

10th March 1942

THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

Official Report

Volume I, 1942

(11th February to 10th March, 1942)

FIFTEENTH SESSION
OF THE
FIFTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
1942



NEW DELHI. PRINTED BY THE MANAGER
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS: 1942

CORRIGENDA

In the Legislative Assembly Debates, Budget Session, 1942,—

- (1) Volume I, No. 1, dated the 11th February, 1942, page 31, line 20, for "Muslims" read "Muslim";
- (2) Volume I, No. 15, dated the 5th March, 1942, page 708, line 20 from the bottom, for "Suppression" read "Supersession";
- (3) Volume II, No. 5, dated the 17th March, 1942,—
 - (i) page 1207, line 4, delete the full stop after the word "statement"; and
 - (ii) page 1265, lines 5 and 22, for "The Honourable Sir Homi Modi" read "The Honourable Sir Homi Mody";
- (4) Volume II, No. 7, dated the 19th March, 1942, page 1357, line 15 from the bottom, for "The Economist news" read "The Economist news-";
- (5) Volume II, No. 8, dated the 20th March, 1942, page 1422, line 13 from the bottom, delete the second "that" at the end of the line;

- (6) Volume II, No. 9, dated the 23rd March, 1942,—
 - (i) page 1429, line 1, insert the word "is" after the word "blood"; and
 - (ii) page 1457, line 8 from the bottom, read "are" for the word "they";
- (7) Volume II, No. 11, dated the 25th March, 1942, page 1539, line 18 from the bottom, for the word "who" read "why";
- (8) Volume II, No. 13, dated the 1st April, 1942, page 1651, line 21, for the word "attacks" read "attack";
- (9) Volume II, No. 14, dated the 2nd April, 1942,—
 - (i) page 1688, line 17, for "It is given to C class" read "I said that A and B class";
 - (ii) page 1693, line 22, for "Syed Murtuza Sahib Bahadur" read "Maulvi Syed Murtuza Sahib Bahadur"; and
 - (iii) page 1729, line 19 and page 1730, line 9 for "Diwan Bahadur Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar" read "The Honourable Diwan Bahadur Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar".

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

President:

The Honourable Sir ABDUR RAHIM, K.C.S.I.

Deputy President:

Mr. AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA, M.L.A.

Panel of Chairmen:

SYED GHULAM BHIK NAIRANG, M.L.A.

Lieut.-Colonel Sir HENRY GIDNEY, M.L.A.

Sir HENRY RICHARDSON, M.L.A.

Sir COWASJI JEHangIR, Bart., K.C.I.E., O.B.E., M.L.A.

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Mian MUHAMMAD RAFI, Barrister-at-Law.

Assistants of the Secretary:

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Khan Bahadur S. G. HASNAIN.

Marshal:

Captain Haji Sardar NUR AHMAD KHAN, M.C., I.O.M., I.A.

Committee on Petitions:

Mr. AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA, M.L.A., *Chairman.*

SYED GHULAM BHIK NAIRANG, M.L.A.

Mr. JAMNADAS M. MEHTA, M.L.A.

Sir ABDUL HALIM GHUREKAVI M.L.A.

Mr. N. M. JOSHI, M.L.A.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 10th March, 1942.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House, at Eleven of the Clock, Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) in the Chair.

MEMBER SWORN.

Mr. Evan Meredith Jenkins, C.S.I., C.I.E., M.L.A. (Supply Secretary).

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

(a) ORAL ANSWERS.

DANGER OF SEA ATTACK ON MADRAS.

159. *Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: (a) Will the Honourable Member for Civil Defence be pleased to state if his attention has been drawn to a press note published in the *Hindustan Times*, dated the 18th February, 1942, under the caption "Danger to Madras" to the effect that with the fall of Singapore there has been some increase in the danger of an attack on Madras from the sea and in order to avoid rush and confusion in the event of an attack any one who has no business to keep him in the city and who intends to leave if the danger becomes acute should leave as soon as he conveniently can?

(b) Is it a fact that the Government of Madras has issued such a *communiqué* or Press note?

(c) If so, what facilities have Government provided for this evacuation such as free transport, accommodation, monetary assistance, where necessary, and the safeguarding of their property and education of their children? If none, why?

(d) Is there any such danger as mentioned in part (a), for Bombay and Karachi ports? If so, what steps are Government proposing to take and what facilities are Government providing for people of these ports?

Mr. N. V. H. Symons: (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Government read the press note as referring only to persons who are in a position to make their own private arrangements for moving elsewhere.

(d) Yes, but not of the same degree or immediacy. It is for the Provincial Governments concerned to decide when and what publicity should be given as regards those who have no duties to perform in them leaving the ports of Bombay and Karachi and as to any measures those Governments propose to take in the matter.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: May I know from the Honourable Member what arrangements have been made for those who are not willing to go out but have to go out perforce?

Mr. N. V. H. Symons: Sir, that question does not arise at the moment in view of my answer to (d).

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: Will the Honourable Member please say definitely what arrangements have been made by the Provincial Governments concerned at Karachi, Bombay and Madras?

Mr. N. V. H. Symons: Sir, as I have already said in my answer to part (d), those arrangements and the amount of publicity which should be given to them and when that publicity should be given, is the concern of the Provincial Governments concerned.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: May I know from the Honourable Member if the Government of India is going to remain in the dark about these matters until such time as things happen as they are at present happening in Rangoon?

Mr. N. V. H. Symons: Sir, in these matters the Government of India is not necessarily in the dark, but, as I have already said, the question of when publicity should be given and what publicity should be given is a matter which must be left to the discretion of the Governments concerned.

Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh: May I know, Sir, if the arrangement of transport is also a matter of provincial concern?

Mr. N. V. H. Symons: As far as transport within the province is concerned, it is certainly a provincial concern.

Mr. N. M. Joshi: May I ask, Sir, what the Government of India is doing in the matter of evacuation?

Mr. N. V. H. Symons: Sir, the whole question of evacuation was considered in detail at the Conference of provincial representatives which was held in November last and the Government of India came to certain conclusions and, as I have already said, it has been left to the Provincial Governments to decide when they shall announce what their intentions are. But as regards the Government of India, I may say this much that we have arranged with the Central Provinces Government that they shall provide for accommodation for large numbers of refugees from areas which are more threatened than the Central Provinces.

Mr. N. M. Joshi: May I know whether the Government of India will issue a communiqué telling the public what conclusions the Government have come to?

Mr. N. V. H. Symons: There is no intention of issuing any such communiqué.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: What is the reason for not issuing a communiqué to inform the people of such arrangements as Government have made?

Mr. N. V. H. Symons: I will refer the Honourable Member to my answer to sub-para. (d) of his question.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: But that is no answer at all. I know

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Order, order. The Honourable Member has given his answer.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: Does the Honourable Member find any difficulty in asking the Provincial Governments to issue those orders earlier so that people may come to know and have some patience?

Mr. N. V. H. Symons: Sir, there is no advantage to be served in issuing instructions to people until it is time for those instructions to be put into effect.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: Will it be

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Order, order. Next question.

CENTRAL COMMISSIONERS OF INCOME-TAX IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA.

160. *Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi: Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state under the provisions of what particular section and sub-section of the Indian Income-tax Act, the Central Commissioners in Calcutta and Bombay have been appointed?

The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman: Under sub-section (2) of section 5 of the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922.

CENTRAL COMMISSIONERS OF INCOME-TAX IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA.

161. *Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi: Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state when the Central Commissioners of Income-tax were appointed for the first time in Bombay and Calcutta, respectively?

The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman: On the 1st April, 1939, and 1st May, 1941.

CENTRAL COMMISSIONERS OF INCOME-TAX IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA.

162. *Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi: Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state the names and qualifications of the Central Commissioners of Income-tax in the order of their appointments to date in Bombay and Calcutta, respectively?

The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman: A statement showing the information asked for by the Honourable Member is laid on the table.

Statement showing the Names and Qualifications of Officers appointed as Commissioners of Income-tax (Central), at Bombay and Calcutta.

Name of the Officer.	Date of appointment.	Educational Qualifications, etc.	Service to which the Officer belongs and date of entry to that Service.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
<i>Bombay.</i>			
1. Mr. J. B. Bird . . .	1st April, 1939.		Indian Civil Service (1st November, 1928).
2. Mr. K. R. K. Menon, M.B.E.	17th November, 1939.	M.A., B.L.	Military Accounts (17th May, 1924).
3. Mr. P. C. Padhi . . .	25th February, 1941.	M.A.	Indian Audit and Accounts Service (19th April, 1927).
<i>Calcutta.</i>			
1. Mr. N. Dandekar . . .	1st May, 1941.	B.Sc., B. Com. (Lond.), A. C. A., A. S. A. A.	Indian Civil Service (13th October, 1931).

CENTRAL COMMISSIONERS OF INCOME-TAX IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA.

163. *Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi: Will the Honourable the Finance Member please give the following information in respect of the period from the date of the creation of the posts of Central Commissioners of Income-tax to the 30th November, 1941, in Bombay and Calcutta, respectively:

- (a) how many assessment cases were transferred to the Central Commissioner of Income-tax;
- (b) how many of the cases so transferred were cases of Indian assesses and how many of European assesses, respectively;
- (c) how many of such cases of Indians were cases of partnership firms, limited liability companies, individuals and joint families, respectively;
- (d) how many of such cases of Indians were fresh assessment cases and how many re-opened after assessment were completed;

- (e) of the total number of cases so transferred how many had been assessed and completed by the Central Commissioner on or before the 30th November, 1941; how many were still pending on that date and what was the average length of time taken for each assessment case; and
- (f) in such cases as were pending not assessed on the 30th November, 1941, what was the estimated total of assessment involved?

The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman: A report has been called for and a reply will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

164*—165*. Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Ghani: Sir, I don't want to ask these questions. There is no necessity.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member doesn't want to ask any of the two?

Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Ghani: Yes, Sir. There is no necessity.

MALAYANS IN INDIA.

166. *Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali: (a) Will the Honourable the Home Member please state the number of Malayans in India?

(b) How many of them are receiving education in recognised institutions?

(c) Are Government aware that the Malay students cannot get any money from Malay Peninsula?

(d) Are Government considering the giving of some financial relief to such students?

The Honourable Sir Reginald Maxwell: (a) and (b). Government have no information.

(c) and (d). Government have received applications from 35 Malayau students who are studying in India. The question of assisting them is under consideration.

MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): I have received notice of motions for an adjournment of the business of the House from three Honourable Members, but as this House has finally to dispose of the Demands for Grants which must begin at five of the Clock, I propose to take them up tomorrow. I shall waive the question of urgency for one day.

ELECTION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): I have to inform the Assembly that up to 12 Noon on Saturday, the 7th March, 1942, the time fixed for receiving nominations for the Standing Committee for the Department of Supply, five nominations were received. As the

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number of candidates is equal to the number of vacancies, I declare the following five non-official Members to be duly elected to serve on the Committee, namely:

- (1) Mr. Husenbhai Abdullabhai Laljee;
- (2) Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi;
- (3) Mr. Saiyid Haider Imam;
- (4) Pandit Nilakantha Das; and
- (5) Sir Henry Richardson.

THE GENERAL BUDGET—LIST OF DEMANDS—*contd.*

SECOND STAGE—*contd.*

DEMAND No. 38—ARCHÆOLOGY.

Hardship and Discrimination to which Muslim Officials are subjected in the Department—contd.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): I think, the Honourable the Education Member wanted to reply to the debate.

The Honourable Mr. N. R. Sarker (Member for Education, Health and Lands): Sir, in recent years the Archæological Department has been in for a good deal of criticism, criticism not directed to the policy and work of development of archæology, but mostly complaints on the score that the policy of the Department and, particularly, its Director General, is to discriminate against the Muslim officers and to treat them unfairly. The Honourable Member who has moved this motion has not made any grievance on the score of paucity of Muslims in the Department. On this aspect of the subject, Honourable Members would, I think, like to have some idea of the background in order to have a clear grasp of the implications of the motion. This is all the more necessary because some Honourable Members, on both sides, have quoted divergent figures that are likely to create confusion. From the figures I shall presently place before the House, Honourable Members will see that there should be no grievance at least on the score of numerical deficiency of Muslim officers, the sort of grievance which is generally urged by such cut motion as this.

In Class I of the cadre, the strength is 17, out of which two posts are vacant. Of the remaining 15, nine posts are held by Hindus, five by Muslims and one by a European; so that the Muslim percentage in class I posts is 33½. If we strictly apply the communal ratio formula, then two out of these 15 posts should go out of the scope of the communal ratio

Sir Syed Raza Ali (Cities of the United Provinces: Muhammadan Rural): I do not want to interrupt the Honourable Member; but may I point out that the Government of India Resolution does not fix any maximum? It relates only to the minimum.

The Honourable Mr. N. R. Sarker: I am not saying that. I am merely putting before the House the exact position as it stands today.

Sir Syed Raza Ali: I beg your pardon; I see.

The Honourable Mr. N. B. Sarker: So in class I posts, on a liberal interpretation of the communal ratio formula, the Muslims have got 88½ per cent. But if the two posts for which knowledge of Sanskrit and Prakrit is necessary and which are outside the communal ratio rules are taken out, then the Muslim proportion in class I posts stands at 88.5 per cent.

So far as class II posts are concerned, there are only two posts and both the posts are held by Muhammadans.

In the subordinate posts, there are 100 posts within the scope of the communal ratio rules; and of these 100, 82 are held by the Muslims—i.e., 82 per cent.

On this showing, I think those who have got the interests of the Muslim community at heart will be convinced that their position in the Archæological Department staff is not unsatisfactory—rather it is well protected.

But Sir Raza Ali's complaint is not on the paucity of Muslims in the services, but that, when in service, Muslims do not receive fair treatment, and there has been discrimination against Muslims in promotion and treatment. In support of this contention, he has put forward some examples. I must at once say that my examination of these few cases would appear to lend some support to the view that in one or two cases the administration has not been quite as efficient in the discharge of its responsibility as one would expect. But when the Honourable Member goes further and seeks to read into all these cases signs of communal bias I think the Honourable Member takes up a position that is not tenable.

I looked into the cases mentioned by him and found that with only one exception, all the cases had come under the review of Government at some stage or other, and only on two occasions it was found necessary to revise the Director General's decision. In no case it was for discrimination against Muslims. Sir Raza Ali and other speakers who have spoken in support of this motion have not been able to make out a case on the charge of communal bias.

I shall now deal with the examples which the Honourable Member has given and also explain my position. First, let me take the case of the Archæological Chemist. The present incumbent of the post was due to retire in November, 1941; and in good time before that the question of a successor was taken up by the Department. In view of the highly specialised nature of the work, it was felt that whoever was selected to succeed him would have to be trained for a year or even more. It was decided to reserve the post for a Muslim, as, though it was a technical post, it is included in the class I cadre. The necessary qualifications for the post were drawn up in consultation with the present Archæological Chemist, a Muslim officer, and the Federal Public Services Commission issued an advertisement in June, 1941. In October, 1941, the Commission wrote saying that after considering seven applications received, they found that no one possessed the requisite minimum qualifications. It was not possible to accept the Commission's suggestions either to abandon the recruitment or to modify the qualifications. As I have said, this is a highly technical post, and any lowering of the qualifications would have produced an adverse effect on the conservation of monuments, and with the concurrence of the Home Department the post was re-advertised unreserved.

Sir Syed Raza Ali: May I ask whether the Public Service Commission came to that conclusion in consultation with the Director General of Archæology or independently on their own judgment?

The Honourable Mr. N. R. Sarker: The Director General of Archæology was not consulted, but the Archæological Chemist and Dr. S. S. Bhatnagar were consulted and they advised them on the merits of the applications. It was, therefore, decided to re-advertise the post as unreserved, but the essential minimum qualification remained unchanged. The Federal Public Service Commission issued a second advertisement in November, 1941; and the difference between this advertisement and the previous one was that the words "only Muslims eligible", which appeared in the first advertisement, were deleted from the second. I will read out both the advertisements, because Sir Raza Ali remarked that in the second advertisement the qualifications were lowered. The first advertisement read :

"Applications are invited for the post of Officer on Special Duty under the Archæological Chemist in India. Only Muslims eligible. Age between 25 and 35 except for persons already employed in the Archæological Survey of India, Class II. Pay (i) Direct recruits—300—325; (ii) for permanent Government servants—Rs. 300—680. Qualifications :—(i) M.Sc. or Doctorate degree of an approved University; (ii) Practical work in Petrology; (iii) Experience in analysis of silicates and alloys and in the cleaning and preservation of antiquities and museum exhibits. Full details may be obtained from the Secretary, Federal Public Service Commission, Delhi. Last date for receipt of applications on prescribed form, together with Treasury Receipt for Rs. 7-8-0,—28th July, 1941."

I now read the second advertisement :

"Applications are invited for the post of Officer on Special Duty under the Archæological Chemist in India. Age between 25 and 35 except for persons already employed in the Archæological Survey of India, Class II. Pay (i) Direct recruits—Rs. 300—325; (ii) for permanent Government servants—Rs. 300—680. Qualifications :—(i) M.Sc. or Doctorate degree of an approved University; (ii) Practical work in Petrology; (iii) Experience in analysis of silicates and alloys and in the cleaning and preservation of antiquities and museum exhibits. Full details may be obtained from the Secretary, Federal Public Service Commission, Delhi. Last date for receipt of applications on prescribed form, together with Treasury Receipt for Rs. 7-8-0,—22nd December, 1941."

Honourable Members will see that except for the words "only Muslims eligible" and the date for receipt of the applications, the two advertisements are practically the same. So there is no foundation for Sir Raza Ali's contention that in the second advertisement the qualifications of the candidates were lowered. The House will observe that my friend, Sir Raza Ali's impression, that when advertising the post the qualifications were lowered is not correct. I should also point out that there was no bar to the Muslim candidates applying for the 'unreserved' post. There was no intention, whatsoever, of shutting out qualified Muslim candidates.

Next, let me take the case of Dr. Chakravarti, the Officiating Deputy Director General of Archæology. It has been suggested that there was something wrong about Dr. Chakravarti's appointment as the Deputy Director General. It is said that he is a specialist and in the past no such specialist was appointed to this post. Dr. Chakravarti is an Epigraphist, and Epigraphy forms as much an essential part of Archæology as conservation or excavation. He is not a technical man in the sense that an Archæological Chemist is. I understand in the past one Epigraphist acted as Director General, and the present Director General for a time acted as Epigraphist. Moreover, the Epigraphist is the head of a branch of the

Archæological Department, and has under him, among others, a Superintendent and an Assistant Superintendent. He has thus administrative duties to perform. The duties of Deputy Director General are mainly administrative, and after considering the claims of all eligible persons, Dr. Chakravarti was selected by the Department, and not by the Director-General, as the most suitable officer for the post. I may mention that the only Muslim Officer senior to Dr. Chakravarti is one Mr. Khan, and he has been held up at the efficiency bar for some time. To prevent a misunderstanding I may also add that Mr. Khan's memorial was recently considered by the Federal Public Services Commission, and they have given the opinion that Mr. Khan was rightly held up at the efficiency bar

Sir Syed Raza Ali: Is that Mr. H. H. Khan?

The Honourable Mr. N. R. Sarker: I think so. The appointment of Dr. Chakravarti to act as Deputy Director General did not, therefore, involve the supersession of any qualified Muslim officer senior to him, and the circumstances will, I trust, clearly show that it was not actuated by any communal bias whatsoever.

