

30th March 1935

THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

(Official Report)

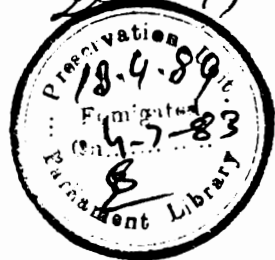
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(29th March to 9th April, 1935)

FIRST SESSION

OF THE

FIFTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
1935



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1935

Legislative Assembly.

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MR. N. M. JOSHI, M.L.A.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, 30th March, 1935.

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.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Chair thought of dispensing with questions today, but found that it might rather inconvenience many Honourable Members as they had had no previous notice. The Chair hopes that the House will be able to finish these demands for grants today: if it is necessary, the Chair will be prepared to sit late and finish them.

ROUTE MARCH OF TROOPS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

1204. ***Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a party of British soldiers is about to march from Bangalore to Trichinopoly through the Salem District of the Madras Presidency?

(b) Is it also a fact that the District Magistrate of Salem has asked the educational authorities of the District to send the school children to line the route along which they march in order to greet them? If so, under what authority has he so acted?

(c) Have Government considered the effects of such action on a self-respecting people and the inconveniences caused to the school children?

(d) Do Government propose to take any step to stop this practice? If not, why not?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: (a) The 2nd Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment, commenced a route march from Bangalore on the 10th February and returned there on the 23rd February through the Salem District.

(b) Yes, but the Local Government considered such instructions unnecessary and cancelled them before the route march commenced.

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

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar: I am asking "Have Government considered the effects of such action on a self-respecting people?" I understand that the particular march has been cancelled: but does the policy continue?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: The route march was not cancelled: the orders directing the school children to turn out to see the troops were cancelled.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Under what rules or authority or practice, did the District Magistrate ask the educational authorities to send children to line the route along which the soldiers marched in order to greet them?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: Under standing executive instructions that children should be given a chance of seeing troops, which they generally do not get.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Will Government consider the desirability of cancelling this standing executive instruction, in view of the statement in the question that it is likely to hurt the self-respect of the people?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: That is not a statement; that is an allegation.

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar: Is it giving the children a chance or is it compelling them to go?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: I take it the orders would be that the school should be closed for a sufficient time to allow the children to see the troops.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Are Government aware that the order of the District Magistrate was that the teachers must ask these school children to go and line the routes?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Chair understands the order has been cancelled.

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar: I want to know whether such things are going to be discontinued in future.

(No answer.)

REVISION OF THE LAND REVENUE POLICY IN THE CENTRALLY ADMINISTERED AREAS.

1205. ***Seth Govind Das:** Will Government be pleased to state whether they intend to revise their land revenue policy in the centrally administered areas, in view of the hardship caused to the agriculturists who are unable to pay the revenue, due to the slump in the prices of their crops, and in the light of the demands made by the agriculturists that the basis of assessment should be the same as that of income-tax?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: I would refer the Honourable Member to the relevant portion of the Honourable the Finance Member's speech in this House on the 14th February, 1935.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Were any remissions given in the centrally administered areas?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: Yes: in 1933-34, when floods were bad in Delhi, they remitted a sum of Rs. 1,92,873 out of a demand of Rs. 8,38,000.

Seth Govind Das: Are they going to do anything this year?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: I cannot say just now, because it depends upon the recommendation of the local authorities.

CHANGE IN THE CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF CLERKS IN THE ARMY HEADQUARTERS.

1206. ***Dr. T. S. S. Rajan:** (a) Is it a fact that conditions of service of clerks in Army Headquarters have been changed?

(b) What is the nature of the change?

(c) What are the reasons for the change?

(d) What were the defects the Army Authorities found in the previous conditions of service?

Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham: (a) Yes.

(b) Those clerks, British and Indian, who entered the ministerial establishment after 27th September, 1931, have been enrolled in a special section of the Indian Army Corps of Clerks instead of being regarded as civilians.

(c) and (d). The experience of the last ten years or so has shown that a military organization is more suitable for these military offices.

CLERKS OF THE ARMY HEADQUARTERS FORCED TO ENROL IN THE INDIAN ARMY CORPS OF CLERKS.

1207. ***Dr. T. S. S. Rajan:** (a) Is it a fact that the clerks of the Army Headquarters who were given no notice of new conditions of service before they joined are being forced to enrol in the Indian Army Corps of Clerks under the pain of being retrenched?

(b) Were they given notice of reduction?

(c) If so, were they given due notice of the change of conditions of service? If not, why not?

Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham: (a) No.

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

REDUCTION IN THE PAY OF THE NEW INDIAN CLERKS AND INCREASE IN THE PAY OF THE ENGLISH SOLDIER CLERKS IN THE ARMY HEADQUARTERS.

1208. ***Dr. T. S. S. Rajan:** (a) Is it a fact that while the pay of the new Indian clerks in the Army Headquarters was reduced, the pay of the English soldier clerks was raised?

(b) What is the amount of increase in the pay of the English soldier clerks over their previous scale?

(c) What is the amount of reduction in the pay of the Indian clerks?

(d) Was the reduction of the pay of the Indian clerks made to enable Government to give enhanced pay to the English soldier clerks?

Mr. G. B. F. Tottenham: (a) Following the reductions made for civilian personnel in other offices under the Government of India, there has been some reduction in the pay of Indian clerks in the Army Headquarters. The pay of English soldier clerks, on the other hand, has not been raised, but has merely been brought into line with the rates of pay given in other military offices in India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) I lay a statement on the table showing the old and the new rates of pay for Indian clerks in Army Headquarters and in the offices of the Government of India.

(d) No.

Civilian Clerks.

Old rates of pay in Army Headquarters	Rs. 90 to 450
Old rates of pay in Government of India Secretariat offices	„ 90 to 500
New rates of pay in Army Headquarters	„ 60 to 360
New rates of pay in Government of India Secretariat offices	„ 60 to 400

INDIAN ARMY CORPS OF CLERKS.

1209. ***Dr. T. S. S. Rajan:** (a) Is the Indian Army Corps of Clerks a part of the military organisation?

(b) Is field service during war a part of their normal duties?

(c) Will this Army Corps of Clerks be requisitioned for service beyond India during peace and during war time?

(d) Will the pay and emoluments be enhanced during war time and during field-service?

Mr. G. B. F. Tottenham: (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Their terms of service certainly include a liability to serve anywhere on active service. There is not the least likelihood, however, of their being called upon to serve outside India.

(d) If the clerks were employed on field service, their emoluments would be increased by the amount of any field service allowances and concessions that might be granted.

PASSENGER FARES FOR JOURNEY BY THE GRAND TRUNK EXPRESS BETWEEN
MADRAS AND DELHI.

1210. ***Dr. T. S. S. Rajan:** (a) Are Government aware of the fact that passenger fares are comparatively higher for journey by the Grand Trunk Express between Madras and Delhi?

(b) Will Government state the rates of passenger fares per mile for third class, intermediate class, second class and first class for journey by the Grand Trunk Express between Madras and Delhi and on the East Indian Railway between Calcutta and Delhi per mile per passenger in the various classes?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the reasons for the difference, if there is any?

Mr. P. R. Rau: (a) My Honourable friend's question does not indicate what comparison he has in mind.

(b) The total fares charged and the average per mile of distances travelled are given in the statement which I lay on the table.

(c) The differences are due, in the first place, to the scale of fares on each of the railways concerned not being uniform, as each Railway Administration determines for itself the fares to be charged on its line. Then again, in the case of the journey between Delhi and Madras, the telescopic scale of fares applying over each of the three railways concerned is calculated on the local distance over each railway, whereas between Howrah and Delhi, the telescopic scale of fares applies practically on the through distance as apart for a short section of 13 miles between Delhi and Ghaziabad only one Railway is concerned.

Statement.

(i) Between Madras and Delhi by the Grand Trunk Express :			
	Total fare.		per mile.
	Rs.	s. p.	pies.
1st Class	145	6 0	20.51
2nd Class	72	11 0	10.25
Intermediate Class	44	14 0	6.33
3rd Class	23	7 0	3.31
(ii) Between Howrah and Delhi—			
1st Class	74	13 6	15.92
2nd Class	37	7 6	7.97
Intermediate Class	20	0 6	4.25
3rd Class	10	1 6	2.14

SPEED OF THE GRAND TRUNK EXPRESS BETWEEN MADRAS AND DELHI AND THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY MAIL TRAIN BETWEEN CALCUTTA AND DELHI.

1211. ***Dr. T. S. B. Rajan:** (a) What is the speed of the Grand Trunk Express between Madras and Delhi and the East Indian Railway mail train between Calcutta and Delhi?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the reasons for the slow speed of the Grand Trunk Express in comparison with other lines?

(c) Are Government prepared to consider the desirability of running faster trains over the trunk lines between Madras and Delhi daily?

(d) If daily fast service is for any reason impossible, are they prepared to consider the feasibility of running fast service trains twice a week?

Mr. P. B. Rau: (a) The through speed per hour, including booked stoppages, averages approximately to:

Grand Trunk Express :

Madras to Delhi	.	.	.	.	.	.	28 miles.
Delhi to Madras	.	.	.	.	.	.	29 "

East Indian Railway Mail

Calcutta to Delhi	.	.	.	.	.	.	39 "
Delhi to Calcutta	.	.	.	.	.	.	38 "

(b) The slower through speed of the Grand Trunk Express is due to the fact that, except for a short section of 48 miles, there is only a single line between Madras and Delhi, and, on the sections of this line, between Bezwada and Itarsi, most of the road-side stations are non-interlocked, which necessitates a restriction of speed over points to ten miles an hour. Moreover, through traffic on these trains is comparatively small and the trains have to stop at a comparatively larger number of intermediate stations to pick up traffic *en route*.

(c) and (d). These points will be considered.

WANT OF A RESTAURANT CAR IN THE GRAND TRUNK EXPRESS.

1212. ***Dr. T. S. S. Rajan:** (a) Are Government aware that there is no restaurant car attached to the Grand Trunk Express?

(b) How long do Government propose to take for such a provision in the long journey of 48 hours?

Mr. P. B. Rau: (a) and (b). A third class refreshment car runs between Balharshah and Delhi, and a dining car for upper class passengers between Balharshah and Nagpur. The number of upper class passengers travelling does not justify the running of a through dining car between Madras and Delhi, but sufficient time has been allowed for meals at refreshment room stations over those sections on which a dining car is not provided.

INSUFFICIENCY OF WATER SUPPLY IN THE TANKS OF THE PASSENGER COACHES OF ALL CLASSES ON THE GRAND TRUNK EXPRESS.

1213. ***Dr. T. S. S. Rajan:** (a) Are Government aware that water supply in the tanks of the passenger coaches of all classes on the Grand Trunk Express is insufficient, and where it is sufficient the tanks are full of coal dust?

(b) Are Government prepared to take effective measures to prevent coal dust from spoiling water tanks in the carriages?

(c) Do Government propose to issue necessary instructions to the Agents of the Railways concerned to refill empty tanks or partially filled tanks three times a day during the journey from Madras to Delhi?

Mr. P. R. Rau: (a) No.

(b) and (c). I am bringing the Honourable Member's question to the notice of the Railway Administrations concerned with a view to suitable action being taken to remedy matters.

OLD AND RICKETY CONDITION OF PASSENGER CARRIAGES ON THE GRAND TRUNK EXPRESS.

1214. ***Dr. T. S. S. Rajan:** (a) Are Government aware that the passenger carriages of all classes, particularly the first, second and intermediate classes, on the Grand Trunk Express are old and rickety, having lavatories with disjointed, leaky taps and rattling doors and windows?

(b) Are Government prepared to dismantle them as unfit for use, and if not to issue instructions to the Agents concerned regarding conditions of these carriages and see that necessary repairs are done?

Mr. P. R. Rau: (a) Government have not received any other complaints of a similar nature, since it was decided in 1933 to ask the Great Indian Peninsula Railway to provide the stock.

(b) The matter is being brought to the notice of the Agent, Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

GRIEVANCES OF THE EMPLOYEES OF THE POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT IN BIHAR AND ORISSA FORCED TO DEAL WITH INCREASED WORK AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE.

1215. ***Mr. B. B. Varma:** (a) Are Government aware that while the Posts and Telegraphs Department resumed work immediately after the Great Bihar Earthquake of last year in the affected regions, other public Departments like Patna High Court, Civil and Criminal Courts, were closed for some time?

(b) Are Government aware that on account of the earthquake the volume of postal and telegraph work increased tremendously, and if so, will Government be pleased to state the probable additional earnings of the Department due to the earthquake, and details regarding the estimated additional traffic?

(c) Are Government aware that the additional work was performed in spite of the panic caused by earthquake without requisitioning additional staff?

(d) Are Government aware that the strain of work on the employees of Posts and Telegraphs Department in Bihar was at least equal to that of other Government employees and in many cases greater?

(e) Are Government aware that the Local Government exempted their servants, working in Bihar, from wage cuts for six months as a partial relief, while the Government of India have not yet taken any action in giving the same relief to postal and telegraph workers?

(f) Is it a fact that the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs, during an interview he gave to the representatives of the Bihar Postal and Railway Mail Service Employees' Association, assured them that the same concessions granted by the Local Government to its servants, will be given to the servants of the Posts and Telegraphs Department also?

(g) Is it a fact that the employees of the Posts and Telegraphs Department in Bihar have requested Government to convert the advance of one month's pay given to them, into bonus on the ground, among others, that the Department had increased its revenue due to the earthquake and the employees of the Department worked hardest under most difficult conditions? If so, will Government be pleased to state what they propose to do in the matter?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: (a) As regards the first part of the question, the facts are substantially as stated by the Honourable Member. As regards the second part, Government have no information.

(b) It is a fact that for a short period immediately after the earthquake, there was a large increase in postal and telegraph traffic but Government regret they are unable to estimate the additional traffic and earnings due to this cause.

(c) The facts are not as stated by the Honourable Member. Additional staff was given where needed to cope with the extra work.

(d) Government have no reason to believe that the strain was less than in some other departments.

(e) As regards the first part, the fact is as stated by the Honourable Member. As regards the second part, it has been decided to exempt from the emergency cuts certain members of the Posts and Telegraphs Staff in the affected area for a definite period, and orders are under issue.

(f) Yes.

(g) As regards the first part, Government understand that the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs, has received certain representations on the subject mentioned by the Honourable Member, but these have been based on the loss and hardships caused to the staff and not on the fact that there has been an increase in the Post and Telegraph revenues as a result of the earthquake.

As regards the second part, no such concession was granted by the Government of Bihar and Orissa to their employees, and Government do not consider that there is sufficient justification for treating the employees of the Posts and Telegraphs Department differently from those of the Local Government.

PROVISION OF A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF QUARTERS FOR *DUFFRIES* IN SIMLA.

1216. ***Manvi Syed Murtaza Sahib Bahadur:** (a) Is it a fact that Government have built at Simla a large number of quarters for all classes of employees of the Government of India, except for *duffries*?

(b) If the reply to part (a) be in the affirmative, will Government please state the reasons why quarters for *duffries* have not been provided?

(c) What was the approximate number of *duffries* who required Government quarters in Simla last summer, and what accommodation, if any, was allotted to them?

(d) Are Government prepared to consider the desirability of providing sufficient number of quarters for *duffries* in Simla? If not, why not?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: (a) and (b). Apart from accommodation set aside for inferior servants employed in the Foreign Office and in Army Headquarters, Government have provided 401 quarters for allotment to inferior servants in Simla. These quarters are distributed to the Departments of the Government of India and *duftries* may be accommodated in them at the discretion of Departments.

(c) In view of the method of allotment the information is not readily available, and Government do not consider that the labour involved in its collection would be justified by the result.

(d) No. Government do not propose to build more quarters for inferior servants in Simla until the question of the Delhi-Simla move is finally settled.

Maulvi Syed Murtuza Sahib Bahadur: In view of the fact that it is difficult to get accommodation in the case of *duftries*, will Government be pleased to reconsider the question and see that some arrangement is made for these *duftries* who are, after all, assistant clerks in each and every office?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: I have already replied to that: I have said that Government are not prepared to reconsider this question until the question of the Delhi-Simla move is finally settled.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: When will that question be finally decided?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: I will not venture to attempt a prophecy.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is it under consideration?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: That question has already been fully answered in reply to questions in this House.

DEATHS FROM MALARIA IN BRITISH INDIA.

1217. ***Mr. M. S. Aney:** Will Government be pleased to state the number of deaths from malaria in every province of British India per year from 1924 to 1934?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: I lay a statement on the table.

The enclosed statements show for the years 1924 to 1933:

- (1) the number of deaths from malaria in certain provinces.
- (2) the number of deaths from fevers in the various provinces in British India.

Deaths from malaria are not recorded in all provinces and even for those areas in which they are recorded the figures are not reliable. It is also impossible to determine what proportion of the deaths registered under fevers is due to malaria, but approximately one-third of these deaths may be said to be due to malaria.

STATEMENT (6).

Statements showing the number of deaths from Malaria in certain provinces during the years 1924 to 1933.

	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
Bombay	49,821	48,505	54,224	45,641	44,682	30,851	21,119	20,851	21,038	30,374
Bengal	527,902	497,473	458,208	429,143	368,691	335,414	336,879	349,111	327,386	413,922
United Provinces	824,428	765,799	749,868	698,290	687,001	711,134	832,113	932,796	782,230	625,694
Burma	2,069	2,320	2,383	2,373	2,659	2,535	2,251	1,795	1,726	1,704
Coorg*	2,541	2,482	3,195	3,006	3,051	2,501	2,593	2,332	2,546	2,770
Delhi . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	13	6	72

* For Urban areas only.

STATEMENT (4c).

