, vice Shri R. Venkataraman, resigned."

The motion was adopted.

INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

The Deputy Minister for Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Rule 2(6) of the revised rules of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the Members of this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the hon. the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to be members of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research vice Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya and Chaudhari Ranbir Singh, resigned."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Rule 2(6) of the revised rules of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the Members of this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the hon. the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to be members of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research vice Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya and Chaudhari Ranbir Singh, resigned."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform hon. Members that the following dates have been fixed for receiving nominations and holding elections, if necessary, in connection with the following Committees, namely:—

	Date for nomination	Date for election
(1) Committee on Estimates.	8-6-51	9-6-51
(2) Standing Committee for the Ministry of Labour.		
(3) Standing Finance Committee.		
(4) Indian Council of Agricultural Research.		

[Mr. Speaker]

The nominations for these Committees will be received in the Parliamentary Notice Office up to 4 P.M. today. The elections, which will be conducted by means of the single transferable vote, will be held in the Assistant Secretary's room (No. 21) in the Parliament House between the hours 10-30 A.M. and 1 P.M.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): On a minor point of clarification, Sir. Regarding the second motion moved by my friend, Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha, it is not clear whether the "one member" is from among ourselves or from outside—that is not mentioned.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member must know that it must be a Member of Parliament. There may be a slip but we need not take the time of the House in pointing out slips.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Speaker: Now before we go to the next item of business, namely the motion of the hon. Prime Minister, I would like to say something about the timings, as to when we meet again. I understand that it is the desire of the hon. Members not to meet this afternoon in order to enable them to have informal discussions on many matters before they come formally before the House.

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: Well, if that is the desire, we need not meet this afternoon, but so far as possible I would like to stick to the 1 P.M. time-limit fixed for tomorrow. If, however, it is unavoidable we might consider sitting beyond that time and in that case it will be an afternoon session. But so far as possible let us stick to the time-limit.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I would not venture to suggest any change in the programme you have suggested, Sir, but if time allows today or tomorrow I would like the House to take up two rather simple but important—in their own way—Bills dealing with the Banaras University and the Aligarh University. I do not wish the House to extend the session for that purpose, but if other matters in the order paper are disposed of and there is time we might take them up today or tomorrow morning as the House chooses.

Mr. Speaker: Of course within the time-limit and subject to the desire of the House; if there is time I think there should be no objection to have these two Bills also.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): Am I to understand that tomorrow evening we sit as long as necessary or is there any time-limit?

Mr. Speaker: No, no. Up to 6 or 6.30 P.M., but so far as possible we must finish at 1 o'clock.

MOTION Re CONDUCT OF SHRI M.P.—contd.

Mr. Speaker: Now we will take up the motion moved by the hon. Leader of the House. To this motion I have received amendments of Mr. Kamath which have been circulated and which therefore need not be read out in extenso.

The Prime Minister and Leader of the House (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): In regard to Mr. Kamath's amendments—there are ten—as a matter of fact, nearly all of them are verbal amendments. Mr. Kamath with his eclectic knowledge of the English language has tried to improve upon the wording of the Resolution. Well, I bow to his superior English and I have no objection to improving the wording if you, Sir, approve of it. They all deal with the wording, except two or three of them. Amendment No. 3 says that the report should be presented on the opening day of the next session. Well, Sir, I suppose inevitably it will have to be about that time, but whether it is necessary to put it in or not, I have no objection to put it in if you approve. But as regards amendment No. 6, I think it is not desirable at all to bring in the approval of the Committee of Privileges in regard to some matters. This Committee is an independent Committee and to tie it on to the Committee of Privileges would merely confuse the issue and delay matters. So I am not prepared to accept that amendment. As for No. 10, it is more or less open to the Committee to do what is proposed therein and the House will remember the last part of my motion leaves further direction or directives etc. to the hon. Speaker. Therefore, all that is really included.

So I suggest, if I may, subject to what you, Sir, think proper about the language, that the linguistic amendments might be accepted, although I might say that the motion I put forward was largely framed to conform to some similar motions in the House of Commons in the United Kingdom and I took the language of those similar motions to frame the present one—I did not indulge my fancy very much in this matter. However, it is immaterial what the language is, provided the meaning is clear.

So I suggest to Mr. Kamath that amendment No. 6 should not be pressed because it does confuse the issue. As for No. 10 it is already included and he need not press that either. As for the others, I leave it to you, Sir, and the House.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): On a point of clarification, Sir.....

Mr. Speaker: Let me first say what is my own reaction since the Leader of the House has left the discretion to me to some extent. As the hon. Leader of the House has stated, the motion proceeds on the basis of similar motions in the House of Commons. Now amendment No. 2 proposes that instead of the word "advantages" the word "advantage" should be substituted. As regards No. 3, it says that the Committee should report "on the opening day of the next Session". I should myself be inclined to think that there should be some latitude to the Committee. It is just possible they might want three or four days or a week more time. In any case, all that we want, I believe, is that the report should be in the hands of Members in sufficient time to enable them to read it and then to have a discussion in the House. If that is achieved, I think we need not be specific and bind down the hands of the Committee. That is my own reaction but it is for the House to decide as to what they should do. It is just possible that the Committee may not be able to finish its work, we do not know what materials are going to come before the Committee and what time it will take. So, that disposes of amendment No. 3.

Amendment No. 4 is also consequential to No. 3.

As regards No. 6 the hon. Prime Minister has already stated his view. As regards No. 7 the motion as was said previously, follows the wording of rule 191. The amendment says:

"The Committee shall have the power to require the production of such documents as they think necessary for purposes of the inquiry."

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am prepared to accept that.

Mr. Speaker: It makes no difference. The power is already there, but if the Leader of the House is prepared to accept amendment No. 7 then the Chair has no objection to it being accepted by the House. I am merely giving my reactions.

Then, again, as regards amendment No. 8, the language, again is taken from a similar motion in the House of Commons.

No. 9 is almost the same as No. 8.

No. 10 is already covered by the terms of the motion. That is how it stands. If the hon. Member Mr. Kamath is agreeable, he may move parts 5 and 7. That would curtail all further arguments and save the time of the House. In fact I would have left No. 5 to Mr. Naziruddin Ahmed!

Shri Kamath: Sir, I would like, by your leave, to have certain doubts that still linger in my mind cleared in regard to the amendments that I have tabled. The hon. the Prime Minister paid me an undeserved compliment about my linguistic ability, but I am always prepared in that matter to learn from him and not *vice versa*.

As regards amendments No. 3 and 4, the point of these was, in case there is no specific mention in the motion itself as to when the report should be presented to Parliament my hon. friend Mr. Mudgal may be handicapped to a certain extent if he intends standing as a candidate for, or contesting the next General Elections. In case the report is not ready before the General Elections, he will be under a handicap. Therefore, to be fair to Mr. Mudgal we must see to it that well in time before the General Elections are on, the House should come to a finding, whatever it may be, on this particular matter. That was the idea underlying my amendment.

But if the Leader of the House can give the House an assurance here today that the report of the Committee will be available to the House well in time for its consideration and decision during the next session of Parliament or during the adjourned session, in case the session is going to be adjourned, in case such a definite, specific and categorical assurance is forthcoming from the Leader of the House, then I do not wish to press this amendment.

You yourself were good enough to observe that the whole point and purpose of the motion is to see that Parliament gets the report well in time for consideration and final decision. If that, Sir, is the understanding and assurance, then I will not move amendments No. 3 and 4.

May I have this point cleared before I proceed further?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Personally, Sir, I can give no assurance in the sense that the matter goes into the hands of the Committee and the hon. Speaker. But so far as I am concerned, I would be prepared, subject to your approval, to put a date as the first week of the next session or some such date.

Mr. Speaker: We may put that date—it does not matter. Even if we do not put it, it will be one of my directions to the Committee to report by that time. But it will be for the committee to expedite the report. I cannot visualise today the difficulties in their way.

Shri Kamath: But they are functioning under your directions, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: But they can function only with the cooperation of forces outside. Even if we put in a date, I do not know how it improves the position. Anyhow let us have the wording as suggested by the hon. the Prime Minister—"the first week of the next session".

Shri Kamath: My amendment No. 7 has been accepted by the Prime Minister. But in that connection the point strikes me as to whether the committee will have power to compel attendance of witnesses. If any witness refuses to appear, what action will be taken against him?

Mr. Speaker: It is very clear that the committee will have the power of compelling attendance. I may further go and say that, if any person refuses to appear or answer questions that conduct will be a contempt of the House and punishable as such.

Shri Kamath: So, my amendment No. 1 is, I suppose, out of order, No. 2 I will leave to the draftsman. No. 3 has been accepted in an amended form. In regard to No. 4 may I know whether the House will be prorogued?

Mr. Speaker: I cannot be definite about it; but I think it will be so.

Shri Kamath: Because it has been our unfortunate experience that in regard to the Delhi Premises (Eviction) Bill...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member need not go into all that.

Shri Kamath: In regard to No. 6, I remarked the other day that the Committee of Privileges had been bypassed in this matter. Is it not fair and proper that this Committee of Privileges appointed by you should go into this matter at some stage or other before the report finally comes to Parliament? This Committee is appointed by you and has a status all its own. This matter may be on the border line of privilege and something else. I do not venture an opinion on that point. But I think personally that the committee appointed by you and enjoying a special status should come into the picture at some stage or other, though the committee itself

will not enquire into the matter at this stage. I would be obliged if you could give your ruling on that point.

Mr. Speaker: As the hon. Member himself has suggested, at present, without further enquiry, it is a question of some doubt as to whether the matter involves any definite breach of privilege or not. The real question of the breach of privilege of the House, if any, will arise after the definite findings of the committee are known. At the present stage, as was explained by the hon. the Prime Minister we are more or less concerned with what is alleged as an improper conduct on the part of a Member, not keeping with the dignity of the House, and not coming up to the standard expected of a Member of this House. It does not go beyond that. But if it is found later on, as the result of investigations by the committee, and the evidence taken by them, that the statements made by the President of the Bullion Association were in fact made and were in fact untrue, then, so far as the President of the Bullion Exchange is concerned, there will be definitely a *prima facie* case of the breach of privilege of this House, in so far as the President has made unfounded allegations against an hon. Member of this House. Therefore, it is better to keep the Committee of Privileges apart. Let it not be associated at this stage in the investigation and let its mind not be prejudiced at this stage with reference to the possible future issue that may arise.

10 A.M.

As regards the other point, this Committee will also be functioning under the directions of the Speaker. Therefore I do not think there is anything derogatory to the Speaker's position so far as this Committee being appointed to investigate into this matter is concerned. And we need not go into the question of the Privileges Committee. There is a further point also that the Committee, though proposed by the hon. the Leader of the House, if the motion is adopted, will be a Committee appointed by the House under the direction of the Speaker. And the hon. Member will agree with me that though the Speaker represents the dignity of the House, the decisions of the House are on a higher level than the decisions of the Speaker or any other authority functioning under the House. So he need not have fears on that ground of supposed interference with the dignity of the Chair or with the decision of the House. That is how I feel about this.

Shri Kamath: On the question of privilege you referred to, in Thomas

Erskine May's treatise. It is definitely stated that "the acceptance by any Member of either House of a bribe to influence him in his conduct as such Member or of any fee, compensation or reward in connection with the promotion of or opposition to any Bill, Resolution, matter or thing submitted or intended to be submitted to the House or any Committee thereof is a breach of privilege."

Mr. Speaker: I think the hon. Member is confounding the issue. I am sure, during his service as a Magistrate, he has taken evidence and considered law also. At present, unless the thing is gone into, so far as the hon. Member of the House is concerned, we cannot proceed on the basis that there has been a breach of privilege by him. We must go further into the evidence and decide whether those allegations are correct. So he is mixing up breach of privilege by hon. Member of this House with breach of privilege by the outsider. That case of breach will arise after the investigation. The breach which he thinks the hon. Member is being charged with is not yet a matter of any charge, so far as the motion is concerned. He will see that the hon. the Prime Minister's motion does not go the length of saying that the hon. Member of this House has committed any breach of privilege by accepting a bribe. No. He is only saying that *prima facie* allegation shows that, if true, the conduct of the hon. Member is not consistent with the dignity of the House and is not up to the standards that are expected from the Members of this House. It does not go any further at this stage. Therefore, when he says there is a *prima facie* case for going into the matter, it means nothing more against the hon. Member. It is not a case yet of a breach of privilege. The motion is not pressed on that basis. It is possible as a result of enquiry, if the allegations are found true, then they will be referred to the Privileges Committee later on. That is how it will happen:

Dr. Parmar (Himachal Pradesh): I wanted a clarification. In view of your ruling on amendment No. 7, is it necessary at all to have this 4(a) introduced? If it is, would it not be proper to add also the attendance of witnesses therein? Otherwise, the omission may lead to an inference that the Committee cannot do it.