Then, Sir, I come to the cases of Dr. Nazim and Mr. Srivastava. It has again been alleged that Dr. Nazim, who is senior in service, was superseded by Mr. Srivastava. I find from the list of officers that Dr. Nazim entered the Department on the 29th August, 1929, and Mr. Srivastava on the 19th October, 1929, that is, Dr. Nazim is senior to Mr. Srivastava in service by one month and 20 days. At the time when the question of confirmation of Dr. Nazim as Superintendent arose in 1937, there were two vacancies in the Superintendent's grade. Dr. Nazim's confirmation was withheld by Government, and not by the Director General, for valid reasons, but there was then no ground for withholding the confirmation of Mr. Srivastava, who had handled a difficult circle with success. Mr. Srivastava was, therefore, confirmed earlier than Dr. Nazim, and this was Government's decision, and not of the Director General

Mr. Muhammad Nauman (Patna and Chota Nagpur *cum* Orissa: Muhammadan): May I know if the Government's decision was taken in consultation with the Director General, or it was taken quite independent of him? Has he expressed any opinions about it?

The Honourable Mr. N. R. Sarker: I think he has, but I do not know. It was Government's decision. I have looked into the papers, and I find it was decided by the Honourable Member-in-Charge himself.

Then, another question was raised about the differentiation between an M.A. and a matriculate. Sir Raza Ali referred to an M.A. in History being superseded by a matriculate. The fact is that the Muslim clerk, who has a degree of M.A., passed only the routine division examination in 1925, while the Hindu matriculate had passed the second division examination in 1922. For the benefit of Members of this House who may not be used to the Secretariat jargon, I may explain that there are three main grades in the ministerial establishment—(i) Assistants or first division, (ii) second division, and (iii) routine. Till recently there used to be a separate examination for all three divisions. Now, a person who starts in the routine division, that is, in the lowest rung, naturally takes longer to work up to the first division, than a person who starts in the second division. I do not know why the Muslim candidate who has

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high academic qualifications did not take a higher division examination. I may also state that appointment to Assistant's post is made by selection. Academic qualifications are looked at to judge the capacity of a man, but a more relevant consideration at that stage of service is that of a person's work. In this particular case when the selection was made, the two candidates concerned had put in 10 to 15 years' service, and there was sufficient material

Sir Syed Raza Ali: Is it not a fact that the Muslim candidate was four years senior to the Hindu candidate? Mr. Yasin was four years' senior. His service was 15 years 3 months, while the other man had only 11 years and 3 months' service.

The Honourable Mr. N. B. Sarker: May be so. Let me come to the end. The Muslim candidate had cast his lot on the accounts side where there is an allowance of Rs. 30 attached to the Cashier's post which he had been drawing for some years, while the vacancy was one of a noting Assistant, and as the Hindu candidate was judged to be more suitable, he was promoted. As soon as there was a vacancy in the first division in the accounts side, the Muslim candidate was promoted where he has been confirmed.

Then about the unfortunate case of Dr. Puri. Dr. Puri's case has been cited as an instance of discrimination against the Muslim. In particular, it has been suggested that Dr. Puri has been very leniently dealt with compared to Mr. Kuraishi who was removed from service for a similar offence. I do not wish to wash dirty linen in public, but I may explain to the House that Mr. Kuraishi was punished on two occasions on the advice of the Federal Public Services Commission, and on the second occasion he was removed from service for being found guilty of a serious offence involving grave moral turpitude. The punishment in the first instance was inflicted as far back as 1928. Proceedings in the case which led to his removal from service were initiated by the former Director General, and not by the present Director General

Dr. P. N. Banerjee (Calcutta Suburbs: Non-Muhammadan Urban): Sir John Marshall?

The Honourable Mr. N. B. Sarker: Perhaps Mr. Blakiston.

Sir Syed Raza Ali: Rai Bahadur Dayaram Sahní.

The Honourable Mr. N. B. Sarker: In any event, his case affords no parallel to Dr. Puri's case, and it cannot be cited to prove communal bias on the part of the present Director General, although I freely confess that he dealt with Dr. Puri with unjustifiable lenience which, as the House knows, had to be subsequently corrected by Government in consultation with the Commission

Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Ghani (Tirhut Division: Muhammadan): What was the offence committed by Dr. Puri?

The Honourable Mr. N. B. Sarker: He made a false claim in respect of travelling allowance.

Regarding the subsequent episode connected with Dr. Puri's application for a higher post in the Department, I cannot disclose all the facts at

this stage, as the matter is still under consideration of Government in consultation with the Commission, but I shall not disguise the fact that an examination of the circumstances has left me with the impression that the Director General has committed an unfortunate error of judgment in this case, but there is no justification for accusing him of any communal bias. I may assure Honourable Members that in filling up the post in question, I shall bear in mind all the circumstances which have come to light.

Now, regarding the recruitment of a photographer-draftsman in 1940 referred to by my friend, I have fully examined the case and without wearying the House with details, I admit that there was an unjustifiable error of procedure on the part of the Director General, which was subsequently rectified by the Government, but the circumstances did not disclose any communal bias on his part.

Then I come to the last example cited by Sir Syed Raza Ali. A charge has been made of differential treatment, on a communal basis, of appeals coming up to the Director General from the Frontier Circle. It has been said that the appeals of two Muslims against stoppage of increments were disallowed by the Director General of Archaeology, while the increments of a Hindu were allowed with retrospective effect. I find from the files that the appeals of three Muslims, not two, were rejected by the Director General. Increments in these cases had been stopped by the Circle Superintendent in connection with estimates, brought to light in some cases by audit objections. The stoppage of increments in one case was by the order of Mr. Blakiston, the predecessor of the present Director General. The appeals were examined by the Director General and rejected on their merits. Sir Raza Ali has not entered into the merits of the individual cases. To support his accusation of discrimination he relies on the mere fact that the appeals of the Muslims were rejected while that of the Hindu was allowed. The House will, therefore, be surprised to learn that no appeal from a Hindu in the Frontier Circle on a matter of this kind was ever received or disposed of by the Director General, and the whole case that my Honourable friend has sought to found upon this incident, therefore, falls to the ground.

Sir Syed Raza Ali: May I enquire from the Honourable Member whether the increment of any Hindu employee was stopped, and, if so, what happened to that case?

The Honourable Mr. N. B. Sarker: I cannot reply as the Honourable Member has not given actual facts.

Sir Syed Raza Ali: I did not mention the name, that is true.

Mr. Muhammad Nauman: As the Honourable Member has found that the Director General has been continually making erroneous judgments, what are the Government proposing to do with him?

The Honourable Mr. N. B. Sarker: Not continually, but only in two cases we found error of judgment.

(Interruption by Mr. Muhammad Nauman.)

I can assure Honourable Members that I am as anxious as any of them that all persons serving in the Archeological Department, irrespective of their caste or creed, should be treated with justice, fairness and

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impartiality, and, what is more, they themselves or members of their community should feel that they are being treated accordingly. I fully realise that efficiency of the Department largely depends on the contentment of the staff and I yield to none in my anxiety to foster that spirit and to see that no ground is ever given for the feeling that the decisions in personal cases are influenced by any consideration other than their merits or demerits. At the same time, I would like to remind Honourable Members that there are disgruntled members in every service who, in order to cover up their inefficiency and to serve their selfish ends, do not hesitate to raise the communal bogey. And if constantly some people begin to imagine a fierce tiger in every tiny bush or insist on giving an unwarranted communal twist to every incident, the Honourable Members of this House owe it to themselves, in view of the larger interests involved, that they should exercise their chastening influence over such tendencies. Else, these are bound to grow and spoil the very atmosphere which is essential for the maintenance of the morale of the staff and the smooth and efficient working of the administration itself. I would, therefore, earnestly request Honourable Members to suspend their judgment on the allegations made to them in a particular case until every opportunity has been given to the Government to investigate the matter fully. To err is human. The Director General may have committed an error or two in administration. But I can assure the House that such errors did not proceed from any communal bias. He is fully aware of the policy of the Government that, as between the claims of different communities, it is his duty to keep the scales even. I trust that the Muslim community will have no cause for any legitimate grievance on this score in future. If any such instance of unfair treatment is brought to my notice, it will receive my closest attention, and if I am convinced that any injustice has been done, I shall take appropriate action forthwith to redress it. In the past, whenever mistakes of administration have been brought to the notice of the Department,—I think my Honourable friend, Sir Raza Ali, himself, admitted on another occasion—the Department has shown every readiness to reopen the case and enquire into it, sometimes with the help of the Federal Public Service Commission, and in some cases, I believe, matters have been put right. My Honourable friend, Sir Syed Raza Ali, and other Honourable Members have undoubtedly served the public interest in bringing these cases to our notice and I am grateful for it.

I hope that my explanation of things that happened in the past and my assurances for the future will satisfy Honourable Members of this House, and they will treat this chapter of complaints against the Archaeological Department as definitely closed. Let me also hope that none of them hereafter will be persuaded to return to the charge unless there is sufficient cause for it.

Sir Syed Raza Ali: In view of the extremely conciliatory and promising speech made by the Honourable Member in charge, I do not think I would be justified in asking for a division. I would, therefore, beg leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Has the Honourable Member leave of the House to withdraw his motion?

Several Honourable Members: Yes, yes.

The motion was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

DEMAND No. 48.—CIVIL VETERINARY SERVICES.

The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman (Finance Member): Sir, I move:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,43,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Civil Veterinary Services'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,43,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Civil Veterinary Services'."

Inadequate Representation of Muslims in the Services of the Imperial Institute of Veterinary Research especially in the gasetted Ranks.

Mr. H. A. Sathar H. Essak Salt (West Coast and Nilgiris: Muham-madan): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Civil Veterinary Services' be reduced by Rs. 100."

This Institute is one of the very useful research institutions which the Government of India are maintaining. It is tucked away in some unknown part of the Naini Tal Hills. The headquarters are situated at Mukteswar and it has a branch at Izzatnagar. The institute is serving a very useful purpose in that it carries out very important research work in all branches of veterinary science. The taxpayer is spending about Rs. 9 lakhs on this institute and, in my opinion, the whole of that amount is well spent. Out of the Rs. 9 lakhs spent on this institute, I find that there is a recovery of about five lakhs from the sale of serum and such like medicines. But, unfortunately, in common with all the other Departments of the Government of India, we the Mussalmans have the same complaint with regard to this Department also—that both in the higher service and in the lower service the Mussalmans do not get adequate representation. Out of the Rs. 9 lakhs spent on this Department about 50 per cent. is spent on the salaries and allowances of officers and other members of the establishment. That is a considerable amount and we are sorry to see that sufficient percentage of it does not go to the members of the Muslim community. This matter was first brought to the notice of the public, I believe in 1937, by a letter that appeared in the *Eastern Times* in November of that year. In that letter it was pointed out that out of 24 Gazetted officers then existing in this Department, only four were Muslims, and in non-Gazetted services the position was still worse. Of the 55 such officers, excluding dressers of course, the Muslims were only six. The cadre of dressers has been excluded, I have to explain to the House, because the duties of the dressers are such that non-Muslims generally do not like to take them up. Therefore, excluding this cadre, as I stated before, out of 55 non-Gazetted officers then existing only six were Muslims. On account of this state of affairs, representations were made to the Member in charge and the matter was taken up in this House. The Bareilly Muslim League also moved in this matter. Questions were asked and I believe the first question that was asked, was by our Deputy Leader, Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang, in 1938. In reply to that question, it was for the first time brought out that so far as the technical posts in this Department go, the famous Home Department Resolution concerning the representation of minorities is not applied. This came, I may

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say, as a surprise. Unfortunately, the matter could not be pursued then, because the answer was not given on the floor of the House to Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang but it was placed in the form of a statement on the table of the House later. So, the matter was again agitated by questions and the facts that have been disclosed are rather distressing because in answer to Mr. Umar Aly Shah's question No. 156 it was stated on the 27th November last that out of the total number of 38 Gazetted officers only five are Muslims. This certainly is a deterioration from the state of affairs that existed in 1937 and which was depicted in the letter which appeared in the *Eastern Times*. I very humbly call the attention of the Honourable Member in charge to this deterioration which has taken place in spite of the watchful efforts of the Members of this House and in spite of the correspondence that Mr. Tyson had with Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad and Nawabzada Liaqat Ali Khan. Both in the House and in the correspondence Mr. Tyson expressed the Department's anxiety to get as many Mussalmans in this Department as possible and he also said that the Government were aware that the proportion of the Muslims was not which it ought to be. Still, in spite of all this and in spite of the work that has been done, the position is that today we are much worse off than we were in 1937.

Coming to the details, I find that in this Department particularly the Home Department Resolution is ignored at many stages. In common with other Departments of Government of India it is not applied when the question of promotions is taken up. But in the case of this Department it is not only in matters of promotion that the Home Department Resolution is ignored but even in the matter of first recruitment for technical posts this Resolution is not taken into account at all. That is to say, no posts are reserved for Muslims or minorities when the recruitment is for technical branches. Sir, in a technical department, especially in an institute of this kind, it is to be taken for granted that all the higher appointments must go to technically qualified people and if in such a department no reservation is to be made, I do not know when and how this percentage which has been fixed for Muslims and minorities is going to be filled up. It is only this department that makes this distinction. In answer to my friend, Sir Syed Raza Ali, just now, the Honourable Member quoted the instance of the Archæological Department and he read out advertisements (I have got copies of them with me) where posts requiring very high qualifications were reserved for Muslims. He read out two such advertisements and that proves that in other Departments the Home Department Resolution is given effect to. But, for reasons best known to Government, they have repeated in answer to ever so many questions that they do not reserve technical posts for Muslims in this Department. In this connection, I can do no better than quote one or two sentences from a letter that Nawabzada Liaqat Ali Khan had occasion to send to Mr. Tyson. In that letter he said:

"The chief cause of the lower percentage, as stated by Government, is that technical posts are excluded from communal representation."

Further on, he made this request:

"In view of the above, it is hoped that you will kindly take necessary steps to bring up the total percentage of appointments in these two classes to 25 and issue necessary instructions to the Federal Public Service Commission to select and recommend for appointment the names of Muslim candidates who possess the necessary

qualifications for these posts notwithstanding the fact that there are other non-Muslim candidates who, in the opinion of the Public Service Commission, are better qualified because if the appointments are always made in accordance with comparative merits of candidates then the reservation of places in the services for Muslims and other minorities has no meaning. What the Government should do in making the appointments to maintain communal proportion is to make sure that the candidate possesses the necessary qualifications that are required to fill up a certain post and not that he is better qualified than all the other candidates. It is only in that way that the Muslims and other minority communities can secure their due representation in the services as promised to them under the Home Department Resolution to which a reference has been made above."

Now, Sir, I come to the extra qualifications that some of the non-Muslim candidates are stated to possess and for which reason they are preferred over the Muslim candidates. Here the position is very peculiar. The extra qualification which the non-Muslim candidates are supposed to possess is generally said to be "experience", the academic qualifications being the same. The non-Muslim candidate happens to have experience and that fact is brought against the Muslim candidate. I request the Honourable Member to go thoroughly into this matter and find out how it is that a Hindu candidate happens to possess experience while the Mussalman does not. So far as my investigation into the matter goes, the mystery is solved in this way. I believe the Honourable Member will not be surprised to learn that in most of the cases, the extra advantage of experience was picked up in the Institute itself by the help given to such candidates to fill up officiating vacancies. I should like the Honourable Member to compare the number of non-Muslim with Muslim subordinates who were given facilities to act in officiating vacancies. That will certainly solve the mystery about this question of experience. That is one way how non-Muslims get preference over Muslims. Then, Sir, it has been elicited that certain appointments have been made even without reference to the Public Services Commission. Then, there are cases where the recommendations of the Public Services Commission in favour of Muslim candidates have not been accepted. I have got concrete cases and I am going to cite them. I have got here a statement of very recent cases, and it will be very easy for the Honourable Member to investigate and find out the truth. In 1940, there was a selection for a physiological chemist. My information is that one Muslim who possessed better qualifications than other candidates and had also experience, when applied for the post, was passed over and a non-Muslim with lower qualifications was favoured for selection, even though the Muslim candidate was recommended by the Public Services Commission.

Then there was the case in 1940 where two posts in Class II were converted into Class I posts and appointments made thereto were not made after reference to the Public Services Commission at all. The incumbents of Class II posts were appointed for Class I posts also, without any reference to the Public Services Commission at all. My complaint therefore is that those Muslims who were qualified for these posts were precluded from applying because these posts were not advertised and the Public Services Commission was not asked to select suitable candidates. In 1941, there were two appointments made. One was of a Veterinary Officer at Mukteswar and the other was an Assistant Research Officer, Entomology. With regard to the Veterinary Officer, Mukteswar, the post was filled up, as far as my information goes, by a non-Muslim though he did not possess any better qualifications than the Muslim applicant. The unfortunate part of it was that this Muslim applicant was

[Mr. H. A. Sathar H. Essak Sait.]

not even called for interview. I do not know how these selections are made without calling for interview, when there are candidates of equal merit.

The Honourable Mr. N. B. Sarker: Was that done by the Public Services Commission?

Mr. H. A. Sathar H. Essak Sait: Yes, it is the Public Services Commission. I do not understand why when candidates of equal merit and equal qualifications put up their applications, a particular candidate should be selected even without giving an opportunity to other candidates for interview so that they could express personally to the selecting authority their abilities and thus give an opportunity to the selecting authority to compare the merits of the various candidates. With regard to the appointment in the Entomological Section, that was also in 1941. A Muslim with a Doctorate degree in the line applied for the post, but a non-Muslim with lower qualifications was selected. This is happening irrespective of the fact that the Government go on assuring us, and Mr. Tyson goes on assuring us, that Government realise that in this Department the Muslims do not have the percentage that they deserve. It is possible that my Honourable friend might make a great display of the fact, as disclosed in his answer to my question of 6th March last year, that a Muslim who was second in the list of recommendations of the Public Services Commission was preferred for an appointment in Class I post. He said that. I would request him to enquire into the facts a little more deeply and say what happened to the gentleman who was first in the list, whether that gentleman was refused the post at all or whether he was employed very soon after.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member has two minutes more.

Mr. H. A. Sathar H. Essak Sait: I shall finish soon, Sir. My point is that the gentleman who was first in the list was at once given another post. Therefore, to say that this was a concession to the Muslim candidate is not at all true. I have got a long list of cases, there is very little time for me to refer to all of them. In other branches of the service, the position is the same.

I shall refer to the Veterinary Inspectors Branch which happens to be a very important branch and with this I shall conclude my speech. This branch seems to be the stepping stone to all higher posts. It has been disclosed in answer to a question that out of 11 Veterinary Inspectors, not a single Muslim has been made permanent. They are all acting in the appointments; the Muslims are all placed there in an acting capacity so that they can never get a chance of going up.

I am sorry my time is over. I wanted to raise other questions. My object in moving this cut motion is that in that Department, the Muslim position is completely ignored. My complaint is not against the particular officer in charge. The Director seems to be a gentleman from overseas. That gentleman possesses high technical qualifications, and all that. He is in charge of very big technical matters. Unfortunately these matters are left perhaps to the Personal Assistant or perhaps to the

Head clerk. I do not know who is in charge of all these matters. Therefore it behoves the Honourable Member in charge to look into these matters minutely and see that no injustice is done. Sir, I move.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Cut motion moved:

"That the demand under the head 'Civil Veterinary Services' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The Honourable Mr. N. R. Sarker: Sir, I can assure the Honourable Member that I shall look into all the cases about which he has made a grievance. I am new to the Department and I do not exactly know the position in all the cases. But I want to remove one misunderstanding from my Honourable friend's mind. He said that we had not in this Department given effect to the Home Department Circular regarding communal proportions. In the Home Department Circular it is specifically mentioned that the Imperial Institute of Veterinary Research, and the sub-stations should be excluded from the communal ratio rules. So, it is not correct to say that the Home Department Rules have not been given effect to in this Department.

Mr. H. A. Sathar H. Essak Sait: Is it only the Institute that is excluded?

The Honourable Mr. N. R. Sarker: And the sub-stations also.