Statement showing the number of deaths from Fevers in different provinces in British India during the years 1924 to 1933.

Province.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
Madras	322,356	316,406	337,945	321,995	344,683	339,052	330,496	331,834	291,416	300,182
Bombay	214,563	183,764	222,466	186,543	206,356	246,428	223,274	195,139	195,251	196,527
Bengal	912,408	874,228	822,774	789,006	752,003	713,531	705,066	731,784	691,513	812,393
United Provinces	947,807	875,594	867,939	786,552	765,954	810,583	942,469	1,025,285	853,256	698,173
Punjab	452,187	401,775	436,156	358,679	316,285	402,429	422,377	416,974	388,427	460,731
Burma	75,288	68,685	72,790	75,321	76,815	78,546	83,950	75,297	75,897	85,816
Bihar and Orissa	660,935	557,224	584,444	559,360	564,979	602,038	643,518	729,447	564,666	574,548
Central Provinces	240,944	204,667	252,609	224,088	259,109	271,054	287,330	294,839	237,743	231,851
Assam	113,198	98,015	93,689	89,324	89,255	83,520	89,772	93,139	98,211	103,890
North West Frontier Province.	45,699	35,258	38,221	38,673	33,159	42,415	38,884	38,959	38,582	40,570
Coorg	5,603	4,116	4,441	4,082	4,157	3,111	3,244	2,920	2,944	3,058
Delhi	8,042	8,495	12,069	7,467	6,544	8,437	6,879	7,026	7,305	11,038
Ajmer-Merwata	8,932	8,037	12,683	10,374	9,702	11,759	10,435	13,403	10,934	11,522
British India	4,007,662	3,636,264	3,758,176	3,451,454	3,428,951	3,612,903	3,787,694	3,956,096	3,456,145	3,530,299

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh: Is malaria on the increase steadily or is it decreasing?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: The figures fluctuate from year to year.

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh: From the figures that the Government have collected, what is the general impression so far as malaria is concerned?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: The fact of the matter is that it is impossible to draw any definite conclusion from the figures as to whether it is on the increase or on the decrease: the figures are only for the provinces for which separate malaria statistics are available: they fluctuate according to the seasonal conditions of the year.

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh: Anyway, it is not definitely decreasing.

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: No: I am not prepared to say that it is definitely decreasing: nor am I prepared to say that it is definitely increasing.

Mr. M. S. Aney: Is there any province for which figures are not available?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: The fact of the matter is this: that only the provinces of Bengal, Bombay, United Provinces, Delhi, and Coorg maintain separate statistics for malaria: for India as a whole we have statistics for all kinds of fever. That is the position.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Are Government expenditure for the prevention of the spread of malaria increasing from year to year?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: As my Honourable friend is aware, public health is a provincial transferred subject: I have asked for information from the provinces, and, until I have received it, I cannot say whether it is increasing or not.

SALE OF QUININE.

1218. ***Mr. M. S. Aney:** Will Government be pleased to state the quantity of quinine sold in each province and the amount recovered for its price per year from 1924 to 1934?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: Information is being collected from Local Governments and will be communicated to the House in due course.

EXPENSES INCURRED FOR THE PURCHASE OF QUININE AND FOR ITS DISTRIBUTION AND SALE.

1219. ***Mr. M. S. Aney:** Will Government be pleased to state the expenses incurred by them per year from 1924 to 1934 for (i) the purchase of quinine and (ii) the distribution and sale of the same in different provinces?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: (i) No quinine was purchased during this period.

(ii) Government are trying to obtain the information.

INCREASE IN THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF QUININE SOLD.

1220. ***Mr. M. S. Aney:** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to paragraph 32 on page 16 of the Annual Report of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department for the year 1933-34, which shows that there was an increase of 14·98 per cent. in quantity of the quinine sold and of 17·6 per cent. in the value of the sale during the year under report over the sale of the preceding year?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the reasons for :

(i) this great increase in the quantity of the quinine sold; and

(ii) for the larger increase in the value than the quantity of the same?

(c) Is it due to any enhancement in the rate at which the quinine was sold in the previous year? If so, why was the rate increased?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and will be communicated to the House in due course.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Do Government propose to set apart a portion of this one crore of rupees for the prevention of malaria?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: I think the Honourable the Finance Member stated that the question as to how best the money could be spent would be considered in the light of proposals received from Local Governments. I cannot anticipate what the recommendations of the Local Governments would be.

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh: Is the stock of quinine with the Government of India increasing? What is roughly the amount of stock at the present time?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: The stock of the Government of India has been slowly but steadily decreasing. At the present moment, we have a little over 260 thousand pounds, I think, of which 150 thousand pounds we propose to maintain as a reserve for emergency, and the question, as to how best we could dispose of the remainder, is receiving consideration.

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh: What is the cause of the increase of the rate?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: So far as we are concerned, there has been no increase of rate. We have sold to Local Governments at exactly the same price for the last four or five years, Rs. 18 a pound.

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh: Have you sold only to Local Governments or have you sold to any outside agencies as well?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: Upto the present, we have not sold to any outside agency. We have supplied quinine to the Government of Ceylon because of the recent havoc of malaria in that island.

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh: Has any quinine been supplied to the Kina Bureau?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: No quinine has been supplied to the Kina Bureau, but, as I informed the House last Session in Simla, the question of doing so is under consideration.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Are Local Governments bound to sell the quinine at the price they get it, or can they increase the price?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: The Local Governments, so far as the local bodies are concerned, supply the quinine at the price at which they get it from the Government of India *plus* charges of distribution, but on what conditions they sell to the public we really do not know.

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh: You are going to hold the stock of quinine for emergency. Have you any estimate as to how much, in your opinion, per head you are going to hold?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: That is a matter of arithmetical calculation. If you divide 150 thousand pounds by 351 millions of people, you get the result.

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh: Has the Honourable Member made the calculation as to what it will come to?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: I have not got the logarithmic tables with me. Otherwise I would work it out just now.

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh: That might have been supplied to us, instead of leaving it to us, because it is an important question as to how much quinine you allow per head, per case of malaria?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: I do feel that I could not anticipate that my Honourable friend would ask me to perform an arithmetical process which a child of six could do.

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh: I should have thought that you hold some stock. There must be some estimate as to how much you are to allow per case of malaria. It is not a question of arithmetical calculation. It is a question of mere practical working of the medical subject.

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: As regards that, all I can say is that we have decided upon this figure of 150 thousand pounds on the advice of the Director General of the Indian Medical Service and the Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India. Whether they have based this calculation on any mathematical estimate or on a general estimate of what is likely to be required, I cannot say.

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh: You do not feel interested in knowing as to what it was based on?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: I think Government do feel interested in maintaining a reserve which, so far as I know, no other Government does.

TOTAL QUANTITY OF QUININE ORDERED, CONSUMED AND THE QUANTITY IN STOCK AT THE END OF EACH YEAR.

1221. ***Mr. M. S. Aney:** Will Government be pleased to state the figures for the years 1924 to 1934 of the total quantity of quinine ordered, the total quantity consumed, and the quantity in stock at the end of each year?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: A statement is laid on the table showing the quantity of quinine issued from the Government of India stock and the quantity in stock at the end of each year during the period 1924-25 to 1933-34. The Government of India ordered no quinine during this period. The Government of India have no information as to how much of the quantity issued from their stock was actually consumed.

Statement showing the quantity of quinine issued from the Government of India stock, and the stock in hand at the end of each year, during the period 1924-25 to 1933-34.

Year.	Quantity	Quantity
	issued.	in stock at end of year.
	lbs.	lbs.
1924-25	12,159	303,180
1925-26	13,099	334,733
1926-27	16,679	337,764
1927-28	18,251	361,495
1928-29	32,134	339,826
1929-30	23,312	319,625
1930-31	19,987	305,561
1931-32	16,952	290,149
1932-33	11,368	282,758
1933-34	12,055	249,234

Prof. N. G. Ranga: What is the cost price of quinine and the sale price at which it is sold by the Government of India to the provinces?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: I have already informed my Honourable friend that the price at which we sell to the Local Governments is Rs. 18 a pound, and if the rent element were included in the calculation, the cost would be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 17 a pound.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM MALARIA
IN INDIA AND IN CERTAIN OTHER COUNTRIES.

1222. ***Mr. M. S. Aney:** (a) Will Government be pleased to publish a comparative statement showing the number of deaths from malaria in this country and England, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Turkey and Greece in Europe, the United States and Mexico and Brazil in America, China and Japan in Asia?

(b) If they have no information on the above point now, will Government be pleased to state whether they propose to collect the above information and publish the same?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: (a) and (b). A statement containing such information as is readily available is laid on the table.

Statement showing deaths from Malaria in England and Wales and in some other foreign countries.

	Number of deaths from Malaria.
England and Wales (1927)	39
(1932)	29
(1933)	22
France (1926)	150
Germany (1926)	46
Italy (1926)	2,683
Spain (1927)	832
Greece (1926)	4,024
United States of America (1926)	4,167
Japan (1927)	172

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh: May I request the Honourable Member also to find out how much quinine is distributed per head of malaria in areas where malaria is prevalent?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: I shall endeavour to obtain that information from Local Governments.

PERCENTAGE OF MUSLIM EMPLOYEES IN THE CLERICAL AND READING BRANCHES
OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, NEW DELHI.

1223. ***Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** Will Government be pleased to state the percentage of Muslim employees in the Clerical and Reading Branch of the Government of India Press, New Delhi?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: The percentage of the Muslim employees in the Clerical and Reading Branches of the Government of India Press, New Delhi, is 22 and 25 respectively.

NUMBER OF MUSLIMS AND NON-MUSLIMS EMPLOYED AS ASSISTANT MANAGER, AND HEADS OF BRANCHES IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESSES AND IN THE CENTRAL PUBLICATION BRANCH.

1224. *Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang: (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of Muslims and non-Muslims respectively employed as Assistant Managers and Heads of Branches in the Government of India Presses of Simla, Aligarh, Calcutta and New Delhi, and in the Central Publication Branch, Delhi?

(b) How many of such non-Muslims are Bengalis?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: Information has been called for and a reply will be placed on the table of the House in due course.

ORDER OF THE ASSISTANT MANAGER OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS NEW DELHI, NOT TO GIVE ANY FRESH WORK TO THE COMPOSITORS.

1225. *Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang: (a) Is it a fact that the present Assistant Manager of the Government of India Press, New Delhi, has passed an order to the effect that no fresh work is to be given to the compositors?

(b) If the answer to part (a) be in the affirmative, what is the effect of the said order on the earnings of the compositors?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

NUMBER OF PERSONS BELONGING TO DIFFERENT PROVINCES EMPLOYED IN THE CLERICAL, READING, MONOTYPE, LINOTYPE, WAREHOUSE AND COMPOSING BRANCHES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, NEW DELHI.

1226. *Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang: Will Government be pleased to state the number of persons belonging to the different provinces, province by province, employed in the clerical, reading, monotype, linotype, warehouse, and composing branches of the Government of India Press, New Delhi?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: I regret that I cannot furnish the information required by the Honourable Member. Its collection would entail considerable amount of labour and, as recruitment is not made on a provincial basis, it would not yield any valuable result.

ADMINISTRATIVE POSTS IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, NEW DELHI.

1227. *Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang: (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many and what administrative posts there are in the Government of India Press, New Delhi?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state how many of the said administrative posts are held by Muslims?

(c) Is it a fact that the present General Foreman of the said Press is about to retire in May next or thereabout?

(d) If the answer to part (c) be in the affirmative, are Government prepared to see that a Muslim section-holder is promoted and appointed to the vacancy to be created by his retirement?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: (a) Three: the Manager, Assistant Manager and Overseer.

(b) One.

(c) The General Foreman is due to retire in May if he does not get a further extension of service.

(d) Departmental promotions are regulated by merit and seniority without reference to communal considerations.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, NEW DELHI, RETRENCHED SINCE 1922.

1228 ***Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many employees of the Government of India Press, New Delhi, were retrenched in 1922 and thereafter?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state how many of the employees so retrenched have been re-employed?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: (a) About 200.

(b) 74.

DEBARRING OF PERSONS FROM EMPLOYMENT IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, NEW DELHI, ON THE GROUND OF RELATIONSHIP TO ANY OF THE EMPLOYEES OF THE SAID PRESS.

1229. ***Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether there is any rule or Government order to the effect that a person whose relative is employed in the Government of India Press, Simla, is debarred from getting employment in the said Press?

(b) If the answer to part (a) be in the affirmative, are Government prepared to cancel such rule or order?

(c) If the answer to part (a) be in the negative, are Government prepared to issue orders to the officer concerned not to debar any persons from employment in the said Press on the ground of relationship to any of the employees of the said Press?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: (a) No. The Controller of Printing and Stationery has issued instructions to the effect that the recruitment of a large number of relatives in a Press or a branch should be sedulously avoided.

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

NUMBER OF LOAVES GIVEN TO PRISONERS IN THE AJMER JAILS.

1230. ***Pandit Sri Krishna Dutta Paliwal:** Is it a fact that in Ajmer Jail only two and a half or three breads are given to prisoners as against five to six given in other jails, such as those of the United Provinces?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe: No. The scale of diet is the same as in the United Provinces Jails.

Pandit Sri Krishna Dutta Paliwal: What is the number of breads supplied?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe: I do not know what the Honourable Member means by the term "breads", but the scale of diet is the same as in the United Provinces Jails.

CLOTHING GIVEN TO PRISONERS IN THE AJMER JAIL.

1231. ***Pandit Sri Krishna Dutta Paliwal:** Is it a fact that in Ajmer Jail only one pair of clothing is given to prisoners?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe: No. Two pairs of "clothing" and a *Chaddar* are given to each prisoner.

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE AJMER JAIL.

1232. ***Pandit Sri Krishna Dutta Paliwal:** (a) Is it a fact that the Superintendent of the Ajmer Jail is the Civil Surgeon of Ajmer Hospital as well as the Medical Officer for Ajmer-Merwara, Central India and Rajputana?

(b) Is it also a fact that he is often on tour and therefore visits Ajmer Jail only once a week for a few minutes?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe: (a) He is a Civil Surgeon of Ajmer Hospital and Medical Officer for Ajmer-Merwara and Rajputana but not for Central India.

(b) No.

JAILOR OF THE AJMER JAIL.

1233. ***Pandit Sri Krishna Dutta Paliwal:** Is it a fact that the jailor of the Ajmer Jail is an *ex*-police officer?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe: He is on lent service from the Police Force.

ESCAPE OF PRISONERS FROM THE AJMER JAIL IN 1930.

1234. ***Pandit Sri Krishna Dutta Paliwal:** Is it a fact that several prisoners escaped from Ajmer Jail during the period of a few months in 1930? If so, what steps, if any, were taken against those responsible for these escapes?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe: No escapes took place from inside the Jail but there were two escapes from prisoners working in extra mural gangs during the year 1930 and the officials responsible for the escapes were dealt with, one by the Court and the other by the Inspector-General of Prisons.

HEARING OF APPEALS BY THE DIVISIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF THE ALLAHABAD DIVISION, EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

1235. ***Pandit Sri Krishna Dutta Paliwal:** (a) Is it a fact that in the Allahabad Division no appeals are heard or decided or enquired into by the Divisional Superintendent himself and are always left to be disposed of by

the very officers who initiate the punishment and thus the employees are in practice deprived of all rights of appeal? If so, why? If not, in how many appeals did the Divisional Superintendent make personal enquiries and reverse the initial punishments?

(b) Is it a fact that, under the rules appeals of cases decided by the Divisional Superintendent, lie only to the Chief Operating Superintendent?

(c) Is it also a fact that this officer does not hear the appeals himself and sends them back to the Divisional Superintendent for disposal and he in his turn, passes them on to his subordinate officers—the very men who initiated the punishment?

(d) Is it permissible under the rules? If not, are Government prepared to call for records of the cases in which the Chief Operating Superintendent has heard the appeals and reversed judgments of the Divisional Superintendent, Allahabad?

Mr. P. R. Rau: Information is being obtained and will be laid on the table in due course.

CONSTRUCTION OF A DOWN PLATFORM AT THE TALEGAON STATION IN THE POONA DISTRICT, GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

1236. ***Mr. K. M. Jedhe:** (a) Is it a fact that Talegaon Station in the Poona District (Great Indian Peninsula Railway) has no down platform?

(b) Are Government aware that quite a large number of passengers entrain and get down at the same station and have often complained about the inconvenience?

(c) Do Government propose to construct a down platform on the said station, and when?

Mr. P. R. Rau: (a)—(c). Government have no information but a copy of the question has been forwarded to the Agent, Great Indian Peninsula Railway, for consideration.

NEW TUNNEL CONSTRUCTED NEAR THANA.

1237. ***Mr. K. M. Jedhe:** Are Government aware of the fact that the new tunnel constructed near Thana, a few years ago, has reduced the distance between Kalyan and Thana? If so, has the Railway Administration reduced the passenger, as well as goods rates correspondingly?

Mr. P. R. Rau: Yes, the tunnel which was constructed in 1917 reduced the distance by 1-1/8 mile—a relatively trifling reduction. No change was made in the distance for charge for either passenger or goods traffic. I may add that the cost of realigning the railway line was about 16 lakhs.

PASSES TO ATTEND SCHOOLS FOR CHILDREN OF RAILWAY SERVANTS POSTED AT ROAD-SIDE STATIONS ON THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

1238. ***Mr. K. M. Jedhe:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether children of Railway servants posted at road-side stations of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, are given passes to attend schools?

(b) Is it a fact that the Agent of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway issued orders that this concession will not be available after 1st of April 1935, except to Railway servants working on the line between Bombay and Kalyan?

(c) If so, are Government prepared to ask the Agent concerned to continue the concession, and are Government aware that there are no schools at many of the road-side stations?