Mr. Speaker: In view of the point raised I think the original wording is much wider—the original wording without this amendment—that the Committee may hear or take evidence, which will mean documentary as

well as oral. I think that would be better. Instead of now trying at the last minute to improve upon the wording it will be better if we accept the original language.

Shri Kamath: On the clear understanding that the Committee would have power to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents and that anybody refusing to do so will be hauled up for contempt of the House?

Mr. Speaker: That is so.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The words "power to hear and/or to receive evidence" will cover it.

Mr. Speaker: I am now trying to amend the wording of the original motion, of sub-clause (b) of 4. "That the Committee shall have power to hear and/or receive evidence, oral or documentary"—will that be all right? (*Interruption*). Let us not try to be too legal about it. The matters will be covered by the directions of the Speaker if necessary.

Shri Kamath: There are no rules extant, and we have framed not rules for initiation of proceedings in case of contempt of the House committed by any person or party. In case a witness refuses to appear or a party refuses to produce a document how will proceedings be initiated in regard to contempt of the House?

Mr. Speaker: Whenever they have any difficulty they will report to the Speaker. The Committee will function through the Parliament Secretariat and the Speaker will give directions from time to time. If it is found that there is any difficulty in the way of the Speaker he immediately comes to the House and gets the powers. But, at present, I do not visualize any difficulty at all.

Thakur Krishna Singh (Uttar Pradesh): Supposing somebody makes a false statement, then what offence does he commit?

Mr. Speaker: I should not be called upon to give a ruling on such things. He will be liable, if anything, for the offence of making a false statement.

Shri Kamath: Will the rules of the Evidence as in the Evidence Act apply to proceedings before the Committee?

Mr. Speaker: Let us not go into these details.

Shri Himatsingka (West Bengal): May I draw your attention to clause 5. I feel that the word 'the' in sub-clause 5 should go. If you say "the

[Shri Himatsingka]

Counsel that will be appointed by Shri Mudgal, he is the person who must appear for the other party also; it may be that the other party may like to be represented by any other counsel and hence the word 'the' must be deleted.

Mr. Speaker: The word 'the' is a misprint. It is not in the original note. It will go.

Shri Kazmi (Uttar Pradesh): I want to suggest that the Committee shall have the powers of a civil court for purposes of summoning witnesses and all that.

Mr. Speaker: We are not constituting this as a regular court. In the exercise of sovereign powers of Parliament, we constitute it as a Court of honour and not necessarily as a Court of law, but it will have, for all practical purposes, all the powers. Under the parliamentary convention the House will be exercising those powers. So, I shall put the motion slightly amended by me to the House. The question is:

"1. That a Committee consisting of:

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari,
Professor K. T. Shah, Syed
Nausherali, Shrimati G. Durgabai,
and Shri Kashinathrao Vaidya be
appointed

(a) to investigate the conduct and activities of Shri H. G. Mudgal, Member of Parliament, in connection with certain dealings with the Bombay Bullion Association, which include canvassing support and making propaganda in Parliament on problems like option business, stamp duty, etc., and receipt of financial or business advantages from the Bombay Bullion Association; and

(b) to consider and report by the last day of the first week of the next Session whether the conduct of the hon. Member was derogatory to the dignity of the House and inconsistent with the standards which Parliament is entitled to expect from its Members;

2. That Shri T. T. Krishnamachari be appointed Chairman of the Committee;

3. That the quorum of the Committee shall be three;

4. (a) That the Committee shall have power to hear and/or to receive evidence, oral or documentary connected with the matters referred to the Committee or relevant to the subject matter

of the inquiry and that it shall be in the discretion of the Committee to treat any evidence tendered before it as secret or confidential; and

(b) That the Committee shall have power to hear and/or to receive evidence, oral or documentary in Bombay and/or any other place in India as the Speaker may decide;

5. That Shri H. G. Mudgal has leave to be heard before the Committee by himself or by Counsel, if he thinks fit and that the Committee may hear counsel to such extent as they think fit on behalf of any other person;

6. That the hon. the Speaker may, from time to time, issue such directions to the Chairman of the Committee, as he thinks necessary for regulating the procedure and organisation of the work of the Committee."

The motion was adopted.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES (AMENDMENT AND TEMPORARY PROVISIONS) BILL

Mr. Speaker: We will now proceed with the Legislative business. The following motion was moved by hon. Shri Jagjivan Ram yesterday:

"That the Bill further to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, and to make certain temporary provisions relating to pay and allowances of certain workmen, be taken into consideration."

We shall now proceed with the further considerations of that Bill.

श्री भट्ट : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, जो बिल हमारे सामने आया है वह स्वागत करने योग्य बिल है और सरकार ने जो नीति कई दिनों के पहले जाहिर की थी उसको कार्यान्वित करने के लिए यह बिल पेश किया गया है। मैं मानता हूँ कि बैंक के कर्मचारियों को यह बिल आशीर्वाद रूप होगा। इस बिल के दो हिस्से हैं। एक तो जो इंडस्ट्रियल डिस्प्यूट्स ऐक्ट सन् १९४७ का है उसको संशोधित करने का मतलब है और दूसरे बैंकों के कर्मियों का जो निबटारा

ट्रिब्यूनल ने किया था और जिसको किसी नुकस के कारण सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने रद्द कर दिया था और उस के कारण जो परिस्थिति पैदा हो गई और बैंकों के कर्मचारियों को जो नुकसान हो रहा है उस नुकसान को फिर से ठिकाने पर लाने के लिए इस में टेम्पोरेरी क्लोज़ेज आए हैं, यह इस का दूसरा हिस्सा है। इस बिल में एक बात यह साफ होती है कि सरकार साधारण जनता को जितने मदद पहुंचाने के मौके आते हैं उनको वह जाने नहीं देती है। यहां भी यही दृष्टांत है। जब साधारण जनता के दुख-दर्द का सवाल आया तो सरकार सोच रही थी कि इसको किस रीति से हल किया जाय। हल करने के लिए कनसीलेशन बोर्ड्स वगैरह का एक तरीका तो अस्तित्वात किया गया है। लेकिन सब से ज्यादा अहम बात और असरकारक जो बात है वह यह बिल है। इस बिल के जरिए बैंक के कर्मचारियों को जो नुकसान होने वाला था वह नुकसान उनको आयन्दा न हो और जब तक उसका निवटारा न हो तब तक उनका जो कुछ ट्रिब्यूनल ने फ़ैसला किया-था उस फ़ैसले के अनुसार उनको फायदा मिलता रहे यह इस बिल का उद्देश्य है।

अब यह सोचा जायगा कि इस बिल को यहां इस तरह लाने की क्या जरूरत थी जब कि इंडस्ट्रियल डिसप्युट्स ऐक्ट सन् १९४७ का मौजूद है। उसकी सातवीं क्लॉज में जो चीज रखी गई है उसमें और इसमें क्या फ़र्क हुआ है। तो इसमें फ़र्क मह देखा जाता है कि वहां सेक्शन ७ के मुआफ़िक जो पंच के

सदस्य नियुक्त होने थे वे सब के सब जज की हैसियत के होने चाहिए थे या जज बन सकें ऐसी उनको लियाक़त होनी चाहिए थी। लेकिन इसमें जो ख़ूब बात देखभाल करने की है और संशोधित किए जाने वाली बात है वह यह है कि पंच का जो सदर होगा जो उसका प्रमुख होगा, चैयरमैन होगा वह सिर्फ़ जज की क्वालिफ़िकेशन का रखा गया है। दूसरे जो सदस्य होंगे वह जज हों या न हों। वे व्यावहारिक ज्ञान वाले आदमी हो सकते हैं, चाहे बैंकों का ज्ञान हो, जब कि बैंकों के मामले आवें, और जहाँ मिलों का सवाल हों तो वहाँ मिल के बारे में ज्ञान रखने वाले हों और मजदूरों के सवाल हों तो मजदूरों का ज्ञान रखने वाले आदमी हो सकते हैं। तो इस रीति से उसमें यह एक बड़ा फ़र्क किया जा रहा है और यह फ़र्क कोई मामूली सा फ़र्क नहीं है। इंडस्ट्रियल रिलेशन्स बिल, जितनी सिलेक्ट कमेटी की रिपोर्ट आप के सामने है, उसमें जो चीज आने वाली है उसी चीज को यहाँ लाने की कोशिश की गयी है। तो यह कोई मामूली सा फ़र्क नहीं है बल्कि बहुत ही जरूरी, आवश्यक और लाभकारी फ़र्क किया जा रहा है।

अब पूछा जायगा, जैसे कि मेरे मित्र मिस्टर बेंकटरमन को आपत्ति है कि ऐसा इसमें क्यों लिखा जाता है कि बैंक के और इंस्योरेंस के मामलों के झगड़ों के निवटारे का सवाल उन के सामने आवेगा तो इसमें इसका ज्यादा ज्ञान रखने वाले आदमी होंगे। यह एक चेचीदा ज़वाफ़ है। सम्भव है कि इस बिल में क्लॉज ३ की जो चौथी धारा है उसमें "such qualifications as may be prescribed"

[श्री भट्ट]

ed" यहां पर अगर सरकार रुक जाती तो उस में कोई आपत्ति नहीं थी। लेकिन सरकार के सामने शायद कोई व्यावहारिक कठिनाई आई होगी और बैंक वाले और इंड्योरनेस वालों को एक तसल्ली देनी चाही होगी कि भाई यह जो आपके झगड़े निपटावेंगे तो उस में आप लोगों के जो धन्ये हैं, रोजगार हैं उसका ज्ञान रखने वाले आदमी भी लिये जावेंगे। तो मैं समझता हूँ कि यह एक सन्तोप देने की बात है और एक व्यावहारिक तरीका है। इसे लिये हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह चीज यहां रखी है और यह चीज इण्डस्ट्रियल रिलेशन्स बिल में भी सिलेक्ट कमेटी की रिपोर्ट में लाई गयी है। तो इस में अगर कोई खास आपत्ति न हो, हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी को, और अगर बैंक के मालिकों को खास आपत्ति न आने वाली हो और उन को कोई चोट न पहुंचने वाली हो, तो यह चीज वहां तक ही रखी जाय तो ज्यादा अच्छी हो जायगी। इस से हमारे मजदूर नेता भी संतुष्ट हो जायेंगे और उन के दिल में भी यह नहीं होगा कि यह एक प्रकार का पक्षपात किया जा रहा है। लेकिन मैं उन को एक बात यह कह देना चाहता हूँ कि इस बिल का मकसद क्या है। यह बिल जिस उद्देश्य से लाया गया है वह यह है कि जो बैंक के फैसले सुप्रीम कोर्ट की तरफ से नामंजूर किये गये हैं उन फैसलों को फिर से जांचने की बात है इस लिये इस में यह चीज खास तौर से रखी जा रही है। इसमें अगर हमारे मजदूर नेताओं को खास आपत्ति न हो तो वे भी माननीय मंत्री जी की सलाह को मान लें और जैसे वे रखना चाहते हैं उस को मंजूर कर लें।

श्री काभतः क्या आप मजदूर नेता नहीं हैं ?

श्री भट्टः मैं तो नेता नहीं हूँ, फिर मजदूरों का नेता कहां से बन सकता हूँ। अब आगे जा कर जब संशोधन पर हम बहस करेंगे तब मैं इस विषय में और बातें बताऊंगा।

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

अब इस का जो दूसरा हिस्सा है, कर्मचारियों को फिलहाल राहत पहुंचाने का, उन को जो नुकसान हो रहा था उस नुकसान को दूर करने का, वह हिस्सा बहुत ही जरूरी हिस्सा है और इस बिल को अगर यहां लाया गया है तो इस का कारण भी यही है कि हम पहले जो कर्मचारियों को नुकसान होने वाला था वह नुकसान न होने दें। इस लिये मैं इस बिल का स्वागत करता हूँ और इस के संशोधन के बारे में जब संशोधन पेश होंगे तब आगे कहूंगा।

(English translation of the above
speech).