Sir, I will be able to make a statement on the general position as it is today and my Honourable friend may judge from what I say how far the interests of Muslims are protected in that Department. The communal composition of the staff of the Veterinary Research Institute has been constantly under review of the Government. I trust I shall be able to satisfy the House that the Government are doing and will continue to do what they can to rectify the communal mal-adjustments without seriously impairing the efficiency of the Research Institute. First of all, let me deal with non-gazetted staff to which the Home Department Rule regarding communal proportion applies in regard to vacancies filled up by direct recruitment. On 1st January, 1941, the proportion of Muslims in that category was 22.4 per cent., which is very near the prescribed proportion of 25 per cent. This shortage is no indication that we have not strictly observed the communal reservation rules, for they apply only to direct recruitment to vacancies and not to the entire establishment. The proportion of the entire establishment is 22.4.

Mr. H. A. Sathar H. Essak Sait: Does that include dressers also?

The Honourable Mr. N. R. Sarker: I cannot say.

In fact the model rotation prescribed by Government is strictly followed in filling up the vacancies and therefore there cannot be any justification for complaint regarding the non-gazetted staff.

I now come to the superior staff. I would first of all remind the House that the class I and class II posts which constitute such staff are outside the scope of the communal reservation rules on account of the high technical qualifications required for most of them. But here also the position is not so bad as some of the Honourable Members might think. On the superior staff there are 40 appointments of which two are vacant. Of the remaining 38, eight are held by non-Indians, either recruited in

[Mr. N. R. Sarker.]

England or recruited in India. So the strength of the Indian officers is only 30, and of those 30 posts held by Indians, five are held by Muslims. In other words, despite the fact that the communal reservation rules do not apply, the number is only one short, because if the communal reservation rules had applied to these cases they would have got six out of 30. The Muslims are only one short of what they would have been entitled to, had these rules been applied to these posts.

Mr. H. A. Sathar H. Essak Sait: Should it be out of 30 or out of 38?

The Honourable Mr. N. R. Sarker: The percentage applies to the Indian posts; the European recruitment is outside the communal ratio rules. I trust the House will agree that in a research institution like this national interest requires that only persons with the highest qualifications should be appointed to hold the superior scientific posts. Notwithstanding this Government have in recent years reviewed the entire position, and to improve the communal representation they have decided that in filling up such vacancies Government would reserve the right to appoint a Muslim in preference to the first choice of the Federal Public Service Commission provided a Muslim is included in the list of candidates recommended by the Commission. In pursuance of this decision a Muslim candidate was recently appointed to a class I post of Pathologist at the Institute though he was not the Commission's first choice. This case was mentioned by my Honourable friend, the Mover of the motion. You will agree that Government cannot go further than this, particularly as contrary to popular belief, difficulty has in the past been experienced in getting persons with the requisite qualifications and experience, even though the communal reservation rules were not applied. I can assure the House that in implementing the recent decision of Government, Government will not interpret it too rigidly, subject to the overriding considerations of efficiency and national interest.

Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali (Lucknow and Fyzabad Divisions: Muhammadan Rural): Sir, I am sorry I have to stand up and say something on this cut motion. I find that a new Member of Government has been asked to reply to a very important question; he said that being new to his office, it would not be possible for him to reply satisfactorily to the charges made. It was easy for Government to put up some one else who was in a better position to reply to this motion. It is easy to talk about error of judgment and error of procedure, etc.; but after all we on this side of the House have been able to establish certain facts, and those facts my friend himself has admitted today. In these circumstances, I request Government to make a searching inquiry into these things. It is said that before the Public Services Commission some people have to go to clear up questions between two candidates; but why should a non-Muslim be sent to settle questions when a Muslim can be sent to settle the matter with the Public Services Commission? Our complaint is that whenever there are any chances, they are taken against us, and, therefore, our complaint should not go unheeded when we represent our case before Government fairly, clearly and graphically. I do not want to say much more on this subject, but it seems to me that it is this particular

department against which we seem to have got several complaints. My Honourable friend, Sir Raza Ali, had a complaint against the Honourable Member's department, and I appeal to the Honourable Member to look into these cases. It is easy to say that such individual cases should not be brought forward on the floor of the House but I would remind the House, how it was possible that in the highest forum in England, in the House of Commons, Hastings was impeached by Burke and others. If those could be discussed in Parliament why should we not be allowed to discuss these things in this forum? It is the duty of Honourable Members of Government to look into these cases and find out the real facts.

Dr. P. N. Banerjee: That is just what he has promised to do.

The Honourable Mr. N. R. Sarker: What is the shortcoming in my statement?

Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali: I appreciate the Honourable Member's statement that he will look into them. But when we bring these matters before the House, why should my friends say that these are not matters to be brought forward here?

The Honourable Mr. N. R. Sarker: I have not said that.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): That matter is not before the House now.

Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali: My friend has shown today that it is by a clear door that officiating chances are given to certain members of the service, i.e., when you give a chance to a man once, twice and thrice, it is awful to come and say that because he has had experience he has got these chances. These are dodges which I hope Government will not adopt in future. Next, when the matter comes up before Government it must have a note from the highest official of the department and it is that on which Government decide. I would therefore suggest that after the note from the highest official of the department comes up to the Honourable Member he should go through the whole case from beginning to end and see himself that justice is done.

Nawabzada Muhammad Liaqat Ali Khan (Rohilkund and Kumaon Divisions: Muhammadan Rural): Sir, I am not going to take more than two minutes. The Honourable Member in charge has promised that he will look into this matter and I hope he will consider duly all the cases brought to his notice. I only wish to point out to him that his mathematical calculations were not correct. As a matter of fact it should have been the function of my Honourable friend, Sir Ziauddin Ahmad, to have pointed out this to the Honourable Member. However, I think it would be wrong if any mathematical miscalculation were entered in the proceedings of the Assembly, while the Honourable Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad was present in the House. The Honourable Member in charge said that according to the Resolution of the Government of India if there had been six Muslims out of thirty then the requirements of that Resolution would have been met. But that is not so. There should have been $7\frac{1}{2}$ Muslims out of 80 and not six, and as half counts as one in such cases, there should have been eight Muslims out of thirty. That was

[Nawabzada Muhammad Liaqat Ali Khan.]

the only thing that I wanted to point out to the Honourable Member so that he may not go away with the impression that there was a shortage of only one Muslim in the Gazetted posts, and not three.

Mr. H. A. Sathar H. Essak Sait: Sir, in view of the fact that the Honourable Member has promised to go into the matter, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the cut motion.

The motion was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

DEMAND No. 12—EXECUTIVE COUNCIL—*contd.*

Present System of Purchases and Inspection in the Supply Department.

Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad (United Provinces Southern Divisions: Muhammadan Rural): Sir, I beg to move:

“That the demand under the head ‘Executive Council’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

Sir, I believe that the present war will continue for at least three years more and during this period we will have to depend more and more on our own resources. We will have to mobilize all our resources and to make most economic use of what we possess. It is the duty of every person and especially of persons who hold military ranks, real or otherwise, to show the honesty of a soldier even in civil dealings, and, I believe, in the long run we will emerge successfully and we will win the war. It is in this spirit that I am moving my cut motion.

We have now got experience of 2½ years and we will have to organize our resources for a longer period. The need for reform has now become more acute as we will have mostly to rely upon our own resources for the defence of our own country. Sir, before I come to the definite criticism of the Department, I would like to quote two instances which will show that reform is needed. One is that a very respectable high Government official told me that a friend of his, who was a very good manufacturer of certain commodities, wanted to take a contract in those articles. Now, they had a common friend whom they approached and he said quietly, “Pay to such and such man Rs. 5,000 or you will not be able to get the contract easily.” If the Honourable Member is willing to reform the Department, I can give him instances of this kind. The second example, in which I am personally an actor is, that I recommended on the 17th April, 1941, a firm in Bombay which was a most reliable firm and with which one of my Mathematical Assistants was associated. I took a promise from him that he will not pay a penny to any person from back-door, otherwise I shall wash my hands out of this. He abided by it and did not pay any money. On the 17th of April he saw some officers of the Supply Department, and after some time an agent of the Government saw him. Then he sent some articles of his dried fruits and after some months they said that they had lost and so another supply was made. Then some letters were sent to him at wrong address, because they were sent to Calcutta instead of Bombay. When the agent saw him again he said that your firm must be an unknown firm and so that is why the letters have come back undelivered through the Dead Letter Office. On scrutiny, however, it was found that they were despatched to Calcutta and not to Bombay. Later

on I sent a long letter to Sir Homi Mody when he became Supply Member. Sir Homi, it would seem, gave some instruction to the Department and the result was that he got an order for 250 tons. Out of this he supplied 125 tons but the Department neither acknowledged the receipt of these 125 tons nor did they pay any money. So this is really the work of this Department and I want to tell Mr. Jenkins that in his particular Department it is neither the merit nor the recommendation which counts. It is only *Mubligh-alahis-salam* that counts.

Sir, reorganization, as I have said, is necessary for this reason also that we should include the cottage industry in our programme. In the later stages of war we will have to depend more and more on cottage industries, because we cannot import machinery to this country. Now, in the beginning we took Advisers from the business because we had no experience. Sir, 2½ years have passed now, and I would like to ask this question whether it is still necessary to have the association of these Advisers and whether we cannot go on without them. If he thinks that the association of these Advisers is necessary, may I ask him whether he has ever considered this fact that these businessmen do receive some kind of honorarium from the firms in which they were working before joining the Supply Department? Now, is it permissible? Did the Supply Department ever find out the amount of money which these permanent Government officials still receive from the firms to which they were once attached, and did the Department ever lay down rules by means of which the conduct of this class of people, who have been drawn from the business, should be regulated? I think, it is high time that after two and half years experience we should sit down and reorganize the department in the light of experience which we have gained so far.

Sir, the fundamental conception today is very different from what it was two and half years ago. At that time our demand was less than supply and we demanded tenders and we could have a selection. Now the problem is different. Now the problem is how to mobilize the entire resources and to distribute them evenly for various purposes, both civil and military. So the question of registration of contractors, which was so important at the beginning of the war is not now so important, as every person who can manufacture at present should be encouraged to manufacture and any person who can contribute his quota, however small it may be, for the successful prosecution of the war ought to be encouraged to do so. Therefore this question of the registration of contractors in these days has not the same importance as it had about two years ago.

The second point is that we want really good military officers. Of course we know we are supplying candidates for Emergency Commission but we want really good military officers to train them. The Aligarh University itself has supplied about one hundred candidates during the last few months and we want even at Aligarh military officers to train these candidates. Why really lock up these officers in the purchase of ghee, rice, wheat, etc., which can be done better by a civilian officer who has been dealing with them all the time? I think every one should do his own duty nowadays; you cannot put a doctor in charge of a railway engine, or an engineer in charge of a hospital; so these military people ought to be put in charge of the training of these young officers whom the country is now sending very rapidly and they should be trained properly; and the work which can be done by civil officers, not requiring expert military knowledge, ought to be done by the civil people and not by military officers. The present system requires very careful consideration on the principle of division of labour.

[Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad.]

This is one of the keynotes of the successful prosecution of the war, that every one should do the work for which he is well qualified. There is certain class of work which must be done by military officers, *e.g.*, ammunition. Ammunition cannot be entrusted to any civil officer, because that is really the work of an expert who knows the work. Therefore, leaving out ammunition production, I think the supply of every other article, particularly those in common use by the civil population, ought to be done by civil officers and it can be done more efficiently by them than by the military officers.

The next point—and I am glad Mr. Jenkins is here today—is about this question of specification. I do beseech him to read some of the specifications which have been sent out with the tenders; they are like the speeches of the oracle at Delphi, which can be interpreted in any way an inspector likes; he will find in some of these specifications certain catches by means of which an inspector can catch hold of contractors in order to ruin them, if he chooses to do so. He himself should study these specifications and they ought to be put before a committee containing men of common sense and in simple language. You do not want very elaborate businessmen for that purpose: men of common sense knowing good English should see the specifications and see they are in simple language.

The next point, which I think he will appreciate, is about the system of examinations of samples. These samples are sent by the Supply Department to Cawnpore or Kasauli or some other place for inspection. There is a good deal of objection and criticism of this method. Things are not properly examined and probably the reply does not come in time unless a proper fee is paid for it. This is very undesirable, especially when the whole country is involved. This should be properly examined, and I do beseech him to adopt the method adopted by universities in the examination of the candidates' answer books. That is a very simple method: whenever an answer book comes in, it is sent to an examiner under a false roll number: the name and the real number are not revealed; the time is marked and the reply must come within such and such a time; and if it does not come a reminder is sent. And in case of complaint by any candidate the answer books are re-examined. So there must be a central authority in Delhi to re-examine any case where a contractor is not satisfied. The time is very short now and I cannot go into details—on the occasion of the Finance Bill I shall describe it in detail. But I say he should follow the methods which every university follows in the examination of answer books; and unless this method is adopted, it is very difficult to avoid corruption. We have to take a good deal of precautions to avoid scandals, and I suggest that the above method should be adopted.

The next thing is, and this is the weakest point, the inspection. This is a very responsible task, and it is now entrusted to a class of persons who are daily labourers—they are paid Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 per day—and they are doing this responsible work. I had an occasion to see myself and I am an eye witness to this particular thing at Tundla: one inspector—I think he was probably drawing Rs. 3 a day—came to watch the sewing of a tent and he looked into the matter and said "this line should be done this way and not in that way". The moment he raised this objection, Rs. 500 were put in his pocket, and, of course, the line as it was originally done was found to be correct. With such inspectors, who

are daily labourers, you cannot expect better results. Therefore, I do beseech Mr. Jenkins now to consider carefully that these inspectors should be permanent officials and selected from the permanent staff of the Government of India and they should be highly responsible officers; so that if anything goes wrong they will lose a permanent job. If a Rs. 2 labourer does anything wrong, he does not come to harm because he has already five years' salary in his pocket in advance and he can go somewhere else. This system requires examination. You must choose your inspectors carefully and a wrong selection is bound to lead to confusion and to trouble.

Again, after all, these inspectors are human and therefore there ought to be an appeal provided against their decisions. Inspectors may be using their judgment with correctness, but still, to err is human, and there should be a committee or tribunal appointed to which cases may be referred on appeal. If a contractor is not satisfied with the results of an inspection, he should have a right to appeal to this committee, and there must be representation of contractors on that committee as well, because they must know what the troubles are. In fact it should have representation even of this legislature on it—I do not mind doing this thing. It should be a committee having the confidence of the people for whose benefit it is instituted. Therefore I propose two things—that the inspector must be a permanent official drawn from the service, and there ought to be an appeal from the decision of these inspectors in order to have public confidence

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member has one minute more.

Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad: The next point is their present tent policy which they are now revising. I think this requires very serious consideration because it is designed to destroy the cottage industry. They have devised a new method by means of which they want to destroy the old tent fabricators who really took the place of the cottage industry, in favour of mills. I have not got time now but on the Finance Bill I will make elaborate observations on the rules which they are now having in contemplation, which have been definitely devised in favour of mills and to destroy the cottage industry; they are contradictory in terms; and it is very difficult really to substantiate these rules. For example, mills are given contract for longer terms, while the fabricators are giving contracts only for about quarter of the time. The mills are given prices on the profit basis, while those engaged in the cottage industry are required to quote their own prices; and if their prices happen to be higher than the mill prices, then their quotas are reduced by 15 to 25 per cent. With these words, I move.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Cut motion moved: "That the demand under the head 'Executive Council' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Muhammad Nauman: Sir, I do not think the present is a proper time for making criticisms, because the gravity of the situation demands serious consideration of the Department to all matters that come before them, because we are passing through very critical times. I shall not repeat the allegation which my friend, Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad, made regarding bribery, but I would only request the Government to be more strict in dealing with officials who have been found guilty of corruption

[Mr. Muhammad Nauman.]

or bribery, so that the punishment meted out to delinquent officials may act as a deterrent to others. I agree that it is not possible for the Government to eliminate temptation from all officials under them, but, certainly they should try and deal with all officials found guilty of bribery or corruption with a strictness which should, as I said before, act as a deterrent so that others may not be encouraged to resort to these means. I know responsible officers like Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Gholam Mohamed and others are working in the Department at great personal sacrifice to themselves, and I should like the Government to imbibe all officials and officers in the Supply Department with the same spirit of sacrifice.

Another thing I observed in the Supply Department is this. In regard to contracts, I find that European firms are not animated by the same spirit of sacrifice as they are in England. That is my grievance. I do not think that my friends of the European Group will like to hear what I say, but it is a fact which I have to mention on the floor of the House. Some of these firms are exploiting the Department by trying to get special advantages to their own firms. Restrictions should be imposed on people who are actively participating in any business so that they may not be employed in the Supply Department. In some branches some of the officers are both officers as advisers of Government and distributors of contracts, and this should not be allowed. Of course, I have no time to review the activities of all the branches of the Supply Department. I have neither the information nor the time to do so now, but I should just like to mention one thing. There is still a strong feeling among the merchant class that they have not been able to cultivate a feeling of sacrifice, and most of them,—I should not say all of them,—who are participating in executing the orders of the Supply Department are doing the work, not in any spirit of sacrifice, but with an eye to profit, if not exploitation, I would merely cite one example.

In this case the Supply Department held a meeting or conference of hide merchants and invited all the prominent merchants from Calcutta, Cawnpore and other places for the supply of raw hides. I think the speeches made in that conference were sufficiently encouraging and promises were made on behalf of the merchants. I was one of those who had been invited to be present as a representative of my firm and as President of the Calcutta Skin and Hide Merchants Association. I then made it perfectly clear that this was not the time for making profit, because we do not know what is going to be the position of the country itself tomorrow. But we found that in practice there is a regular race going on although there is no competition from the tanners' section—whatever the reasons for it may be,—I shall not discuss it now. But the position remains that there is a game going on between the two sections, the hide merchants and the tanners—tanners are not co-operating in the manner one would expect them to co-operate in the present arrangement of things. The matter was placed before the authorities in charge, and nothing has been done so far. Probably they are calling another meeting sometime this month. This is the story of one particular Department. I do not know what is happening in other Departments. I understand similar conferences are held of jute suppliers, and I do not know if there is enough co-operation forthcoming from their side. I think the whole position should be dealt with so as to call for a spirit of sacrifice from merchants who deal with the Supply Department. That is all I have to say on this motion.

Sir Gurunath Bewoor (Government of India: Nominated Official): Sir, I must explain first of all why I am participating in this debate. The cut motion moved by my friend, Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad, relates to the present system of Purchases and Inspection in the Supply Department. Now, Sir, Inspection is the responsibility of the Defence Department, firstly, because it is necessary for the user to lay down, in the form of specifications, what is required; secondly, it is the accepted principle that Inspection should be divorced from the buyer and thirdly, that the user should have the last word as to the serviceability of the stores that are being bought, I fully agree with the Dr. regarding the importance of ensuring quick supplies of first class material, and I fully share his robust confidence regarding the future of this War. I also fully appreciate his appeal that everyone in the Department should work as a real soldier, and perhaps the House will be interested to hear that since the remarks which the learned Dr. made, last year, I think, about the Colonels whose names are spelt with a K. he has himself become a Lieut.-Colonel now. I do not know how he spells it.

Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad: Neither with a K. nor with C, but with Q.

Sir Gurunath Bewoor: The branch of the Defence Department which controls Inspection is the Master General of Ordnance Branch, and the executive head of the Inspection Organization is the Controller General of Inspection for General Stores, Engineering, Medical and Clothing, the Director of Armaments for Lethal stores manufactured either by Ordnance Factories or by the trade, and the Director of Mechanisation for Motor Vehicles, Tanks, etc. This is a very big organization, which is spread all over India now. The Controller General is assisted by a Deputy and an Assistant, and he has under him a number of Chief Inspectors, for each group of stores such as Engineering Mechanisation, General Stores and Building, Small Arms, Guns, Military Explosives, Gun Carriages, Scientific Stores, etc. It is the function of the Chief Inspector with his staff to prepare the specifications and to do research and development.