Mr. P. R. Rau: (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

LOSS IN PAY AND PENSION TO PERSONS RETRENCHED ON ACCOUNT OF THE RE-AMALGAMATION OF THE PAY AND ACCOUNTS OFFICES.

1239. ***Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury:** (a) Is it a fact that the Government of Madras and the Railway Board have allowed the old scales of pay to the re-employed personnel, temporary or officiating, who entered service prior to 15th August, 1931 and 15th July, 1931, respectively, irrespective of any break in their service? If so, are Government prepared to extend the same concessions to the re-employed personnel under their administrative control also? If not, why not?

(b) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the resolution No. 6 (a) and (b) of the All-India Audit and Accounts Conference passed at Allahabad? If so, will Government be pleased to state what action they propose to take in the matter?

(c) Are Government aware that the persons retrenched on account of the re-amalgamation of the Pay and Accounts Offices have lost much in pay and pension and future prospects by the application of new scales of pay, being already too much advanced in life? If so, what are the reasons for applying the new conditions of service in their case?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state whether the re-employed personnel were given to understand that the special retrenchment gratuity, the actual monetary value of which is far less than that of the life-long loss suffered by them, shall not be refunded? If not, does this fact stand in the way in the matter of pay on re-employment?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state the pay which an ordinary graduate was drawing in the different Pay and Accounts Offices when discharged, say after rendering four years' service, the amount of gratuity granted to him, and the pay which was allowed to him on re-employment? How many years will he take after re-employment to earn the same pay he was drawing at the time of discharge?

(f) Is it not a fact that the re-employed personnel in the majority of cases in the different Accountant General's offices entered service more than six or seven years ago with the result that if the benefit of Fundamental Rule 22 and Fundamental Rule 31 is not extended to them, as done by the Railway Department and the Madras Government, they will neither reach the maximum of their scale, nor be able to earn the full amount of pension?

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: (a) No definite information is available in regard to the orders issued by the Madras Government. As regards the Railway Board, old scales of pay have been allowed only to such of the persons who were in service on or before the 15th of July, 1931, as are borne on the waiting list and are re-employed before the 1st of April, 1936. Conditions in the Railway Services differ very considerably from those in the Civil Departments of Government and the retrenchment concessions given to the Railway Staff were generally less liberal than those given to persons retrenched from the Civil Departments. In view of this, Government are not prepared to extend the concession of old pay scales on re-employment to the retrenched staff in the Civil Departments.

(b) Yes. The action taken by Government is indicated in the replies to parts (c) and (d) of the question.

(c) Retrenchment concessions were granted to these men despite the fact that they were temporary employees, and this special treatment was considered as absolving Government from any further liability. If the option of refunding gratuity and counting past service for pay, leave and pension was allowed to these men, it would also have to be extended to other retrenched personnel whether permanent or temporary and the extra cost would be heavy.

(d) The terms to be offered on re-employment were settled, after the retrenchment concessions had been granted to persons retrenched, and the question of allowing re-employed persons to refund gratuity did not arise nor is it one which could be considered generally. To mitigate hardship in individual cases the Auditor-General has, however, been authorised to grant suitable advance increments to temporary men retrenched with concessions while fixing their pay under the new scales of pay.

(e) The required information in respect of two Pay and Accounts Offices is given in the statement, a copy of which is laid on the table.

(f) The presumption of the Honourable Member is substantially correct. By the grant of advance increments in the new scale, however, Government have gone as far as they consider reasonable towards removing these disabilities.

Statement.

Name of Office.	Pay which an ordinary graduate was drawing when discharged after 4 years' service.	Amount of gratuity granted to him at the time of discharge.	Pay allowed on re-employment.	Number of years' service to be rendered after re-employment to earn the same pay as was being drawn at the time of discharge.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Pay and Accounts Office, United Provinces. .	80	160	54	8 years.
Pay and Accounts Office, Calcutta.	92	184	62	8 years.

FALLING DOWN OF A CHILD FROM A RUNNING TRAIN BETWEEN HAVERI AND BYADGI ON THE MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY.

1240. ***Mr. N. V. Gadgil** (on behalf of Mr. S. K. Hosmani): (a) Is it a fact that a child fell from a running train on the 22nd February, 1935 between Haveri and Byadgi on the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway?

(b) Is it a fact that the accident was due to the carriage door not being shut? If so, did the doors of the carriage in question shut inward or outward?

(c) Are Government prepared to enquire and state who was responsible for the accident?

Mr. P. R. Rau: (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The Agent, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, has reported as follows:

“My information is that the child fell through the carriage window. The child was aged about 2½ years and was accompanied by its mother. It met with only slight injuries.”

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: May I know if the door of that carriage opened inside or outside? Was it actually used or not?

Mr. P. R. Rau: The child fell from the window, Sir. (Laughter.)

TRANSFER OF THE STAFF IN THE BHUSAVAL DIVISION OF THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

1241. ***Mr. K. M. Jedhe:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state what are the considerations that weigh with the Great Indian Peninsula Railway administration in effecting transfers?

(b) Is it a fact that there are a number of clerks in the various sections and Station Masters who are detained in the Bhusaval Division for years ranging from 8 to 25?

(c) Have Government received any complaints that partiality is shown in effecting transfers in Bhusaval Division? If so, are Government prepared to take immediate steps to see that equal treatment is meted to all?

Mr. P. R. Rau: (a) Transfers are generally made in the interests of the public service.

(b) Government have no information.

(c) The reply to the first part of the question is in the negative and the second part does not arise.

DENIAL OF THE BENEFITS OF THE PROVIDENT FUND AND OTHER PRIVILEGES TO THE CREW STAFF OF THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

1242. ***Mr. K. M. Jedhe:** (a) Is it a fact that the Crew System is in existence on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway for the last seven years and that about 50 young men are employed as a result?

(b) Is it a fact that these temporary young men are not given the benefits of provident fund and other privileges, although similar benefits have been extended to those working in the Crew System on the East Indian Railway and Bengal Nagpur Railway?

Mr. P. R. Rau: (a) The sanctioned strength of the Crew Staff, on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, is 124. Out of these, 78 are temporary and the rest have been transferred from other permanent establishments.

(b) Under rule 2 of the State Railway Provident Fund and Gratuity Rules only permanent non-pensionable employees are allowed to subscribe to the Provident Fund. The Agent, East Indian Railway, reports that two temporary employees in the Crew System were erroneously allowed to subscribe to the Provident Fund but their cases have since been regularised. It is not clear to what other privileges my Honourable friend is referring to, but, I may mention, that the temporary staff employed in the Crew System on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway are allowed free passes, privilege ticket orders, leave, travelling allowances as are allowed to other staff. The Agent, Bengal Nagpur Railway, states that the Crew System is not in force on that railway.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES DIRECTLY UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

1243. ***Mr. N. V. Gadgil:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the Departments of Public Services directly under the administration of the Government of India and at what places their Headquarters are situated in the Bombay Presidency?

(b) Was the present retrenchment of clerks and officers holding posts in the Departments under the control of the Government of India, brought into effect from November 1931? If so, how many clerks and officers on permanent establishment were retrenched from different Departments, and from what dates?

(c) Are there any rules framed with the mutual consent of the Government of Bombay for the re-employment of the retrenched clerks of the Government of India, in the offices under the control of the Bombay Government? If not, are they likely to be framed? If so, when?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table in due course.

(b) The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the second part, to prepare a list, as desired by the Honourable Member, with dates, for all retrenchments carried out in all Departments under the Government of India, would involve an amount of labour which Government do not consider would be justifiable.

(c) There are no rules of the kind mentioned and it is not necessary to frame such rules. The conditions for re-employment under the Bombay Government are matters for determination solely by that Government, whether the persons re-employed were, previous to such re-employment, in the service of the Government of India or of the Government of Bombay.

CLERKS WORKING IN THE OFFICES OF THE POSTMASTERS GENERAL AND CLERKS AND SORTERS WORKING IN THE DIVISIONS OF POSTAL CIRCLES.

1244. *Mr. N. V. Gadgil: Will Government be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are distinct cadres, one for the clerks working in the offices of the Postmasters General and the other for the clerks and sorters working in the divisions of the Circles;
- (b) whether the selection grade posts in the General Line in the Circle offices are meant only for the clerks working in those offices;
- (c) whether there are separate selection grade posts in the General Line meant for clerks and sorters in the divisions of the Circle; and
- (d) whether the clerks in the Circle Offices have any claims over the General Line selection grade posts meant for clerks and sorters working in the divisions, and *vice versa*?

Mr. G. V. Bewoor: (a) to (d). The reply to the first three parts of the question is in the affirmative and to the last part in the negative.

TESTS PRESCRIBED FOR APPOINTMENTS TO THE POSTS OF INSPECTORS OF POST OFFICES, HEAD CLERKS TO THE SUPERINTENDENTS OF POST OFFICES, AND INSPECTORS, RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE.

1245. *Mr. N. V. Gadgil: Will Government be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a test has been prescribed for appointments to the Posts of Inspectors of Post Offices, Head Clerks to the Superintendents of Post Offices and Inspectors, Railway Mail Service;
- (b) whether officials, selected to appear for the test, are required to be clerks in the Post Office or sorters in the Railway Mail Service, and should be practical men in the Post Office and Railway Mail Service work; and
- (c) whether Inspectors attached to the Circle Offices are merely attached officers and are not borne on the establishment of the Circle Offices?

Mr. G. V. Bewoor: (a) Yes.

(b) The selection is not confined to the classes of officials mentioned by the Honourable Member. Men employed in the Circle and Dead Letter Offices are also eligible for selection if they fulfil the prescribed conditions.

(c) Yes.

CANDIDATES SET UP AGAINST CONGRESS CANDIDATES DURING THE LAST ASSEMBLY ELECTION.

1246. *Mr. Ram Narayan Singh: Will Government be pleased to state whether they asked, by means of circular letters, all Local Governments to set up and help candidates against Congress candidates during the last Assembly election?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: The Government of India issued no instructions of the nature suggested.

Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha: Are Government aware that provincial satraps moved from district to district under the pretext of making a general tour in order to find out suitable candidates to fight against the Congress candidates in the last Assembly elections? I am referring particularly to the Government of Bihar, and I ask—are Government aware that provincial satraps or provincial Governors moved from district to district under the pretext of making a general tour in order to find out suitable candidates to fight against the Congress candidates in the last Assembly elections?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: Sir, so far as I am aware, the conduct of Provincial Governors cannot be made the subject of interpellation in this House.

Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha: Are Government aware that the Honourable Ministers and the Executive Councillors in Bihar openly canvassed against the Congress candidates in the last Assembly elections?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: Government are not aware of that. So far as Ministers are concerned, I do not see any objection to their canvassing.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: What about Executive Councillors? Am I to understand that the Honourable the Home Member means that he sees no objection to the Executive Councillors going about canvassing for candidates?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: I said "Ministers". In the case of Executive Councillors, I do see an objection. As regards Ministers, I see no objection whatever to their taking any part they like in elections.

Seth Govind Das: May I ask if it is not the case that, not only Provincial Executive Councillors, but other Government officials—District Magistrates and officials of that category also toured in their districts and helped those candidates who stood against Congress candidates?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: No, Sir, I am not aware of that.

Mr. Satya Narain Sinha: Are Government aware that a Deputy Magistrate of the district of Gaya went about canvassing against the Congress candidate? I give his name—Mr. Lachmi Narayan Singh.

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: How could I be aware of that?

Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury: Will Government take a note of this and inquire into this matter?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: No.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member has already answered that question.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: Are Government aware that the Commissioner of the Gorakhpur Division gave a letter of introduction to certain Zamindar candidates?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: No, Sir.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: May I know the reason why Government will not make inquiries into these serious allegations? Are they not interested in having pure elections, free from Government influence?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: The reason is that the matter is solely one for the Local Government.

Seth Govind Das: Is it a function of a Local Government to interfere in elections? Are not Government interested in seeing that the Assembly elections are free from corrupt influences?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: The conduct of their officers is a matter for the Local Governments.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: Is it not a matter for the Government of India?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: No, Sir.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: Are Government aware that the allegations against the Commissioner of the Gorakhpur Division were published in the *Hindustan Times*?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): All those questions have been answered. The Honourable Member has already said that the matter is one for the Local Governments. (Interruptions.) Order, order. The Honourable Member has said that it is a matter for Local Governments.

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar: May I ask whether the Gorakhpur Division is under the Indian Government or not,—whether the actions of the Commissioner of Gorakhpur are under the jurisdiction of the Government of India or not?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member ought to know that questions cannot be put except those which are *primarily* the concern of the Governor General in Council.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF FINES IMPOSED ON CONGRESSMEN AND OTHERS FOR DISOBEYING LAWS AND ORDERS DURING THE CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENTS.

1247. ***Mr. Ram Narayan Singh:** Will Government be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount of fines imposed on Congress men and all others who disobeyed laws and orders during the civil disobedience movements in 1930, 1932 and 1933, separately; and
- (b) the total amount of the said fines realized till to-day?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: (a) and (b). I invite attention to the reply I have given to part (ii) of Prof. N. G. Ranga's question No. 1075 on the same subject.

Professor N. G. Ranga: In view of the fact that the reply was in the negative, would the Honourable the Home Member consider the advisability of trying to ascertain and collect this information and supplying it to this House, namely, the total amount of fines imposed upon the civil disobedience movement prisoners and recovered in the different provinces by the Government of India as well as by the Provincial Governments?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik: I have already answered that question.

Mr. M. S. Aney: What do you mean by saying that the reply was in the negative?

Prof. N. G. Ranga: I asked for this particular information, and the Honourable Member stated that he was not going to collect that information.

There is no answer, Sir?

(No answer.)

PROJECTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF FEEDER RAILWAY LINES ON BOTH BANKS OF THE INDUS IN SIND.

1248. ***Sir Ghulam Hussain Hidayatallah:** Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) if any projects for the construction of feeder railway lines on both banks of the Indus in Sind were under investigation during the last twenty-five years; if so, the places between which such lines were proposed to be constructed;
- (b) what was the result of the investigation in the various cases;
- (c) if any projects for the construction of feeder railway lines on both banks of the Indus in Sind are under investigation at present; if so, the places between which such lines are proposed to be constructed;
- (d) if it has been decided to proceed with the construction of any such lines; if so, the places between which such lines are decided to be constructed; and
- (e) if the reply to part (c) or (d) be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

Mr. P. E. Rau: (a), (b) and (c). In 1926, a survey was carried out of the Sind Left Bank Feeder Railways consisting of:

- (a) a loop line from Mehrabpur to Pad Idan *via* Tharushah;
- (ii) a loop line from Nawabshah to Tando Adam *via* Sakrand; and
- (iii) a chord line from Tharushah to Sakrand.

As a result of the survey, these lines were constructed and opened to traffic.

In 1927, a traffic survey was carried out for a line of railway from Sita Road to Jacobabad with a cross connection from Dost Ali to Larkana which is known as the Sind Right Bank Feeders Railway.

On examination, the scheme was held in abeyance for the time being, but a revised traffic report has just been made of the above mentioned lines and also of the following:

- (i) Shahdadkote Bagh Tail, and
- (ii) Various alignments between Shahdadkote and Jacobabad, one or more of which pass through Garhi Khairo, Usta, Rojhan, Jacobabad, Jafferabad, and Mauladad.

Proposals for lines between Nawabshah and Khadro and Tando Mitha Khan and Pithoro are now being investigated.

(d) The revised report referred to above has just been received and is still under consideration.

(e) Does not arise.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: May I ask if the Honourable Member would be prepared to allow a deputation or a representation from the Sind public before the feeder railway question is conclusively decided by the Board?

Mr. P. R. Rau: Sir, if the request for a deputation is received from responsible people, Government will be prepared to consider it.

Mr. M. S. Aney: Is not the Honourable Member, who is putting that question, a responsible Member?

Mr. P. R. Rau: A deputation cannot represent one person.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: I think the Honourable Member in charge knows that receiving of a deputation has been asked for, and may I request the Honourable Member in charge to kindly say whether that deputation will be received?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré: My recollection is that the deputation has been asked for for another purpose.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: Yes. One of the railways, namely, the Sind-Bombay Railway, has been the subject of the report of Mr. Stubbs, and, therefore, a deputation wants a hearing. With regard to the other feeder railways, I am asking the Honourable the Financial Commissioner for Railways whether he will give an opportunity to receive a deputation. I hope the Honourable Member will consider that request and give them an opportunity.

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré: With regard to the Sind-Bombay Railway, I have already personally assured my Honourable friend that no decision will be taken until the deputation has been given an opportunity of placing its case before the Railway Board and the Honourable Member in charge.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: Now, with regard to the other railways, I request the Financial Commissioner to kindly also give an opportunity to those who are concerned with these railways. Will the Honourable Member do it?

Mr. P. R. Rau: I presume the deputation is not intended to represent only the views of my Honourable friend.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: Not my own, but the views will be expressed by the deputation on behalf of the whole of Sind. Therefore, I am requesting the Honourable Member to kindly consider this request and give them an opportunity.

Mr. P. R. Rau: When the reports are received and have been considered by the Railway Board, and if there is a general desire for a deputation to be received by the Railway Board, I do not think there will be any difficulty about it.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: May I ask the Honourable Member that, with regard to the Shahadkote and Jacobabad Railway, Mr. Stubbs' report has left that question yet undecided. Has that question been considered by Mr. Stubbs or not?

Mr. P. R. Rau: I am afraid, I must ask for notice of that question.

DISPUTE BETWEEN THE SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY AND THE TINNEVELLY DISTRICT BOARD REGARDING THE WORKING OF THE BRANCH RAILWAY.