Shri Bhatt (Bombay): Sir, the Bill that has been brought before the House is a welcome measure. It has been brought forward with a view to give a practical shape to the policy announced by the Government some days ago. I concede this Bill is going to be a blessing to the bank employees. It has two parts. One seeks to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The second part comprises temporary clauses which are intended to compensate the loss suffered by bank employees as a result of the situation that arose from the rejection by the Supreme Court, on account of some flaw, of the award given by the Tribunal, resolving bank disputes. One thing becomes clear from this Bill that the Government does not let go any opportunity that comes its way for helping the common people. That was what happened in the present case. When the Government was faced with public hardship it started thinking how to find a solution to the difficulty. One of the means adopted was recourse to conciliation boards etc. But the most effective remedy is the present Bill. What the Bill aims at is that the bank employees should not have to suffer the loss which they were going to suffer, and that, until a final settlement takes place, they should keep

enjoying the advantages which accrued to them under the award of the Tribunal.

Now it might be asked where was the need of bringing forward this Bill in its present form when the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, was already there, and also what was the difference between Section 7 of that Act and the corresponding provision in the present Bill. Now, the difference is that according to Section 7 of the said Act all the persons eligible for appointment as members of the conciliation board should be of the status of a judge or be possessed of qualifications which make them eligible for appointment as a judge. Now the important difference in the present case is that according to this Bill only the Chairman of the board shall have to be possessed of the qualifications of a judge. The other members need not possess such qualifications. They might be people with professional knowledge. For instance, they might be persons with knowledge of banking when the disputes relate to banks, persons with knowledge of mills when the disputes relate to mills, or persons with knowledge about labour when the question involved relates to labour. Now this is not a small variation. An effort has been made to bring in the same kind of provision as is foreshadowed in the Industrial Relations Bill, the Select Committee report of which is at present before you. Thus, the change being introduced is going to be both essential and useful.

Now, it will be asked, as my friend Mr. Venkataraman has done, why it is being provided herein that when the matter in dispute relates to banking and insurance, people with special knowledge of those subjects would be taken in. This is a complex question. It is just possible that if the Government had not gone beyond the words "such qualifications as may be prescribed" used in clause 3, sub-clause 4 of this Bill, there might have been no objection. But, possibly, the Government must have experienced some practical difficulty. They might have wanted to say to the banking and insurance people by way of reassurance, 'In settling your disputes we shall take in persons who have knowledge of your trades'. Hence, I think this is meant to be a sort of reassurance and a practical way of doing things. That is why the hon. Minister has introduced this provision which also finds a place in the Select Committee report of the Industrial Relations Bill. Hence, if there be no particular objection to the hon. Minister or to the proprietors of banks and it does not cause them any great injury it

would be better to keep it that far. This would also gratify our labour leaders who would not go with the feeling that any kind of partiality is being shown. But, let me tell them what is the object behind this Bill. It seeks to enable reconsideration of the ruling of the Supreme Court whereby the bank award has been held void. That is why this provision has been specially brought in. Let our labour leaders, therefore, accept the advice offered by the hon. Minister and agree to this provision in its present form.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): Are you not a labour leader?

Shri Bhatt: I am not a leader at all, much less a labour leader. I shall tell you more about this when we have a discussion on the amendment.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

Now, the second part of this Bill, which relates to the affording of interim relief to the employees and saving them from the loss that was imminent, is a very important part. In fact, the primary object behind the introduction of this Bill was to indemnify them against that loss. Hence, I welcome this Bill and shall speak on the amendments when they come up.

Shri B. Das (Orissa): Yesterday, I got a shock when my two labour leaders friends Mr. Venkataraman and Mr. Khandubhai Desai spoke in a strain that was contrary to the understanding which was arrived at the Conference between Bankers, the Labour Minister and the labour leaders. Yesterday, they spoke in a strain as if the welfare of labour is the criterion which should govern industrial development of India. I was gratified last July-August when my hon. friend Mr. Jagjivan Ram said at Geneva that the workers must work for the benefit and development of industry. Recently, the Secretary of the Ministry of Labour, Mr. V. K. R. Menon has also spoken almost in the same strain at Geneva. That was very gratifying.

For the last two or three years, I have been painfully watching labour legislations on the floor of the House. The Government of India and the Cabinet as a whole, do not function as a composite body. Labour legislation has been advanced in blind imitation of the Geneva regulations and Geneva conventions, without any bearing on the economic and industrial prosperity of India and we know what has happened. I was surprised when I read these reports of the Arbitration tribunals on the banking disputes. I cannot understand how banking has become an industry. If my hon. friends

[Shri B. Das]

will enlighten me, I will be grateful. Of course, I know what they have done in Geneva with regard to Domestic servants union and other unions. I cannot understand how, in India, unless it is some devilish inspiration from Geneva, an association of banking employees could be at all regarded as a labour union. We know what has happened in India during the last one year. I am sorry the hon. Minister of

Finance is not here. He is a big banker and if he allows himself to speak out what disaster has occurred during the last 1½ years in the banking field in India, he will tell us that we Indians must go slow and not blindly imitate what is happening in the European countries. I have my own doubts whether the western countries permit such liberty and laxity. As I said a few minutes ago, the Government has not worked as a composite whole in the matter of labour legislation. Hence this disaster.

When my friend Mr. Venkataraman talked glibly about the inclusion of a labour representative in the Industrial tribunal, I felt surprised and I smiled.

Shri Venkataraman (Madras): Because you do not know the conditions in other countries.

Shri B. Das: I know them much better; I know where the shoe pinches; you do not know where the shoe pinches. You are ruining the banking structure of India.

Some of us, at least I am not, and this is not the first time that I am saying that, are not enamoured of High Court Judges and retired High Court Judges. These High Court Judges have received a filip from my hon. friend. I do not know if my hon. friend Mr. Jagjivan Ram is a lawyer.

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): I have never been a lawyer.

Shri B. Das: These High Court Judges have got such a backing from the Labour Minister that most of them after retirement have become Arbitrators in these Tribunals. Their recommendations which fill up hundreds of pages of the Gazette of India show that they understand theory; but they do not understand practice.

Shri Khandubhai Desai (Bombay): That is the common ground.

Shri B. Das: With whom, with you and the High Court Judges?

Talking on behalf of industrialists, I may say this much that these High Court Judges have not been able to

grasp the intention of the Labour Ministry or of the Government of India—I do not separate the Labour Ministry from the Government of India. If there is no industrial and economic prosperity of the country labour will not get the amenities that in many cases they deserve, that as a friend and sympathiser of labour I concede them. But we are blindly following Geneva people and who are those Geneva people? They are controlled by Jews who have no homes—most of them and they are controlling the UNO.

Shri Kamath: They have got Israel.

Shri B. Das: You will see it finished in a year.

Shri Kamath: Finished!

Shri B. Das: It is all right to talk of Utopia but we should see whether it is practical in Asian soil. That is what the Minister should determine. It is not for us or for him to get inspiration from the West and to apply them blindly to our country. The only clause I support is clause 7. It is a gentlemen's bargain and it should be so until a new Tribunal that will be appointed for Banking determines the thing. Yet, I will be grateful if the Minister could explain why the Banking workers became part of the Labour Unions. I know it for a fact that as soon as 5 of the Clock strikes, the bank clerks leave their desks. To-day there is over-employment in the banks—he will admit it if he thinks of it as a private citizen. To-day bank employees do not work. Banking was not a business of ours. We borrowed it. The whole banking structure was in European hands. The Imperial Bank which is to-day already controlling so many banks is still controlled by the European system of Banking. My friend the hon. Minister will concede that it was a tremendous effort of many middle class people to organize a banking structure in India and I know his province well and he will know how the Banks in his province are just living from hand to mouth. In that condition of our banking structure and when owing to other circumstances our national economy is threatened with disaster, the hon. Minister—perhaps this House passed it—but I say the Government of India was unwise to organize the banking labour or trade union, thereby creating a cleavage in the efficiency of banking management.

I would place one point before my friend the hon. Minister for Labour for all Industrial Tribunals. Do not be too enamoured of the retired High

Court Judges or of the big High Court Judges who never knew anything of commercial life, who never knew anything of banking. The other day my friend Mr. Chaliha told us that the High Court Judges in Assam are a separate class of beings who do not associate with the public. What do they know then of the economic structure of India or the banking development? Suddenly we put them as members of Tribunals and they try to think in a legalistic way without understanding the realistic difficulties. I think we have an equal duty and it is for us to point out to the Labour

Minister that difficulties arise, that the Banks in India are on the verge of collapse. I will not say on the verge of collapse—but they are in a tight corner. If my friend the Minister has access to the opinions of the Reserve Bank, Imperial Bank and other banks, he will find that with great difficulty the banking business is being run. So, I think when the next Bill is considered of which my friend Mr. Venkataraman talks so much, he will think of these. It is our ultimate objective to make labour satisfied and give them a better standard of life and so we should see that the economic prosperity and the industrial prosperity of India is not marred and this was the objective of the final speech of the hon. Minister Shri Jagjivan Ram at Geneva. I felt very elated at that and happy, that we are going to have better understanding among ourselves but that I do not know if that understanding will come in the way of the speeches that were delivered yesterday by my Labour friends. I would not have spoken but I find if labour is now a big farce in India—and Labour Unions are trying to get whatever they can then there is the other side of the picture, that must be spoken of. That other side contributes equally to the prosperity and well-being of the labour community, the Labour Ministry and the whole country. I do hope my hon. friend, when he speaks, will speak in the strain in which he spoke at Geneva and would tell us however bad the industrialists are, however bad the rest of the Government of India, the capitalist section of the Government of India are, he will tell us how we will shape our attitude of life so that there is prosperity in India and no sudden hand-cap in our industrial developments. He will agree with me that since this Industrial Tribunal's award in the Banking disputes, the banking structure in India is almost collapsing.

Shri Sarangdhar Das (Orissa): On a previous occasion about two months ago, I had mentioned this Bank Dis-

pute and the invalidation of the Tribunal's Award by the Supreme Court. As far as I remember, I was laughed at then. What I had wanted, what the employees of a particular Bank as well as of all other banks were wanting was that the Tribunal's Award should be validated by the Government by an Ordinance or by legislation but it was not done then. That was a period of emergency particularly with one of the banks here and its branches in the Punjab. I know the Government of India is armed with all kinds of powers to meet an emergency and to suspend the autonomous Governments of the States but in this case where mere employees of a bank and of some other banks who were sympathising with them were concerned, the Government could not move! The hon. Minister has taken over two months to bring forward legislation to validate it. However, I say it is better late than never. Consequently I am very glad that he has brought forward this piece of legislation in the form of a Bill. At the same time I must strongly protest against the inclusion of the provision which entitles a man with experience of banking and insurance to sit on the tribunal. This was debated for a very long time in the Select Committee on the Labour Relations Bill. I wish to point out that the Labour Relations Bill is an all-comprehensive measure that embraces within itself the relations between employees and management or employers, no matter what industry or enterprise they are engaged in. The question of the inclusion of a man with banking experience on the tribunal when there is a dispute relating to banks or insurance companies was after all approved by a majority of one vote and I could not say if it was the casting vote of the Chairman—I stand to be corrected in this. However, the opinion of the committee was equally divided and by a majority of one vote it was carried. That has to come before the House yet. Then why is it that the Minister has brought forward that provision in this little Bill meant purely to validate an award? I should say that it is being done by the backdoor.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: The Bill is before the House.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: Why not wait till the Labour Relations Bill is brought up. However, we are only a few who speak on behalf of labour and I know we will not carry anything. You have a great majority which will pass the measure. But I would earnestly submit to the hon. Minister that if he yields to the pressure of the

[Shri Sarangdhar Das]

bankers in including a man with banking experience in a tribunal that considers banking and insurance matters, then with equal justice he must include also a man who has experience of labour matters, as was pleaded by the previous speaker yesterday such as Shri Khandubhai Desai and Mr. Venkataraman. I understand that Mr. Venkataraman has an amendment to that effect. If that is accepted it would keep the balance steady and there would be no weightage for one party or the other to a dispute. This is only bare justice.