I have noted what the Honourable Doctor has said regarding specifications not being very clear and as affording scope for different interpretations. I have noted this and I will draw the attention of the Controller General of Inspection to the complaint. I cannot help feeling that perhaps some of the articles for which specifications are prepared are beyond even the expert knowledge which the Honourable Doctor has, and some of them might perhaps have struck him as somewhat ambiguous. However, I have noted down this very important point and I will draw the attention of the Controller General of Inspections to the importance of clarity in specifications. The Controller General has under him Assistant Inspectors for General Stores who are appointed for different areas into which India is divided—namely, it is divided into North India, Central India, South India, Bombay and Bengal, and then there are various Depots in charge of officers. The Controller General of Inspection has also taken over work which used to be done in the old days by the Indian Stores Department, and the whole of the staff of that Department is now under him for purposes of work and administration.

Inspection may be classified into five categories. I mention this because of the particular complaint which the Honourable Doctor made as regards inspection by very poorly paid staff. Inspection may be classified into five categories—automatic, semi-automatic, chemical and physical

[Sir Gurunath Bewoor.]

tests, stage inspection and routine inspection. Automatic inspection may be carried out in the process of production, as for example, the manufacture of Small Arms Cartridges, in which, after each process of machining, the article is passed through gauges and automatically thrown out if the dimensions do not meet the requirements. On this type of inspection only low paid personnel are employed as technical skill is not essential. Semi-automatic is an adaptation of what I have just said, together with the requirements of having a higher grade of appointment in position to check parts of the production which have not been automatically inspected. For this and for general supervision of production, Examiners are appointed. Chemical and physical tests are performed in the laboratories which require the services of chemists and physicists. The object of the laboratory examination is to test for strength dilutions, material properties and requirements necessary to ensure that the articles are according to the specification and to ensure that the article will stand up to the work required of it. Stage inspection is carried out in the inspection of complex items with the object of ensuring that the finished article is correct in its component parts. Such an inspection is carried out as the article is being made at various points of manufacture, and the finished article is finally inspected as a built up piece. Routine inspection is the continual inspection of all stores passing through the Indentor. For the Defence Services, one hundred per cent. inspection is carried out by the Examiners and Supervisors. It will be seen that the grading of inspection staff is organised so that the lower grade personnel perform routine inspection under supervision by a more highly paid and responsible personnel, and that a chain of supervision and responsibility is established whereby subordinate staff carry out set routine tasks but carry no responsibility; this is carried by more highly paid and highly qualified staff.

I have here some figures regarding the salaries of various classes of the inspection staff, but for the particular class to which the Honourable Doctor referred as Inspectors—he probably used the word "Inspectors" in a sort of general sense, but here are scales for Examiners which, according to what he says, are correct. Their salaries are from Rs. 1-2-0 per day up to Rs. 5 per day. Probably my Honourable friend was referring to those people—they are the very lowest class who do the routine inspection but they have got above them supervisors whose pays are from Rs. 120 to Rs. 200 a month. Then they have got officers above them, whose salaries vary according as they belong to the military staff or civilian staff on the military side, or the old Indian Stores Department, but generally the salaries are in the neighbourhood of Rs. 200 up to Rs. 800 or 900.

On the inspection is the responsibility for providing contractors with documents on which stores can be despatched after inspection and on which payment of bills is made, that is, military credit notes and inspection notes. We are aware of some complaint regarding delay in payment to contractors. The whole question has been carefully examined and a reorganisation has been done since last December, and it is believed that the present system has resulted in speeding up supplies and payment. The Honourable Doctor referred to not using too many military officers in inspection and to releasing them for other work. So far as the inspection side is concerned, I may mention that in a total staff of 18,500 which is now under the Controller General of Inspections there are only 200

military officers and 200 lower ranks. I do not think the military staff is used in any large number, but as the Honourable Member himself pointed out, there are various types of stores for which military personnel is essential.

The other point which was made was about bribery. My Honourable friend, Mr. Nauman, has admitted that human nature has not changed and that this is inevitable. On our side we have taken every possible step by providing various supervising and controlling staff, but, in spite of that, we are aware that dishonest practices do exist.

Mr. Muhammad Nauman: May I say this in this connection? Anybody whom you suspect, or whose guilt has been proved—if you dismiss him, that would probably serve as a good example for other people.

Sir Gurunath Bewoor: I was just coming to that. We do want to stop corrupt practices and we have certain agencies for keeping a watch on all work that is done. But it is unfortunate that in this matter we do not receive the assistance and co-operation which we ought to receive. Bribery is not a new thing only in this Department; it has existed in a large number of Departments, and as bribery like the quality of mercy, benefits him that gives and him that takes, neither party is willing to come forward. But where we have been able to secure evidence, we have not only dismissed people, but recently a man has been sent for three years' rigorous imprisonment. We have offered to contractors our promise that we will see that they are not penalised if they would come forward and give assistance. So far as Government are concerned, I hope the House will accept our assurance that we are just as keen on rooting out this evil as any Member of this House.

As regards the suggestion made by the Honourable Doctor that there should be an appeal to a tribunal, Sir, at present contractors can always appeal to the next higher officer if they think that their articles have been wrongly or dishonestly rejected, but I cannot possibly conceive of the constitution of a large number of tribunals for different types of articles and the acceptance of material awaiting the decision of the tribunal, meantime supplies being held up. But if anybody has any grievance of this kind, I am sure that we shall be only too pleased to look into the matter and to take to task the person concerned.

Mr. Muhammad Nauman: Has he got the facilities to go to the higher officer and ask for a revision?

Sir Gurunath Bewoor: There is nothing to prevent the man from going to the higher officer and mentioning those things which are according to the specification and which have been rejected by a particular officer. That is all, Sir, that I have to say on this matter.

Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta (Bombay Central Division: Non-Muhammadar Rural): Sir, everybody will be glad to hear the assurances that have been given by Sir Gurunath Bewoor of Government's anxiety to root out the evil of corruption, and I feel perfectly confident that the headquarters of the Government of India are as keen as anyone of us. But there are certain tests which I wish to present to him by which he can see whether his efforts are getting successful. I have had a conversation with a Government contractor who is on the approved list for the last 15 years and who is one of the suppliers. He met me in the Railway train when I

[Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta.]

was travelling from Calcutta in January last. He told me of the widespread evil of corruption, the methods of those corrupters and the tests by which this corruption could be, if not eliminated, minimised. I am telling the Honourable Member now what this experienced gentleman in giving bribes told me; he told me that he could not have got on without paying. He is, I think, still on the list, and he has 15 years' experience. He said there were four toll gates at which he had to pay the toll keepers before he could enter the four gates. The four gates were, first of all, the entry as an approved contractor. You need not take it for granted that you will be taken as an approved contractor simply because you applied for it. But the test whether you had to pay or whether you had not had to pay is that if you have paid you are accepted immediately. If you do not pay, it may take four months before you are registered on the list of approved firms. Now, therefore, I suggest to the Honourable Member that if he goes through these files and finds that in the matter of being registered as approved contractors some people were registered too soon and some people were not registered at all, that would give him one test whether there was anything fishy in the registration as an approved contractor. Then, you have to pass through this toll gate and then comes the order that may be given to you. Thereafter, if you are ready for supplying the order, the inspection takes place. Whether the inspection is to be considered at all necessary, whether the goods are as per sample and whether the supply is per specification, these are all matters for the third toll gate keeper to finally adjudicate. If you want this toll keeper to certify that your supplies are according to the specification, you have to pay him. Then, next, when the Bill is made, you have to pay the fourth toll keeper before the cheque is issued. The cheque may be lying on his table, but it won't be issued until his hand is greased. Sometimes there is a fifth toll keeper, according to this gentleman, who may give you a certificate for full supplies, although the supplies may not be according to the quantity of purchase. If a difficulty arises, the supplies may be put on fire in order to prevent detection. Supposing a man was to supply 5,000 tents—I am not referring to tent suppliers, but I am simply mentioning it as an example—and he has supplied only 3,000 tents and there is some danger of discovery, then a very sudden fire takes place, and all the 3,000 tents are also burnt to prevent detection. Then, you cannot say that 5,000 tents were not supplied, because there is nothing to prove. These are the four toll keepers who extort money from the contractor. Some of this story may be somewhat exaggerated, but when I asked him whether he will be able to give the name so that I may bring the matter to the notice of Sir Homi Mody, who, I am sure, will take action, he said: "Where the practice is general, why take up an individual?". That is what he said. He said: "I am giving, and, therefore, I am getting. If I did not give, I won't get."

Now, Sir, this is a very extraordinary state of things. In war time the pressure on the higher officials is likely to be very great and they are naturally so much pre-occupied with the more important work of getting the supplies than testing or controlling this kind of practice. But the matter is important because the man who pays the toll keeper adds that money to the bill and ultimately it is the Government and the taxpayer who suffer. Therefore, it is a very important public aspect and the test which I am giving you is to watch the time at each stage. The first stage is when he entered as an approved contractor, then his goods

were passed as according to the specifications, then a certificate of delivery was given and the cheque was paid and in a case of necessity, incendiarism was resorted to. Each time you can get it by watching the time during which this takes place. And I wonder if he has not heard of some fire. I at least heard of one but I cannot vouch for its accuracy. If that kind of fire takes place in the supply of any commodity on a large scale, then he should examine that matter. I beg to assure him that apart from the story, which may have been exaggerated, here is a gentleman who has been for 15 years a Government contractor and who is still on the list and who privately attacked the whole system and who said that he could give me the whole list if I liked. It is, therefore, worth while for Government for the sake of their own reputation and for the sake of public money that this matter should be constantly under their watch and no relaxation of effort would be justified in a matter where crores of rupees of public money are at stake. The Finance Member told us that 40 lakhs of rupees was going to be our daily expenditure on war. Besides, we buy enormous quantities of supplies for His Majesty's Government and for allied countries. Therefore, the amount of money involved is not a few lakhs or a few crores but hundreds of crores of rupees and no amount of watchfulness will be too great to bring to light any evils of the kind that are freely mentioned.

Mr. Husenbhai Abdullahai Laljee (Bombay Central Division: Muhammadan Rural): Sir, I have carefully heard my friend

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): I must point out to the Honourable Member that unless the Government Member replies now, there will be no more time for the Government Member to reply because in the afternoon the European Group's motions will come up.

Mr. Husenbhai Abdullahai Laljee: I will take only two minutes, Sir.

1 P.M. I do not want to go into the details about the matter after what my friend, Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad, or my friend, Mr. Nauman, or my friend Sir Gurunath Bewoor or Mr. Jenkin's have said. That there is a general complaint is a fact and it has been dealt with by both at length and fairly. With regard to what fell from my friend, Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, I must say frankly that what he has said was probably the practice 15 years ago. I must also say, Sir, that he has not followed what Sir Gurunath Bewoor said, that is, at the present time, the Supply Orders Department and the Inspection Departments are quite separate. The Supply Department does not do anything with regard to inspection. Every contractor who wishes to supply to the Government at present has got to tender and give bank reference. There is no more now the question of first getting into the list of approved contractors or otherwise, so far as I know, unless probably there is a very special article in which there are only a few manufacturers and not many. Therefore the first two points are practically ruled out although I would like that there should be no restriction even in the supply or manufacture of special article or any article.

With regard to bills and cheques, there again Sir Gurunath Bewoor explained that payments are made by the Accounts Department at Delhi by cheques and sent over to contractors direct and payments are usually required to be made within four or five days after the receipt of the Bills. As far as prices are concerned I had said last year and I repeat again that so far as big business is concerned there is sufficient and good

[Mr. Husenbhai Abdullabhai Lalji.]

joint control financially. On the whole we have not much to complain. The only general complaint has been with regard to inspection and deliveries and I think further more action may be taken whenever and wherever in this respect so that deliveries could be made without any difficulty and earlier and that inspection must be done by responsible persons. That is all I want to say.

Mr. E. M. Jenkins (Government of India: Nominated Official): Sir, my Honourable friend, Sir Gurunath Bewoor, has dealt with the question of inspection which, as he has explained, is not a responsibility of the Supply Department, but is subordinate to the Defence Department. I shall endeavour to deal with the other points taken by the Honourable the Mover of the cut motion and the Honourable Members who spoke after him. A very important point was made by my Honourable friend, Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad, about the probable duration of the war and the need for mobilising the whole of our resources. The Supply Department began, as was natural, by mobilising and getting into action the whole of organized industry, and it is perhaps open to the criticism that during the early part of the war, it paid inadequate attention to cottage industries. We have, however, got supplies of many kinds from cottage industries in the Provinces. We hope to get from them this year something over two million blankets. The industry in Bengal, for making camouflage nets, has been expanded in quite a remarkable way. Similar expansion has taken place in the Punjab in respect of cutlery, where the cutlers of Wazirabad appeared to be a somewhat quarrelsome race who had been unable to get their products passed easily by inspection. But they have now been organised by the Director of Industries and they are, I believe, doing very well.

Maulana Zafar Ali Khan (East Central Punjab: Muhammadan): I come from Wazirabad and I can say that those people are not quarrelsome.

Mr. E. M. Jenkins: They are, I believe, doing quite well now and they may really be the most sweet-tempered community in the world. Now, Sir, owing to the entry of Japan into the war, and the obvious need for increasing India's potential, it has been decided to hold a Conference of the Directors of Industries on the 23rd March to try and put these cottage industries on a firmer and more systematic basis. What we have in view is this. We shall continue, as we do now, to operate through the Controllers of Supplies, but we shall ask the Provincial Governments, I do not know yet whether they will agree, to set up in each Province what we have called an "official agency" based on the Industries and Co-operative Departments, which will actually take contracts, and act as contractors, and those official agencies will be responsible for organising and bringing out the small men. Now, Sir, I do not like to mislead the House as to the views of the Department as to the potentialities of cottage industries. Cottage industries are not particularly efficient and they are not particularly cheap, except for certain things. If you are making munitions proper, that is to say, things which have to be interchangeable, such as parts of shells or fuzes or what not, then the little man working in a small urban workshop or in a house in a village is not in as good a position as the more highly organised worker to make sure that that thing is up to standard and, if it is not up to standard, of course, it is useless. But there are a very large number of articles which might be made by the small

man and can be made by cottage industries, if cottage industries are properly organised. We are, therefore, going to start with the side of the Department which is operated from New Delhi, the Directorate General of Supply, and we have given the Provincial Governments a specific list and a fairly long list of the things which we want them to get for us from the small man. If the steel position improves and if we feel that we are not incurring a risk in handing out valuable metals to the small man to work on, we may later on extend this system to the munitions productions side, but that will take time.

The second important point taken by the Honourable the Mover of the cut motion related to the use of Advisers drawn from business. Now, Sir, in the opinion of the Honourable Member these advisers were taken to guide the tottering steps of the ignorant civil servant during the first six months of the war. Well, of course, there is a certain amount of truth in that. But, Sir, they were intended to serve another and equally important purpose. They have really been appointed not only as technical Advisers; they are to some extent the spokesmen of the industry to which they belong and so far from finding them unnecessary we are finding them increasingly necessary. We are passing more and more to the adoption of the panel system in dealing with industries. We have now the big cotton textile panel which is doing admirable work. We have not one, but several honorary Advisers on various aspects of the cotton textile industry, men of considerable eminence who have given their time for nothing to us. We have a machine tool panel, also honorary, and so on. The system, to my mind, is unobjectionable from the point of view of industry and it is extremely useful to Government. I have never been able to understand why it was regarded in certain quarters with suspicion.

Then, Sir, the Honourable Member, who was supported in this by Mr. Muhammad Nauman, referred to the risk of appointing to the Department, as temporary Civil Servants, gentlemen, who occupied positions of responsibility in commercial firms in India, who, in some cases, do continue to draw emoluments from their original firms. That is a most delicate and thorny problem and at a very early stage in the war we got from London and examined the orders on the subject in the United Kingdom. Their practice roughly is this. An Adviser, if he is wholly an Adviser and is unpaid may maintain his full business interests. In all other cases, if it is possible, they ask the business man to become a temporary Civil Servant and to sever his connection with his business completely. That is to say, if he is going to be an Executive Officer, they ask him to devote his whole time to his duties as such and to receive nothing but his Government salary. Now, Sir, in the United Kingdom there is a very large range of people high up in the business world, and a considerable range of retired people on whom the Departments can draw. In India, it is a little bit different and we have here, to some extent, to compromise on the following basis. If an officer joins us from a firm—and mark you, if he joined the Army from his firm, he would normally be permitted by the more generous firms, no doubt, by most of them, to receive the difference between his army pay and his own pay with his own firm—when he joins us, he is asked to make a definite declaration of what his business interests are. He is asked to declare that he will take absolutely no part in his business interests for the duration of the war; he also declares what emoluments, if any, he is going to receive. These declarations are submitted to the higher authorities in the Department, normally, the Supply

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Member himself, and it is decided whether they are adequate for our purpose. But I would deprecate most strongly and indeed repudiate the suggestion made by the Honourable Mr. Muhammad Nauman that these officers, many of whom have come to us, at personal inconvenience and considerable sacrifice, are abusing their position in any way. The services of men, both Indian and European, from the commercial houses of this country has been absolutely invaluable and we could not have carried on without them. I should be very sorry to think that this House endorsed any ungenerous statement about these people who have done a great deal for the war effort.

Mr. Nauman raised another question arising out of the employment of business men as temporary Civil Servants. This was when he suggested that the co-operation of industry had been most uneven; and he suggested that in some cases the presence in the Department of people drawn from commercial houses had had a disturbing effect. Of course, it is true that businessmen are like other people; if you take a cross-section of a large community you find that it is composed of all sorts, and that in some industries you get readier and quicker co-operation than you do in others. But, on the whole, the Department have no reason to complain of failure of industry to co-operate, though I would say this, that in India, as a whole half of our troubles have not been told us. Therefore, we shall all, both official and non-official, soldiers and businessmen, have to go more flat out than we have been going up to now.

Then, there was a question raised, I think, by the Honourable the Mover himself, of the employment of military officers in the Purchase Branch. We do not now recruit new military officers to the Purchase Branch; but I would remind the Honourable the Mover that these military officers, the ones who were in the Purchase Branch before the war, are not amateurs. They were men who had spent a good many years on this rather technical and perhaps rather dull business of contracting. There is a great deal more in it than meets the eye. The accretions to the original cadre after the war began consisted mainly of business men and people with some experience in that line; so that the presence of officers in Sam Browne belts entering into contracts was not so absurd as it appeared at first sight. As I have said, we are now recruiting no more of these gentlemen and the new recruits are all civilians. But to protect the rights of the senior officers who were permanent before the war, we have a certain number of posts reserved in the Contracts Branch for them.

The Honourable the Mover again complained of our policy about tents. But as the time is now very short and as he has intimated that he will take that up at greater leisure, I need say no more on the subject except that I do not think that tent fabrication can be described as a cottage industry. The fabricators are very prosperous men, many of them having been known to me as such for a good many years. There is no question of tears about any bitter hardship which they are experiencing at the moment, and I think when there is an opportunity for a fuller examination of the question the House will be prevailed upon to agree that all is well.

Finally; in the few minutes at my disposal I will touch upon the last and perhaps the most important point raised on this motion, and that is the question of corruption. That is a question which has given the Government of India as a whole, and the Supply Member, personally, the

very gravest concern in the last year. Nothing,—I am sorry to say,—that the Honourable Members have said today is news to me. We know that corruption exists; we know that it is not new and that it is very largely a matter of opportunity. We have, as Sir Gurunath Bewoor said, a special agency looking out for delinquents and we have succeeded, though we do not talk a great deal about it, in tracing a certain number of cases which have, I hope, been adequately dealt with. But it is idle to suppose that during a war, supply work will be entirely free from corruption. The only things that can be done to put it down are these: In the first place the controlling authorities must be as vigilant as they can; and in the second place there must be,—and this I suggest is a matter for Honourable Members of this House as much as for any other persons in the community,—there must be a healthy public opinion on the subject. Two months ago I had before me half a dozen contractors whom I had known for years. They told me their story but when I asked them to come forward and give evidence they refused. It is that spirit that is at the bottom of a great deal of our trouble. If the public would come forward even at the risk of being laughed at, at the risk of discomfort, and even if they feel,—though I think we can protect them against any such consequences that they might later be ruled out of Government business and so on,—if they take the risk to come forward and let us have true cases, then I think the corruption menace would be largely eliminated.