1249. ***Mr. P. S. Kumaraswami Raju:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether there exists a dispute between the South Indian Railway and the Tinnevely District Board regarding the working of the branch railway?

(b) Is it a fact that the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway is getting only 45 per cent. of the gross earnings by working the Bezwada Masulipatam Railway, that the South Indian Railway is demanding practically 70 per cent. of the gross earning, and that the Tinnevely District Board have agreed to give 55 per cent. of the gross earnings for working Tinnevely Tiruchendur Railway on the recommendation of Government?

(c) Is it a fact that the Senior Government Inspector of Railways recommended that the District Board's share of the cost of the junction arrangement at Tinnevely should be fixed at Rs. 1,19,234, including several items not strictly debitable to the Board, that the Railway Board have demanded Rs. 2,40,000 from the District Board and that this is protested against by the latter?

(d) Is it a fact that practically interest at five and a half per cent. is claimed by the South Indian Railway as rental from the Tinnevely District Board for working the branch line, and that this is not the return on State-owned Railways?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the District Board have been notified of the termination of the working of the branch line by the South Indian Railway, if the terms of the latter are not acceded to?

(f) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are prepared to appoint an impartial committee to go into the present dispute between the Railway and the District Board to avoid closing down of an important branch line of a railway?

Mr. P. R. Rau: (a) The terms of working of the Tinnevelly Tiruchendur Railway have for some considerable time been under discussion with the District Board. All the points with the exception of two have been settled.

(b) The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative but the agreement for working the Bezwada Masulipatam Railway was entered into 27 years ago when the conditions were different. In the case of the Tinnevelly Tiruchendur Railway an agreement has been reached between the South Indian Railway and the District Board that the line should be worked for 55 per cent. of earnings, including 5 per cent. as hire charge for the use of South Indian Railway rolling stock.

(c) The Senior Government Inspector of Railways reported in 1924 that in his opinion the District Board should be liable for a sum of Rs. 1,79,317. His opinion was not accepted by the South Indian Railway who claimed Rs. 3,32,241. The matter was discussed informally in September, 1930, between the Financial Commissioner, Railways, the Agent, South Indian Railway and Mr. Kumaraswami Reddiar, President, District Board, Tinnevelly. At this meeting the Agent, South Indian Railway, and the President of the District Board agreed that Rs. 2,40,000 would be a reasonable sum to take as the District Board's share of junction arrangements at Tinnevelly.

(d) I am not aware of any such claim.

(e) In communicating the final terms in 1932, the Railway Board remarked that if the District Board refused to accept them the South Indian Railway would be authorised to give notice to the District Board that they would after one year from the date of notice cease to work the line for them. Somewhat similar remarks were made in November, 1934, when a settlement could not be reached on the two points referred to in (a) above.

(f) A proposal has recently been made by the District Board suggesting a further conference between the representatives of the interested parties to settle the two outstanding points, which are:

- (i) the rate of interest on expenditure on junction works after 8th September, 1930; and
- (ii) the period for which the agreement should be operative.

As regards the first, the Government of India have accepted the opinion of the Madras Government that the rate obtaining for the time being for interest on Government borrowing should apply. As regards the second, in view of the fact that the terms agreed to five years ago at a similar

conference have not yet been finally ratified by the District Board, the Government of India consider that a fresh conference is not likely to lead to useful results.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Have Government considered the desirability of settling this matter, in some amicable manner, considering that the Railway Company want five per cent. and they will agree only for five years? Do Government consider that this is not a case for the good offices of the Government of India to be used to settle the dispute between the District Board of Tinnevely and the South Indian Railway?

Mr. P. E. Rau: The good offices of the Government of India are always at the disposal of the District Board, Tinnevely, but, as I have already pointed out, this matter was discussed in September, 1930, between the Agent of the South Indian Railway and the President of the District Board with the Financial Commissioner of Railways. Some terms were agreed upon in that Conference, but the District Board has not yet ratified those terms.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Forgetting the past, may I ask the Honourable the Financial Commissioner to consider the possibility of reducing the interest, and making the contract at least for 15 years if the District Board wants it in order to give them a chance?

Mr. P. E. Rau: If the provisional terms are finally ratified by the District Board, I shall be quite prepared to ask the Agent, South Indian Railway, to meet the District Board and consider the possibility of arrangements for the next ten years.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: May I ask if the only outstanding matter of dispute between the District Board and the railway is as regards the rate of interest?

Mr. P. E. Rau: That is not the only matter. There is another matter, namely, the period for which the agreement should be operative.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: On that matter, the Honourable the Financial Commissioner is willing to use his good offices. Apart from the period of the contract, is it not a fact that the only substantial matter of dispute between the District Board and the Railway Company is as regards the rate of interest on the money spent on the Tinnevely junction?

Mr. P. E. Rau: As regards the rate of interest, the Railway Board, as well as the Madras Government consider that the rate obtaining for the time being for interest on Government borrowings should apply. I think it is a perfectly fair and reasonable solution of the difficulty.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Is the rate of interest now five per cent.?

Mr. P. E. Rau: The rate at the time the money was expended.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Will Government consider the possibility of reducing the rate of interest, in view of the very low rate of interest which is now prevailing?

Mr. P. R. Rau: Government are paying that interest on the money borrowed at that time.

Mr. T. S. Avinashlingam Chettiar: May I ask, Sir, for how many years they have made contracts with other District Boards?

Mr. P. R. Rau: I should like to have notice of that question.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, VICEREGAL ESTATES.

1250. ***Mr. A. K. Fuzlul Haq:** (a) Will Government please state in the following tabular form details of the establishment of the Superintendent, Viceregal Estates, at Delhi, Simla and Calcutta under the control of the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, Central Public Works Department, as it stood on 1st August, 1929, August 1932 and August, 1934:

for (i) *Permanent Establishment:*

Building Supervisors;)
 Electrical Supervisors;)
 Overseers and Sub-overseers;)
 Clerks and Draughtsmen.)

(ii) *Temporary Establishment:*
 as in (i) above.

No.	Designation of the post.	Name of the incumbent.	Community to which he belongs.	Qualifications.	Pay.	Allowances.	Remarks.
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(b) What is the reason of the abnormal increase in the pay and number of non-Muslim staff as compared with the Muslim staff?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: (a) Statements giving the information asked for by the Honourable Member are laid on the table.

(b) So far as the permanent establishment is concerned, there has been no "abnormal increase" in the number and pay of non-Muslims. Communal proportions have not been taken into consideration in appointing the temporary establishment who are liable to discharge at any time.

Ferment Establishment.

On 1st August 1929.

No.	Designation of the post.	Name of the incumbent.	Community to which he belongs.	Qualifications.	Pay.	Allowances.	Remarks.
						Rs. a. p.	
	(1)						
1	Building Supervisor	Rai Bahadur Pt. Narain Dass.	Hindu	Passed Matriculation and Sub-Overseer examination from Roorkee.	400	30 0 0	C. A.
2	Do. . .	Mr. Ahmed Haasan	Muslim	Since removed from service	240	30 0 0	Do.
3	Do. . .	Mr. Shiv Saran Dass	Hindu	Studied up to Matriculation and passed Sub-Overseer examination.	230	30 0 0	Do.
	(2)						
4	Electrical Supervisor	Rai Sahib A. C. Chatterjee.	Do.	Since retired	360	30 0 0	Do.
					S. P.	50	
5	Do. . .	Mr. P. N. Chatterjee	Do.	Studied up to entrance class. Electrical Engineer's training in Messrs. F. and C. Oser, Ltd.	280	30 0 0	Do.
	(3)						
6	Electrical Overseer.	Mr. J. N. Ghosh	Do.	Do.	185	15 0 0	Do.

7	Sub-Overseer	Mr. Bans Gopal	Do.	Passed Matriculation Examination and 1st examination in Civil Engineering, Punjab.	110	15	0	0	Do.
8	Do.	Mr. Har Narain	Do.	Deceased	85	22	8	0	Do.
(4)									
9	Head Clerk	Mr. Lechhemi Narain	Do	Do.	184				
10	Do.	Mr. Harji Mal	Do.	F.A., F.Sc. and P.Sc.	148				
11	Clerk	Mr. Karimullah	Muslim	No examination	140				
12	Do.	Mr. Shakur Ali	Do.	Passed Middle School Examination.	110				
13	Do.	Mr. Palu Ram	Hindu	Passed Matriculation examination.	90				
14	Do.	Mr. Ram Ditta Mall	Do.	Studied up to Matriculation Standard.	85				
15	Do.	Mr. Datta Ram	Do	Passed Matriculation examination.	80				
16	Do.	Mr. M. N. Mukerji.	Do.	B.A. and passed Accounts examination.	115				
17	Steno-Typist	Mr. A. David	Christian	Studied up to Senior Cambridge	85				
18	Clerk	Mr. Amar Nath	Hindu	Passed Matriculation examination.	110				
19	Draftsman	Mr. Mazhar-ul-Haq	Muslim	No examination	140				
20	Do.	Mr. Gulzara Singh,	Sikh	Studied up to Metric and practical training.	105				

Permanent Establishment.—contd.

On 1st August, 1932.

No.	Dignification of the post.	Name of the incumbent	Community to which he belongs.	Qualifications.	Pay.	Allowances.	Remarks.
(1)							
1	Building Supervisor.	Rai Bahadur Pt. Narain Dass.	Hindu		400	26 4 0	Conveyance All wance.
2	Do.	Mr. Ahmad Hasan	Muslim		270	26 4 0	Do.
3	Do.	Shiv Saran Dass	Hindu		260	26 4 0	Do.
(2)							
4	Electrical Supervisor	Rai Sahib A. C. Chatterjee.	Do.	See statement for 1929.	390	30 0 0	Do.
5	Do.	P. N. Chatterjee	Do.		S. P. 50		
(3)							
6	Electrical Overseer	J. N. Ghosh	Do.		180	13 2 0	Do.
7	Sanitary Overseer	Hussain Ali	Muslim	Studied up to Matric and holds a Diploma from Punjab Sanitary Institution.	185	13 2 0	D.
8	Sub-Overseer	S. K. Baruya	Hindu	Passed Matriculation examination and Lower Subordinate examination.	80	13 2 0	Do.

70 22 8 0

Passed High School examination and Overseer examination from Hewitt Engineering School, Lucknow.

9 Do. Madho Narain Do.

(4)

				200	Maximum
10	Head Clerk	Lachmi Narain	Hindu	168	
11	Do.	Harji Mall	Do.	150	Maximum.
12	Clerk	Karimullah	Muslim	25	
13	Do.	Shakur Ali	Do.	125	
14	Cashier and clerk	Pain Ram	Hindu	100	
15	Clerk	Ram Ditta Mal	Do	95	
16	Do.	Date Ram	Do.	130	
17	Do.	M. N. Mukherji	Do.	125	
18	Do.	Amar Nath	Do.	100	
19	Steno-typist	A. David	Christian	150	Maximum.
20	Draftaman	Mazhar-ul-Haq	Muslim	120	
21	Do.	Gulzara Singh	Sikh		

See statement for 1929

Permanent Establishment—continued.

On 1st August, 1934:

No.	Designation of the post.	Name of the incumbent.	Community to which he belongs.	Qualifications.	Pay.	Allowances.	Remarks.
					Rs.	Rs.	
	(1)						
1	Building Supervisor*	Mr. Shiv Saran Dass	Hindu	See statement for 1929.	280	26-4-0	C. A.
2	Do.	Mr. Bans Gopal	Do.	Do.	220	26-4-0	Do.
	(2)						
3	Electrical Supervisor	Mr. P. N. Chatterjee	Do.	Do.	330	26-4-0	Do.
4	Do.	Mr. J. N. Ghosh	Do.	Do.	200	26-4-0	Do.
	(3)						
5	Overseer	Mr. Hussain Ali	Muslim	See statement for 1932	199	13-2-0	
6	Sub-Overseer	Mr. Madho Narain	Hindu	Do.	87	..	
7	Do.	Vacant					
	(4)						
8	Head Clerk	Mr. Lechhami Narain	Do.	See Statement for 1929	200	..	Maximum.
9	Do.	Mr. Harji Mal	Do.	Do.	184	..	..
10	Clerk	Mr. Karimullah	Muslim	Do.	160	..	Maximum.
11	Do.	Mr. Shakur Ali	Do.	Do.	135	..	..
12	Cashier and Clerk	Mr. Palu Ram	Hindu	Do.	135	..	..
13	Clerk	Mr. Ram Ditta Mal	Do.	Do.	110	..	..
14	Do.	Mr. Dats Ram	Do.	Do.	105	..	..
15	Do.	Mr. Amar Nath	Do.	Do.	135	..	..
16	Do.	Mr. M. N. Mukerji	Do.	Do.	140	..	..
17	Steno-Typist	Mr. A. David	Christian	Do.	110	..	Maximum.
18	Draftsman	Mr. Mazhar-ul-Haq	Muslim	Do.	150	..	..
19	Do.	Mr. Gulzara Singh.	Sikh	Do.	130	..	..

* Rai Bahadur Pandit Narain Das is still employed in the Viceregal Estates, but holds a post of Assistant Executive Engineer on the cadre of the Central Public Works Department.

Temporary Establishments.

On 1st August, 1929.

No.	Designation of the post.	Name of the incumbent.	Community to which he belongs.	Qualifications.	Pay.	Allowances.	Remarks.
1	Sub-Overseer	Mr. S. K. Barua .	Hindu .	Passed Matriculation Examination and lower Subordinate Examination.	55		
2	Clerk . . .	Mr. S. K. Banerji .	Do. .	B.Sc. and passed Divisional Accountant Examination.	65		
3	Time-Keeper .	Mr. Nur Elahi . . .	Muslim .	Studied up to Matriculation standard.	65		
4	Time-Keeper .	Mr. Bhagat Ram . .	Hindu .	Studied up to Matriculation standard.	65		

Temporary Establishment,—contd.
On 1st August, 1932.

No.	Designation of the post.	Name of the incumbent.	Community to which he belongs.	Qualifications.	Pay.	Allowances.	Remarks.
					Rs.	Rs.	C. A.
1	Overseer	Mr. Bans Gopal	Hindu	Passed Matriculation Examination and 1st Examination in Civil Engineering, Punjab.	160	13-2-0	
2	Overseer	Mr. B. K. Seal	Hindu	Studied up to Matriculation and practical training in Public Works Department, Bengal.	125		
3	Timekeeper	Mr. Bhagat Ram	Hindu	See statement for 1929	74		
4	Timekeeper	Mr. Nur Elahi	Muslim	See statement for 1929	72		
5	Clerk	Mr. Jiwan Ram	Hindu	Studied up to Matriculation	70		
6	Clerk	Mr. Kundan Lal	Hindu	Passed Matriculation Examination.	60		
7	Clerk	Mr. Santokh Singh	Hindu	Passed Matriculation Examination.	65		
8	Clerk	Mr. S. K. Benerji	Hindu	See statement for 1929	80		

Temporary Establishments.

1st August, 1934.

No.	Designation of the post.	Name of the incumbent.	Community to which he belongs.	Qualifications.	Pay.	Allowances.	Remarks.
					Rs.	Rs.	
1	Overseer	Mr. S. K. Barua	Hindu	See statement for 1929	155	13-2-0	C. A.
2	Overseer	Mr. B. K. Seal	Hindu	See statement for 1932	135	13-2-0	C. A.
3	Sub-Overseer	Mr. Raghbir Singh	Sikh	Studied upto Matriculation and 8 years practical training in Central Public Works Department.	135	13-2-0	C. A.
4	Timekeeper	Mr. Bhagat Ram	Hindu	} See statement for 1929	82		
5	Timekeeper	Mr. Nur Elahi	Muslim		80		
6	Clerk	Mr. Kundan Lal	Hindu	} See statement for 1932	70		
7	Clerk	Mr. Jivan Ram	Hindu		80		
8	Clerk	Mr. S. C. Ghosh	Hindu	Studied up to Matriculation standard.	70		
9	Assistant Draftsman	Mr. Mohan Lal	Hindu	Studied up to Matriculation and wa. apprentice under Sir Edwin Lutyens, Architect.	80		
10	Clerk	Mr. Santokh Singh	Hindu	} See statement for 1932.	75		
11	Clerk	Mr. S. K. Banerji	Hindu		See statement for 1929	90	

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST CERTAIN OFFICERS OF THE SIMLA VICEREGAL ESTATE.

1251. *Mr. A. K. Fuzul Huq: (a) Is it a fact that in September, 1932, when Rai Bahadur Narain Das, Building Supervisor, was in the Simla Viceregal Estate, one Lachhmi Narain, late Head Clerk of the Viceregal Estate Office in Simla, fell ill and remained in the Ripon Hospital, Simla, as an indoor patient up to the end of December, 1932?

(b) Is it a fact that during the above period, three coolies, namely, Moti Ram, Shiv Ram and Nikkoo Ram, who were coolies on the roster of the Viceregal Lodge, Simla, Estate labour, were deputed to attend on the Head Clerk, day and night in the hospital and that during this period, they were shown as present under the orders of the Rai Bahadur on duty and got their wages regularly from the Estate Fund?

(c) Is it a fact that one of the coolies named Nikkoo Ram also fell sick while attending on the Head Clerk and was admitted as an indoor patient from 20th September, 1932, to 24th October, 1932, but was shown as present on the Viceregal Lodge Estate labour roster and got his regular wages?

(d) If the reply to parts (a), (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, will Government please state if they have taken any action against:

(i) the person who signed the monthly pay sheet and drew the amount from Estate Funds and gave the necessary certificate of these coolies having actually worked on the Estate during the period they remained in the hospital;

(ii) the person responsible for the roll call during the above period; and

(iii) the Rai Bahadur?