I do not agree with my friend who claims to be the father of the House. Being a father he belongs to the 19th Century. He talks of the Labour Minister's Labour Relations Bill as being revolutionary and he thinks that the banking structure of the country is collapsing. I ask him how did the Indian-managed banks during the last quarter of a century collapse? Is it not because of the directors who have swallowed all the capital that the banks collapsed? Even today there are banks which are collapsing for this reason. It is not because the employees have formed trade unions that the banks are collapsing. As a matter of fact the banks have certain hours of business, perhaps three or four hours, when the outside public can transact their banking business. Then after the doors are closed nobody knows what is happening inside there. It is very rarely that the public knows that the employees are made to work longer hours, far into the night. That is why I say that when the doors are bolted we from the outside do not know whether they are working till 8 or 10 P.M. (Interruption). That is why I say that trade unions are necessary, whether the institution is a bank, an insurance company or the Maharaja of Baroda's household. They are necessary to safeguard the interests of the workers and I am rather surprised that a man of his experience, particularly with experience of this Parliament and the former Assembly, should be frightened by the labour unions. The Constitution itself has given equal political rights to all people. During the last two or three years revolutionary changes have taken place which you have not seen in the 19th or early 20th century. You cannot keep the workers tied down as slaves any more. The workers have come to their adult age and if you do not in justice concede their demands for better working conditions, housing and so on, so that they will be just as good human beings as the managing director of a big bank, they are not going to stand their slavery conditions

any longer, which they have borne so long. It is no use now shedding tears over the change of the times. Today labour stands up and says "I am a factor in the production of wealth whether from the land, from the factory or from the bank." Banking is certainly one of the most important industries. Wherever wealth is being produced, no matter in what way, it is an industry. The managing director, the manager, the accountants, the cashiers, the clerks, and the peons all combine to make the one rupee into a rupee and four annas or two annas at the end of the year and therefore banking is an industry. I was surprised when it was said that it was not an industry.

Therefore, my appeal to the Labour Minister is that he should now do justice to the employees of the banks and to see if it is necessary, in my opinion it is not necessary, that in a tribunal there should be a man with banking experience or insurance company experience. If you say that, then if there is a textile dispute there must be a man in the tribunal with textile experience, or that if there is a sugar dispute there must be a man with sugar experience, I say it is not at all necessary. But if you do think it necessary—I know the bankers had pressed that in the matters of banking and insurance company disputes a man with banking experience should be on the Tribunal, and if you do concede that—then you must concede the demand of the workers, and along with the banker there must be a man on the Tribunal with experience of labour conditions, working conditions, wages, and so on and so forth. This is very necessary. Otherwise the agitation will be stronger and stronger and it will be said that the Government has yielded to the pressure of the bankers.

Another point which I wish the Labour Minister to clarify is that in the "allowances" that have been validated, there is no mention of hospital allowances. Hospital allowances were included in the award. I do not know if there will be any further adjudication in that matter. I request the hon. Minister to clarify this point.

With this proviso that I lodge my protest regarding the inclusion of a banker in the Tribunal, I support the motion.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras): I must congratulate my hon. friend, the Mover of this Bill for the alacrity he has shown in bringing forward this measure before the House in order to solve a rather difficult position in the country. But at the same time I

must join issue with the previous speaker when he accused the Government of being dilatory. I think the hon. Minister has brought forward this measure with all possible alacrity and the fact that the House is sitting practically at the fag end of the session to consider this important measure must have shown to my hon. friend who spoke before me that the hon. Minister is anxious, the Government is anxious, and the Party behind the Government is very anxious to solve this difficult problem that has arisen because of the judgment of the Supreme Court adjudging the Industrial Tribunal's award in respect of Bank employees null and void.

My point in intervening in this debate is to place before the House and before the public certain facts which I believe have led to a misunderstanding of the position of the bank employees generally in their relation to the public. I was one of those who felt at one time that the manner in which the Bank Tribunal's award was worked created a situation in the country where the public were placed in such a position that they were not only not able to appreciate the difficulties of the bank employees but rather lost all sympathy with the position of the bank employees as such. That was largely because of the manner of interpretation by bankers of the Bank Tribunal's Award by reason of their cutting down the working hours of banks during which the banks were serving the public, and also by cutting down the number of working days in a week by one so that the public generally felt, "Here is something done by the Bank Tribunal which has resulted in taking away banking facilities so far as the public is concerned". I am also aware, Sir, that in relation to the working of the Shop Assistants Act, the manner in which certain State Governments work that Act also creates an impression in the minds of the public that labour is getting some undue advantage over the public and service to the public that is due is denied. This is largely because of the manner in which these awards and these Acts are worked, rather than from any desire on the part of labour not to serve the public. When the Banking Companies Act was on the anvil of the House, I could take credit, Sir, that I did draw the attention of the Finance Minister at that time that it was not enough to have a Banking Companies Act without at the same time statutorily providing for fair wages and fair treatment to bank employees. And I was very happy that in some form or other it was ultimately brought to the notice of the hon. Labour Minister and the

industrial tribunal for bank employees was established.

The position now has been more or less a stalemate because the Supreme Court has adjudged that the award was not valid, not for reasons of some intrinsic defect in it but for some technical reasons. In any event I think some kind of revision would have been necessary at any rate to bring home to the banks that they could not use the award in such a manner as to put banking labour in juxtaposition with the public. That kind of interference was called for. I think some of us represented that to the Finance Minister and also to the Labour Minister in this House that a revision was necessary. Any way, out of evil cometh good and the Supreme Court judgment has provided an opportunity for the Government to establish a new tribunal so that all facts of the case could be brought again before it and the new terms in respect of wages and working hours fixed so that the public would understand that it is not the mistake of the bank employees but that of the employers if they have been denied any service so far as banking hours are concerned. That I think is very necessary because my hon. friend, Mr. B. Das, about whose good intentions nobody in this House has any shadow of doubt, believes that the best way to serve the public through banks is to pay the employees as little as possible so that banks will work successfully and return big dividends to shareholders. Well, if that is the only way in which banks can work in this country, I think we better not have any banks at all. I cannot see how one set of industrial labour can have provisions by which it could agitate collectively for better treatment but another set of workers should be left unprotected merely because somebody thinks that industry involved is an important industry or is an important business which is very necessary for the economy of the country. I attach very great importance to the future of banking. I also feel that the Government as a whole, notwithstanding the fact that I belong to a Party which supports the Government, I feel that the Government as a whole has not appreciated the importance of banking to the future economy of this country. If they had done so, well, our banking system would change. But that does not mean that banking should be based on a wholly competitive system in our economy. In fact, there are large number of banks in the country often competing with one another which does no good so far as the borrower is concerned, does no good so far as the depositor is concerned.

[Shri T. T. Krishnamachari]

but only does harm so far as the employee is concerned; because the banks concerned are unable to pay decent wages. I do not see why un-economic banks should not close down. If, as a result, a problem of unemployment ensues it is a problem for Government to face. But I cannot understand the argument of any person, sane and wise as bankers are in this country, when they say, "Well, it is uneconomic proposition as we cannot run the bank and pay decent wages", if they cannot pay decent wages let them better close down a few of their branches. Let there be rationalization, let there be fewer banks to serve the people better. That, however, does not mean that decent wages should not be paid to employees nor that hours of work should be regulated.

With regard to the proposed composition of the Committee much was said by my hon. friend, Mr. Sarangdhar Das who spoke before me. There is undoubtedly a point which the hon. Minister should bear in mind, that in a fairly technical business like banking, not insurance,—I take insurance away from the field because it is not of such a technical nature—some kind of expert guidance will be necessary for the Tribunal to make up its mind. Mr. Venkatraman suggested yesterday that there may be assessors to help the tribunal. That probably is one point of view. But in the narrow circumstances in which this particular tribunal will operate, there will not be any great harm, if perhaps somebody with knowledge of banking is included and it is not generally insisted that an employee of a bank or Managing Director of a Bank should be there. That is a matter for adjustment and I have no doubt that the hon. Minister for Labour, who is interested in the well-being of bank labour as much as any body else in this House will see that the dice is not loaded against them. But that does not mean that it should be made into a political point to smash the whole Bill, as my hon. friend who has left the House who apparently wants that this Bill should be dropped, in which case the position of the bank employees will be no better and they will not thank him for the service that he has done to them.

11 A.M.

The only point that I would like to insist on before I sit down is this that the labour representatives who plead this cause of Bank employees should not completely lose sight of the public service aspect of institutions like banks, or even for that matter shops

and other things. They must safeguard or take care to see that the public do not get wrong impression that the employees are trying to manipulate the hours of working by denying service to the public. I am afraid that the labour leaders who were associated with the enquiry when the Industrial Tribunal for banks was operating had lost sight of this particular fact. In the rather transitional stage in which our economy is in, even those amongst us who have the interests of labour at heart cannot afford to create a wrong impression in the minds of the public that here is labour asking for something which is not right and which is improper and by reason of the grant of concession in this respect public interest suffers. Banking is a public utility service and the hours of work and standards of pay should be based on the same basis as in public utility services like electricity undertakings, municipal services and so on. Therefore, I would urge upon those friends of mine here who represent labour organisations not to lose sight of this particular fact, because that is the only way in which we can get the public to sympathise with the demands of workers, whatever might be their category. So far as this point is concerned, though perhaps a few people like Mr. B. Das feel that a change might perhaps adversely affect Banking business, practically the bulk of the House is behind the Minister for Labour in his attempt to improve the position of labour in this country and there need be no doubt at all in spite of the views of the political opponents, that the Congress is ever likely as a body, as a whole, to give up the interests of labour as against any vested interests.

I do hope that the Bill will be accepted by the House without any serious deviation and some goodwill result out of the work of the tribunal that would be appointed as a result of the passing of this Bill.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay (Uttar Pradesh): A peculiar situation has arisen on account of the judgment of the Supreme Court setting aside the award of the Tribunal and some remedy was to be found for it. The most important of the remedies necessary at the time was that there should be some provision for safeguarding the interests of the employees, because it was feared that on account of the setting aside of the award it was very likely that the employers might try to withhold certain amount of their pay or allowances or they might try to curtail their conditions of service. So, while making provision

to safeguard the interests of the employees, the hon. Minister has also taken the opportunity to reconstitute the Tribunals. I think it is a very welcome measure, because if this lacuna had remained, these difficulties might arise over and over again. The setting aside of the award of the tribunal was on a very technical ground. The position as it stands today is that the employees for no fault of theirs and for no fault on the part of anybody else, only on account of some lacuna in the provisions of the Act, are being deprived of the benefits of the decisions of the Tribunal, decisions which were unanimously signed by all the persons concerned without any dissentient note. On account of the fact that some of the members could not participate in the proceedings, on that very technical ground, the award was set aside. My submission is that when the award was set aside on that technical ground it is very necessary for making provision for safeguarding the interests of the employees and from that point of view this Bill is a welcome measure.

As regards the complaint that there has been delay, I would submit that the judgment was given on the 9th of April, 1951 and it is not even two months yet and the hon. Minister has come with a measure before the House and it is going to be enacted today. So the complaint of delay is not a justifiable one.

I now come to the Constitution of the Tribunal. A suggestion has been made that a person with banking experience should also be on the Tribunal. I think that would be wrong. In case you have a representative of the Banks, it would be necessary to have a representative of the labour as well. My hon. friend Mr. B. Das said that he was not enamoured of having High Court Judges on the tribunals, as they were not likely to have intimate knowledge of banking and insurance. I am sure they are not expected to have an intimate knowledge of labour either. So in case you have persons having experience of banking it is as well to have persons having a knowledge of labour conditions as well. Therefore I would like that this provision should be omitted if the hon. Minister agrees to it.

There is another restriction that has been placed in the proviso to sub-clause (3). They say that in regard to those who are not High Court Judges there should be a certificate from the High Court that they are fit persons to be on the Tribunal. I think that 200 PSD

restriction is absolutely unnecessary. I think independent persons with a high position in society would be quite competent, and this sort of certificate by the High Court, in respect of persons who may even be District Judges and considered qualified for appointment to the High Court, that they are fit to serve on the Tribunal is a very heavy restriction and should be removed.