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

The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock, Mr. Deputy President (Mr. Akhil Chandra Datta) in the Chair.

Mr. Deputy President (Mr. Akhil Chandra Datta): Which motion is the European Group moving?

Sir F. E. James (Madras: European): Sir, I am moving No. 73 on the printed list.

The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman: Sir, what about the motion which was moved before the House adjourned for lunch?

Mr. Deputy President (Mr. Akhil Chandra Datta): It automatically drops. I find there is a ruling on this point; it is this:

"The Honourable Member is aware of the arrangement which the House unaniously agreed to. Yesterday was allotted to the Nationalist Party, and if the motion that was put before the House could not be carried to vote, it dropped."

(This is on page 2025 of printed debates of 15th March, 1952.) This afternoon is allotted to the European Group, and, therefore, that motion cannot be put now.

Advisability of creating a Department of Production separate from Supply.

Sir F. E. James: Sir, I move:

"That the demand under the head 'Executive Council' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Sir, I raised this question on a previous occasion and I make no apology for raising it again more formally on the demands for grants. At the outset, I should like to make it quite clear that this proposal implies an

[Sir F. E. James.]

criticism whatever of the work and achievements of the Supply Department. Indeed perhaps if it did, I might have been placed in an embarrassing position in view of the fact that I have enjoyed the personal friendship of the Supply Member for many years in a way that has enlivened and enriched my existence. I think, also that everyone in this House will be only too glad to join in paying a tribute to Mr. Jenkins, who I am glad to see here today and whose work as Secretary of the Supply Department has been one of the most outstanding successes of the war effort in this country. Nor do I minimize for a moment the foresightedness of His Excellency the Viceroy who had the vision at an early stage to see the necessity for laying down extensive plans for the development of supply in this country, not only to meet our own needs, but also to meet the needs of the Eastern Group. And I would not either minimize the work of the Roger Mission, of which we have heard too little—its recommendations still remain rather shrouded in secrecy and in spite of questions and supplementary questions we are not told very much as to the extent to which those recommendations have actually been implemented. Nor do I minimize the work of the Eastern Group Supply Council.

As a result of these and many other efforts, India's productive capacity has greatly increased. She has followed an immense and vast supply programme. She is in fact the supply arsenal for the armies in the Middle East and Far East. For months, secure behind her Eastern and Western bastions, she was able to feed and clothe and partially equip those who were fighting her campaigns overseas. But with the entry of Japan into the war and the fall of Malaya, Singapore and the Dutch East Indies and with the evacuation of Rangoon, India's strategic position has completely and absolutely changed. No longer is she secure behind her Eastern bastions—they have gone—and India's own coast-lines today are the front line of battle. Communications with Australia and New Zealand have been lengthened and made infinitely more difficult and we have frankly to face the possibility of continuous interruptions of communications not only with the Middle East but also with the United States of America and the United Kingdom. In other words, India is thrown more upon her own resources than at any other time during the course of this war. Now this necessitates a complete re-examination of the production situation in this country. Maximum national effort is more required today than at any other time, in the conduct of the war and in the output of India's essential war production. I am aware that maximum national effort depends in the last analysis upon national unity and national efficiency. In regard to national unity I shall say nothing this afternoon except to express a hope that the events of the next few days may open the gates to a measure of unity such as India has not experienced for many years. As to national efficiency, which is as important as national unity, let it be remembered that the quantity and quality of equipment is as determining a factor in the war today as the number of soldiers or the skill of generals, and that fundamentally this is a war of aircraft, tanks and shipping plus the national will to resist. An outstanding admission of the importance of this matter of production is made by the announcement of a technical mission from the United States of America which is to visit this country shortly. One of the objects of this mission is to aid production and, if possible, to fill some of the gaps in India's munitions production, thus assisting in the implementation of the recommendations of the Chatfield Committee, the Roger Mission, and others.

May I say that this mission and its visit should be welcomed on all hands and that neither suspicion, which I have seen voiced in some quarters, nor vested interests should be allowed to stand in the way of its successful working? I believe that an immediate survey of this kind is a crying necessity and that ruthless, and if necessary revolutionary, efforts are required to increase India's production of war materials and to fill those important gaps to which reference has been made. We need not suspect this inquiry. Honourable Members perhaps have forgotten that a technical mission of inquiry was sent to the United Kingdom, and after a tour of the production centres reported that they were not giving the full production of which the plants were capable. Similarly, a technical mission from the Trades Union movement from Russia recently visited the United Kingdom and they similarly expressed frank views. The views both of the trades unionists and of the technical mission have been immediately taken into consideration by His Majesty's Government and many of them have already been given effect to. May I express the hope that this mission will not be required to sit down and write a long report, which will in due course receive the favourable consideration of the departments concerned. I would like to see this commission go round, associated with a powerful representative from the Government of India, so that in respect of many of its recommendations which do not affect general policy, the recommendations can be put into effect immediately. Why should not, for example, my friend, Mr. Jenkins, in whom the House has such complete confidence in these matters, why should he not be required to go round with the authority of government and of the Supply Member behind him, so that he could be a direct link between those technical experts and the policy of supply and production?

There are two main problems so far as I see it, in regard to production. First of all, the problem of removing impediments which are in the way of increase of output; and secondly, the planning ahead, the filling the gaps, the utilisation of unused space in our factory layouts, and in general the increase of India's productive capacity. Let me mention some of the impediments in the way of the increase of output.

There is the lack of certain types of raw materials which have to come from outside. There is the lack of skilled technical labour, lack of machine tools, inadequacy of power, the absence of certain highly specialised plants, the tremendous congestion upon our overcrowded transport facilities, and I believe the entire reorganisation of our transport system will be essential if India's productive capacity is to be increased to any very large extent. There is the whole question of the control of imports, which needs thorough revision; and there is the sorry story of labour disputes here and there, which tend to slow down production in some of our essential factories. May I add one further impediment to production, and that is a lack of control over the prices of certain essential materials, which are needed in our vital industries. I have known of cases in which establishments which are turning out important supplies have been hindered by the inability to secure essential materials from middlemen, simply because those middlemen were holding up prices to a fantastic level. That should be dealt with, and dealt with without any delay, by those who are now in authority.

The question naturally arises to every Honourable Member, "That sounds all very well: there are impediments to be dealt with: there is productive capacity to be increased, but is there any justification for an

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alteration in the present organisation of the Supply Department?" We think there is, and I will state one reason. But I would also say that we do not for a moment suggest that the method we propose is necessarily either the only or the best method. First of all, while supply is closely related to production, it is mainly concerned with immediate needs, whereas production is concerned with both immediate and future needs. Production is both long term and short term; and if I were to describe in simple language the main objects of production in this country, it would be, first of all, to make the implements for the people's resistance here and now; and secondly, to produce the weapons which will bring an allied victory. The smaller arms which are necessary for a people's resistance can be made in our existing factories, but their output needs to be increased a hundred-fold. Those weapons which are necessary for that victory which will come in time, they will have to be made here, if possible. But for that, there must be a complete reorganisation of many of our existing services. In the second place, we consider that the Supply Department as it is now organised has grown almost too big for one concentrated intense direction. I have not time to go into the intricacies of the organisation, but a reference to the very interesting chart which was published some time ago in *Indian Information* and which I take it now will have to be even more elongated, will illustrate the intricacies of the department, and the enormous size of its scope and its activities. If you study that chart you will see that already a natural division exists as between supply and munitions production. We suggest, therefore, that the Department should be divided, that there should be a Department of Production under one head, able to give executive direction through the whole field of munitions production, able to deal promptly and effectively and with extensive powers with anything and everything that stands in the way of efficient production. We realise, of course, that production is not a simple matter. It is no use putting even so capable and energetic a person as our Supply Member in charge of production and imagining for a moment that he can suddenly produce in all directions. He can do many things, but he cannot do that. Production involves four main stages: first, the consideration of strategic problems, secondly the specification of the targets to be aimed at; thirdly, an examination of all the factors relating to production, and their carrying into effect; and fourthly, and finally, the issue of distinct and definite operational orders. Therefore, while we believe that there should be one Department of Production under one head, supported by a central production executive, we recognise there must also be a certain amount of regional autonomy, and we should like to see men in the production department serving regions, not provinces, economic regions such as Bengal and Bihar, or the whole of South India which is one economic unit, with authority to go round and to act.

The system of having to refer detailed matters to Delhi should be abolished. In the Central Executive to be established to advise the Production Member, we suggest that there should be represented technical and industrial skill, not only from this country, but also from the United States of America and from the United Kingdom, or from wherever in the allied front we can get capable men, who know their business. This production executive should have the widest possible powers not only to remove the existing impediments to the flow of munitions, but also to speed up procedure, and this speeding up of procedure which was to have

formed a separate item in our budget discussions, is most urgent and most necessary. This is not a new matter. It has been brought to the attention of Government by the business community from time to time during the last two years. I am not now criticising any particular officer of the Government, but there is no doubt that procedure in the Secretariat which is proper and appropriate in peace time becomes a clog on the wheels of progress in times of war. It is a sure sign that whenever a Governor broadcasts a striking message calling for the abolition of red tape then some town is about to be surrounded. May I suggest here that we don't wait until the Japanese are in Ghaziabad before red tape is abolished. Finally, Sir may I once more urge upon the House the extreme urgency of this matter. We don't move this cut in any spirit of panic or depression

Mr. Deputy President (Mr. Akhil Chandra Datta): The Honourable Member has got one minute more.

Sir F. E. James: But we are trying to face facts. The battles of Malaya, Dutch East Indies and Rangoon, are finished. The battles of Upper Burma and China are in progress. The battle of India is about to begin. These are grave matters. They are matters with which the House should deal urgently, instantly and as effectively as possible. May I ask the Honourable Member for the Supply Department and his colleagues on the Treasury Benches to remember those words of Britain's Prime Minister that in the matter of the production of munitions essential for a nation's resistance and for a war of final victory, there is "not a day, not an hour, not a minute to lose". Sir, I move.

Mr. Deputy President (Mr. Akhil Chandra Datta): Cut motion moved:

"That the demand under the head 'Executive Council' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney (Nominated Non-Official): Sir, as one who is neither enriched nor enchanted by the present Supply Member, and as one who has listened very carefully to my friend, Sir F. E. James, I rise whole-heartedly to support his motion. Sir, I think Sir Frederick James has not been one day too late in impressing on this House and on the Supply Department the need for an urgent re-orientation and enlargement of its operations. There is no use indulging in a recital of our past defects or suggesting improvements, for I leave that to experts, but I do think, Sir, that India has been denied this for many years. Let me give you one instance among many. I remember reading what Mr. Gandhi, one of the chief officials in Tata Works, said. He said that had it not been for the tremendous strain on England as a result of the battle of the Atlantic and the difficulty in transporting machinery to this country, Tatas would never have been asked to supply wheels, tyres and axles which they are doing today. This is a clear indication, as my friend, Sir Frederick James, has said, that India has possessed and does possess sufficient factories which are capable of producing many forms of army material required for defence purposes today. Sir, it is lack of imagination and, this wait and see policy on the part of the Government that has been its chief drawback in the administration of India especially in its dealings with the present war needs. I feel I must join my friend, Sir Frederick James, in the tribute he has paid to the Honourable Member who is now at the head of the Supply Department. He is a man who never allows himself to be short circuited and who scarcely ever fails to

[Sir Henry Gidney.]

accept advice, and I feel sure that in his hands the Department is perfectly safe. But Sir Frederick James has suggested a much needed reform—a Production Officer. With some knowledge of that Department, I feel myself that it has outgrown its needs to the extent that it has become too unweildly and that it should be able to utilise a Production Officer.

I do not desire to enumerate the points that Sir Frederick James has so ably mentioned and discussed except to say that the creation of a Production Officer and a separate Production Department is an absolute necessity today. India today is faced with a world war and a situation which nobody could foretell a few months ago. Let us frankly admit we have sadly underestimated the strength of our enemy. We were really ignorant of the speed with which Japan could move today. We are faced with danger on our eastern borders. Is India prepared to meet that danger? Or does the Department of Industries, does the Department of Production, does the Department of Transportation need radical alteration? If there is one Department which needs radical alteration, it is the Department of Transportation. Can anything be more lamentable than the absence of transport facilities for the carriage of food grains and other necessities today? That danger can be best countered with the creation of a Department of Production. Sir, this Resolution has really been brought a little too late. We should have passed it last year or it should have developed *pari passu* with the Department of Supplies when it was first established.

Sir, I have really very few observations to make, for my friend, Sir Frederick James, has travelled over the whole field so ably and so fully and has placed before this House the very urgent and vital need for creating a separate Department of Production with a Production Officer and I entirely agree with him. If India is to face the troubles ahead of her,—we know not what the morrow will bring forth,—but we know this much that our waters are today riddled with submarines; we know not what defences we are capable of putting up against this menace,—but what we do know is that our export and import trade must suffer, and we should be up and doing and we should be so prepared by making radical improvements so as to bring India into line with those countries which are working night and day for the betterment of their defences. But above all, what we need in this country is unity, for without unity India will be unable to put forth a hundred percent work in her defences. Sir, I heartily support this cut motion.

Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali: Sir, I heartily welcome and support the cut motion moved by Sir Frederick James. As our friend, Sir Henry Gidney, has said, we have complete confidence in Sir Homi Mody and Mr. Jenkins, but what is really required is the confidence of the country. It is not the confidence of only two Government Members, but it is the confidence of the country that we have to gain today. I do not want to go into the question of omissions and commissions of the present Government.

[At this stage, Mr. Deputy President (Mr. Akhil Chandra Datta) vacated the Chair which was then occupied by Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney, one of the Panel of Chairmen.]

We all know their defects. Yet we are prepared to co-operate as our friends on the other side are doing. But these things are not in our hands

alone. It is in the hands of the present Government to bring about the unity on which my friend has laid so much emphasis. No doubt, production is a greater part of the organization and the creation of a separate department is very necessary. It is of course a matter for experts to say whether production can be speeded up in a much better way than what the Supply Department is attempting to do. Sir, this morning we had some complaints about the Supply Department. I hope if and when a Department of Production is created, we shall not have to make similar complaint about it.

I know that this cut motion which my Honourable friend, Sir Frederick James, has moved has not come from his own brain
 3 P.M. alone; may be there is some other brain behind it, I mean a friend's brain with him may have also suggested this production scheme. I do not want to name that friend, but I hope Members of the Assembly can well understand the liaison between the two friends. Sir Frederick James has given a description of the Production and Supply Departments and he has pointed out that production will be not only for the present, but also for the future. We welcome the suggestion that something should be done for the future too but I urge on Government that the claims of cottage industries have to be borne in mind more than production from the mills. My Honourable friend has said that in the case of production, munitions have to be cared for. I would urge that the condition of the agriculturist has to be remembered more than the production of munitions alone. Munitions are fodder for cannon, but in the case of agriculture our bellies are to be filled. Who is going to look after production of food stuff? I ask the Government to look more to the production of foodstuffs, and a scheme must be prepared in conjunction with Local Governments, showing the great interest of the Government of India in the case of cultivators. Production of raw materials and foodstuffs are the greatest need. Missions come and missions go. We know what is the result of the Roger Mission. Nothing has been done. The mission which is coming from America may bring forth some fruit, but I doubt very much, and it may be consigned into the limbo of the Government archives again. I have read in the papers that there is great objection to the mission coming to this country. Why? Simply because formerly when Indian experts, traders, and merchants suggested production of certain very necessary articles of production for the country Government never cared to listen. Today the production of motor cars, production of transport articles—Government never cared for them. Sir Frederick James suggested about transport, but how is transport to be carried on when you are taking away the rails even from this country? The time has come when you must look to the interests of India more than to the interests of Europe or any other country. What will be the fate of yours tomorrow? Malaya is gone, Rangoon is gone, Burma is gone, what will be your fate before you ask me what will be my fate? I ask you in the name of your own country to consider the condition prevailing in India. You ought to look to production. You must think first of India's requirements before you think of those of other countries. With these remarks I resume my seat.

Mr. Umar Aly Shah (North Madras: Muhammadan) I rise to support the Production Department cut which has been introduced by my Honourable friend, Sir F. E. James, before the House. Production is the most important thing in India. This is the time to absorb the Production

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Department as there is in America and England. On account of war declared by Japan in Pacific all sea ways are barred. All imports are stopped. By the Japanese menace of sinking, ships are not moved. This is the important time to establish production industry in India. The Empire may think to send those war weapons and other things to India but there is no possibility. Hongkong is occupied by enemy, military is gone. Malaya fell, Australia is in war, and in danger, therefore, there is no possibility of import of war weapons and other needs. There are many wantings, many necessities, and handicaps. In this connection there is a grave problem for Supply Department. Supply Department means Purchasing Department. Without purchasing there is no supply. Supply and purchase, these two are giving help to the country, and for war efforts but this production is required. Hitherto the Indian Stores Department and the Contracts Directorate, these two have been buying so many things and war materials. In this, production is neglected as they have no hand in it. I appreciate, in spite of this, that this Department is buying nearly Rs. 300 crores worth of things and War materials. It is no joke, but there is no production capacity in their hands. There is the Commerce Department. That is a great and essential Department, but they have no chances of entering into this Production Department. They are very busy day and night with exports, imports, license rates and customs. They cannot spare their time to improve this production. The Board of Scientific and Industrial Research and Industrial Research Utilisation Board are there. Those are presenting formulae and processes on scientific basis for fostering big industries and establishing factories in our country. The most important time has come to support our country. India is in grave menace of Japanese attack. This war effort should have increased production on large scale with vigorous intensity through a separate department of this category. But the country is not in touch with these people. They did not take any interest for the speedy execution of the War effort. There are many monied people in the country but they are not giving a good deal of help to the Government. There are many capitalists in the country. They are not at all in a position at present to come forward with large investments to establish factories of various categories for the speedy execution of the War effort. For they have been confronted with two kinds of fears. One is that after the war what kind of policy will be adopted by the Government is not at all known. If they do not give protection to the factories they have to incur a serious loss. The second is that if the extra material is not utilised by the people the loss is still more greater. At the present moment, the belligerent countries are preparing so many weapons but our Government is doing very little in this direction. The country is ready to make rapid strides in ship-building and automobile industries but the Government give no help. All this is very sad.

Mr. Chairman (Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney): The Honourable Member has one minute more.

Mr. Umar Aly Shah: I am afraid the Supply Department is not helping the war effort as much as it could. For this purpose a Production Department is required which can inaugurate so many big factories.

Mr. Chairman (Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney): The Honourable Member's time is up.

Mr. Umar Aly Shah: Sir I support this cut motion.

Sir Henry Richardson (Nominated Non-Official): Sir, as one who has had to criticise very frequently in the past the Supply Department and as one who has had very close dealings with them and who has had to bring sheaves and sheaves of papers to them with complaints, I claim that I can speak on this matter with a good deal of personal experience. First of all, I would like to join with my colleague, Sir Frederick James, in the tribute which he paid to the Department and its personnel. I have had very considerable dealings with Mr. Jenkins who, of course, has been longer in his position than the Honourable Member. And if anyone within the whole Department has tried his level best to remove some of the difficulties we have had, that honour and that work Mr. Jenkins can justly claim and I give him full credit for it.