(e) Will Government please state whether the removal of Mr. Ahmad Hasan, late Building Supervisor Viceregal Estate, Delhi, and the deprivation of his title, was due to a man having been shown on duty, but, who was actually not doing the work for which he was paid, and the consequential misappropriation of Government money?

(f) Will Government please state whether any time-keepers are engaged in the Viceregal Estate establishment to note the daily attendance of labourers and prepare their pay sheets? If so, will Government please state the name of the time-keeper who noted the daily attendance and prepared the pay sheets of the man who was actually absent from duty, but was shown by him as actually present on duty, on account of which Mr. Ahmad Hasan was removed from service?

(g) Will Government please state what action was taken against the time-keeper?

(h) If no action was taken against the time-keeper, will Government please state why no action was taken? Do Government propose to take action against him now?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: (a) Yes.

(b) No. I am prepared to take it from the Honourable Member that the men whom he names spent some time at the hospital, but as they are chimney sweeps whose work is confined to certain hours of the day there is no reason to suppose that their absence interfered with the performance of their duties.

(c) I have not verified the admission of Nikkoo Ram to the hospital, but he was shown as absent from duty in the records of the Viceregal Estates from the 21st to 30th September, 1932, and his name does not appear at all after the latter date.

(d) Does not arise in view of the replies to parts (b) and (c) above.

(e) Yes.

(f), (g) and (h). Time-keepers are engaged for the work of noting daily attendances, and the preparation of pay sheets. In the case referred to, however, the attendances were noted by Mr. Ahmad Hasan, and by no one else. In the circumstances, there was no occasion to take action against any one but Mr. Ahmad Hasan.

GRANT OF AN ALLOWANCE TO THE CREWS-IN-CHARGE EMPLOYED ON THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

1252. **Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** (a) Is it not a fact that the crews-in-charge employed on the Eastern Bengal Railway (Traffic Department) are not allowed any allowances, whereas on the East Indian Railway Rs. 20 and Rs. 15 are given as consolidated allowances to the senior grade and junior grade Crew-men respectively?

(b) Are Government prepared to consider the desirability of granting them an allowance?

Mr. P. R. Rau: Agent, Eastern Bengal Railway, reports:

“(a) Yes.

(b) The scale of pay originally fixed for crews-in-charge was a consolidated scale which included travelling allowance. This was done to avoid preparation and check of travelling allowance bills. The question of splitting this consolidated scale into pay and travelling allowance separately as on East Indian Railway is under consideration”.

Dr. P. N. Banerjee: When do Government expect to arrive at a decision on this question?

Mr. P. R. Rau: I think it is for the Agent of the Eastern Bengal Railway to settle this question.

RECRUITMENT OF OUTSIDERS AS CREW INSPECTORS BY THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION.

1253. ***Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** (a) Is it a fact that the Eastern Bengal Railway Administration recruited outsiders as Crew Inspectors on Rs. 200 per month, in September, 1934?

(b) Are Government aware that there are members in the crew staff, as well as in the other sections of the Traffic Department, who have reached their maximum pay long ago?

(c) Are Government prepared to consider the claims of the existing staff in filling up four vacancies of Crew Inspectors on Rs. 200 per mensem?

Mr. P. R. Rau: (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Possibly the Railway Board do not interfere in the recruitment for these posts which is a matter within the powers of the Agent. The question has been sent to him for consideration.

LOWER GRADE STAFF OF THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY POSTED AT STATIONS WHERE NEITHER RAILWAY NOR PRIVATE QUARTERS ARE AVAILABLE.

1254. ***Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** (a) Is it not a fact that many of the lower grade staff of the Eastern Bengal Railways are posted at stations where neither Railway nor private quarters are available?

(b) In view of the fact that rupees two lakhs have been provided in the Railway Budget for the construction of staff quarters, are Government prepared to consider the desirability of apportioning the grant so as to redress the grievance mentioned in part (a) above?

Mr. P. R. Rau: (a) Government have no definite information.

(b) A copy of the question has been sent to the Agent, Eastern Bengal Railway, for considering the point in making allotments from the grant.

CERTAIN PARTICULARS UNDER THE HEAD "TRACK RENEWALS" OF THE RAILWAY BUDGET.

1255. ***Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** Will Government be pleased to state under the head 'Track Renewals' of the Railway Budget of this year:

- (a) the exact amount provided for purchasing rails and sleepers;
- (b) the exact amount provided for renewal work;
- (c) the exact number of wooden sleepers and steel sleepers;
- (d) whether the steel sleepers are to be purchased from Europe or locally;
- (e) whether the wood sleepers are to be purchased from Bengal or from any other province;
- (f) whether Government are aware that wooden sleepers are available in Bengal and whether Government propose to make their purchases from Bengal?

Mr. P. R. Rau: (a) Approximately 2.63 crores.

(b) The total amount under track renewals is Rs. 502,38,000.

(c) The requirements of railways during 1935-36 are as follows:

Wooden Broad gauge sleepers	12,49,000
Metre gauge sleepers	16,24,887
Narrow gauge sleepers	1,15,000
Steel Broad gauge sleepers	1,86,400
Metre gauge sleepers	2,56,566

(d) Steel sleepers will be purchased in India if prices and deliveries are satisfactory.

(e) and (f). Wooden sleepers are purchased from Bengal as well as from other Provinces. Government do not propose to restrict such purchase to any one Province.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: What is the proportion between wooden and steel sleepers?

Mr. P. B. Rau: I have given the figures, and my Honourable friend can himself work it out.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is there any working proportion fixed for the guidance of the Railway Board?

Mr. P. B. Rau: There is no definite proportion.

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar: Why should not the Government use only wooden sleepers? Why should they use steel sleepers imported from abroad?

Mr. P. B. Rau: Steel sleepers are also obtainable in India, and we also use them.

Dr. P. N. Banerjee: What is the necessity for the purchase of steel sleepers when wooden sleepers are obtainable in large quantities in Bengal and in other provinces?

Mr. P. B. Rau: If railways restrict themselves only to wooden sleepers, then their price will rise considerably.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is it not a fact that the Local Governments themselves are the biggest suppliers of wooden sleepers from their forests?

Mr. P. B. Rau: I am quite aware that Local Governments derive a considerable portion of their revenues from their forests.

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar: Why not replace the imported steel sleepers by wooden sleepers?

Mr. P. B. Rau: The point is that railways have to distribute their orders for sleepers between steel, cast-iron and wooden sleepers so as to see that there is a market left for all these sleepers. It is not in the interest of the railways that they should restrict themselves to one or other kind of these sleepers, because the result would be that the price of these sleepers would rise out of all proportion.

Seth Govind Das: Do Government care more for the interest of the railways than for the interest of the country?

Mr. P. B. Rau: The interests of the railways are inseparable from those of the country.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Are Government aware that the proportion of steel sleepers is increasing to the detriment of wooden sleepers?

Mr. P. B. Rau: From which figures does my Honourable friend gather that the proportion is increasing?

Prof. N. G. Ranga: From the published reports of the Railway Board for the last three years.

Mr. P. B. Rau: I am not aware that the proportion is increasing.

Mr. M. S. Aney: May I ask since which year are steel sleepers being imported?

Mr. P. R. Rau: I want notice. But, so far as I remember, for a considerable period railways have been ordering wooden, steel and cast-iron sleepers, and their policy is not to restrict themselves to only one kind.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is it not a fact that wooden sleepers are being imported?

Mr. P. R. Rau: Not in recent years.

Pandit Nilakantha Das: Will Government consider the advisability of stopping all imported metallic sleepers coming into this country? This was possible in 1929-30?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré: Does my Honourable friend suggest that there should be an embargo on all steel sleepers coming into this country from abroad?

Pandit Nilakantha Das: What I mean to say is that all steel sleepers and cast-iron sleepers should be purchased in this country from Indian firms, because this was possible in 1929-30. I do not suggest any embargo. I only want the sleepers to be purchased in this country. Will Government consider the advisability of purchasing them here and not sending orders outside which are perhaps being sent by mistake?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré: As far as it is possible, we buy in this country, but we must, to some extent, be guided by considerations of price, though, as a matter of fact, as my Honourable friend is aware, under the Stores Purchase rules, a price preference is given in many cases to articles of Indian manufacture.

Seth Govind Das: Were no sleepers imported into this country in 1929-30?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré: I want notice. I cannot tell what was imported into this country in 1929?

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Apart from the possible cornering by manufacturers of wooden sleepers, are there any mechanical or engineering reasons why railways should prefer steel and cast-iron sleepers to wooden sleepers?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré: There are engineering considerations also. I quite admit that engineers differ among themselves, but there are strong opinions held by various engineers as to the comparative merits of the three kinds of sleepers.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Are Government aware that America is going in for wooden sleepers, more and more?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré: I think wooden sleepers are undoubtedly bought in large quantities in America and we are doing so too.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Do Government accept the principle of Swadeshi, and that, as far as possible, they should buy wooden, or metallic sleepers such as steel and cast-iron made in India?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré: As far as possible, we are doing so and we will continue to do so.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Then, why is the purchase of steel sleepers going up?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré: We cannot entirely eliminate the consideration of the comparative price of sleepers.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICIALS APPOINTED AS SUPERINTENDENT OF POST OFFICES ON PASSING THE PRESCRIBED DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATION.

1256. ***Dr. P. N. Banerjée:** (a) is it a fact that departmental officials who are appointed as Superintendents of Post Offices on passing the prescribed departmental examination cannot in most of the cases reach the maximum pay of the Superintendents' grade? If so, why?

(b) Will Government be pleased to place before this House, a list of Superintendents of Post Offices recruited (i) from outside and (ii) from amongst the departmental officials who retired or were confirmed as Superintendents of Post Offices during the last six years, showing in each case the date of entry in the department, the date of passing the departmental examination, the date of permanent appointment as Superintendent of Post Offices, the pay drawn at the time of confirmation, at the time of retirement and at the present time?

Mr. G. V. Bewoor: (a) Yes, sometimes. In such cases, the reason is that they reach the age of superannuation before they reach the maximum of their time-scale.

(b) Government regret the information required is not readily available and they do not propose to collect it as its collection would involve an expenditure of time and labour which they consider would be incommensurate with the value of the results.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS WHO HAVE PASSED THE EXAMINATION FOR APPOINTMENT AS SUPERINTENDENT OF POST OFFICES.

1257. ***Dr. P. N. Banerjée:** (a) Are Government aware that there are as many as thirty departmental officers who have passed the examination for appointment as Superintendents of Post Offices, including some who passed the departmental examination as far back as 1924, awaiting their chances either for confirmation or for officiating arrangements? Is it a fact that cases have occurred where departmental officials qualified for appointment as Superintendents of Post Offices have been confirmed in such appointments so late as within a few years of the date of their retirement from service?

(b) Are Government also aware that meanwhile Probationary Superintendents of Post Offices have been recruited from outside and even confirmed in most of the cases?

(c) If the reply to parts (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state if Probationary Superintendents recruited subsequently as well as those who pass their examination subsequently are given precedence over departmental candidates in the matter of confirmation? If so, why?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state what measures the Government propose to take to remove the anomalies referred to above?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) No, because a departmental official is confirmed as a Superintendent of Post Offices in every alternate vacancy.

(d) Government do not agree that there is any anomaly in the arrangement under which Probationary Superintendents and departmental officials are confirmed in alternate vacancies: they do not propose to take any action to change the existing system.

INITIAL PAY OF DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS APPOINTED AS ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANTS GENERAL IN THE AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT.

1258. ***Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** (a) Is it a fact that in the Audit and Accounts Department the initial pay of departmental officers who are appointed as Assistant Accountants General is fixed at the fifth stage in the grade for enrolled officers on their appointment in such capacities and that their position in the gradation list is fixed accordingly? If so, will Government be pleased to state why the same course is not adopted in the Posts and Telegraphs Department so far as Superintendents of Post Offices recruited from amongst the departmental officers are concerned?

(b) Is it a fact that the departmental officers who have passed the examination for appointment as Superintendents of Post Offices are promoted to any higher post or granted any special increment in their own grade of pay on their passing the departmental examination unless they are appointed immediately to officiate as Superintendents of Post Offices?

(c) Is it a fact that in the Audit and Accounts Department, the departmental officers who pass the examination for promotion in the S. A. S. grade are granted double the usual increment in their own grade until they are promoted to the S. A. S. grade? If so, will Government be pleased to state why this course has not been adopted in the Posts and Telegraphs Department in respect of the departmental officials eligible for appointment as Superintendents of Post Offices and why similar special increment cannot be granted to such officials until they are confirmed as Superintendents of Post Offices and their pay and position in the gradation list fixed in accordance with the principle referred to in part (a) above?

Mr. G. V. Bewoor: (a) and (c). With regard to the first parts, the facts are not as stated by the Honourable Member. The second parts of the questions do not, therefore, arise.

(b) No.

Dr. P. N. Banerjee: In what respects are the facts different?

Mr. G. V. Bewoor: The facts are not as stated by the Honourable Member.

Mr. M. Aney: What are the facts then? That is the question?

Mr. G. V. Bewoor: It is only necessary to read the question:

"Is it a fact that in the Audit and Accounts Department, the initial pay of departmental officers who are appointed as Assistant Accountants General is fixed at the fifth stage in the grade for enrolled officers on their appointment in such capacities and that their position in the gradation list is fixed accordingly?"

My answer to that question is, no.

Dr. P. N. Banerjea: Then, what is the fact?

Mr. G. V. Bewoor: I want notice. I have to consult the Auditor General.

Mr. M. S. Aney: Was not the notice of the original question enough?

Mr. G. V. Bewoor: No, Sir. I was asked whether a certain thing was a fact, and I say, it is not a fact.

Mr. M. S. Aney: Could not the Honourable Member anticipate that if it was not a fact, a question as to what are the facts is likely to be asked on the floor of the House? Could he not have intelligently anticipated that?

Mr. G. V. Bewoor: No, Sir.

REVIEW OF THE CASES OF DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS QUALIFIED FOR APPOINTMENT AS SUPERINTENDENTS OF POST OFFICES.

1259. ***Dr. P. N. Banerjea:** (a) Is it a fact that in pursuance of the orders recently issued by the Director General, Heads of the Postal Circles undertook about a year ago a review of the case of each and every departmental officer qualified for the appointment as Superintendent of Post Offices in order further to curtail the waiting list?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state when the last batch of the departmental officers who passed the departmental examination for appointment as Superintendents was selected?

Mr. G. V. Bewoor: (a) Yes. The review was made not with the object of curtailing the waiting list but for the purpose of weeding out the inefficient who had failed to make good use of the ample opportunities provided to them during officiating periods to show their fitness for advancement.

(b) In 1980.

Prof. N. G. Banga: What is the economy effected by this weeding process?

Mr. G. V. Bewoor: None.

**SUSPENSION OF THE RECRUITMENT OF PROBATIONARY SUPERINTENDENTS OF
POST OFFICES FROM OUTSIDE.**

1260. ***Dr. P. N. Banerjea:** Are Government prepared to consider the question of suspending as a temporary and special measure, the recruitment of Probationary Superintendents from outside pending the confirmation of the departmental officers who have already passed the departmental examination for Superintendents of Post Offices?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: The reply is in the negative. It is the considered opinion of Government that a certain number of vacancies in the cadre in question should be filled by direct recruits through an open competitive examination and Government see no reason to depart from this principle. Departmental officers who pass the departmental examination for Superintendships are given no guarantee that they will ultimately be appointed to such posts.

Dr. P. N. Banerjea: Will not the departmental officers be more assiduous in their duties if they had greater chances of promotion in their offices?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: They get half the chances, and that should be sufficient to make them assiduous in the discharge of their duties.

REFORMS OFFICERS' CONFERENCE.

1261. ***Mr. S. Satyamurti:** Will Government be pleased to state:

- (a) the agenda for the Reforms Officer's Conference this month;
- (b) whether the public opinion will be consulted on any of the matters; and
- (c) whether the conclusions of the Conference will be placed before this House?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar: (a) I have already, in answer to his question No. 1033, informed the Honourable Member that the Conference was held entirely on an informal basis in regard to matters connected with electoral preparations and I gave certain supplementary answers too. For his fuller information I will now add that the Conference, which was designed merely in order to prepare the ground for further consideration, was convened definitely on an informal basis for the purpose of mutual enlightenment and exchange of views and on the understanding that the opinions expressed by Reforms Officers would in no sense commit their Governments and that no report of the proceedings would be issued. In these circumstances, the agenda of the Conference cannot, with due regard to public interests, be made available.

(b) Consultation of public opinion is a problem which arises at the stage when the authorities propose to make up their minds, and has no relevance to the stage of mutual enlightenment and exchange of views between Reforms Officers.

(c) The foregoing remark should make it clear that there are as yet no conclusions which can be placed before the House.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: May I take it, Sir, that before Government make up their minds on the conclusions or recommendations of this or other conferences, they will consult the opinion of this House?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar: May I know what is the specific matter to which my Honourable friend's question is directed? What are the matters on which he wants the House to be consulted?

Mr. S. Satyamurti: On all matters which are now engaging, according to the Honourable Member, the attention informally of the Reforms Officers' Conference.