In the end I would like to say that the judgment of the Supreme Court is welcome to me in this respect that it came at a time when the House was sitting and the hon. Minister immediately came with a measure to amend the provisions in such a manner that such difficulties may be removed and now we shall know that no award will be set aside on technical grounds. Therefore it was very right that they gave judgment on the 9th April and the hon. Minister took the opportunity of amending the Act on those lines. I think therefore that this was a very timely judgment they gave.

I wholeheartedly support the Bill with the exception of certain provisions which I have mentioned in my speech.

Shri Ramalingam Chettiar (Madras): I am glad that the Labour Minister has brought the Bill so as to avoid difficulties in the interim period. But I think the new Tribunal that is going to be appointed will go into the matter more in detail than the Tribunal that passed the award.

While we are talking here about banks we are thinking of banks like the Central Bank of India or the United Commercial Bank and other banks which pay Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 10,000 to their Secretaries and which employ a large number of clerks. We do not at all think of those numerous banks in the countryside with a capital of Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 1 lakh and which employ Secretaries on a pay of Rs. 100, 150 or 200 and which sometimes employ a clerk and sometimes do not employ even a clerk. Such sort of banks are never thought of. When we think of banks and bank employees we generally think only of those large banks. No doubt the Tribunal which went into this question did so at the instance of the employees of big banks and naturally they concentrated their attention on the conditions of these employees and the capacity of the banks to pay them. I have no quarrel about that. But special provision ought to be made for these small banks which cannot afford to pay large salaries and which are serving a very necessary purpose, namely the purpose of giving finance to the rural areas and the semi-rural areas. That

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is a matter which will have to be taken into consideration and the new Tribunal that is going to be appointed will have to provide for these also separately. In addition to (a), (b) and (c) which they have provided they will have to add probably (d) for dealing with the rural areas and the conditions of these small banks. That is a thing which will have to be borne in mind. I would also appeal to the hon. Minister for Labour that he should in any reference he makes ask for special provision being made for small banks as well as for large banks and not treat them alike. These small banks are serving a very necessary purpose. Even the Rural Banking Committees and Conferences that have been held have gone into the matter and said that the scheduled banks, these big banks, cannot serve the purpose of giving finance for the rural areas. So it is absolutely necessary that these small banks should continue. It is not a question of saying "If you cannot pay the Secretary the amount which we are going to fix, you better go out of existence". If they go out of existence who is going to serve the purpose that they have been serving? They will be very necessary in the national economy and therefore I hope that they will pay due attention to this aspect of the matter and provide for them.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I must express my thanks to the hon. Members who have extended their support to the Bill and have welcomed it. There has been only one rather semi-discordant voice coming from my esteemed friend Mr. B. Das. I must congratulate him for reminding me of the speech that I made last year at Geneva and which he very much appreciated. In that connection I would like to point out to him that in that very speech I said something about the employers too. I wish he remembered that portion of my speech as well.

In any industry, capital and labour are indispensable partners in the existing framework of our economy. As Mr. Sarangdhar Das has pointed out, nothing can be produced without the co-operation and collaboration of employers and employees. It can be argued, not wholly theoretically, that if co-operation is not forthcoming from both the sides, the wheel of production will come to a standstill. Therefore what I said at Geneva was that the stage has come in the world today—and I think that that was a new orientation of the labour policy not only of India but of the world—when labour should not strike for their right to strike but they should strive for their right to work. But a right to work

in a capitalist society is not an absolute right. It has to depend on the co-operation of the industrialist or the capitalist class as such also. Therefore I would request friends like Mr. B. Das to realise that the time has come when the employers will also have to change their attitude toward labour and will have to realise that labour is not a commodity of commerce. Labour is also a human being. It has also its aspirations. And when today one complains of indiscipline among workers one should not forget that what yesterday was regarded as discipline by the labour itself is today regarded as humiliation on their part. And when they refuse to submit to these things and protest against them, the way to enforce discipline among them is to treat them sympathetically and treat them as human beings. I do appreciate that point and I have myself emphasized it more than once that the well-being and welfare of labour depend upon the overall prosperity of the country and even if other sections neglect their duties and responsibilities, labour should not because it is the poorer classes which stand to gain if the prosperity of the country increased. I have always emphasized that point to labour leaders and the workers in this country. I am glad to say that they have magnificently responded to that appeal in spite of hardships and inconveniences they are faced with and in spite of the lack of co-operation from certain quarters; they have realised their responsibility to the country and the community. If hon. Members look to the figures of production during the past years, they will find that there has been a steady progress, in spite of difficulties in the supply of raw materials and other factors standing in the way. I need not elaborate this point, Sir. My hon. friend, Mr. B. Das raised another point: How banking is an industry? May I pose another question to him, Sir? If banking is not an industry, what is it?

Shri B. Das: Professor K. T. Shah says 'service'.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Perhaps Professor Shah has in view a very narrow and limited conception of industry. That is perhaps the 18th or 19th century conception of industry. That conception has very much changed today. But I will not quarrel on that point whether banking is or is not an industry, the question is whether it is an institution where the relation between employers and employees has got to be regulated and whether the Government as custodian of the welfare of the community as a whole should regulate the relation between

The employers and employees in banking institutions or not. I will not pause for a reply from my hon. friend, Mr. B. Das. What is the alternative, Sir? If we are not to treat the employees in banking institutions as workers, if we are not to permit them to organise themselves into trade unions, and if we are not to regulate relations between employers and employees in banks what will be the consequences? Suppose there is a strike, there is a cessation of work on the part of the employees. Are we to stand aside and watch the whole scene? Does my hon. friend, Mr. B. Das envisage that situation? I think he will not. He will in that case request the Government to intervene in the matter and try to resolve the dispute, and that is what I am trying to do. Banking is a very delicate institution. A stoppage of work even for a few hours may cause havoc not only in the banks, but in the business world. It is, therefore, necessary that in respect of a delicate institution like banks Government should have ample power to deal with the situation, whenever it arises. It is perhaps too late now and too antiquated as well to say that the employees in the banks should not be treated as workers; that they should have no right to organize. Sometimes I shudder to think that if the workers in the banks were to be deprived of their right to organize and if they were to behave with their employers as a disorganized lot, what will be the fate of the banking institutions or the banking industry in this country. I think my hon. friend, Mr. Das was not serious at all when he posed that question. Sir, I leave it at that.

The other point that he raised was that we have been blindly following Geneva, rather he used the expression 'blind imitation of Geneva'. I think that Mr. Das did not do any justice to himself when he used that expression. He is a very old parliamentarian, an experienced legislator and I expect something more from him. I ask, whether our legislations were a blind imitation of Western countries or not. If he says that they are a blind imitation of the Western countries, then I am afraid, he has not discharged his duty as a legislator because he has not cared to go through the legislations put through by the Labour Ministry. If he will still care to go through them, he will find that they are not blind imitations but they have been adapted to the conditions prevailing in this country. He will also find that they contain provisions which are not to be found in any of the legislations in any other country; they have been devised to suit the conditions of

this country. So, to say that they are blind imitations of Geneva is not to do justice to himself. I do not want to pursue that point but whether we imitated Geneva or not, whether we imitated the Western countries or not, India will not be allowed to maintain or preserve those conditions which were prevailing in this country hundred years ago.

Shri B. Das: That I agree.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Whether a certain section of the society wishes it or not, whether it relishes it or not, whether it finds it to its advantage or not, a consciousness has dawned upon the working classes in this country and any sane and sensible Government cannot but realise the situation which will be created if that consciousness of the working classes was not to be reckoned with. Still I admit that the workers have not yet attained their age of majority. They are still trying to stand on their own legs. Difficulties in their way are manifold.

I will pass on to Mr. Sarangdhar Das's criticism. I do not find him in his seat. Perhaps it is a fashion with him to criticise every measure, whether it is beneficial to the workers or not. Trade unionism in this country for certain sections of leaders has become a pawn on the chess-board of political manoeuvring and a measure even if it is beneficial to the workers but does not suit the political manoeuvring of a particular party is always criticised. That has been the most unfortunate part of the trade union movement in this country where efforts have been made to utilise workers—who have been exploited by the employers, no doubt—for political purposes. After all, what is there in this Bill to which exception can be taken? I shall come to one particular provision about which something has been said by him. I must say that to make a grievance that this Bill has come rather too late is to ignore the situation. The Supreme Court judgment was delivered only on the 9th April last. Since then, all possible steps have been taken—even though a legal provision has not been made,—to see that the scales of salary and allowances of the employees are not reduced. A tripartite conference was called here in Delhi, which was attended by some hon. Members of this House as well. In that conference of employers and employees, efforts were made to see that even without having recourse to legal action or legal sanctions, a compromise might be effected by which the working conditions of the employees in the banks, as they prevailed in accordance

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with the award were not substantially altered to the prejudice or disadvantage of the employees. Within less than two months of the judgment of the Supreme Court, the Government have approached this House for enacting legislation in order to see that the salary and allowances of the workers are not adversely affected. On that score, Sir, certainly, Government's action should have been appreciated and a grievance should not have been made that the matter has been delayed.

Mr. Sarangdhar Das also said that the clause relating to Banking experts on the tribunals has been brought here due to pressure of bankers. I cannot say that in this world pressure and influence do not count. They have their place in the present society. If Mr. Sarangdhar Das feels that pressure of one section is made to be felt on the Government, I would advise him, let the workers also be organised on a rational line so that their pressure may also be felt not only on the Government, but also in society. If today the employers are in a better position to exercise their influence, and pressure, and create an atmosphere in the country more congenial to their interests, it means that they are better organised than the workers. So, the reply to that will be,—as we have to admit that the world today or tomorrow will always be amenable to pressure and influence,—why not try to organise and strengthen the workers so that they create that pressure and influence. I as the Labour Minister and more as an individual who has the well-being of the working classes at heart wish that the workers in this country were so organised as to use more pressure and more influence than the employers can do. But, the case today is just otherwise. I have no hesitation in admitting that. But, this provision has been made not merely on account of the pressure of the banking interests. I have myself been feeling, not only in the case of banks and insurance companies, but also in the case of other industries that, along with the Judges either of the High Courts or district courts who constitute the tribunals at present, association of persons having an insight in the economy of the industry and the economy of the country as a whole is necessary, not to safeguard the interests of the employers—I do not agree with that argument—but to safeguard the interests of the industry with which the interests of the workers also are inter-twined. If an industry is adversely affected,—if we change the pattern of our economy,

that is another thing—in the present economy, it also adversely affects the interests of the employees. In the interests of the employees themselves, it is necessary that persons having an insight and experience of industry should be on the tribunals so that they may bring their knowledge to bear upon the awards of the tribunals.

Another thing should not be forgotten in this connection. It has already been said that the persons having knowledge of banking to be associated with these tribunals are not there to represent the banking interests. I will go a step further and say that they will be persons who are not employees of any banks, but are independent persons.

Shri B. Das: Quite so.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: So, the apprehension that the employers' side will be weighted by the appointment of such persons arises out of a misapprehension or misappreciation of the whole situation. The question is not of having a person who will represent this party or that party. He will be an independent person having knowledge of that industry and that institution, so that he may bring his experience to bear to the advantage of the industry in making the awards. I may assure that I will, in setting up these tribunals, always see that persons who understand the difficulties and inconveniences of labour are also associated, but not exactly who represent labour, and see that industry as a composite of employers and workers, of capital and labour, is placed in a situation where it will function to the advantage of both parties as well as the country as a whole.