Now, this vast organisation which is called the Supply Department is very difficult for the ordinary person to visualise, but as a businessman who knows what one's own department in one's office means, we can to a certain extent visualise the tremendous implications and the vast amount of work that has been done in this organisation. I remember about a year ago when we were discussing difficulties and there was great criticism being levelled at the great increase that was being made in the Supply Department, someone made the remark: "Before the end of the war, the whole of the Government of India will be, in fact, the Supply Department." And that is what the whole thing really amounts to. But to come back to the question which my friend, Sir Frederick James, has raised, I am very glad that my friends in the House have given their support from one or other varying points of view. You may argue that it would help industrialisation of India and you may argue from other points of view, but what we are arguing about is one thing only and that is the war effort which you all agree is immediate and cannot be left for one single moment. We say that, knowing as we do the tremendous burden that falls on the Honourable the Supply Member in his present position, it is absolutely impossible for him or his present staff to adequately survey and investigate all the necessary avenues which must exist in India for increased production in the various war commodities which we are so essentially needing today in the altered circumstances. Going about as I do in Calcutta and other business places in India, I frequently meet factory managers, commercial people and experts who have had dealings with the Supply Department on various problems which they themselves have had experience in. And you frequently hear the criticism: why does the Supply Department do this? Why does it do that? And why it does not do the other? Now, I know perfectly well that a lot of these suggestions are futile, but I think that there must be a great amount of good in many of them. It has always seemed to me a great pity that we have no organisation whereby those suggestions can be collected and investigated. I know you have various Committees in various parts, but I do not think that you get the real value that you might have by having regional direction which my friend has suggested. Some of these suggestions emanate from actual experience. You will remember when the Russians sent a mission to England, one of the things that they remarked after it had left was "If you want to know where your production may be speeded up, ask your workers". And it is surprising, when you go round a factory, what good ideas emanate from even some of the lowest people. They are there; they see probably more than anyone else where production can be speeded up and where some minor detail can be attended to which is overlooked by those who are far too busy with higher responsibilities. I do feel that the time has come when we have got to

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have experts going round who can listen to these things and have the power to investigate them and do something on the spot.

My friend has mentioned red tape. I have stressed the necessity for the scissors time and time again. I do not blame my Honourable friends in Government Departments, for the system which has grown up is not due to their fault. I know very well in my own office how difficult it has sometimes been to wean a person after he has been doing some particular thing in some particular way. It is comparatively difficult to get him out of it and to begin doing it in a new way. It must be increasingly so with Government. But I do urge and I do plead with those who are in charge of this big department to do all they can to stop the circulation of files, the system of noting, the system of passing one thing on to another without any plausible action being taken on it. We know from our own experience in business, how long it takes to get replies out of certain Departments. It is the fault of the system. We have no time for it. Now, we must stop these peacetime methods and get down to a method which is more in reality with the spirit of the times we are going through; otherwise, I am very much afraid that we shall be left like those other places and we will have this message given to us from the Governor of some place or other. "Now is the time that red tape has got to cease". Sir, I will not take up the time of the House any more, but I do plead for serious consideration of this suggestion which is made in the light of the existing circumstances and with all due regard to the heavy work which the Honourable Supply Member has on his shoulders and we do hope that something will be done to increase war effort in the manner that we are suggesting.

Mr. N. M. Joshi (Nominated: Non-Official): Mr. Chairman, I agree with Sir F. E. James fully that production in India must be speeded up. While suggesting various methods for speeding up and removing impediments, Sir Frederick James suggested that the Government of India must put a stop to the strikes that sometimes take place in some of the industrial establishments. He did not tell us the method by which these strikes should be stopped. Perhaps, he does not know that whether the Government of India are speeding up production or not, their production of industrial materials, they are at any rate speeding up one thing, that is speeding up the production of ordinances to prevent strikes. There was already an ordinance to deal with strikes. Whether the Government of India had received some hint from my Honourable friend, Sir Frederick James or not, but only two or three days ago, they produced another ordinance to deal with strikes. Let me make it clear that I admit that during the war time, the right of labour to go on strike will have to be restricted. I admit that fact, but if you depend upon your ordinances to prevent strikes to get the best production, you are mistaken. You can only get the best production from the workers, if the workers are contented. The Government of India, as I told you, have produced two ordinances to prevent and regulate strikes, but I have not yet seen one ordinance compelling employers to deal with their workers fairly and justly. I would, therefore, suggest to the employers in this country and to the Government of India that this is not the time to try to get the best production by stopping strikes by ordinances. In the first place, you have not got enough jails to put industrial workers in jails, if you try that method. But if you try to get their willing co-operation, if you deal with them with justice and fairness, there would be co-operation and as Sir Henry Richardson pointed

out, you will then get the best production in the Indian industry. I, therefore, suggest to the Government of India to accept the suggestion which I made only a few days ago that what is needed to get proper production in Indian industries is to establish co-operation between Indian workers and the Indian employers and the Government.

Mr. E. M. Jenkins: Sir, my Honourable friend, Sir Frederick James, has moved this very important motion in a speech which deserves the most careful consideration of Government. I am sure that I am speaking for the Honourable the Supply Member when I say that he much appreciates the kind references made about him, as I also appreciate the very kind references made about myself. If I have followed the argument correctly, it is this: first, in the present war situation, we must get, and get at once, the maximum industrial production we can; secondly, that the Supply Department as now organised is not, for one reason or another, capable of getting that production; and thirdly, that the remedy is to establish a Production Department entirely separate from the Supply Department which would concentrate whole time on production problems to the exclusion of everything else.

Now, Sir, I do not think that there will be any Honourable Member found in this House to quarrel with the first step in that argument. I entirely agree with everything that Sir Frederick James has said about the great gravity of the position in which we now stand and of the need for the most urgent and pressing efforts to put our supply position on a better footing. But when we come to the second and third parts of the argument, we are, I think, on more controversial ground. It is easy sometimes in dealing with a situation to treat the symptoms, and in treating the symptoms to do a certain amount of harm. I feel, Sir, that this House must get down to a diagnosis of what is wrong before they decide upon what remedy, if any, is to be applied. In the first place, I am not clear what Sir Frederick James intended when he drew a distinction between supply, which he described as the application of a short term policy and production which he described as the application of a long term policy. In the Department, we have never made such a distinction and I fear that some confusion may have been caused by the retention for the New Delhi Executive Branch of the organisation of the name that was originally given to the Department as a whole when it was first started on the outbreak of the war. The Supply Department is, in fact, organised as a Producing Department working on long, and in some cases on very long term programmes, as I shall try to explain. If production were removed from its sphere, the Department would really cease to exist as a Supply Organisation. It may be argued that that would not be a bad thing, but the implications of the separation of production must, I think, be clearly understood.

I must, perhaps, amplify what I have said about the manner in which the Department is organised. It consists of several parts. There is, in the first place, the Central Secretariat, which need not detain us. It is the instrument through which the Honourable Member in charge exercises his control, and apart from the fact that it is slightly larger than the other Departments of the Government of India, it does not differ in principle from them in any way. Then, I do not propose to deal at any length with the six Controllers of Supply, though we have there, in a rudimentary form, the regional organisation which Sir Frederick James thinks should be set up. The work of the Controllers has varied greatly. In at least

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one area, the Controller has done very well indeed. He has a strong technical staff which works under him and the head of the technical staff is his Deputy. But as I have said, I am not at the moment going into the question of the Controllers. The two great organs of the Supply Department are the two Directorates General. There is one at New Delhi which we call the Directorate General of Supply and which is responsible for all light industries. The other is at Calcutta and is known as the Directorate General of Munitions Production. It is responsible for heavy industries. These two Directorates General are standard organisations working on precisely the same lines, and responsible in the widest sense for all supply operations, including production in their two distinct sections of industry. From New Delhi, the light industries are handled and from Calcutta, the heavy industries, including the Ordnance Factories, the private Engineering workshops and so on.

Now, Sir, it is necessary to be quite clear as to the internal structure of these two large bodies. Each Directorate General consists of Directorates which are responsible for planning and for production. The staffs of these Directorates consist of men very often taken from the business field who are familiar with the types of stores for which they are responsible. Alongside of them there are contracting sections which are responsible for all the legal and contracting work. Each Directorate is specialised on a particular class or on particular classes of stores and is responsible for seeing that steps are taken to meet all demands placed upon the Department. These steps include production and if the prescribed procedure is followed; which in some cases I know it is not, every demand entering the Department is scrutinised in the appropriate Directorate: so that if it is novel or large or in any way difficult, adequate steps are taken to see that the goods required to meet it are not merely bought, as one Honourable Member suggested, but produced.

Now I can dismiss very briefly the Directorate General of Supply. Its principal features are as follows. It has eight Directorates all of which are entirely distinct. There is no chance of their ever over-lapping. However careless you may be, you can hardly confuse a belt with a pair of boots or a pair of boots with a can of fruit. The industries that this Directorate General is dealing with are relatively powerful, like the cotton textiles industry and the jute industry, and it is possible to operate on what we call the forward programme principle. Very large demands are placed upon the Directorate General at the beginning of each year, and then bulk orders are placed on an industry for a period of six months with a definite assurance that there will be a follow-up in the second six months of the year. This principle is well-established and the result is that on that side of the Department we have a rapidly rising production curve. Thus, we made 212,000 garments in the Clothing factories in September, 1939, and we were making over eight million a month by the end of 1941. In leather manufactures, the value of production went up from 64 lakhs in 1941 to 168 lakhs in January, 1942. The programme for assembling and body-building of vehicles is already prepared for 1943, and in that year it will be more than double the programme for 1941. The big bulk orders for cotton textiles which have just been placed, are 700 million yards for 1942. War equipment, which is a new manufacture provided for in the Chatfield programme and started since the beginning of the war, will reach a part of order over 400,000 sets a month in this year. The

woollen mills are 100 per cent. on war work. But I do not think Sir Frederick James was specially worried about the light industries, and I may leave them there.

I turn now to the Directorate General of Munitions Production, dealing with heavy industries, and organised on much the same lines as the New Delhi organisation. The work is very different, and much more difficult. This Directorate General is in charge of the Ordnance Factories and their expansion,—no mean job. It is also responsible through separate Directorates for metals, shipbuilding and the civil production of armaments, that is, the production of munitions and so on in trade workshops, and engineering stores of all kinds. The first big difficulty in Calcutta is that all these Directorates are drawing on a common pool of steel. I am not giving anything away by saying that although the production of steel has increased by 30 per cent. since the war began, through the efforts of the great steel companies, we could quite comfortably consume twice as much steel as is being produced in India today. The position is being relieved by imports from the United States, but we shall be short of steel throughout the war.

Maulana Zafar Ali Khan: Sir, I do not like to interrupt but I should like the Honourable Member in his speech to throw some light on the question whether this production includes mechanised paraphernalia, i.e., aircrafts, ships, locomotives, etc.

Mr. E. M. Jenkins: I will endeavour to deal with that.

Again, a simple forward programme policy is less adequate here than in the case of the light industries, because the demands for engineering stores vary with varying theatres of war. Things that are suitable for the western desert are not necessarily suitable for a jungle in the Far East. Finally, the Calcutta side of the work is of a specialised character and much of it turns on very long-range planning. Here, again, owing to shortage of time, I am going to omit any detailed discussion of the problem of engineering stores or of ordnance stores involving the use of metals. They are interesting subjects; we have done indifferently in some respects in handling them and in other respects we have done reasonably well. But I do not think that the Mover of this motion was very deeply concerned with those things, which are not absolutely essential for winning the war. Munitions proper is what is really meant. There are two ways of making munitions; you can either establish specialised capacity or you can use existing capacity. Now, by far the most satisfactory long-range arrangement is to establish special capacity, to lay everything on, in balance, and to provide not only the tools that you need designed for the job you want to do, but also the personnel trained for that job. The use of existing capacity is in some respects quicker. It is quicker in getting started, and in making you think you are doing something; but it is slower in the long run because you have the problem of balance which I shall revert to later. You have the fact that machines are not suited to their jobs and you have the fact that the personnel are not trained, or are not trained for the particular job required of them. When you set about establishing specialised capacity you come up against one enormous snag. Not so very long ago, I was in a state of comparative innocence on these subjects; and I believed that the establishment of a factory to make rifles or machine-guns or tanks was an easy business. In point of fact these things take not months but years. You have the time factor which would apply in

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peace time, but you also have the fact that the countries upon which you depend for your supply of machine tools and personnel are also under the stress of war, and that you are not going to receive necessarily everything you want from them. The catches in any attempt to use existing capacity as opposed to specially created capacity are pretty obvious. But the most important, and the one that occurs least to the layman, is the question of balance. Take a very simple thing,—a quick firing shell. It consists of a brass case, a steel shell body with a copper driving band, a brass fuze and some other articles which I need not enumerate. But these are the three main components. The brass case is very difficult and you have to have special machinery for making it; the fuze is less difficult and we make some of them in the trade now. The shell body is easy and we can make more shell bodies today or within a few months than we could absorb in India. In the last war we exported considerable quantities of these empty shell bodies to balance the production in the United Kingdom. We have had orders for empty shell bodies earlier in this war but they are not wanted now. Therefore, generally speaking, it is useless to make more shell bodies than you can balance with your fuzes and your cases. This then is the over-riding difficulty of getting every machine in the country turning over and generally acting, as Sir Frederick James recommends that we should; the danger is that unbalanced activity would be useless.

Now we have in this country employed both methods—the establishment or Specialised Capacity and the use of existing capacity. I do not think the House has realised the importance either of the Chatfield or of the Roger Mission projects. There were 16 Chatfield schemes, or rather 14 Chatfield schemes, and two schemes sanctioned afterwards one of which is very important. All these have been launched and some of them are in production. And I think I am right in saying that they will all be in production by the end of June. That gives us some idea of the time required for these schemes; the House will recall that it will be the third year probably from the time when these various schemes were finally sanctioned. The Roger Mission which did not come out to industrialise India, and did not come out to protect vested interests, but came out to advise the Government of India as to how far they could go in setting up munitions production, having regard to conditions in the United Kingdom and the probability of the supply of tools and so on from there and the United States, did not make a voluminous report which was filed in the Supply Department. The Mission made twenty-one very snappy reports, each one proposing a separate scheme, and each one of which, with one exception, was telegraphed home in summary by me within seven days of its receipt in my office. Of those schemes, for which His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are paying, one was half-hearted. We asked the Mission to prepare a scheme to make a certain weapon and they prepared it and said that they did not recommend that we should make it because they thought we could not make it. That went out. One other scheme was rejected by His Majesty's Government, so that out of the lot 19 schemes remained. Since then we have propounded two more of our own, making 21 in all. So that you have altogether 37 schemes—16 Chatfield and post-Chatfield and 21 Roger Mission and post-Roger Mission—now being executed by the Supply Department. All the Roger Mission schemes are well in hand. We have in some cases quite large buildings awaiting machinery which has not yet arrived. The Roger

Mission schemes were due to come into operation if all had gone well by the third and fourth quarters of this year. My own estimate now, at the rate at which machine tools are coming forward, is that the whole collection of projects will not be completed and machinery will not be functioning until June, 1943. With the extent to which we have used the first method—specialized capacity—we have taxed the resources of our technical staff to the utmost, and indeed the Roger Mission placed on us a burden which they thought was the maximum that we could carry, and the maximum to which the United Kingdom would support us in their own dire supply needs.

We have apart from that used the second method—the use of existing capacity—very extensively indeed but with very varying results. The House must remember that India has no great production engineering industries. It has no factories, as one Honourable member has said, producing motor cars, typewriters, bicycles and other similar things. There are no large specialized machine shops which can be turned over with little adaptation to the production of specialized munitions components, like fuzes, but we have all the same been able to get a great deal of capacity in civil shops for munitions components, including shell bodies, fuzes and other items. I acknowledge with grateful thanks the ingenuity of many of our engineers in India who have used old and unsuitable tools to get quite promising results, but I would like to tell the House one thing and that is that as compared with specialized production this casual production is slow. When in a specialized fuze shop we were running at our peak and doing with ease a very large outturn of fuzes, we tried at the same time to manufacture the same fuzes by the method I have just mentioned. It took us one year of really hard work to get up to 1-10th or rather over 1-10th of the output of the specialized shop. What results have we achieved to date? I can give them, Sir, only in the usual nebulous and unsatisfactory form. Since the outbreak of the war the output of small arms ammunition has trebled. It will probably double itself again in the course of the next twelve months. The output of rifles has been quadrupled. The output of light machine guns has been quadrupled. The output of gun ammunition has been quintupled. Now, if you ask me if these results are satisfactory, I will say 'No', if the object is to make India self-supporting in munitions. I know India is not self-supporting in major munitions and it is necessary to face here and now the hard fact that she will not be self-supporting in major munitions in this war. As I have tried to explain, the Ministry of Supply Mission came here not to make us self-supporting, not to industrialize India, but to see what India could do while the war was actually going on and in the face of all the then existing difficulties. The American technical Mission may help to fill the gaps, and I endorse all that Sir Frederick James has said about the way in which that Mission should be regarded. We know already that the Mission will consist of small number of practical men who will devote themselves to particular deficiencies and see if they can get over them. We have had cases in which a new plant has been held up for one small part lost at sea, and in these and larger matters we feel that a team of Americans with their wider outlook on great industrial problems may be of the greatest assistance to us.

Now, Sir, from what I have tried to say, I think it is clear that the gaps in India's munitions production are due less to defects in organisation than to difficulties inherent in the supply position as a whole. I should be the last to claim that the Supply Department is one hundred per cent. efficient, but these are the fundamental causes which it

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would be unwise and even criminal to ignore. The organization is far from perfect, but no change in it—and I should like to be quite clear on this point because it cannot be said too often—is going to make any very significant change in output.

Finally, I turn to the remedy suggested by Sir Frederick James, which is to separate Production from Supply, and to have a Production Department quite independent of the Supply Department. I think it necessary to warn Members against following the analogy of the United Kingdom. There you have three great departments responsible for production, and competing for the attention and the favours of an equally powerful industry. From the start, I think, there has been a need there—as in other very highly industrialized countries—of a co-ordinating authority, and, ultimately, as we have seen a Minister for Production has been appointed there. But in India production from the beginning has been centralized in the hands of the Supply Member. Therefore, if you create a separate Production Department, you either super-impose it upon the Supply Department or you split the Supply Department into two pieces. If you super-impose, you are really reducing the Supply Member to the position of a Deputy. I do not think that that can be intended. If you split the Supply Department up there are two ways in which it can be done. You can revert to the system of 1940, in which you have your contracting side separate from your production side. I am very much opposed to any change of that kind.

We have been told today something about 'red tape'. Red tape is supposed to be a disease which attacks Civil Servants, but actually it attacks all human beings who are engaged upon any common task, where the part of each is not clearly defined, leaving individuals in a position in which they can give way to those very human failings—laziness and obstinacy. If your production and your contracting are separate, Mr. A has to send a file to Mr. B saying, "I think we ought to get our boots made at So and So's, and he seems to be ready to play on a price of so much". But Mr. B is in an entirely separate department responsible for the contracting part of the work. He says 'Oh, no. I do not agree with you. I think I can get a better boot from some where else'. And so the work does not go through. We went through all that in 1940. Sometimes one side was right and sometimes the other, until we got tired of it and we got down to the real solution, which is team work. In every case in which the Supply Department has done a good job it has been done by a team consisting of the production man who understands how the thing is made and how it ought to be made, the contracting man who knows something about price and the legal implications of contracts, and the often-abused but extremely useful representative of the Supply Finance Department, whose part in the war effort is so insufficiently acknowledged. It is when those people work as a team and do not push papers about the office, but see each other often and explain what they are going to do, that the work goes on properly. That is the standard organization prescribed in the Department. Where we have failed, the orders have been disregarded.

Finally, there is one more point to which I should like to draw the attention of the House, and that is the problem of staffing. We are short not only of technical men, but we are short of first-class administrative men from business, the Civil Services and so on. We have drawn—and I gratefully acknowledge the fact that we have drawn—on the big commercial houses in India who have given us some of their best men. But I

tremble to think what would happen if you tried now to set up yet another Department of the Government of India. If Sir Frederick James and Sir Henry Richardson could give me twenty first class men now, I would find work for them now, which would employ them better than starting another Department.