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar: I have no authority at the present moment to give any undertaking to this House. All that I can say is that I shall be prepared to consider this matter and see what attitude Government are going to take. But, at the present moment, I am not authorised to give any undertaking.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Have Government at least suspended their judgment on the question of consulting the opinion of this House before they make up their minds?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar: I think this question is the same as the one I have answered, namely, that I cannot give an undertaking, but I will certainly consider it.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Has the attention of Government been drawn to the work in the Frontier Province on the delimitation of constituencies which is reported in this morning's papers?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar: No, Sir; I am sorry I have not seen it.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Are Government in a position to say that Local Governments will not take action with regard to the delimitation of constituencies, without the sanction of the Government of India?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar: I do not think they will take any action without giving information to the Government of India; it must come to our knowledge. But, Sir, I regret I cannot give an undertaking.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: But will they take the consent of the Government of India?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar: That is a hypothetical question, but it will depend on the nature of the orders which are going to be issued.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: In view of the fact that the Government of India are willing to consider the question of taking the opinion of this House, I am asking whether we may not be presented with a *fait accompli* in

certain provinces and then told that they have taken action. I am asking in regard to that contingency what the position is. Will the Local Governments be told not to take any irrevocable action in this matter, without first consulting and taking the sanction of the Government of India?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar: That is exactly what I have said, that I cannot give any undertaking to this House now at this moment, but that is a matter equally to be considered by the Government of India.

UNIVERSITIES IN INDIA HAVING UNIVERSITY TRAINING CORPS.

1262. ***Mr. S. Satyamurti:** Will Government be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the Universities in India who have University Training Corps;
- (b) the period for which those Corps have been in existence;
- (c) the purposes for which they are maintained and the results thereof;
- (d) the Universities who have asked for extension or fresh creation of such corps;
- (e) whether those requests have been granted and, if not, why not;
- (f) whether there is any proposal to grant Officer's Commission in the regular Army to the officers of the University Corps; and
- (g) whether there has been or is any proposal to include military subjects in the University curricula. and the attitude of Government in this matter?

Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham: (a) and (b). The Honourable Member will find the information he requires at pages 588 to 592 of the current Indian Army List.

(c) Their primary object is educational and they are also intended to form a recruiting ground for other units of the Indian Territorial Force. The results, from the educational point of view, are a matter of opinion, but, as a recruiting ground for other units of the Indian Territorial Force, they have in fact proved of little or no value.

(d) Bombay, Nagpur and Andhra. A request was also received from the Islamia College, Peshawar.

(e) No, on financial grounds.

(f) No, but members of University Training Corps are of course at liberty to take the open examination for entry into the Indian Military Academy.

(g) The subject of Military Science is already included in the curricula of certain Indian Universities, for example, Agra, Punjab and Nagpur Universities. The introduction of this subject in any Indian University is a matter with which the University authorities are primarily concerned.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: With regard to the answer to clause (c) of the question, why have these University Training Corps proved of little or no benefit, as regards manning the offices or ranks of the Indian Territorial Force?

Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham: I cannot say why, but it is a fact that few members of the University Training Corps have subsequently come forward and asked for Commissions in the other units of the Indian Territorial Force.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: So it is not a case of their having come and then having been found unfit, but a case in which they have not really offered to come forward?

Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham: That is so; they have not come forward.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Have any inducements been offered to them to come forward and offer themselves?

Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham: There are the ordinary regulations under which commissions are given to Indian gentlemen who wish to take up commissions in the provincial units of the Indian Territorial Force. Those regulations are published and are well known. I do not think any additional inducements have been given.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Will Government take any steps to bring them to the proper notice of these young men, so that this career may be made better known to them?

Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham: I think the regulations have been circulated to all universities.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: With regard to the answer to clause (e) of the question, may I know if the difficulty of financial considerations was really accepted by the Army Department or whether they approached the Finance Department or the Standing Finance Committee or this House at any time, and those authorities turned down this extra expenditure?

Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham: No, Sir; we have not approached the Standing Finance Committee. We have at times considered an increase in what is known as the civil grant for this purpose, but that has been impossible for financial reasons. I think the Honourable Member should recollect that, during the last five or six years, we have made very large reduction in the cost of the army, somewhere about ten crores, and that, during that period, there has been practically no reduction in the cost of the Indian Territorial Force. In fact, it is the only branch of the army which has not been subjected to very drastic retrenchment.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Have Government considered the need for encouraging educated young men to take to this career, and will, therefore, Government consider the desirability of approaching the Finance Department or the Standing Finance Committee of this House with a request to vote extra monies for sanctioning University Training Corps for the Universities which desire the creation of such Corps?

Mr. G. E. F. Tottenham: The actual amount of enthusiasm shown in places where there are University Training Corps does not lead Government to suppose that the formation of University Training Corps in these other Universities would be very much more successful. At the same time, I can give an undertaking that we will consider this matter, and, when financial conditions improve, no doubt the possibility of opening new University Training Corps in other Universities will receive due consideration.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Are Government aware that, so far as the Madras University is concerned, all the places open have been filled, and there are more applicants than can be provided in the University Training Corps?

Mr. G. E. F. Tottenham: That does not tally exactly with my information. I have been told that the University Training Corps in Madras was under strength.

Mr. M. Ghasuddin: Is it a fact that Government have not so far encouraged these gentlemen to come forward and join the formations in the regular army?

Mr. G. E. F. Tottenham: That is not a fact, and I would also remind the Honourable Member that the Territorial force Committee, which went into this matter some years ago, definitely recommended that the encouragement and promotion of the territorial movement was a matter that rested with the non-official leaders of the people rather than with Government.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER.

TRANSFER OF BARAVALA VILLAGES IN THE WESTERN INDIA AGENCY TO THE CHIEF OF LIMBDI.

Mr. N. V. Gadgil: (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether Baravala villages in the Western India Agency are being transferred to the Chief of Limdi?
12 Noon.

(b) Are Government aware of the fact that the people of the Baravala villages, Western India Agency, have been assured by the Government of Bombay from time to time that no transfer from British control to the control of the Chief of Limdi will be effected without consulting the residents of the villages concerned?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether they are willing to consult the residents of the villages before the control is handed over to the Chief of Limdi?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe: The matter is under consideration; but no decision to transfer the administration of the Baravala villages to the Ruler of Limbdi will be taken without first ascertaining the wishes of the inhabitants of the villages.

Mr. N. V. Gadgil: Will it be by plebiscite?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe: I have no information as to the exact method which will be employed.

Statement showing the Rate of Freight for the Coastal Ports during the years 1930 to 1934.

Commodity.	Port from and to	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
		Rs. A. P. Per ton.	Rs. A. P. Per ton.	Rs. A. P. Per ton.	Rs. A. P. Per ton.	Rs. A. P. Per ton.
General cargo per 20 cwts. or 40 cubic feet.	Bombay	48 0 0	48 0 0	48 0 0	32 0 0	32 0 0
	Calcutta	12 0 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	12 0 0
	Rangoon	32 0 0	32 0 0	32 0 0	32 0 0	32 0 0
	Gulf Ports	32 0 0	32 0 0	32 0 0	32 0 0	32 0 0
	Bombay to Malabar coast Po. ta.	2) 0 0	29 0 0	29 0 0	29 0 0	2) 0 0
Grain and seeds per bag of 168 lbs.		0 7 0	0 5 0	0 7 0	0 6 0	0 3 0
Flour per bag of 196 lbs.		0 11 0	0 8 0	0 11 0	11 0 0	11 0 0
Weight car ₂ per ton of 20 cwts.		10 0 0	7 8 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	7 8 0
Paper per ton of 2 cwts.	Malabar Coast Ports to Bombay.	22 8 0	15 0 0	12 0 0	10 4 0	10 4 0
Ginger per ton of 20 cwts.		22 8 0	14 0 0	12 0 0	10 4 0	10 4 0
Copra per ton of 20 cwts.		20 0 0	14 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	6 12 0
Coconuts per ton of 20 cwts.		15 0 0	11 0 0	7 0 0	8 0 0	6 12 0
Coir per ton of 20 cwts.		22 8 0	14 0 0	14 0 0	14 0 0	12 0 0
Coir Yarn per cwt.	Cochin to Karachi.	1 11 0	1 11 0	2 0 0	0 11 6	0 11 6
Coconut oil per cask 7½		9 6 0	9 6 0	9 8 0	2 8 0	2 8 0
Pepper per cwt.		1 2 0	1 2 0	1 0	0 10 6	0 10 6

Coir Yarn per cwt.	Cochin to Bombay	15 0 0	14 0 0	14 0 0	14 0 0	12 0 0	11 12 0
Coconut oil per cask of 7½ gallons.		6 4 0	6 4 0	2 1 0	3 8 0	2 1 0	
Pepper per ton		22 8 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	10 4 0	10 4 0	
Coir Yarn per cwt.	Cochin to Calcutta.	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 8 0	
Coconut oil per cask of 7½ gallons.		7 4 0	7 4 0	8 7 0	3 6 0	2 10 0	
Pepper per ton		37 8 0	37 8 0	20 0 0	12 4 0	20 0 0	
Coir Yarn per cwt.	Cochin to Rangoon.	2 0 0	2 0 0	0 13 0	1 8 0	1 8 0	
Coconut oil per cask of 7½ gallons.		7 4 0	9 8 0	3 12 0	7 4 0	7 4 0	
Pepper per cwt.		1 14 0	1 14 0	0 12 6	1 0 0	1 0 0	
	Calicut to Bombay and Karachi.						
	{ Bombay	15 0 0	15 0 0	7 8 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	
	to						
	{ Karachi	11 8 0	6 0 0				
	to						
	{ Bombay	21 0 0	21 0 0	10 0 0	8 8 0	8 8 0	
	to						
	{ Karachi	13 8 0	8 8 0				
	to						
	{ Bombay	19 0 0	19 0 0	8 8 0	6 12 0	6 12 0	
	to						
	{ Karachi	14 0 0	6 12 0				
	to						
	{ Bombay	24 0 0	24 0 0	10 8 0	9 4 0	9 4 0	
	to						
	{ Karachi	16 8 0	9 4 0				

Statement showing the Rates of Freight for the Coastal Ports during the years 1930 to 1934.

Commodity.	Port from and to	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Pepper per ton	Bombay	20 0 0	26 0 0	15 0 0	12 12 0	12 12 0
			to 15 0 0	to 12 12 0		
Rice per ton	Karachi	25 0 0	25 0 0	17 8 0	15 4 0	15 4 0
			to 17 0 0	to 15 4 0		
Rice per ton	Rangoon and Akyab to Bom- bay or Cochin.	12 0 0	11 8 0	11 8 0	11 8 0	8 4 0
Rice per ton	Rangoon to Gal'e, Tuticorin, Alleppy, Calicut, Bede- gore, Cannanore and Mangalore.	13 0 0	12 8 0	12 8 0	12 8 0	9 4 0
Rice per ton	Rangoon to Colachel, Tri- vandrum, Quilon, Ponani.	13 8 0	13 0 0	13 0 0	13 0 0	9 12 0
Rice per ton	Rangoon to Marm goa, Katiawar Ports.	14 8 0	14 0 0	14 0 0	14 0 0	10 12 0
Rice per ton	Rangoon to Calcutta	7 8 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	6 8 0	5 0 0

Rice per ton	From Moumein, Bassein and Akyab to Calcutta.	8	8	0	8	8	0	8	8	0	7	8	0	6	8	0
Rice per ton	Rangoon to Chittagong	7	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0	6	0	0	6	0	0
Rice per ton	Akyab to Chittagong	6	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0
Rice per ton	Bassein to Chittagong	8	0	0	6	0	0	6	0	0	7	0	0	7	0	0
Timber	Rangoon to Calcutta	15	0	0	14	0	0	14	0	0	12	0	0	12	0	0
	Rangoon to—															
	Cerromandel Ports and Madras.	19	0	0	18	0	0	18	0	0	16	0	0	14	0	0
	Lower Madras Coast	24	0	0	23	0	0	21	0	0	19	0	0	17	0	0
	Tuiscuin	27	0	0	26	0	0	26	0	0	22	0	0	22	0	0
	Cochin	30	0	0	29	0	0	27	8	0	26	0	0	26	0	0
	Erumbay	25	0	0	23	0	0	21	0	0	19	0	0	19	0	0
	Kathiawa and Karachi	27	8	0	26	8	0	23	8	0	27	8	0	21	8	0

Information promised in reply to starred question No. 554, asked by Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chowdhury on the 26th February 1935.

PERSONS THROWN OUT OF EMPLOYMENT IN AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS OFFICES.

- (a), (b) and (c). A statement is attached.
 (d) No. The retrenchment concessions granted to these men were considered as given to wipe out any liability of Government for past service.
 (e) No. The concession if granted to these men, would have to be extended to all retrenched Government servants in temporary or permanent service, and the extra cost would be heavy. To meet any special cases of hardship, the Auditor-General has been authorised to grant suitable advance increments while fixing the pay of these men in the new scales of pay.

Statement showing the Number of Men thrown out of Employment in each Audit and Accounts office as a result of General Retrenchment on Rs. Appropriation of Audit and Accounts in 1931 with the Amount of Gratuity and Leave Granted to them.

Serial No.	Name of Offices.	No. of men excluding inferior servants thrown out of employment in each Audit and Accounts office as a result of general retrenchment on re-arrangement of Audit and Account, in 1931.
1	Central Accounts Office, Public Works Department.	65

No. of men re-employed in the same or different other offices without any break in their service, taking into consideration the period spent on leave.

Leave, if due, on average or half average pay, as the case might be, was granted subject to the following conditions in the case of clerks who having rendered three years' continuous service in the department at the time when their notice of discharge expired had become eligible for the same leave and pensionary privileges as ordinarily admissible to permanent Government servants of similar status :—

Only one of these men has been re-employed in the Accountant General, Central Revenues' office without any break. It is not

known whether others have been re-employed in any other offices.

- (1) that there is deducted therefrom any period during the month of notice during which the individual retrenched drew pay after demitting office, and
 - (2) that no period of leave after the expiry of the month's notice should count as service to enhance the amount of gratuity or pension.
- (1) *Those with over 5 years' service.*—A gratuity of 3 months' pay plus all Leave on Average Pay due limited to 3 months.
- (2) *Those with over 3 years' service but less than 5 years' service.*—A gratuity of 2 months' pay plus all leave on average pay due limited to 2 months.
- (3) *Those with over 1 year's service but less than 3 years' service.*—Gratuity of one month's pay plus leave on average pay due limited to one month.

2 Pay and Accounts Offices, Delhi

3 Office of the Accountant General, Central Revenues.

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- 4 Accountant General, United Provinces.
- 5 Accountant General, Bagal .
- 6 Pay and Accounts Office, Peshawar.
- 7 Audit Office, Peshawar . . .
- 8 Pay and Accounts Offices, Calcutta.
- 9 Accountant-Generals, Madras .
- 10 Audit Office, Bangalore . .
- 11 Pay and Accounts Office, Bangalore.

. . . 30 men were re-employed before discharge or before termination of leave. The number of men, if any, re-employed in other offices immediately after the termination of their leave is not known.

. 2.

} 2.

. None.

. None.

. No information is available.

. None.

Information promised in reply to starred questions Nos. 574, 575 and 580 asked by Mr. Muhammad Ashar Ali, on the 26th February, 1935.

GRANT OF EUROPEAN LEAVE RULES TO CERTAIN STAFF ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

574 and 575. The Agent, East Indian Railway, reports that the East Indian Railway Company's leave rules do not apply to persons other than those who were in the East Indian Railway Company's service on the 31st December, 1924, and were taken over by the State on the 1st January, 1925. The Agent states that he is not aware that any other persons have been granted leave according to the East Indian Railway Company's Rules but if any instances are given, he will examine them.

PAY OF STATION MASTERS AND ASSISTANT STATION MASTERS.

580. With reference to the latter part of the reply given by me to this question, I have placed in the Library of the House a "Statement showing the old, co-ordinated and revised (1934) scales of pay applicable to Station Masters and Assistant Station Masters."

Information promised in reply to starred question No. 595 asked by Mr. Muhammad Ashar Ali, on the 27th February, 1935.

VISION TEST OF THE STAFF ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

The Agent, East Indian Railway, reports that :

(a) Staff on the East Indian Railway are examined in eyesight according to the procedure laid down in the Regulations for the medical examination of candidates and employees, Non-gazetted (including inferior) and Labourers' grades Indian State Railways, a copy of which is in the Library of the House.

(b) The vision of an employee is determined by the examination of each eye separately.

(c) An employee is required to pass the test with both eyes separately.

(d) Yes.

(e) Indication cards are not used. A special apparatus for carrying out the tests for visual acuity, colour perception, night blindness etc., is used.

(f) The object for testing is not a 'C' but a ring with a split in it. This split bears a definite proportion to the size of the ring.

(g) The split ring is revolved and can be placed in any position.

(h) No.

(i) Government are not aware what improvement is desired by the Honourable Member.

Information promised in reply to started question No. 656, asked by Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena on the 5th March, 1935:
ACTION PROPOSED TO BE TAKEN ON CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Serial No.	Date on which moved.	By whom.	Subject of Resolution.	Departments concerned.	Action taken by Government.
1	29th Jan. 1935	The Hon'ble Sir Jos. ph Bhore.	Consideration of the Indo-British Trade Agreement signed on the 9th January, 1935.	Commerce	No action has been or is proposed to be taken on the motion as amended by Mr. Gaubli.
2	13th Feb. 1935	The Hon'ble Sir Frank Noyce.	Ratification of the Draft Convention for the regulation of work in sheet glass works.	Industries and Labour.	Will be considered after Government are in possession of the views expressed in both Houses of the Legislature.
3	4th Feb. 1935 6th Feb. 1935 7th Feb. 1935	The Hon'ble Sir Nripendra Sircar.	Consideration of the report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Indian Constitutional Reform.	Home	A telegraphic report of the result of the debate was made to the Secretary of State and the amended resolutions as well as copies of the proceedings are being forwarded to the Secretary of State.
4	5th Feb. 1935	Mr. B. Das	Removal of the ban on the Khudai Khidmatgars Organisation.	Home	A copy of the proceedings has been sent to the Local Government.
5	11th Feb. 1935	Mr. K. M. Jedhe	Removal of disqualification of Pandit Dwarka Prasad Misra and Chaudhry Ahrafuddin.	Home	Copies of the proceedings will be forwarded to the Local Government's concerned.
6	14th Feb. 1935	Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad	Revision of the present Taxation Policy of the Government of India.	Finance	Will be considered in connection with the future budgets.
7	11th Feb. 1935	Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha	Importation of foreign rice into India.	Commerce	Indian Tariff (Amendment) Bill concerning this subject was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on the 13th March, 1935.