These are one or two objections that were raised to this Bill. One very fundamental point was raised by my friend Mr. Khandubhai Desai. I am afraid that difficulty still remains. The difficulty of prolongation of industrial disputes before tribunals and the various High Courts and the Supreme Court, as a result of the tendency on the part of the employers to drag all these disputes from one court to another. This cannot be overcome so long as the provisions in our Constitution exist. I am not talking of the provisions for the various writs in our Constitution. I am talking of that special provision by which the Supreme Court is empowered to hear appeals against judgments made by any court or tribunal in this country. That is a very wide power. It will depend upon the attitude of the Supreme Court as to how far that special section can be utilised to successfully move the

Supreme Court against the awards of tribunals so far as they relate to questions of merit and not questions of law only. So, though we may make efforts to reduce the period of litigation before the labour courts and tribunals, so far as those provisions in our Constitution are concerned, they are always there. Even then the period of litigation can be cut short if the employers will feel that the workers in a particular industry or particular establishment are well-organized to use other sanctions as well. So long as they feel that the workers have to use the crutches of Governmental machinery, there is always a danger of these disputes being prolonged by being dragged on from one tribunal to another and from the High Court to the Supreme Court. It should not be lost sight of that such prolongation results not only in the reduction in production but also a very considerable wastage of the shareholders' money. This is another aspect of the whole question in which I do not propose to go at this stage. But I certainly want to make an appeal to the employers in this country that litigation does not pay in the long run. Besides that, the good money of the shareholders is spent on heavy fees of lawyers and on running from the headquarters of the business to the headquarters of the Supreme Court or High Court, the relation between the employers and the employees is estranged which always adversely affects the production in that industry or that establishment. So it is always in the interest of the employers to smoothen their differences by mutual negotiation failing which, by conciliation. I am myself not much enamoured of compulsory adjudication or of intervention in disputes between the employers and employees by Government officers or by the Labour Ministry either in the State or in the Centre. I always welcome conciliation. So it is time that employers in this country also realized that litigation does not ultimately pay. The other point was raised by my friend Mr. Venkataraman that the period of conciliation provided in this Bill of two months is rather too long and it should be reduced to fifteen days. Perhaps he forgets that the period of 15 days for conciliation may be quite enough where the dispute concerns one particular establishment or where it concerns one industry in a small region. But where the conciliation concerns the whole industry throughout the country and where the conciliation has to be done on the national basis, even a period of two months is not quite enough. As a matter of fact, when I provided this period of two months, I had that pro-

vision also in my mind by which the Government can extend it to a further period of two months. So when a conciliation is on a national scale, the period of two months is not a long one but there is nothing to prevent the parties coming to terms even within three days or a week or ten days. So perhaps Mr. Venkataraman has not that point of view in his mind when he suggested a period of 15 days. Mr. Sidhva made a point about hours of work. With his profuse sympathy for the working class he wanted that they should work more and provide more convenience to the public. That point has been met to a very great extent by my friend Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari. There is difference between the hours of work and banking hours. Though the hours of work were reduced, the employees' contention has been that there was no occasion for reducing the banking hours to the extent that they have been reduced by the employers and there was no occasion for cutting out banking hours altogether on Saturday and this was done in order to prove the absurdity of the award. Well, I do not want to express any opinion of my own on that contention but that was a view expressed by the employees and it has been persistently expressed by them that even within the compass of the working hours as fixed by the Tribunal, it is possible to have a longer period of banking hours than the employers have done at present.

Shri Ramalingam Chettiar: What about the Shop Assistants' Act?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I am not at present concerned with the Shop Assistants' Act and that is not my jurisdiction. My friend may raise that in the State Assembly but there also we will have to come to a stage sooner or later where we will have to regulate the hours of work of all categories of workers in this country, whether an operative in the factory or a white coloured operative in a business house or in a bank or in a Government office. We have already regulated the hours of work of our own employees in the Secretariat and everywhere. The only thing to be seen is this that for the convenience of the public there should be provision for overtime. Instances are quoted from other countries that in those countries some of the banks work for 16 or 18 hours a day. I say even in this country it is not impossible to run a bank for all the 24 hours. You can work in shifts. So a prudent businessman will see that if by running his bank by shifts he is likely to have more business he should not grudge the payment of some overtime for the

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next shift. Anyway, the whole question is being referred to conciliation in the first instance and then to a Tribunal next. All these questions will be considered and if there is a scope that longer hours of work should be provided, the Tribunal will do accordingly and when the award is given, we will see that that is enforced by both the sides.

I think I have met all the points raised during the debate. My friend Mr. Sarangdhar Das raised the question of hospital allowance. That is a point on which we tried to come to a certain agreement in the Conference itself and something was offered by the employers. We are taking up that question again and I hope some satisfactory solution will be found out by negotiation because there are so many things which we are not including in this bill but it does not mean that they are going to be disturbed to the disadvantage of the employees. Take for example, the hours of work. We have not included hours of work in this Bill but we have reached a settlement by which the hours of work as they exist will not be disturbed till the settlement is made either in conciliation board or an award is given by a tribunal. So we are trying to take care of the other things by negotiation and conciliation with the employers and the employees' representatives.

I once more thank the hon. Members of the House who have given their welcome to this measure.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Is the approval of the High Court necessary for the candidature of persons to be appointed on the tribunal?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: The provision that we have made is that the member of the tribunal should be one qualified to be a High Court judge and there the approval of the High Court is taken. But where the person happens to be a district judge we have not made that provision. The experience at present has been that often we urgently require the services of some High Court or district court judges. There is so much dearth of retired High Court judges that they are not available for this purpose. So we have to draw from district judges for the tribunals, though we have not done so yet in any case. I am afraid we have reached a stage where we do not find High Court judges and I am not going to take the risk of appointing persons who are only qualified to be High Court judges at this stage. So

we will have to take from district judges and in their case it is not necessary to have the sanction of the High Court. We are not taking them because they are qualified to be High Court judges, but because they have experience of judicial work as district judges. In their case therefore the approval of the High Court is not necessary.

Dr. Deshmukh (Madhya Pradesh): Why not appoint senior advocates?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, and to make certain temporary provisions relating to pay and allowances of certain workmen, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3.—*(Amendment of Section 7)*

Shri Venkataraman: Sir there are other amendments also of which I have given notice but I am not going to press them. I am going to press only this amendment of which I have given notice just now, if the hon. Minister accepts. Sir, I move:...

In page 1, line 30 omit "and experience in".

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I would suggest to the hon. Member that the sub-clause must be stated. Nobody can understand this.

Shri Venkataraman: This is the new form which has been suggested by the Secretary. That is an instruction which I am afraid you have to give to your office, because I gave the amendment in the usual form.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will allow it now.

Shri Venkataraman: I will briefly explain the point of the amendment. I submitted to the House yesterday that the appointment of a person with knowledge and experience of banking may be misunderstood by labour as weighting the tribunal in favour of the employers. That is why I have suggested that the words "and experience in" may be omitted. The Government will take the power to appoint a man who has special knowledge of banking and insurance but the person need not necessarily be a banker. He may even be a professor of economics or some person in public life and affairs who is competent to judge things from the point of view of

society as a whole. I therefore move my amendment for the deletion of the words "and experience in".

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I accept the amendment.

Shri B. Das: Does it mean that professors with knowledge of economics become members of the tribunal? I object to it. Banking experience is necessary in some stage of the man's life.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It may be it is Mr. Das himself who has the experience.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

In page 1, line 50 omit "and experience in".

The motion was adopted.

श्री भट्ट : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे जो संशोधन हैं वह वाक्य रचना और शब्द रचना के बारे में हैं। मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि जो भाषा इंडस्ट्रियल डिस्प्यूट्स (Disputes) ऐक्ट सन् १९४७ में रखी गई है वही की वही भाषा इसमें भी रखी जाय जिससे कि यह ऐक्ट भी उसी शकल में रहे। मैं कोई बड़ा फर्क नहीं करवा रहा हूँ। मैं सिर्फ यही कह रहा हूँ कि इंडस्ट्रियल डिस्प्यूट्स (Disputes) ऐक्ट सन् १९४७ की सातवीं धारा में जो शब्द रखे गये हैं वही शब्द इसमें रखे जायें और इस लिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि "may think fit to appoint" के बजाय "thinks fit" रखा जाये और जो दूसरे शब्द हैं उन्हें एक ही वाक्य में न रखा जाय। इसमें दो अलग अलग विचार हैं। एक तो यह कि ट्रिब्यूनल की रचना कैसी होगी और दूसरा यह कि चेयरमैन कौन होगा। तो चूँकि यह दोनों विचार अलग अलग हैं इस लिये इन दोनों वाक्यों को अलग कर दिया जाय। मैं यह नहीं मानता हूँ कि इस के मानने में माननीय मंत्री जी को कोई आपत्ति होगी।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the difference between "may think fit" and "thinks fit"?

श्री भट्ट : फर्क तो इतना ही है कि पहले जो भाषा थी वह क्यों नहीं रखी जाती और शब्दों को खास तौर से क्यों बदल दिया जाता है।

सेक्शन ५ में तो वही की वही भाषा है। तो सारे ऐक्ट (Act) में जो भाषा रखी गई है वही की वही चालू रखी जाय।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It does not introduce any change in substance. Already the expression is there.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: There is no difference. I do not think it makes any change even if it remains as it is.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The amendment is not accepted.

श्री भट्ट : तो इस में इन्कॉन्सिस्टेंसी (inconsistency) कुछ नहीं है। दूसरी बात मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्लॉज ३ की उपधारा (३) में लिखा हुआ है कि:

"Provided that no appointment under this sub-section to a Tribunal shall be made of any person not qualified under clause (a)..."

तो इस के माने डिस्ट्रिक्ट जज (District Judge) के होंगे तो क्या इस के लिये हाय हाई कोर्ट (High Court) के जज को पूछोगे ?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: First of all you indicate the amendment to the House.

श्री भट्ट : मेरा अमेण्डमेण्ट (amendment) यह है कि सेक्शन (section) ए के साथ सेक्शन (section) बी को भी जोड़ा जाय।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri Bhatt: My amendments relate to the construction of sentences and selection of words. I want the words and expressions contained in the Industrial Disputes Act.

[Shri Bhatt]

1947, to be adopted in this Act also so as to make it similar to the former. I am not seeking to effect any big change. I am simply asking for the wording of Section 7 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, to be adopted in this Act also and, therefore, I want that the words "thinks fit" be substituted for "may think fit to appoint" and that the other words should not be inserted in the same sentence. They relate to two separate matters, namely, how the tribunal shall be appointed and who shall be its Chairman. Since these are two separate matters the two sentences should be separated. I do not think the hon. Minister will have any objection to accept this.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the difference between "may think fit" and "thinks fit"?

Shri Bhatt: Not much of a difference, but why is the old language not being adhered to and why are words being purposely changed? Section 5 retains the same language. Then, why not adhere entirely to the language of the Act?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It does not introduce any change in substance. Already the expression is there.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: There is no difference. I do not think it makes any change even if it remains as it is.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The amendment is not accepted.

Shri Bhatt: There is no inconsistency in it. May I submit to the hon. Minister that the proviso to sub-clause (3) of Clause 3 reads: "Provided that no appointment under this sub-section to a Tribunal shall be made of any person not qualified under clause (a).....". So, that would imply a district judge. Will, in that case, the previous approval of the High Court be taken?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: First of all you indicate the amendment to the House.

Shri Bhatt: My amendment is that part (b) be also added to part (a).

Shri Venkataraman: When the Labour Minister was explaining the point to my friend, Mr. Upadhyay, he said that district judges need not be appointed in consultation with the High Court.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: That is my amendment.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Minister has already explained that in case of district judges the previous approval of the High Court is not necessary.

Shri Bhatt: That exactly is my amendment.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: That will have to be accepted.

Amendment made:

In page 1, line 22 after "(a)" insert "and (b)".

—[Shri Bhatt]

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Even the proviso should be omitted.

12 NOON

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does the hon. Member press it?

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: No, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 4, 5 and 6 were added to the Bill.

Clause 7—(Scales of pay etc. of workmen)

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: My suggestion in my proposed amendment is that this word "legally" in sub-clause (b) should be omitted and the words "on the basis of the avoidance of the All India Industrial Disputes Tribunal Award" be added at the end of the sub-clause. Because, the meaning really is not "legally" in all the cases. The meaning is that it is void because it has become illegal on account of the decision of the Supreme Court. That should be clearly stated. That is what I want by the addition of these words.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It is not necessary.

श्री भट्ट: आज जो संशोधन मैंने दिया है मैं उसको पढ़ता हूँ

In page 3, line 3, after "fuel allowance" insert "transfer allowance, travelling allowance, journey allowance".