The remedy, I think, lies not in starting another Department but in strengthening immeasurably the regional organisations we already have, and in trying to get within the Directorate General, and under the Directors General who, you must remember, are independent men—they do not come completely under the thumb of the Secretariat, they do not keep on referring things to Delhi all the time, and are free to do their job as long as they follow the policy of the Supply Member—to put under them men who have time to think of these problems, to form and to see that capacity when available, is used. But it is not always easy to use floor space in shops, partly because of the problem of balance to which I have already explained, partly because of lack of power, and partly because of lack of machinery.

To summarise, Sir, the Supply Department is handling production now. The difficulties in our present situation are inherent in the supply position and not, I feel, in the organisation which, I believe, to be more or less on the right lines. The Supply Department is not 100 per cent. efficient; no organisation in which I have ever worked in India has been 100 per cent. efficient, and the Supply Department is no exception to that rule. But it has tried to do its job, and I believe that if it is looked at from that point of view and if it is compared with all the organisations that are doing war work in India, including even the Army, you will find that there are few more devoted men than the officers and clerical staffs with whom I have the honour to serve. I suggest that the creation of a new Department at this juncture, when we are facing several extremely urgent and extremely difficult administrative problems, into which I cannot enter now, might lead to an administrative chaos.

Dr. P. N. Banerjee: Sir, I entirely agree with my Honourable friend, Sir Frederick James, that production of munitions should be expedited to the utmost possible extent. He is perfectly right when he says that lack of foresight and imagination has been responsible in the past for the present lamentable state of things. My friend, however, has forgotten to mention that the root cause of the present deficiencies in munitions lies in suspicion and distrust. However, the situation is grave and it is no use raking up old sores. We should all do our best to put forth our utmost effort, in order that munitions of all sorts may be produced with the least possible delay in this country. But I am afraid I cannot agree with my Honourable friend when he says that the creation of a separate Department will by itself solve the problem. Far from solving the problem, the creation of a separate Department may give rise to further complexities and administrative difficulties, and that will cause further delay in the production of munitions. Therefore, while I hope the Honourable the Supply Member will take note of the constructive suggestions which have been made in this House, he will not accept the proposal to create a separate Department but employ such agency as is available in order to further the production of munitions to the fullest possible extent.

Sir F. E. James: Sir, I do not want to deprive the Executive Council of the sinews of war, even to the extent of a hundred rupees; and, therefore, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my motion.

Mr. Chairman (Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney): Has the Honourable Member the leave of the House to withdraw his motion?

Honourable Members: Yes.

The motion was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

Central Government's Policy in Regard to Civil Defence.

Mr. C. P. Lawson (Bengal: European): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Executive Council' be reduced by Rs. 100."

We offer no apology for raising this cut motion, for as my Honourable colleague, Sir Frederick James, has just said, the battle of India is just about to begin. The problem, therefore, is urgent and we raise this cut in no way as criticism but in order that we may get from this House helpful suggestions in the problem and, we hope, an exposition of the steps that are being taken from the Government side. We all have a basic right to keep alive if we can; and we all have a duty to try and help other people to keep alive; and that is at the back of civil defence. The functions of the Central Government in this respect are not entirely clear to us all. We know that the Civil Defence Department at the Centre is advisory, but we would like to know to what extent it is also supervisory. In my own province, in Bengal, we are budgeting for no less than Rs. 4 crores, during the coming year to be spent on civil defence, and a large portion of that very large sum is going to be carried by the Central Government. I think from that point of view alone, the Central Government has the responsibility of seeing that that money is well spent. You have your ports, your railways and your war factories—all Central subjects; but in protecting them your Provincial arrangements cross that protection. We would like to know whether the Central Government is satisfied with the steps that provinces are taking to safeguard those Central subjects. On the matter of organisation I am frequently told that A. R. P. for instance, follows the best home procedure and that this procedure is the result of real experience. I acknowledge that that is a good principle, but I think we must consider what differences exist in this country, from the conditions that exist in bomb-blitzed Britain.

To start with, to my mind first comes the large illiterate population, and next, the difference in the dangers that we face. In 4 P.M. England, undoubtedly, they were facing extensive and heavy bombing operations, from the anti-personnel bomb to the incendiary bomb and the half-ton mine which came down on a parachute. Our dangers are not, I think, the same. We face a lighter bomb-load, a less universal attack, but possibly concentrated attacks on various points. I think that these aspects of the problem induce possibly amendments to the British method of organisation. The buildings also in London will differ from say, the buildings in the North end of Calcutta, and that again will require special consideration. But to go back to the point of the illiterates. What do they know of civil defence and do they get simple and correct

information? The problem, Sir, to my mind, falls into two divisions, and for the sake of convenience, I will call them (1) the practical and (2) the technical. The practical side was learnt in Rangoon and Malaya by bitter experience, and I think it is correct to say that Rangoon found that four-fifths of their technical training was useless. May I read to you, to illustrate this, a short extract of a broadcast given by Mr. Bisseker, non-official member of the Straits Settlement Legislative Council, on the Singapore Radio? He said:

"There were innumerable and entirely unnecessary casualties, because the population failed to observe the first elementary air raid precautions. An enormous percentage of these casualties suffered from wounds above the level of their knees, and there is no doubt about it that the great majority of the people would be well and safe today if they had lain down on the ground, the moment the bombs started falling. There was no labour for days, there was no transport for days. The light was there, the water was there, the food was there. I can think of nothing that was not there except the man power essential for the functioning of the city."

Now, that, Sir, to me shows the vital importance of the practical side of this problem. Mob hysteria, panic, lack of leadership, these will be the problems that we must face, and I would like to be certain that those problems are being faced by every method that we can employ. An illiterate person may be just as brave as a literate person, but in circumstances that are new to him, he becomes confused, and his confusion leads to panic. Auxiliary Motors may not come, labour may disappear for a time, helpers may be immobilised. The answer today to all that, to my mind, is that the illiterates must be led by the literates. At the moment the illiterate population is relying upon rumour, because to a very large extent it is not receiving simple and correct information. What is being done to replace these rumours? It is a question of public discipline. Everybody must work in one direction without parallel organizations, and with one definite purpose. There is also, I think, the possibility which has not been completely exploited, the possibility of more practical exercises. I admit the difficulty of this, because I see the possibility of promoting panic, but I also feel that by means of an article known as Bomb—incendiary practice, possibly a realistic show, might be put up which would show voluntary workers, voluntary transport and the people themselves just how the public would be likely to react, and possibly give the police and other officials very useful information.

Then, Sir, I rather question whether it is wise to distribute Air Raid Wardens over wide areas where they will work possibly by themselves. A very large percentage will see nothing of the raid. The rest will have too much to do and no one to help them. I rather favour the localising of technical help. I do not know how far it will be practicable, and I speak as a layman, but it seems to me that if you could have your technical air raid services in this country organized in certain well defined and self-contained centres, it might lead to more efficiency, in that it would give better leadership and the ability to go to isolated scenes of bombing, cordon off the area and deal with it. I think possibly that this has already received attention, but I do not think that such attention is by any means universal. I have, for instance, heard,—I regret to say,—from no less a person than the Honourable the Home Member speaking in this House that it was proposed to use trams as ambulances in the City of Delhi. Trams here have overhead wires, and I know that anti-personnel bombs while damaging buildings, not at all, do damage overhead wires, and I also know, although I am not an electrician, that the breaking of an electric circuit stops the electricity from functioning.

[Mr. C. P. Lawson.]

Then, Sir, the more concentrated effort that I suggest in concentrating the various technical services to deal with a specific portion of a town would deal with attacks on special areas such as docks, power houses, water works, goods yards, war factories and so on, and these, to my mind, at any rate for some time to come must be our danger points.

Now, Sir, may I speak for one moment about medical arrangements? Here again I realise the great difficulties involved, and I gather that the deficiency in doctors is one that most Governments are finding great difficulty to get over. I think that we shall have to make a very great effort to recruit more doctors and also to recruit them definitely and attach them to the service so that they are there when they are needed. I have no great opinion of voluntary services if they can possibly be replaced by compulsory service, because I feel that voluntary service is never quite efficient, and, particularly, do I apply this to the medical services. It is also a part of civil defences to consider the treatment of the casualties which will result from bombing. And here may I refer again to the necessity of forming Blood Banks in India? In a place like Brisbane of some three lakhs inhabitants, there are no less than six thousand regular donors of blood, and it seems to me that there is no reason why an equivalent organization should not be produced in India and produced as soon as possible

[At this stage, Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) resumed the Chair.]

The advantages of blood plasma in dealing with all kinds of wounds which undoubtedly will be found as soon as the bombs begin to drop are enormous, and I should be glad to hear that steps are on the way.

Sir, in conclusion, may I emphasise that this is a problem in which we can and must all help. We all have our contacts with the illiterates and we have some of us, jobs in connection with municipalities and other public bodies, not to speak of political parties and so on. It is possible, if we have the will, to get simple, correct information to the illiterates through the means at our command, but if we rely merely on official services, such as the police and so on, I despair of ever doing any more than scratch the surface. We have now passed the time when we consider the ethics of war and we have passed the time when we wonder whether it is right or wrong to fight. We have now reached the time when we have got to look after our own skins and to look after the skins of other people. So I appeal to this House, and indeed to every right thinking person, to do everything to help in this very important matter of civil defence.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Cut motion moved:

"That the demand under the head 'Executive Council' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney: I have very few remarks to make on this motion. I consider it is a very desirable motion and Mr. Lawson has gone into so thoroughly that I have very little to add to what he has said. There are, however, two points that I should like to stress at this stage. One is the paucity of blood plasma depots. I think the time has long gone when the Medical Department who are responsible for this, should have had an adequate supply of these depots scattered all over India. Indeed every regiment going into action should be so supplied. I know few places where there is a limited supply, but we want many more depots.

The other point to which I wished to refer is this. It concerns the personal defence of the A. R. P. I had an occasion on a previous motion to mention the absence of any means for those men protecting themselves against an invasion by parachute troops, and I suggested a measure which evidently has, so far fallen on deaf ears. I should like the Honourable Member to listen to what I have to say. I know not whether it is possible, but it strikes me that it is possible. Let us for a moment imagine that Japan has crossed the eastern boundaries of India. What protection have the A. R. P. or those men engaged in civil defence against parachute troops? As far as I know, none.

The Honourable Mr. E. Raghavendra Rao (Member for Civil Defence): May I inform the Honourable Member that parachute troops is the concern of the Defence Department and not of civil defence?

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney: The Honourable Member gave me that reply last time and I accepted it. But I feel I must repeat it for truth merits repetition, even though the Honourable Member is not in charge of the Defence Department. I do not mean that it is the Honourable Member's concern, but I desire to repeat on the floor of the House as apparently no notice has been taken of my suggestion. . . .

Dr. P. N. Banerjee: Protection is necessary.

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney: Government can ascertain from the various Provincial Governments how many arms have been distributed throughout India. Those arms are not being used to-day for self-protection but for destruction of bird and animal life. Of what use are these arms in the possession of those men when they can be better used by being recalled voluntarily, if not compulsorily and distributed, as was done in England during the early days of the war, when the A. R. P. (now called the Home Guards) were supplied with any old muzzle loading gun but since replaced by modern weapons.

The Honourable Mr. E. Raghavendra Rao: A. R. P. and Home Guards are two distinct bodies. The Home Guards is under the control of the War Office and civil defence has nothing to do with it.

(Interruption by Mr. Husenbhai Abdullabhai Laljee.)

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney: Then we had better get rid of the word "defence". Let it be made into "offence". These A. R. P. are not defending a wood or a house or a stone but their own lives when in the performance of their duties and I think the two Departments are inseparable. I know that one is for purposes of defence and the other is under the Honourable Member's portfolio, but they are so intertwined that you cannot separate one from the other. I wish the Honourable Member to realise that I am not criticising his Department. I am suggesting what I consider a very important factor in A. R. P. work and which I must admire. I again stress, if the Honourable Member will kindly take note of what I have said, and if necessary, convey the same to the Defence Department to this extent, viz., here is a measure which, if properly used, would arm hundreds of thousands of men engaged in this A. R. P. work with a means of protecting their lives.

Maulana Zafar Ali Khan: I thoroughly agree with Mr. Lawson in what he has said. I also agree with Sir Frederick James in the attitude that he has taken up with regard to the question in connection with production. British Imperialism has proved a broken reed so far as the Far East and the nearer Far East are concerned. We have been watching it from the day when Hongkong was gone, from the day when Singapore, Malaya, Sumatra, Java, Celebes were gone. And we are watching it now when Burma is slipping from its hands. Imperialists twit us with inefficiency but they represent the most inefficient system that ever existed on the surface of the earth. They have not been able to defend Burma and they have not been able to defend Singapore, and now they come to us and talk of civil and military defence. What is this civil defence? I will tell you. Mr. Lawson may have placed before you the British point of view, but I place before you the Muslim and the Hindu point of view.

Sir F. E. James: You are authorised to speak on behalf of the Hindus!

Maulana Zafar Ali Khan: Any scheme of civil defence is absolutely futile as long as you do not take the people of India into your confidence; in other words, as long as you do not take the Indian National Congress and the Muslim League into your confidence, the situation will remain critical. If you declare even now—the hour of destiny has struck, that India is free and the people of India are responsible for the defence of their country—I think perhaps the situation can be saved. But while the eastern flank of India is uncovered and from Ceylon right up to Mandalay the enemy can attack you any time he likes, you continue evading the great issue. I hope the enemy will not attack Assam because my Honourable friend, Sir Andrew Clow, is going there. Meanwhile from Ceylon right up to Mandalay the coast is clear so far as the enemy is concerned.

I hope in India we will not hear the same old story that there are no aeroplanes and the enemy is superior in number and, therefore, what could we do? While speaking on this subject, shall I tell you a story which I just heard this afternoon? About 60 or 70 mechanics somehow managed to escape from Singapore and went to Australia, but they were not allowed to land in Australia because they happened to be "darkies". Just look at that and this they are doing when Australia itself is in danger of being attacked. The same story is being repeated in South Africa. Poor Indians are not treated as men in South Africa. As a protest they went on strike and started a campaign of civil disobedience. But, after all, the people of India are very devoted and very faithful to their old friends with whom they have lived for 150 years. In view of the fact that the international situation was so critical, they called off the strike and gave up civil disobedience. But General Smuts did not appreciate it. He proudly talks of British Imperialism and all that sort of thing. These things are going on and you talk of civil defence. You are adopting measures which are absolutely unnecessary. You are growing panicky yourself. In Delhi which is more than 1,500 miles away from Rangoon you are digging trenches. Why? Perhaps you think that it is possible for the Japanese aeroplanes to come and bomb Delhi. What rubbish. You have to face the enemy, and who is your enemy? Your worst enemy is hunger. People do not get wheat enough to keep their body and soul together. You are talking of aeroplanes and trenches while wheat from India goes to Persia. What right have the Persians to feed at a banquet while the people of India are starving. They cannot get even four seers of wheat flour for a rupee. Do think properly. If today every Indian had

the right of arming himself, the question of civil defence would have been solved in no time. But you do not place any confidence in us. You seem to think that if the people of India are armed, those arms will be used against you. I think these suspicions have been the cause of all your troubles. We, the people of India, have repeatedly assured you that we are with you; we do not want the Nazis; we do not want the Japanese and we are with you. But you do not trust us.

Now, we are hearing of something being done in England where the fate of India will be decided and Mr. Churchill will make some announcement. If that announcement is pitched in the proper key, then perhaps we may get out of the wood. But if the same old story is again repeated that the people of India will be granted the Dominion Status after the war and in the meantime the Viceroy's Executive Council will be expanded and so many of their Indian Members will be placed in charge of big portfolios, then I assure you that the question will remain as complicated as ever. So, everything depends upon the attitude which the Government takes up including the question of the civil defence. Every citizen of India, every man and woman of India is interested in safety at the present moment. They are interested in their hearths and homes remaining intact. They are interested in this vital question but they are unarmed. You do not keep them in a fit position to defend themselves against the aggressor. You have to defend against the aggressor. Finally I remind you of your duty and close my remarks with the declaration so often made on the floor of the House here that unless and until you earn the sympathies of the people and take the people of India into your confidence, that is to say, take the National Congress and the Muslim League into your confidence and part with real power, there is no hope for you.

Mr. N. V. H. Symons (Government of India: Nominated Official): Sir, I rise with feelings of great diffidence to make a maiden speech in an Assembly whose ears have been charmed by many silver tongued orators, for, in the course of nearly 30 years' service under the Crown, it has fallen mainly to my lot to do things and to write a good deal about them but seldom and never if I could possibly avoid, it, to speak about them in public. I, therefore, ask the indulgence of the House. But my task is the easier in that it is a welcome task. Cut motions in the ordinary way are a weariness of the flesh to those who have to deal with them, but the Civil Defence Department is more than glad to have this opportunity afforded to it to hear at first hand what the representatives of the peoples of British India are thinking about civil defence. The Civil Defence Department is an infant department. The Home Department after nursing the embryo of the Civil Defence Department in its womb for two years suddenly gave birth to it last autumn and in the few months of its separate existence it has proved to be a lusty and growing child. Indeed, by some we may be regarded as a Cuckoo in the Secretariat nest for we are constantly demanding more room and more nourishment in the way of funds and we generally get what we want. Not only are we an infant department but to some extent we are working in the dark, for, although we have at our disposal the results of the experience gained in actual air raids in England, in Burma and in Malaya, we have to try to adapt the lessons which have been learnt in those foreign countries to Indian conditions and to try to prepare in India an organisation, not that has worked elsewhere but one that is likely to work here. No Hollywood film star can have a more efficient press cutting agency

[Mr. N. V. H. Symons.]

than is at our disposal and every day every officer in the Department sees a large bundle of press cuttings. We find this vehicle of public opinion often of very great use to us in the moulding of our policy. Not only this, but we have periodical informal meetings with press representatives from which have emerged quite a number of points which were troubling the public mind and which had not struck us. We have taken action on those points and we are most grateful to the press for having brought those points to our notice. Sir, it will appear from this that we are, I will not say sensitive, because that word implies perhaps effeminacy. Though I may be a maiden in regard to my speech, I assure you there is nothing maidenly about me or about other officers of the Department. When we are, so to speak on our own ground, we might even be thought to be a rather hard bitten lot. Every senior officer who is concerned with the formulation of policy has actually fought in at least one war and we do know something about the kind of things that happen to human beings and to property when high explosives are let loose among them and not only what happens to soldiers but what happens to civilians. Throughout the Department, an intense spirit of realism is insisted on at all times. We settle things very largely by conference and discussion and not by lengthy noting on ponderous and slow moving files. We make no attempt to dispose of files and get rid of them, but we are always attempting to find solutions which are going to work on the ground and I think I can truly say that for the red tape of which we heard so much this afternoon, we have in this Department substituted live-wire. From the Honourable Member down, we prefer personal contact to lengthy written instructions and correspondence as regards both our dealings at the Centre with other Departments and dealings with the Provinces. So, Sir, though we might object to being called sensitive, we do claim that we are amenable to criticism, advice and suggestions. Our ears are open, our minds are receptive and we want to know what people are thinking and in what way we can develop this most vital and urgent matter of civil defence so as to carry the whole of the people with us.

I feel grateful to the sponsors of this cut motion for having publicly brought to notice some points which are troubling them and if I might, I should like to do something more than merely thanking them. For my Honourable friend, Mr. Lawson, I can do nothing at the moment beyond putting him on my "white list" which is the opposite of a "black list". For Sir Frederick James, I may perhaps be able to do a little more. The other day, Sir when he was speaking, just as I was thinking how peculiarly sprightly he was, at any rate from the distance at which he was from me, he startled me by referring (I cannot remember his exact words) to his advanced years and his backward Hindustani. Well, Sir, as regards Hindustani, I cannot do very much, it would be a case of the purblind leading the blind, there are other Honourable Members of this House who perhaps can help him there, but as regards his statement of his advanced age, having played this card on that occasion, he may be rather in a difficulty on some future occasion when he wishes to claim the sympathy of the House. I make a present to him of a delightful phrase I once read in a petition in Bengal where the petitioner referred to himself as an "old old man with one leg galloping towards the tomb." Sir, the merit of that suggestion is that on some, even further future occasion, it would leave Sir Frederick James free to announce that one leg had actually

arrived in the grave and I am, in fact, presenting him with two extra leases of life.