Information promised in reply to starred question No. 707, asked by Mr. M. Asaf Ali on the 7th March, 1935.

WATER-COURSES FOR IRRIGATION OF LAND IN THE DELHI PROVINCE.

(a) The water-courses in the Delhi District have not been narrowed, but certain outlets have been remodelled. The figures for irrigation in 1934-35 are not yet available, but irrigation in 1933-34 was very much lower than irrigation in 1930-31. The reasons for the decrease are not yet certain and enquiries on the subject are being made from the Irrigation Authorities.

(b) It is a fact that prices of agricultural produce in the Delhi Province have fallen in comparison with the prices of 1930. Water rates on the Western Jumna Canal, which is responsible for most of the irrigation in the Delhi Province, were reduced in 1934 in conformity with general reductions in the Punjab. The reductions made were not necessarily proportionate to the changes in prices.

Information promised in reply to starred question No. 714, asked by Mr. B. B. Varma on the 7th March, 1935.

WANT OF LATRINES IN THIRD CLASS CARRIAGES ON THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY TRAINS.

Latrine accommodation is provided on all trains in compartments reserved for females. Twelve out of the 22 trains referred to in the question run for short distances not exceeding 26 miles. But in most of these trains and in the other ten trains there is one carriage with latrine accommodation for male passengers. The question of increasing the number of third class carriages fitted with latrines is being taken up with the Bengal and North Western Railway Administration.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS—*concl'd.*

TRANSFER TO THE FUND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF BROADCASTING.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg (Finance Member): Sir, I beg to move:

“That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 20,00,000, 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, 1935, in respect of ‘Transfer to the Fund for the Development of Broadcasting’.”

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

“That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 20,00,000, 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, 1935, in respect of ‘Transfer to the Fund for the Development of Broadcasting’.”

There are several motions for reduction . . .

Mr. S. Satyamurti (Madras City: Non-Muhammadan Urban): Sir, on a point of order, I want to make my submission, and indeed raise four points of order on this particular matter. I will state them, one by one, for your consideration and ruling. My first point of order is that section 67A of the Government of India Act (page 73 of the Manual) says:

“(2) No proposal for the appropriation of any revenue or money for any purpose shall be made except on the recommendation of the Governor General.”

If you will turn to Standing Order 74A, at page 123 of the Manual, you will find:

“Communications from the Governor General to the Assembly are made by written message through the President.”

I made an inquiry of the Assistant Secretary this morning here, and he tells me—I speak subject to correction, and, if I am wrong, I shall be glad to be corrected—that, so far as his knowledge goes, no communication recommending this demand has been sent to the Assembly by the Governor General, through you. Therefore, my first point of order, for your consideration and ruling is

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Chair does not think that has been the practice so far

Mr. S. Satyamurti: I am not concerned with that: I am merely concerned with drawing your attention to the section of the Act and the Standing Order, as they stand. It is my duty to raise it, and your duty, Sir, and privilege, to rule on it. If it has not been the practice before, I am not responsible for it, nor are you

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Chair simply wanted to know.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: I have no information on that matter. I am new to this Assembly, and I labour under that handicap: but no amount of practice, for any number of years, can ever over-ride Statutory provisions. I trust I have made that point clear.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Standing Order 74A provides as to how these communications are to be made.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: You are the channel, Sir, for communications to the Assembly.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Is this not a communication to the Assembly?

Mr. S. Satyamurti: This recommendation of the Governor General must be communicated through you, Sir: how else will it be communicated?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Chair takes it, the recommendation of the Governor General was communicated to the Governor General in Council.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: No, Sir: this proposal comes before us, and we are entitled to know, if the Governor General has recommended this proposal being submitted to the vote of the House: my submission is, how are we to know that?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Why not ask the Member of the Government. The Chair thinks they will inform you.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Should they not inform the House, or should not the Governor General send through you to the House and recommend that the following demands be submitted to the House?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Chair does not find anything there which requires that such communications should be made through the Chair.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: How are we to know that the recommendation has been made?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The communication is perhaps made to the Governor General in Council.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: This section does not say that: according to this section, this House has a right to know. Sub-section (1) of section 67A says:

"The estimated annual expenditure and revenue of the Governor General in Council shall be laid in the form of a statement before both Chambers of the Indian Legislature in each year."

Then follows this sub-section, and, therefore, I submit, for your consideration, that it is a recommendation which is not really between the Governor General and the Governor General in Council. We have got to consider this demand, which comes before us, and we must be satisfied that there is a recommendation. So far as I know, there is no recommendation. That is my first point.

My second point is this: this so-called demand is not a demand at all. You will notice, Sir, that sub-section (1) of section 67A says that the estimated annual expenditure and revenue shall be laid before the Legislature in each year. The proposal should, therefore, be for expenditure for the year

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member means there should be no supplementary demands?

Mr. S. Satyamurti: I will deal with that presently. My first point is that it is not a demand: my point is that a demand should be for expenditure for the year.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): For the whole year? It may be allowed more than once?

Mr. S. Satyamurti: I concede that: but it must be for that year: there can be no demand for the future. It must be annual, and you will notice, in coming to the facts of this particular case

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member means, it must be for the current year?

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Yes; no demand for future years. It must be a demand for the coming financial year: but if you will notice the facts of this case, turning to page 29, this is merely a supplementary demand for a grant. This is transfer of a part of the revenue surplus to the fund for the development of broadcasting; and, if you will kindly turn to the Proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee, Volume XIV, No. 5, which gives the details of this expenditure, you will find under the heading 'Financial effect of the proposal':

"No detailed plans have yet been prepared. It is roughly estimated that the Delhi station will cost in the neighbourhood of three lakhs. The recurrent expenditure during the financial year 1934-35 cannot yet be estimated."

I do not want to read the whole thing, but you will notice that, as a matter of fact, all these proposals are merely nebulous. I thought that the Honourable the Finance Member would make a statement this morning, as to when this Director is going to be appointed and when this Delhi station is proposed to be constructed. I find no speech, and, in the paragraph on broadcasting, in his own speech introducing the budget, paragraph 32, he simply says that it is proposed shortly to construct a large transmitting station in Delhi, and we hope later to undertake the construction.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member's objection is that there are no sufficient particulars.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: There is no proposal for definite expenditure in any definite period of time. It is merely the transfer of a fund.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member says, it is not definite?

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Yes, in one sense. I would add that there are no details given even as to the matter of the time during which the expenditure is to be incurred. It is not a case in which we definitely know when the money is proposed to be spent.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member's point is that particulars are not given at all?

Mr. S. Satyamurti: That is again another matter, and, as my friend, the Leader, reminds me, if the expenditure goes beyond the next financial year in the case of an original estimate, it will be out of order. They cannot go on transferring money to the funds to be spent, as and when the need arises for that, in their judgment beyond this financial year.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member can object to the demand on that ground that sufficient particulars are not given to enable the House to come to a conclusion.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: That is on the merits. My point is that, in the case of a supplementary demand, the expenditure must be in the present financial year. In the case of an original demand, you cannot get a demand to be spent beyond the next financial year; and, so far as I can read the original proposal as well as the Standing Committee's details, it means it will go beyond the next year. My third point before you, which I raised the other day, but not as a point of order, is this. They have created a new demand called 69A. If you will kindly turn to the list of demands,—I believe it is the same as last year,—in this bulky volume, you will find that 69 consists of a number of miscellaneous departments, and then broadcasting is 69H on page 437. They have a demand for broadcasting, including officers and various other things; and, when they have got that, I say that it is not open to my Honourable friend to open a new demand, unless it comes within the provisions of the Government of India Act. On that matter, sub-section (5) of section 67A lays down the procedure with regard to demands. It says that the proposals of the Governor General in Council for the appropriation of revenues or moneys, relating to heads of expenditure not specified in the above heads, that is army, and so on, shall be submitted to the vote of the Legislative Assembly, in the form of demands for grants. Then, Rule 44 on page 96, lays down the form of these demands:

"A separate demand shall ordinarily be made in respect of the grant proposed for each department of the Government, provided that the Finance Member may, in his discretion, include in one demand grants proposed for two or more departments, or make a demand in respect of expenditure which cannot readily be classified under particular departments."—*I pause there, and invite your attention to the words—*"or to make a demand in respect of expenditure which cannot readily be classified under particular departments."

If you will kindly look at demand 69, original demands for grants, which I presume is the same for last year as this year, you will find 69H deals with broadcasting. It has been brought under an original demand and, therefore, the Honourable the Finance Member cannot now create a new demand.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Is that broadcasting?

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Yes. If you will kindly see 69H, it contains the demand under the Miscellaneous Departments. Broadcasting is a demand under 69H. The point I am submitting to you is this. Each demand shall contain, first, a statement of the total grant proposed, and then a statement of the detailed estimate under each grant, divided into items. Demand 69A as now proposed merely contains a statement of the total grant proposed. It does not contain a statement of the detailed estimate under each grant divided into items. If you will turn to the Standing Committee proceedings, you will see how nebulous the proposals are. On page 164, Volume XIV, No. 5, you will find that the Government of India propose to initiate their programme of expenditure almost immediately, and the first two steps will be to engage a broadcasting expert on a contract for a period of five years, and to establish a new broadcasting station in India. No details are given here as regards the pay proposed; and if you will kindly turn to 165, you will find that no detailed plans have yet

been prepared. It has been roughly estimated that this will cost in the neighbourhood of three lakhs during the first and subsequent years; and at the end of it, they say:

"By a supplementary grant during the current year to such extent as may be necessary and by Budget provision in subsequent years."

That was the original idea. Now, they have given up that idea. They do really want this grant to be spent, as and when they want it. On page 166, you will find it stated that:

"The plans for the Delhi station are not yet ready"

and the Committee's opinion is this:

"The Committee approve the proposal on the understanding that further information will be circulated when detailed estimates have been prepared."

Therefore, I submit, on my third point, that there is no power on the part of Government to create a new demand, unless it is in the case of expenditure which cannot rightly be classified under existing demands; and the substance of it is that this demand does not contain the necessary details, and this House cannot be expected to vote block grants. It must get details, because the vote is for particular sums.

My fourth and last point. Sir, is that this is not a supplementary demand. I must invite your attention to rule 50, to which I have been turning again and again during the last few days. In actual words, this is not a supplementary demand, and I submit that with confidence. Now, Rule 50, clause (1), sub-clause (i) says:

"The amount voted in the Budget of a grant is found to be insufficient for the purposes of the current year."

Now, Sir, if you will take this supplementary demand for grant 69A; you will find that they say: "original grant, nil" at page 29.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): This is not entirely for expenditure during the current year. Is this not as well for the next year?

Mr. S. Satyamurti: I am now, Sir, on this point that it is not covered, in words or in spirit, by rule 50. Sub-clause (i) of clause (1) of that Rule says:

"That amount voted in the Budget of a grant is found to be insufficient for the purposes of the current year."

The statement is: "no grant is voted". Therefore, it follows, that money which is not voted at all cannot be found to be insufficient for the purposes of the current year.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Is not that amount voted in the budget?

Mr. S. Satyamurti: They cannot have it both ways. If they had brought forward any original demand on this subject and then asked for a supplementary demand, that would have been a different matter. If they say it is an original grant now, in that case, since there can be no demand, there cannot be a supplementary demand.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Is it not possible for the Honourable the Finance Member to make provision for a new service, when the need arises? Is it not possible to have a combination of both?

Mr. S. Satyamurti: But not a combination of "neither", Sir. A combination of neither is not possible. The second point, Sir, is that the need arises during the current year for expenditure for which the vote of the Assembly is necessary upon some new service and—mark the following words—"not contemplated in the Budget for that year". It is not as if they can call it a new service; this is not a new service not contemplated in the Budget for that year. So neither under clause (1) nor under clause (2) can it be called a "supplementary demand". That is my fourth point.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): As regards the point of order raised, does the Honourable the Finance Member wish to say anything?

Mr. K. Sanjiva Row (Government of India: Nominated Official): I propose to say something, Sir, if you will allow me. Sir, my Honourable friend said that it is not a demand at all, as it is not "expenditure". But you will see, Sir, from section 67A of the Government of India Act that the words used there are:

"Appropriation of revenues or monies for any purpose."

(Voices: "We cannot hear." "Louder, please.") Sir, the words used in section 67A of the Government of India Act, in sub-section (1), are:

"The estimated annual expenditure and revenue of the Governor General."

In the first place, I say that, it is well-known that it is one of the principles of book-keeping that, if money is transferred from revenue to any fund or any other suspense account, it appears as a revenue expenditure of the year in which the transfer is made. That is the first point. So I say it is revenue expenditure of the year. And then in other sub-sections of that same section you will find the words:

"The appropriation of any money or revenues."

It is not actual "expenditure", but only appropriation; again, in sub-section (3), it is said:

"The proposals of the Governor General in Council for the appropriation of revenue or monies relating to . . ."

Here also, it is not that the expenditure from the suspense account should be incurred during the year in which the amount is put into the suspense account. The actual transfer to the suspense account will be

made in the year in which the grant is voted by the Assembly. Then, Sir, the next point raised by my friend is that this is not a supplementary demand at all, as it is not covered by sub-rule (1) of rule 50 of the Legislative Rules, as it is not a case of the amount voted in the budget being found insufficient for the purposes of the current year. Then he said that it does not come under clause (ii) of the sub-rule as it is not a new service not contemplated in the budget. Now let us first see what the demand is for. It is for the transfer of a certain sum of money from the revenue of the current year to a special fund to be utilized for the development of Broadcasting. It is quite true that Broadcasting, by itself, is not a new service and ordinary expenditure on the development of Broadcasting may not be a new service, but we cannot be quite sure about the latter, especially in view of the various decisions of the Public Accounts Committee. Here I must mention that the question "what is a new service" has been engaging the attention of the Public Accounts Committee for the last so many years, and, with the help of the Auditor General, they have been trying to come to some solution as to what definition to give to the term "new service", and, after a very careful consideration, they came to the conclusion that it was impossible to give a precise definition of the term "new service". They, therefore, decided, on the advice of the Auditor General, that they should build up a body of case law on the subject. (Ironical Cheers.) This is what the Committee said, Sir, in the Report on the accounts of 1926-27:

"We agree with the Auditor General that, as in England, there should be no cast-iron rule and that the application of the term "New Service" could best be governed by the evolution of a body of case law."

This is what the Auditor General said:

"Parliamentary practice in England has always recognised a new work of any importance as a new service. The practice in India is tending to crystallise in the same way."

According to this criterion, Sir, every big scheme of expenditure will have to be treated as a new service.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member says that section 51(2) applies.

Mr. K. Sanjiva Row: Yes, Sir.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Is it proposed to spend the amount this year?

Mr. K. Sanjiva Row: The amount will appear as expenditure in the revenue accounts of the Government of India this year, because according to the rules of book-keeping when a transfer is made from revenue to a suspense account, the amount appears as expenditure in the revenue accounts of the year, and for any item appearing in the revenue account as a charge, the vote of this Assembly is required so long as it is not a non-voted item under the Government of India Act. Then, Sir, we may also

[Mr. K. Sanjiva Row.]

examine it from another point of view. The demand is for the creation of a special fund for the development of Broadcasting; it is not for ordinary expenditure on Broadcasting. It is true that the Assembly has accepted the principle of expenditure on Broadcasting but it cannot be said that they have accepted the principle of creating a fund for the development of Broadcasting. So, this involves a new principle which has not been accepted by the Assembly, and, therefore, it should be classified as a new service. Here, I think, I must make it quite clear that the point raised by my Honourable friend about the creation of a fund is not right. The Assembly has been voting, year after year, a block grant of over a crore of rupees for the development of roads, and even this year they voted it. You will find, Sir, from page 498 of demands for grants that they have voted a sum of Rs. 1,31,00,000 as a block grant for expenditure on road development. That expenditure has not been actually incurred in the year and this is also a similar case. It is debited to civil works and transferred to the suspense head 'Road Fund'. Then my Honourable friend said: 'Why was a new demand created?' It is rather curious that this question should have come from the Opposition, because, according to the Parliamentary procedure, the larger the number of demands, the greater the control of the Legislature. It has always been the practice for all Parliaments to insist on a larger number of demands than on a smaller number. Under rule 44, the Finance Member has got full discretion. He can make a demand in respect of expenditure which cannot readily be classified under particular departments. We say that this expenditure cannot be classified under any of the existing heads under Demand 69.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Broadcasting.

Mr. K. Sanjiva Row: It is Broadcasting, but it cannot be classified under any of the heads existing under Broadcasting because it is an amount which is voted by the Assembly simply for a transfer to a fund for the development of Broadcasting. Therefore, we thought that it would give greater control to the Assembly because it would prevent the executive from transferring funds from this grant for ordinary expenditure on Broadcasting. So far as the Assembly is concerned, whether we call it 69 or 69-A, I do not think it affects the discussion in the House in any way.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): What about the particulars that are wanting?

Mr. K. Sanjiva Row: So far as this demand is concerned, it is simply a transfer from the revenue to a suspense account and there cannot be any particulars in respect of a transfer. It can only be a block grant and there cannot be any details. I might mention that it is the intention that all detailed schemes should be placed before the Standing Finance Committee for their approval.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): What about the sanction of the Governor General?