श्री जगजीवन राम : मैं यह कबूल नहीं करूंगा ।

श्री भट्ट : मैं इस लिये यह शब्द रखना चाहता हूँ क्योंकि बैंकिंग अवार्ड में ट्रेवलिंग एलाउंस, ट्रांसफर एलाउंस और जर्नी एलाउंस रखा है । इस लिये अगर आप छपे हुये एलाउंस ही रखेंगे तो कोई बैंक वाले इसका फायदा उठा कर ट्रेवलिंग, ट्रांसफर और जर्नी एलाउंस को खत्म कर देंगे । इसी लिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि इन तीनों एलाउंसों को भी शामिल कर दीजिये । मैं ने तो पहले ही यह सुझाव रखा था कि इनक्लूड शब्द रखा जाय लेकिन उस को आपने छोड़ दिया है । उसमें यह तीनों एलाउंस आ जाते । अब आपको इनको तो शामिल करना ही चाहिये ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member will read the whole explanation. In line 1, allowances mean, and later on include, any special pay or allowances.

श्री भट्ट : माफ़ कीजियेगा । बैंकिंग एवार्ड में स्पेशल एलाउंस क्या क्या हैं यह अलग दिखाया गया है । इस लिये इन चीजों की जरूरत है ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It becomes a normal allowance now instead of being a special allowance.

श्री भट्ट : जो नारमल एलाउंस है वही ट्रेवलिंग, ट्रांसफर और जर्नी एलाउंस में आ जाता है ।

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I am not accepting that amendment because these things are included here.

श्री भट्ट : तो अगर वह इसको स्वीकार नहीं करते तो मैं उस पर आग्रह नहीं करना चाहता ।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri Bhatt: I read the amendment of which I have given notice today. It is as follows: 'In page 3, line 3, after

"fuel allowance" insert "transfer allowance, travelling allowance, journey allowance."

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I will not accept it.

Shri Bhatt: I want these words to be inserted, for, in the Banking Award they have provided for the same, namely, travelling allowance, transfer allowance and journey allowance. If you provide for only the existing allowance, certain Banks would take undue advantage of that fact and abolish even the travelling, transfer and journey allowances. That is why I want these three allowances to be mentioned. Already I have suggested that the word "include" should be inserted, but you did not agree to that. That, if accepted, would have covered all the three allowances referred to above. Now you should insert these words at least.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member will read the whole explanation. In line 1, allowances mean, and later on include, any special pay or allowances.

Shri Bhatt: You will excuse me, Sir, the Banking Award has got separate mention as to what are the special allowances, and, therefore, these things are necessary.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It becomes a normal allowance now instead of being a special allowance.

Shri Bhatt: The normal allowance comes under travelling, transfer and journey allowances.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I am not accepting that amendment because these things are included here.

Shri Bhatt: If the hon. Minister is not going to accept it, I do not want to press it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause-7 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7 was added to the Bill.

Clause 8 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Title and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MOTIONS RE. DELIMITATION OF CONSTITUENCIES ORDERS: 1951--contd.

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): I should like that the Assam Order be first taken into consideration.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes. A number of amendments have been tabled to this. For the purpose of convenience is it not possible to ascertain what amendments the hon. Law Minister is prepared to accept, in which case the other amendments may not be pressed? Of course, if there are any Members who want to press their amendments we can deal with them.

Dr. Ambedkar: With regard to Assam I have many amendments.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Therefore, if the hon. Minister moves his amendments first, whatever is not covered we can address ourselves to it later.

Dr. Ambedkar: My amendments are in Suppl. List 4, Nos. 1 to 8. They are purely technical amendments and there is no point of substance involved. On further consideration I propose to withdraw Nos. 1 and 2 of my amendments.

The amendments were, by leave, withdrawn.

Shri Chaliha (Assam): Coming as I do from a very modest province I have a few modest proposals to make and I trust the House will be pleased to accept them. Sir, it is my misfortune to have to disagree with the proposals made by the Election Commission or the members of the Committee appointed by the hon. the Speaker of this House. I think they tried their best, but human limitations being what they are, they were not able to overcome some of the difficulties. Having made this preliminary remark I shall come to the proposal regarding Parliamentary constituency in Table A—Sibsagar-North Lakhimpur and "Dibrugarh". In this you will find that two different blocks have been lumped together in one constituency. Sibsagar is away from North Lakhimpur by sixty-three miles or more and in between you have got a sub-division intervening, and also the mighty Brahmaputra river and other big rivers. Probably the Election

Commission has not taken into consideration the topographical and geographical aspects of the question. I have got a map here which will indicate to you how unreasonable this combination is. If you see it, Sir, you will certainly appreciate the unreasonableness of lumping together two areas, from one of which to reach another it took me 72 hours during the last earthquake. If Sibsagar sub-division is tagged to a part of Dibrugarh it will be more convenient and Dibrugarh may be put along with North-Lakhimpur which are contiguous and in the same district.

A suggestion was made that you can cross the Brahmaputra. It may be very easy for rich and influential people to go by motor boat, but for poor candidates it will be very difficult to go there in connection with the electioneering campaign.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Parliamentary Committees went into this matter *in extenso* and made a report. Then the Election Commission looked into it and then placed this matter before the President and the President has passed the orders. As against it a number of amendments have been tabled. Hon. Members irrespective of the party to which they belong have been allowed to sit with the hon. Minister and discuss the matter. All of them sat together to find out how far they could come to an agreement on these amendments. The hon. Member is not perhaps satisfied with the agreement. Of course the hon. Member has a right to be heard by the House. I would however like to place before the hon. Member the limitations of the House and how far the House can proceed with the amendment. All these names mentioned by the hon. Member are Greek and Latin to many hon. Members of the House. Wherever there was unanimity of opinion among hon. Members from a province, the hon. Minister has tried to accommodate them, but if there is difference of opinion among Members themselves, how can it be helped?

Shri Chaliha: I am willing to obey you. But my experience may differ from the experience of other hon. Members. I only wish it to be placed on record that two blocks of territories with a distance of 63 miles intervening are tried to be lumped together.

The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): If the hon. Member is not satisfied, he may move his amendment.

But his explanation will not be either understood or appreciated by the other Members of the House.

Shri Chaliha: But everybody can appreciate how inconvenient it would be from the point of view of electioneering campaign when you combine two blocks with an intervening distance of 63 miles. It took me nearly 72 hours to go to North Lakhimpur from Jorhat, with all the help of Government. Therefore, I say this is a very unreasonable proposition.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But the Parliamentary Committee agreed with it.

Shri Chaliha: We did not have the advantage of discussing it with them. They were possibly very much pressed for time if they could not avail of the opportunity to consult others who differed. I do not find fault with them.

Sir, I now come to the Assembly constituency in Table B. Cachar district has always felt that their Scheduled Castes have been deprived of their just seats. They say they are entitled to three seats. We have taken it away to the Assam Valley and we justify it by the peculiar explanation that it has to be distributed district-wise. So I have suggested that in Hailakandi-Silchar-Hailakandi there should be a double constituency and one seat should be given to the Scheduled Castes. The one given to Jorhat should be taken away. People from Jorhat have also objected to it. Public bodies and others have objected to the allotment of the seat there. Therefore the Jorhat constituency should have one seat only and Majuli another. There is an amendment in the latter portion of it that instead of two it should be one in column 5. So I submit that Hailakandi-Silchar-Hailakandi should be combined and one seat more should be given to the Scheduled Castes. They have been always complaining that we so manipulate things that we take away their just rights. That is what they have been saying all along and that is what they say even now. And we have practically done it. I do not know how it can be explained to them. We say it is done district-wise as Assam Valley is a big area and therefore one seat at Jorhat should be given and that is how they justify the addition of one more seat in the Assam Valley which is not just.

Then there are other minor things in Jorhat sub-division. Against the entry Dergaon "and Khongia Mouza of Jorhat Thana of Jorhat sub-division" should be omitted. I find that they have a large concentration of labour

population in Khongia. The I.N.T.U.C. has also objected that Khongia should be taken away from Jorhat. The I.N.T.U.C. in which my friends Mr. Khandhubhai Desai and others are very much interested and think that the labour population there have been deprived of their rights. They have pointed out that the I.N.T.U.C. is against the taking away of this Mouza to Dergaon of Goraghat sub-division.

Then another area, Gadhuli Bazar Mouza of Amguri Thana of Sibsagar Sub-division has been added to Teok constituency of Jorhat. That is also objected to by the President of the District Congress Committee.

I may point out that the figure will be more than 35,000 voters in each of the constituencies even if we take away those Mouzas and no harm will be done to anybody.

Therefore I moved all these motions.

I also like to press my motion No. 2 in Supplementary List No. 2. I do not press No. 1.

In the Constitution it is provided that the Shillong constituency will be open as a general constituency. Article 332(6) says:

"No person who is not a member of a Scheduled Tribe of any autonomous district of the State of Assam shall be eligible for election to the Legislative Assembly of the State from any constituency of that district except from the constituency comprising the cantonment and municipality of Shillong."

I think Dr. Ambedkar has accepted this and it is said that was a printing mistake and that it will not be reserved for the Scheduled Tribes but that it will be a general constituency. Through mistake or otherwise it has been reserved for the Scheduled Tribes. It should not be reserved for them. It should be open for the general population. This has been specifically provided in the Constitution as I have already pointed out.

Dr. Ambedkar: I had said that the office has treated it as a printing error and that we propose to issue a corrigendum. Probably it has already been issued.

Shri Chaliha: In that case I would like to withdraw that motion (No. 2 in Supplementary List No. 2 relating to Assam Orders).

The motion was, by leave,
withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will now put the other two motions of Mr. Chaliha—Nos. 1 and 2 in the Consolidated List.

The question is:

[For text of the motion see Shri Chaliha's amendments Nos. 1 and 2 in Appendix XXXIII, annexure 1]

The motion was negatived.

Moulvi Faiznur Ali rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It has already been moved.

Moulvi Faiznur Ali (Assam): I beg to submit, Sir, that under the Representation of Peoples Act 1950, 108 seats were allotted to the Legislative Assembly of Assam. These seats were distributed amongst the different districts of Assam according to the population of each district. Accordingly an enumeration of the voters was taken throughout the districts of Assam. But unfortunately the enumeration in Goalpara District took place at a time when the communal disturbance of last year was at its height and a large number of the population of the minority community from Goalpara district fled away from Assam and took shelter in the neighbouring districts of Pakistan. Of course, some time later when order was restored, these people returned to Assam but by this time the enumeration was over. Naturally the number of voters in Goalpara District came to be very short of what it should have been under normal times. The population was taken to be a little more or twice the number of voters. Accordingly the population of Goalpara District was determined to be 9,47,000 and 12 seats are accorded to them. If we go to the figure of the last census, Goalpara District had a population of 10½ lakhs. So this figure of 9 lakhs and odd must be due to the fact that a large number of voters had gone away from Assam at the time of the enumeration. It has been found out that all the districts of Assam with the exception of Goalpara district show an increase of nearly 10 per cent. in population. Goalpara district is a very prosperous and growing district. Its population was 6 lakhs in.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would like to have some clarification from the hon. Member. Now for the Goalpara District 12 seats have been provided for the Assembly constituencies. He wants that 14 seats should be allotted. In that case that has to be taken from some other area. He has not tabled

amendments correspondingly and his present amendment says:

"That the Assembly Constituencies in Table B. be so modified as to give 14 seats instead of 12 to the Goalpara District...."

That is not an amendment which the House can adopt. How can the House 'so modify' them. He must have divided the constituencies and then set apart those constituencies....

Moulvi Faiznur Ali: My submission is that the whole thing should be re-submitted to the Delimitation Committee, for reconsideration and revision. And Goalpara District may be given the number of seats to which it is entitled according to its population.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is not in the amendment here. Order, order. I am afraid, I cannot allow that. Hon. Members must so table their amendments, that the House can act upon them straightaway. If he has redistributed the seats to the Goalpara District according to his own view of the population there, the House can consider but then these other seats throw a burden upon the rest. He has not given such an amendment. How can I place a vague and indefinite amendment before the House? I am afraid, I cannot accept it. I rule it out of order. Has the hon. Member anything to say?

Moulvi Faiznur Ali: I only suggest that there should be the same number of seats according to population basis throughout Assam.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is not the amendment that has been tabled here.

The question is:

[For text of the motions see Dr. Ambedkar's amendments 3 to 8 in Appendix XXXIII, annexure 1].

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I hope the other hon. Members do not press their motions.