Before I pass on to the various points raised this afternoon, I should like to say that I hope that the small amount of attention directed towards civil defence during the debates on the cut motion reflects an easiness in the minds of the public as regards the adequacy of the measures that have been taken and not an indifference to the subject. We heard so much of what I might call peacetime problems, such as poorly paid Government servants; minority and backward communities; and even of promotion in the Archaeological Department. Does this mean, Sir, that the minds of the peoples in British India are more concerned with these matters of internal economy than that of preparing to resist the enemy at our gates? If so, the outlook is serious. These internal matters will always be with us in one form or another, and so will the Japanese and the Germans, if we do not at this juncture concentrate our thoughts and energies and determination on the problems of withstanding and resisting the external enemy.

Sir, civil defence is entirely divorced from politics and we welcome help, advice and criticism from every quarter. In some quarters, there is a desire to assist in civil defence in ways other than the joining of Services organised by the Civil Defence authorities and this desire has been referred to as the setting up of parallel organisations. The Government of India do not read any of the public utterances made in this connection as indicating any desire or intention to set up *rival* organisations which would function side by side and in competition with official organisations. On the contrary, as is evidenced, for instance in Bombay at the Sheriff's meeting held recently, there is practical indication of an intention to work in the completest harmony with the general plan for civil defence. As I have already said, the Civil Defence Department is striving to work out an organisation which is suited to Indian conditions and which will work successfully in India. If, therefore, large organised sections of the community prefer to undertake specific and agreed portions of the task without losing their identity, the Government of India will be the last to object.

Maulana Zafar Ali Khan: May I remind the Honourable Member that the Honourable the Home Member assured us the other day when I pointed out to him that volunteers of the Indian National Congress and the Muslim League had the same object in view which the Government had in protecting the interests of the people, but that they are regarded with suspicion, he assured us they would welcome their co-operation.

Mr. N. V. H. Symons: I am making this statement with the knowledge and concurrence of the Honourable the Home Member. As I was saying, if any large organized sections of the community prefer to undertake specific and agreed portions of the task without losing their identity, the Government of India will be the last to object. How any non-official organisation shall be fitted into the general plan for Civil defence is primarily a matter for the Provincial Governments to decide, but in this connection, the remarks made by the Honourable Mr. Santosh Kumar Basu, Minister for Co-ordination of Civil Defence, Bengal, at a recent meeting of the Bengal Legislative Assembly are appropriate. He said:

"I have stated before the House that as at present advised I do not think that it is possible for parallel organisations to function in purely A. R. P. work at the time when the enemy is actually carrying on a battle in the air. I have also made it

[Mr. N. V. H. Symons.]

clear that in other spheres of civil defence activity, such as care of the injured outside casualty clearing areas, relief to the homeless, relief to the people leaving the City, protecting homes from fire, non-official effort on an organisational basis may be welcome. Publicity in respect of A. R. P. instructions to the ignorant and uneducated people is another important sphere where assistance will be welcome if it can be organised in co-operation with the Warden service. The reception and care of refugees has already been entrusted largely to non-official effort and help in that direction will be welcome."

Now, Sir, as regards the specific points raised today, the first point raised by Mr. Lawson was, how far the functions of the Government of India were advisory and how far they were supervisory. The position up to a short time ago was that the Government of India were keeping a very strict and stringent control over the provinces, so strict that every single individual scheme on any matter of civil defence had to come up to Delhi and be examined here in the various Departments before it could be sanctioned. That, Sir, was proving to be a strangle-hold and the position has now been radically altered and the provinces are given the freedom that an autonomous province can expect of getting on with civil defence on commonsense lines and on the lines directed generally by the Government of India. The sanctions we have, in view of the fact that the Government of India will eventually foot a large part of the Bill, are that should a province have been proved in any case to have departed from the general standards,—we do not insist on meticulous observance of standards and model schemes,—but if there have been obviously unacceptable divergences from the standards laid down by the Government of India and from the advice given by the Government of India, the province that has departed from that advice and those instructions will have to pay the cost itself and we shall not pay anything from the Government of India for it. That is our main sanction and that is the only sanction which, as far as I know, the British Government has for the local bodies in England. But we go a little further than that.

The Director General of Civil Defence spends far more of his time on touring than he does at headquarters. He keeps the provinces that he visits in close touch with the views of the Government of India. The Honourable Member tours considerably, and we are now employing touring officers who will spend their whole time in certain areas of India, and they will see that the provinces are developing their civil defence on the right lines. And if there is any divergence which is serious that will be reported at once to the centre and we shall then take such action as seems necessary.

As regards the ports, railways and factories the Honourable Member asked whether the Government of India were satisfied with the measures being taken by the provincial Governments to see that these important central things were not overlooked. All these things, Sir, are outside the scope of the Provincial Governments. The Government of India deal direct through the Railway Board with the railways and through the Communications Department with the ports and through the Labour Department with the major factories that are engaged on important national work.

Mr. G. P. Lawson: Sir, may I interrupt the Honourable Member? My point was that where these provincial arrangements cross your central arrangements, are Government content with their operation where they

do cross? The labour in the provinces will obviously not live in your railway stations or in your ports. That was the point I raised.

Mr. N. V. H. Symons: As far as labour goes that has to man these services, as far as we are aware, there is no Provincial Government that has not been quick to apply the lesson of Rangoon, as regards the extreme need of providing not only really adequate shelter for labour but adequate shelter for their families.

Then, Sir, I have already briefly touched on the next point that Mr. Lawson raised about applying the lessons of home A. R. P. We have got experts here and we are most fortunate in that England has sent out some of her best experts to India who are now with us. We also get a whole mass of circulars and instructions that are issued by the Ministry of Home Security. Much of that stuff we find we cannot apply, but other we can apply straightaway and send out instructions, and other we have to adapt to Indian conditions. The officers who are engaged on that technical business are officers who have had both considerable experience of air-raid work in England and also a very long connection with India; and I think that that is the most efficient system that we could have of applying these lessons.

A statement has been made that four-fifths of the technical training in Rangoon was found to be useless. That is, I think, made under a misapprehension. And here I will read out word for word a report drawn up by the Director General himself after spending about ten days in Rangoon shortly after the raids at the end of last December. He says:

"The A. R. P. organisation was very much the same in Rangoon as we are building up in India. Where there was failure, and much good work was done, the failure was due to shortage of training owing to newness of the organisation and consequent lack of leadership and discipline. There was nothing to show that their or our system is wrong or that paper schemes and detailed training are not of value. But when the test comes, and it is a tough one, much of the detail goes by the board and leadership and courage mean more than detailed technical knowledge. Many places have been too late to perfect their preparations; Rangoon is one of them."

That, Sir, is the lesson of Rangoon.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member's time is up.

Mr. N. V. H. Symons: In that case I cannot now touch on the other points. It is a vast subject and I perhaps attempted to go into too much detail. I will conclude by saying how very much we welcome the concluding words of Mr. Lawson's address when he appealed for the generous help of everybody in India in civil defence which is merely another name for self-defence.

Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad: Sir, I expected that Mr. Symons in his reply would give us the number of air-raid shelters constructed in Delhi, the alternative programme he has got if by chance electricity or water supply failed, and so on. But he told us nothing about these. I will here draw attention to one point. I have been engaged in establishing A. R. P. shelters in Aligarh but our engineers could not find out the proper designs for these shelters. I thought the Department would do well if they would give us the designs and the plans and estimates for these shelters, which we may possibly use later on as shelters against dust and hot winds. We are wanting for assistance in the design of these A. R. P. shelters.

[Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad.]

The second thing is that the desire of the people, as I have noticed, is there. At least in Aligarh every student is anxious to know the science of protection because he does not know where he would be at the time when an air raid may occur. But, at the same time, the details are wanting, the necessary literature is wanting, the teachers are wanting. Several members of our staff offered their services to learn protection against air raids in any school in order to become tutor, and I approached the Government of India and the United Provinces Government to tell us what schools we should send our staff for such training, but I got no information. So, the desire of the people to learn and know is there, but we want the Government to tell us in what way we can get this training.

The third thing is in regard to first aid. We were told that the old system of first aid has changed *vis-a-vis* the bombing by air and a good deal has already been done. I have tried to find out the necessary literature on the subject so that our first aid doctors may get in touch with it. I think it is very desirable that there should be some central depot from which all this information may be obtained and everybody who is anxious to help the public in this direction may know definitely where to go, and I think this department will do a great service if they will give a little grant to those people who are building air-raid shelters, because they are rather expensive item and a grant in this direction will, I am sure, be exceedingly useful to the poor people. Sir, as the time is very short, I do not wish to say anything more on this subject.

Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam (Surma Valley *cum* Shillong: Non-Muhammadan): Sir, I rise to support the cut motion moved by my Honourable friend, Mr. Lawson. Sir, one cannot but strongly condemn the present policy of civil defence followed by the Government of India. With the fall of Singapore and Rangoon a sense of helplessness has come over the whole country; people have grown panicky. The whole Eastern Coast of India from Chittagong to Madras is threatened. The Province of Assam being the seat of Digboi oil mine is in an imminent danger of being bombed. Not only that, the road joining Chunking to Sadiya has made the Province of Assam a first class danger zone.

We do not know what military arrangements have been made by the Government, but as far as the problem of civil defence is concerned, it seems that Government have done nothing for the protection of life and property of the people. What little the Government pretend to have done is nothing in comparison with the needs of the vast country like India. It must be said to the discredit of the Government that it is not alive to the urgency of war situation in this country. We want that youngmen between 20 to 30 should all be given military training and equipment. After that they should be enlisted as Home Guards for the defence of the country. It is high time that the civilian strength should be mobilized and an adequate army of Home Guards should be raised in every district and sub-division so that the invader may meet with resistance in every village where he lands. These youngmen should be trained to work in their own locality, the rivers, roads and jungles which are well-known to them. Want of equipment should not be a plea against this organization. What is wanted is to organize the youth of the country even with ordinary rifles and hand grenades. In these days of science and machinery unorganized people cannot stand against organized strength.

Organization is the need of the hour. The Government of the country should try its level best to increase the power of nation's resistance.

We have heard from the Secretary of State for India that the Government of India has achieved wonders in the expansion of the army. We can tell the Secretary of State that with proper State help, people of India can work wonders in the installation and expansion of Home Guards. The antiquated policy of mistrust of the people is responsible for the want of organization in the country. It is the people of the country who will defend their country and it is the duty of the Government to initiate and encourage patriotic efforts in every direction and to prepare people for any and every emergency. It is a pity that the Government of India so long watched with vigilance the existence of seditious leaflets in the boxes of school and college students but failed to watch the rise of Japanese power which is threatening the existence of the Government itself. Sir, I agree to the words of the editor of the *Statesman* that if the Japanese could push through Assam and Eastern Bengal it would be a miracle of shamefulness.

Sir, in regard to what the Joint Secretary, Civil Defence, has said about parallel organizations, what we want is a strong central organization which will have the human touch and control provincial activities and which will impart confidence to the people. Proper propaganda is not being carried out in the country. What is wanted is the proper propaganda which will instill courage and fortitude in the public mind. The Joint Secretary says that civil defence is entirely different from politics. Sir, I beg to differ from him in this respect. It is the political attitude of the Government which will play a most important part in preparing the minds of the people. Therefore, the political question is the main thing which the Government should enter into and solve. If people are made to feel that the Government is theirs, the country is theirs and they have to defend their hearth and home and their Government, much enthusiasm will be imparted to the public mind and the whole country will be defended by the people with enthusiasm and courage.

Qazi Muhammad Ahmad Kazmi (Meerut Division: Muhammadan Rural): Sir, as I have very short time at my disposal, I will be very brief. I want to know definitely as to what is the reason for separating civil defence from military defence of the country itself? The difficulty is that when we are dealing with this subject and when the question of Home Guards comes, it is said that that question has to be dealt with by the military authorities. When the question of ordinary protection of cities comes

Mr. E. Raghavendra Rao: What protection?

Qazi Muhammad Ahmad Kazmi: Protection against bombing, against aeroplanes, against raids. We are told that this is not the concern of the Civil Defence Department. This has to be dealt with by the military authorities.

Then comes the question of internal defence. The thing of which I am most afraid of, is not so much bombing as internal disturbance and this side of the question is being given very little attention.

Sir F. E. James: By the Home Department.

Qazi Muhammad Ahmad Kazmi: That is the difficulty. It is just the difficulty which you wanted to create in the Supply Department—separation of supply and production. But they refuse to separate. In this case the divisions and sub-divisions are so many that as soon as you give one suggestion, the jurisdiction of another department comes in. Sir, I want to know whether this Government is only preparing for air raid precautions which I think of very little consequence so far as this country is concerned, because the country is so vast. It is populated by four hundred million people. Bombs may create panic in some big cities but so far as the majority of the population of India is concerned, bombs can have much less effect on the population of India than they had on the population of London. We should not be afraid of bombing alone, but the chief problem to be solved by this Government is the question of internal defence. As soon as the control of the Central Government is loosened or the idea comes into the minds of the public that the control of the Government is gone, you cannot conceive what troubles the population of India is bound to be subjected to.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Order, order. (It 5 P.M. being Five of the Clock.) The question is:

"That the demand under the head 'Executive Council' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

DEMAND No. 1—CUSTOMS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 78,82,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Customs'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 2—CENTRAL EXCISE DUTIES.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,04,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Central Excise Duties'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 3—TAXES ON INCOME INCLUDING CORPORATION TAX.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 84,12,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Taxes on Income including Corporation Tax'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 4—SALT.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 62,43,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Salt'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 5—OPIUM.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 48,16,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Opium'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 6—PROVINCIAL EXCISE.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,11,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Provincial Excise'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 7—STAMPS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 27,39,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Stamps'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 8—FOREST.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,69,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Forest'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 9—IRRIGATION (INCLUDING WORKING EXPENSES), NAVIGATION, EMBANKMENT AND DRAINAGE WORKS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,93,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Irrigation (including Working Expenses), Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 10—INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT (INCLUDING WORKING EXPENSES).

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,72,94,000, be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (including Working Expenses)'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 11—INTEREST ON DEBT AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS AND REDUCTION OR AVOIDANCE OF DEBT.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 81,63,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Interest on Debt and Other Obligations and Reduction or Avoidance of Debt'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 12—EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,85,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Executive Council'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 13—COUNCIL OF STATE.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,27,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Council of State'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 14—LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEPARTMENT.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,09,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Legislative Assembly and Legislative Assembly Department'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 15—HOME DEPARTMENT.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,45,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Home Department’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 16—CIVIL DEFENCE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,86,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Civil Defence Department’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 17—DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,35,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Department of Information and Broadcasting’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 18—LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,46,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Legislative Department’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 19—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND LANDS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,16,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Department of Education, Health and Lands’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 20—DEPARTMENT OF INDIANS OVERSEAS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,38,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Department of Indians Overseas’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 21—FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,40,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Finance Department'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 22—COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,58,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Commerce Department'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 23—DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,14,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Department of Labour'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 24—DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,30,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Department of Communications'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 25—CENTRAL BOARD OF REVENUE.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,45,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Central Board of Revenue'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 26—INDIA OFFICE AND HIGH COMMISSIONER'S ESTABLISHMENT CHARGES.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 18,23,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'India Office and High Commissioner's Establishment Charges'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 27—PAYMENTS TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS, DEPARTMENTS, ETC., ON ACCOUNT OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF AGENCY SUBJECTS AND MANAGEMENT OF TREASURIES.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,11,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Payments to other Governments, Departments, etc., on account of the Administration of Agency Subjects and Management of Treasuries.’”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 28—AUDIT.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 88,68,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Audit.’”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 29—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 56,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Administration of Justice.’”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 30—POLICE.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 28,35,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Police.’”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 31—PORTS AND PILOTAGE.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,96,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Ports and Pilotage.’”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 32—LIGHTHOUSES AND LIGHTSHIPS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,87,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Lighthouses and Lightships.’”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 83—SURVEY OF INDIA.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,27,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Survey of India'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 84—BOTANICAL SURVEY.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 46,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Botanical Survey'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 35—ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,21,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Zoological Survey'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 36—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,59,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Geological Survey'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 37—MINES.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,50,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Mines'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 38—ARCHÆOLOGY.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,53,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Archæology'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 39—METEOROLOGY.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 23,75,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Meteorology’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 40—OTHER SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENTS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,22,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Other Scientific Departments’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 41—EDUCATION.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,37,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Education’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 42—MEDICAL SERVICES.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,19,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Medical Services’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 43—PUBLIC HEALTH.

Mr. President: (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,37,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Public Health’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 44—AGRICULTURE.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 31,36,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Agriculture’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 45—IMPERIAL COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,37,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Imperial Council of Agricultural Research'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 46—AGRICULTURAL MARKETING.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,53,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Agricultural Marketing'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 47—IMPERIAL INSTITUTE OF SUGAR TECHNOLOGY.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Imperial Institute of Sugar Technology'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 48—CIVIL VETERINARY SERVICES.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,43,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Civil Veterinary Services'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 49—INDUSTRIES.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,11,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Industries'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 50—SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,35,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Scientific and Industrial Research'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 51—AVIATION.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,23,97,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Aviation’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 52—BROADCASTING.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 58,70,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Broadcasting’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 53—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON BROADCASTING (CHARGED TO REVENUE).

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Capital Outlay on Broadcasting (charged to Revenue)’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 54—EMIGRATION—INTERNAL.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Emigration—Internal’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 55—EMIGRATION—EXTERNAL.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,61,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Emigration—External’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 56—COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE AND STATISTICS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,48,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Commercial Intelligence and Statistics’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 57—CENSUS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Census’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 58—JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,86,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Joint-stock Companies’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 59—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,22,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Miscellaneous Departments’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 60—CURRENCY.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 59,15,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Currency’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 61—MINT.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 90,80,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Mint’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 62—CIVIL WORKS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,45,21,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Civil Works’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 63—CENTRAL ROAD FUND.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,26,00,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Central Road Fund'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 64—SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,12,56,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Superannuation Allowances and Pensions'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 65—STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,13,24,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Stationery and Printing'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 66—MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 21,01,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Miscellaneous'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 67—GRANTS-IN-AID TO PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Grants-in-aid to Provincial Governments'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 68—MISCELLANEOUS ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN THE CENTRAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,28,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 69—CIVIL DEFENCE.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,89,59,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Civil Defence'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 70—DELHI.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 56,23,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Delhi'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 71—AJMER-MERWARA.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 30,98,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Ajmer-Merwara'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 72—PANTH PIPLODA.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 13,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Panth Piploda'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 73—ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 44,59,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Andaman and Nicobar Islands'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 74—INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 20,89,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 75—INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS—STORES SUSPENSE (NOT CHARGED TO REVENUE).

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 35,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Indian Posts and Telegraphs—Stores Suspense (not charged to Revenue)’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 76—INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON TELEPHONE PROJECTS (NOT CHARGED TO REVENUE).

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Indian Posts and Telegraphs—Capital Outlay on Telephone Projects (not charged to Revenue)’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 77—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON VIZAGAPATAM HARBOUR.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,50,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Capital Outlay on Vizagapatam Harbour’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 78—DELHI CAPITAL OUTLAY.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 24,16,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Delhi Capital Outlay’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 79—COMMUTED VALUE OF PENSIONS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Commuted Value of Pensions’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 80—INTEREST-FREE ADVANCES.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,58,72,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of ‘Interest-free Advances’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 81—LOANS AND ADVANCES BEARING INTEREST

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rabim): The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,55,03,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1943, in respect of 'Loans and Advances bearing Interest'."

The motion was adopted.

The Assembly then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 11th March, 1942.