Many Hon. Members: Yes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So then the consideration of the Assam Order both for Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies is now over.

Dr. Ambedkar: I should like you to take the Orissa Order.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): Is it sufficient to say that the consideration of the Order is over? I think it would be better to say that the Assam Order, subject to modification by Parliament or as modified by Parliament is carried over.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Assam Order is accepted by the House subject to the modifications already accepted.

Shri Shiv Charan Lal (Uttar Pradesh): On a point of order, I think the order of the President need not be put to the vote of the House. If there is an amendment, that amendment may be put to the House and accepted or rejected. So it is not necessary that the order should be put to vote.

Dr. Ambedkar: The order as modified is carried.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The modifications are carried. Now let us proceed to the Orissa Order.

Shri B. Das (Orissa): I have two amendments 1 and 2 in the Consolidated List.

They are:

That at page 1, in Table A—Parliamentary constituencies, in column 1 for the entry "Dhenkanal" the entry "Dhenkanal-cum-West Cuttack" be substituted.

That at page 2, in Table A—Parliamentary constituencies in column 1, for the entry "Berhampur" the entry "North-East Ganjam" be substituted.

I have further accepted the amendment that that Berhampur should be named as South Ganjam. I have got the support of Orissa Government through the Chief Minister. The Election Commissioner has approved of it and we are all agreed on that. This is only a change in name.

Dr. Ambedkar: I have great sympathy with these motions and there are a good many of them which propose that the names should be changed but on account of the pressure of time and other difficulties, I do not propose to accept any of these amendments for the moment. Much trouble is involved.

Shri Biswanath Das (Orissa): I find among the amendments two amendments regarding Jagatsinghpur and Kisannagar, two constituencies and Cuttack Town. Notice of these amendments have been given by the hon. Law Minister.

I request you, Sir, to ask the Law Minister to explain how and why he gave these amendments in regard to Jagatsinghpur and Kisannagar, and who it is that advised him, whether the Government of Orissa or the Election Commissioner or the Provincial Chief Electoral Officer and on whose advice he found it necessary to give amendment item No. 3. Because, they are not amendments which he even had

the courtesy to place before us when he invited us for a discussion. They are absolutely new. So, I expected him to explain the importance and necessity of these two or three new ones. Could he please do it?

Dr. Ambedkar: I cannot offer any explanation. I have offered so much explanation on so many occasions in the committees that I do not think I can go over the whole ground again. I remember he was present on one or two occasions. I am sure about it that he must have known what were the reasons why these changes were made. I should like to say that these changes have been accepted unanimously by the Orissa Members who appeared before the informal conference. I am not going to convert this into an occasion for a debate.

Shri Biswanath Das: I must frankly confess that I am shocked to hear from my hon. friend, for whom I have always had regard for his frankness, when he said that these two amendments regarding Jagatsinghpur and Kisannagar and Cuttack were placed before the Members of Parliament representing Orissa and that they were unanimously accepted. This takes my breath away. I do not know what expressions to use. Let me state that I would not use any hasty expression because hard words do not cut much ice. But, I should say that they were not at all placed before the Orissa Members of Parliament when they were invited for discussion; nor were they at any time consulted on this question. I myself, as the Chairman of the Consultative committee, must frankly say that I knew nothing about this. Neither in the committee, nor individually nor as a Member of this Parliament was I ever taken into confidence in arriving at this conclusion. I am surprised when the Law Minister says on the floor of the House that he placed these before the Orissa Members of Parliament and that they unanimously accepted it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The only difference is...

Shri Biswanath Das: I am coming to the other point. Regarding the other question, I know my differences. It is necessary and fair for me...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am referring to this very thing, Jagatsinghpur and Kisannagar. The hon. Member wanted an explanation from the Law Minister. I have been reading the original order. Here, the only change is instead of Jagatsinghpur police station excluding Unions 1 to 4, it is excluding Union Nos. 1 to 6. That is all the difference.

Shri Biswanath Das: That means that two Unions were taken away, that is about 40 villages were taken away from one constituency and put into another. I do not know how this is done. General constituencies were fixed on a specified basis. Forty or fifty villages from one constituency have been brought to another. I do not know what remains of the constituencies. The hon. Law Minister without any explanation says that he consulted everyone and all the rest of it.

Having stated so much about this, I come to the way in which these Consultative committees, especially the Consultative committee in Orissa or the Orissa Advisory Committee has been treated from the beginning. Sir, it was announced and accepted by the hon. Law Minister that these Advisory Committees will be appointed by the Speaker and that their functions will be to give advice and also to give their judgment.

I state on the floor of this House that nothing of this kind has been done. Let me state the facts. In the first place, the Advisory Committees were constituted in August (1950). The first meeting was convened here in Delhi. After the first meeting, we were advised to hold our meetings in Cuttack.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House would like to know whether the hon. Member is satisfied with the original Delimitation proposals, or the changes effected by the Law Minister, or whether he is ignoring both the original Delimitation proposals, the amendment of the Law Minister and, not satisfied with the President's Order, he is trying to place a fourth course before the House, so that other Members who do not come from Orissa may understand the situation.

Shri Biswanath Das: Certainly, I am going to show that the Advisory Committee has been treated with scant courtesy at all stages and that their recommendations have been thrown to the winds and that they were never consulted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is the hon. Member standing by those proposals?

Shri Biswanath Das: I am coming to your point. Therefore, the Advisory Committee takes absolutely no responsibility for this delimitation, because there are serious latches, things which have been challenged by different people in different districts. Motives have been attributed. Therefore, I make it clear on the floor of

this House that I take absolutely no responsibility for this sort of delimitation of constituencies. Let the Law Minister take the responsibility. I know he will.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members will certainly be anxious to know whether the hon. Member himself was a Member of the Delimitation Committee.

Shri Biswanath Das: I was the Chairman of the Committee.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then, he made his proposals. Is he standing by those proposals or going beyond them?

Shri Biswanath Das: At every stage, different principles were given to us. At the last stage, I am referring to the report, we stated that the committee is not, in the circumstances, able to agree, much less to accept these principles. In view of the vast differences, we refused to make delimitation on those principles. Our principles were ultimately accepted by the Cabinet. The Chief Election Commissioner stated that because of the resolution of the Cabinet, he was not able to accept them. The Cabinet accepted those principles. Having accepted them, I expected that the Delimitation Committee will be consulted at least. That too was not done. They have now themselves done it. New and fresh proposals have been brought before Parliament by the hon. Law Minister. Consulting whom? I do not know. I do not mind them. We will face the elections squarely. I know that the Congress will win in our province. But, I want to state on the floor of the House that this Advisory Committee has not been properly treated and the assurances that were given by the Law Minister were at no stage kept, not even by himself. That is the most painful part of the whole. I do not mind what changes he makes and where. Therefore, under the circumstances I make it clear to this House that the delimitations that have been made are none of ours and for which they take responsibility themselves. I have nothing to add.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Am I to take it that Mr. Biswanath Das has moved his amendments.

Shri Biswanath Das: So far as Sukinda and Jajpur are concerned, as they have been accepted by Dr. Ambedkar, I withdraw my amendments.

The amendments were, by leave, withdrawn.

Dr. Ambedkar: I would like to accept the following amendments:

Consolidated List I—parts I and 2,

Supplementary List 1, amendments 1 to 4.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That means 50 per cent. of Mr. Das's amendments.

Shri Biswanath Das: I gave notice of other amendments.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: None here.

Shri Biswanath Das: Even these amendments represent only the few that I had to give notice of after persistent requests from the members of different districts. I had another amendment. After they were accepted by the hon. Minister I thought they would give notice of them.

Dr. Ambedkar: I have given the amendments that I have accepted.

Shri Sarangdhar Das: (Orissa): It has been a very unfortunate experience for me to have been on this Advisory Committee. The Chairman—Shri Biswanath Das—has spoken about the Election Commissioner but I can say that I have complaints against the Chairman also. From the very beginning I saw that Members and witnesses who appeared before the Committee were all concerned in what they thought was their own constituency, their monopoly. However, working for so many months in so many meetings when finally the Election Commissioner's proposals were signed by me here, when I saw it was a disgusting proposition to go on from time to time without producing any result because if at one time necessary change was made by the Chairman, at another time it was made by the Election Commissioner and finally I agreed with what he had done. The worst misfortune comes now that after so much work, after spending so much money, when it goes to the President, it comes to the Cabinet and the Cabinet has a sub-committee where the whole principle is changed. If that was the intention of the Government, why did they ask the Speaker to appoint this Advisory Committee? Government along with the Election Commissioner could have sat down and long ago delimited the constituencies and given us a particular dish to eat from. I lodge my protest that

the ruling party has done everything—from the beginning to the end. The other parties are nowhere. That is my complaint and it is a much bigger complaint than the Chairman's against the Election Commissioner. I did not give notice of any amendment because I know mine will not be considered by you.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Was there unanimity among the Members at least?

Shri Sarangdhar Das: It was not necessary to have this Committee at all and you have wasted money and the energy of the Members. That is my complaint.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

[For text of the motions see Dr. Ambedkar's amendments Nos. 1 to 5 (Orissa Order) in Appendix XXXIII, annexure 1].

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: To that extent the President's order is modified.

The question is:

That the following modification be made in the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies (Orissa) Order, 1951 laid on the Table on the 16th May 1951, namely:

1. That at page 1, in Table A—Parliamentary Constituencies, in column 1, for the entry "Dhenkanal" the entry "Dhenkanal-cum-West Cuttack" be substituted.

2. That at page 2, in Table A: Parliamentary Constituencies, in column 1, for the entry "Berhampur" the entry "Ganjam-South" be substituted".

The motion was adopted.

1 P. M.

Dr. Ambedkar: My own amendment is in Supplementary List 2, Nos. 1 to 5. I accept the one in the name of Mr. Biswanath Das 1 and 2, the second with the modification "North East Ganjani" as "Ganjam South". The other amendment which I have accepted is in Supplementary List No. 1, 1 to 4 as modified.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following modifications be made in the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies (Orissa) Order, 1951, laid on the Table on the 16th May, 1951, namely:—

1. That at page 1, in Table A.—Parliamentary Constituencies, for the entry "Koraput in column 1, and all the entries against it in columns 2, 3, 4, and 5, the following be substituted, namely:—

1	2	3	4	5
Nowrangpur	Nowrangpur sub-division, and the Podua, Pottangi, Simliguda and Nandapur police stations of Koraput sub-division.	1

2. That at page 1, in Table A.—Parliamentary Constituencies, for the entry "Rayagada-Phulbani" in column

1, and all the entries against it in columns 2, 3, 4, and 5, the following be substituted, namely:—

1	2	3	4	5
Rayagada-Phulbani	The entire Rayagada sub-division and the police station of Koraput, Dashinantpur, Laxmipur and Narayanapatna of Koraput sub-division as also the district of Phulbani except police stations of Mamunda and Bondh.	1

3. That at page 1, in Table B.—Assembly Constituencies, for the entry "Nowrangpur" in column 1, and all the

entries against it in columns 2, 3, 4, and 5, the following be substituted, namely:—

1	2	3	4	5
Nowrangpur	Police stations of Nowrangpur, Kodinga, Moidapur, Dabugaon, Omerkot and Jharigaon.	2	..	1

4. That at page 1, in Table B.—Assembly Constituencies, for the entry "Omerkot-Moidapur" in column 1, and

all the entries against it in columns 2, 3, 4, and 5, the following be substituted, namely:—

1	2	3	4	5
Jeypur	Police stations of Jeypur, Kotpad, Borigumma, B. Singhpur and Tonulikhunti.	2	1	..

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So the President's order stands modified by these amendments.

Several Hon. Members: It is time to adjourn, Sir.

Shri Kamath: Before the House adjourns may I bring to your notice the understanding arrived at about the question list for the 2nd, which had been postponed to the 9th. I trust that arrangement stands and that list will be taken up to-morrow.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That will stand.

Will the Law Minister indicate the order in which he is going to take these delimitation orders?

Dr. Ambedkar: I do not think the House will complain that they were taken by surprise, if sometimes I take some orders out of turn. All of them have been before them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All the orders will be completed tomorrow.

The House then adjourned till Half Past Eight of the Clock on Saturday, the 9th June, 1951.