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: May I just elaborate that point. I think the question of detailed control by the Assembly or of detailed information to the Assembly can perfectly be well met, and, in my view, the sole point of substance in this list of points raised by the Honourable Member opposite is that when we propose to incur expenditure on individual schemes out of a fund which has been set up, details should be submitted to the Standing Finance Committee and the House by means of token votes for appropriation of money from this fund. That seems to me to be the real point of substance in the whole of this discussion.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): What about the recommendation of the Governor General?

Sir Lancelot Graham (Secretary, Legislative Department): So far as I can understand, this (the blue book of demands) is the recommendation of the Governor General. It has been supplied to all the Members, and it can be called His Excellency's message. I am sure, this is sufficient compliance with the Standing Order.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): But ought it to be communicated to the Assembly through the Chair or not?

Sir Lancelot Graham: I do find a statement in the Standing Orders that communications by the Governor General to the Assembly "are" made by a message to the President. That is a somewhat curious expression. I see from the provisions of Standing Order 74 that communications "to" the Governor General "shall" be made through the President. I am not quite sure what the significance of this is, but I observe in the actual provisions of the Act that no new proposal for the appropriation of revenue or moneys shall be made except on the recommendation of the Governor General. I understand from the Finance Department that that recommendation is there, and I understand it is sufficiently communicated through this book (the blue book of demands).

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): In fact, there has been a recommendation of the Governor General.

Sir Lancelot Graham: Yes, Sir.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The first question is that there has not been compliance of section 67A, clauses (1) and (2), because there has been no communication made by the Governor General to the Assembly recommending this appropriation. As regards that, the Chair does not find anything in the law or Rules or Standing Orders saying that a recommendation of the Governor General for a certain appropriation of revenues must be made to the Assembly through the Chair, and the Chair is informed that the recommendation has already been received by the Finance Department. That, in the Chair's opinion, sufficiently complies with the requirements of the Rules and Standing Orders, and the practice has all along been in all Legislatures that the recommendation is communicated to the Department concerned.

[Mr. President.]

The second point is that, as a matter of fact, this is not a demand, within the meaning of Rule 50, because there is no question of expenditure of this amount during the current year. But, as has been very clearly explained, this demand is for the transfer of a fund to a suspense account from the revenue, and the Chair is not prepared to hold that a demand like that does not come within the purview of the Rules. Then, it has been said that a new demand has been created as 69-A. In fact, the original demand for grant was under 69 with respect to Broadcasting; and Broadcasting has already been included in the demand, and there is no authority for this new demand. The Chair really fails to understand the point of this objection. The real objection of substance, if valid, would be that sufficient particulars have not been given to enable the House to deal with this demand on its merits. But the explanation for that is that what has been proposed by the Government and what has been placed before the House for its acceptance is that a certain amount should be transferred from the revenues in order to form a fund for the purpose of meeting the expenditure for development of Broadcasting in the future. The Chair is informed that precedents exist for such transfers and this demand is now being made for such a transfer following those precedents. In matters of this nature, regarding the procedure and practice of the House, the Chair is not prepared to hold that there is any illegality in making a demand for such a transfer. It may or may not be desirable that such a transfer should be made. That is another matter, but, having regard to the established practice, the Chair cannot hold that the transfer sought to be proposed for which the sanction of the House is asked is illegal.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: You have given your ruling on three of the points raised by me. You have not given a ruling on my fourth point, namely, that this is not a new service.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): On that point the Chair has already given its ruling that it is a new service in the sense that there is a fresh programme which is not contemplated in the original demand.

There is an amendment* in the name of Pandit Nilakantha Das to omit the entire grant. As it is a direct negative, it is out of order.

Pandit Nilakantha Das (Orissa Division: Non-Muhammadan): Then, I will speak opposing the entire demand.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Not now. The next amendment is in the name of Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena (Lucknow Division: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum, not exceeding Rs. 20,00,000, in respect of 'Transfer to the Fund for the Development of Broadcasting' be reduced to one rupee."

*"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum, not exceeding Rs. 20,00,000, in respect of 'Transfer to the Fund for the Development of Broadcasting' be omitted."

Sir, let me inform you at the very outset that I have not moved this out, because I am opposed to Broadcasting or its development, nor because I do not appreciate its value or importance, but I have moved it, because I feel that, under the existing circumstances, the transfer of a big sum like twenty lakhs from the so-called surplus revenue is not a proper expenditure. When I say so-called surplus, I say it deliberately, because I hold and maintain that, so long as the Government of India have at their disposal such large amounts in the shape of stores, depreciation fund, reduction or avoidance of debt and other funds, they can easily manipulate surplus or deficit to suit the purpose of Government for the time being. Sir, you are aware that, till 1923-24, only a sum of 3,78 lakhs used to be provided for reduction and avoidance of debt. In 1924-25, it was increased to 6,89 lakhs, and that was the year when the Railway Budget was separated from the General Budget. Since then, it was expected that this would bring in an income of five crores to the general revenue from the railways, and the Government, instead of utilising the whole of this amount in reducing the taxation and in financing the expenditure on nation-building items, have doubled nearly the provision for the avoidance and reduction of debt. A few years later, when, because of the economic slump, Government were faced with a considerable fall in revenue, they came out with proposals for additional taxation, and, Sir, you, as the Leader of the Opposition, then made the suggestion to the then Finance Member that such a big sum should not be provided for the reduction and avoidance of debt, but the suggestion was spurned by the Finance Member with the remark that it would amount to a raid on the sinking fund. Later on, we find that the same Finance Member came before the House and provided only three crores under this item for 1933-34 and 1934-35 and he did so with a view to get the approval of this House for his proposals for additional taxation which as usual were accompanied by assurances that the taxes would be removed as soon as the financial position improved. Now, Sir, but for this considerable reduction in this item of the budget, we would have been faced with a deficit of 7,78 lakhs and not a surplus of 3,89 lakhs. Let us see what the Finance Member has to say on this subject. In his speech while referring to this subject of avoidance of debt he said:

"I, therefore, accept as reasonable for the time a provision of three crores now prevailing but I should like to make it clear that in my view an increased provision for debt reduction ought to be a first charge on any contribution from the railway in future."

Now, may I ask the Finance Member if he felt that way, why did he not provide for an increase under this head. As a matter of fact it is a strange coincidence that the surplus is exactly the difference between the amounts that have been provided for under this head and that would have been provided if the practice prevailing before had been followed.

Now, Sir, we know what is the reason why he did not provide for it. He did not want to have a deficit budget. If he had provided for the full amount under this item, he would have been faced with a deficit budget, but he did not want to come before this House with a deficit budget because he wanted to restore the five per cent. cut on the salaries. Sir, again we find that the Finance Member has threatened us and he says that if we are not going to approve of his proposals for the disposal of this surplus money, this surplus would automatically go to the reduction and avoidance of debt fund.

[Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena.]

Sir, the other day, Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant challenged him to cite the rule under which that was going to take place. But two days have elapsed, and the Honourable Member has not been pleased to enlighten us on that point. Sir, I may also remind him that even the surplus of 8,29 lakhs, according to his own statement, is made up of two figures; first Rs. 66 lakhs which is the surplus for 1933-34 and the surplus of 8,28 lakhs for 1934-35. If the practice were followed and if what the Finance Member said were a fact, then this amount of 66 lakhs ought to have lapsed or would have gone to this heading on the 31st March, 1934. I may respectfully tell the Honourable the Finance Member that we are not schoolboys and we are not going to be cowed down by his dogmatic assertions or by his petulant threats or by his angry looks. (Laughter.) We are here as the elected representatives of the people, and I may state, from my own personal knowledge, that with one exception, that is my own self, every one sitting on these Congress Benches. . . .

[At this stage, as the Honourable the Finance Member was speaking to the Honourable the President, the speaker sat down.]

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member will go on.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: As the Honourable the Finance Member was talking to you, Sir, I thought I would sit down.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member ought not to make these remarks. If any Honourable Member wants to communicate anything to the Chair, he is at liberty to come up here and make that communication.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: But the case of the Finance Member was different, because, at this stage, I was particularly drawing his attention.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: No, Sir; all he was doing was making some offensive personal remarks, and I was not called upon to listen to those.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member had better go on.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: Sir, I was saying that every one sitting on even the Congress back benches, except myself, holds a front position in the public life of his province and is an unquestioned leader in his district; and they are here by virtue of the sacrifices and suffering which they have undergone in the service of the people. And the Honourable the Finance Member will concede that we, on this side, are a little better acquainted with the conditions of the people and we are in more intimate touch with them than he or, for the matter of that, most of the Members sitting on the opposite benches.

Sir Muhammad Yakub (Rohilkund and Kumaon Divisions: Muhammadan Rural): Question.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): So far the Honourable Member has not said one word which is relevant.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: I have been so far dealing with surpluses. Now, Sir, I may say that the exhibition of temper does not add to the reputation of anybody, nor is it conducive to efficiency. A fit of temper only gets the better of one's judgment and blurs one's reason and leads one into mistakes and errors.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): What is all this? The Honourable Member must confine himself to the demand before the House. The Chair will not allow the Honourable Member to indulge in all sorts of general remarks. This is not the occasion.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: The question before the House is whether it would be conducive to the best interests of the people, whom we claim to represent, that a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs should be transferred to the fund for the development of Broadcasting. Sir, I think the Honourable Members will agree with me that the first claim on the surplus should be of the taxpayer by whose sacrifice it has been possible for the Government to tide over the period of financial stress. But, if it be against the canons of public finance to reduce taxes out of the non-recurring surplus, as the Finance Member would have us believe, I hope the House will agree with me in the other proposition, namely, that it should be utilised on expenditure that is absolutely obligatory. And on this point this House received an assurance from the predecessor of the Honourable the Finance Member and I am going to read it. In his budget speech last year he said:

"We are still searching for further economies, and have rigidly maintained our rule that no new item of expenditure shall be submitted unless it is absolutely obligatory or unless it is likely to be economically productive."

Now, Sir, I put it to the Finance Member that he has not placed any scheme before us. Does this item of expenditure or his proposal satisfy these two conditions which were promised to be fulfilled by his predecessor before any new item was to be sanctioned by this House? I know that the Finance Member believes in pledges. He has tried to redeem the pledges which his predecessor gave to the services. I want to know what he is going to do with the pledges which he gave to this House, pledges which he gave to the taxpayer. Is he going to redeem them or is he going to have the cuts restored and go on with the expenditure as usual? Now, Sir, I put it to you in all seriousness, if a person came to you for advice as to how he should invest his savings, you will naturally inquire about his circumstances. And if he were to tell you that one-third of the members of his family did not have two square meals a day, if he told you that most of them were ill-fed and ill-clad, if he told you that there were no proper arrangements for medical aid, and if he also told you that his young children were not going to school and there was no arrangement for their education or the employment of the grown up ones

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The House has heard all that, the Chair does not know how many times. If the Honourable Member would address himself to the particular demand, it would be far more useful to the House.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: The question is whether these 20 lakhs should be spent on Broadcasting or on some other item which is more necessary, so far as the welfare of the people is concerned. And that is why I put this question to you. Now, if he were to tell you that this was the state of affairs in his family, will you advise him to go in for a radio set and leave the members of his family to starve and undergo all sorts of privations and sufferings? I know your reply will be like that of the ant who, when the mosquito approached it and offered to give lessons in music to its young ones, replied: "I refuse your proposal. If my young ones were to learn music, how will they manage to live and when will they work for their food?" So the whole problem reduces itself to this. Is the Finance Member prepared to inform this House whether any lullabies or talks have been composed which, when broadcasted, will quench the pangs of hunger, which are likely to make the listeners immune from the effects of cold and from the ravages of disease? If not, my submission is that under the existing circumstances, this expenditure on Broadcasting is a criminal waste of money. Sir, the Finance Member said that Broadcasting is an immensely important factor in the intellectual and cultural development of a country and India cannot afford to fall behind other countries in this matter. This is what he said in his speech with reference to the Broadcasting programme. Now, I myself am not only anxious, but impatient that India should not lag behind any country, not only in respect of Broadcasting, but in respect of anything. It is the ambition of my life to see India achieve and maintain

its rightful place in the free comity of nations, so that it may
 1 P.M. have its legitimate share in the international trade, and it may be able to contribute its full share towards the happiness and well-being and peace of the world; and we, on this side of the House, are doing our level best to work to that end. But the question before us is whether there are other crying and pressing needs. What about illiteracy? Is not India much behind other nations of the world so far as literacy is concerned notwithstanding the 150 years of British rule about which, the other day, Mr. Bajpai spoke so eloquently? Our percentage of literates is not more than ten. What about other countries? The other day, the Finance Member said: "We have spent so much money for nation-building departments during 15 years". True, you have spent that amount: but with what results? During this period, what have other countries done? What about Russia? What about Japan? Germany came out crushed and crest-fallen from the War, economically worse off than India, and, now, we find that she has regained her old place and other nations in the world are looking at her with respect. In India, during the last 15 or 20 years, so much money has been spent, of which the Honourable the Finance Member boasted, and yet we know that the percentage of literacy has not increased much: we know that the number of unemployed has gone up . . .

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member is really wasting the time of the House: all these are matters that are relevant to the general discussion of the budget or the Finance Bill, not now. It is sheer waste of time.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: I was submitting that there are other pressing needs and the Government should attend to them and this surplus should be utilised on those items . . .

Mr. Ram Narayan Singh (Chota Nagpur Division: Non-Muhammadan): Hear, hear.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: After all, I was referring to illiteracy. What about unemployment? The other day, I put a supplementary question to the Honourable Member for Labour and Industries, as to what steps had been taken by Government, to tackle the problem of unemployment in the Centrally Administered areas: he wanted me to put a new question; he wanted notice. I say, in this country, when reports are appearing in the papers daily of suicides by young men because of unemployment, do Government need any notice to rouse it to its sense of duty to these unfortunate young men? I think a scheme to have a crusade against illiteracy and against unemployment is more necessary

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Chair told the Honourable Member that all these matters are not relevant, and it will not allow him to go on further with them.

[At this stage, Prof. N. G. Ranga was noticed walking between the Chair and the speaker.]

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Order, order: the Honourable Member ought to know that he ought not to cross the line between the speaker and the Chair.

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Guntur *cum* Nellore: Non-Muhammadan Rural): I am sorry, Sir.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: I will not make any suggestions about those matters. I will now confine myself to the department of Broadcasting, and the Broadcasting activities of the Government of India. It has got two sides: firstly, the official and the other is the non-official side. So far as the official activities are concerned, we find the same old story. We find that in this department, there are about 183 technically qualified hands employed; and out of them only 46 are Indians and one is a Burman and the others are all non-Indians. We also find, that in 1934, seven Inspectors were appointed and none of them was an Indian. We find, the persons appointed are all pensioned officers and they were not Indians. We find, that the transmission apparatus was purchased from Marconi by the High Commissioner: it was not purchased through the Stores Purchase Department in India: no tenders were invited from firms in India, although there are at least four firms which deal with transmitting apparatus

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Is there any such statement?

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: Yes, in the Standing Finance Committee proceedings. As a matter of fact, I may inform the House that originally the idea of the Finance Member was to bring a supplementary demand only in respect of the amount that was approved by the Finance Committee in August; but now, because he could find so much money out of the surplus,

[Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena.]

therefore, instead of bringing the originally estimated supplementary demand, he says that the expenditure for that also should be met out of the money transferred to this fund. Therefore, I am relevant in discussing that scheme or proposal of the Finance Committee. I was submitting that after all what steps have the Government taken during these years for training Indians in wireless? So far as this demand is concerned, we have got no memorandum; we are only referred to the statement of the Finance Member in his budget speech, and, as I have said

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): That has been pointed out over and over again. The Honourable Member knows that the rules do not allow of such repetitions.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: I was submitting that even if this amount is to be transferred, at least the Honourable the Finance Member should come to this House for the sanction of pays and salaries that are allowed to these officers appointed in this department. I will now refer to the non-official counter-part of the Broadcasting activity, and, regarding this, I am on firmer ground, because I have better information. We know that receiving stations are being established at various centres, and one of these centres is Dehra Dun. What do we find? We find

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce (Member for Industries and Labour): I am sorry that I am not sure whether I heard my Honourable friend correctly. Did I hear him say that it was proposed to establish a Broadcasting centre at Dehra Dun?

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: Receiving centre.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: Not by the Government of India. The Local Government may have some plans in that direction, but the Government of India do not propose to establish any Broadcasting centre at Dehra Dun.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: I was just saying that, after all, when there is a transmitting station here, there must be places fitted up with receiving apparatus. The District Magistrates are organising associations to have this receiving apparatus in various towns.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: All I can say is that I am very glad to hear that the Local Governments do propose to take advantage of the facilities provided by the Central Broadcasting. That is obviously what the Central Broadcasting is intended for.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: I hope the Honourable Member will kindly listen to what I have to say, and I think his gladness will be short-lived. What do we find? There the District Magistrate is the President and the Naib Tahsildar is the Secretary. They have established a Broadcasting Association and they have decided to raise Rs. 50,000. All these facts have appeared in the *Hindustan Times* of the 25th December. We find that promises of subscriptions are secured from those persons who apply for licenses or renewal of their arms, and after those promises had been

[Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena.]

secured, demands for realisation are being made, and what are these demands like? I will just read one of them which I have got in Urdu. The translation of the document is as follows:

URGENT

Dated 6th March, 1936.

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION, TEHSIL DEHRA DUN

Hukumnama (order).

To.....

Let it be known that the sum of Rs.the promised amount for Broadcasting has not yet been received in the Tehsil. You are, therefore, ordered by this that you should deposit this sum forthwith in the *Tehsil* and obtain a receipt. There should be no further delay. Treat this as imperative. Before this English letter, on behalf of the Tehsildar, has been served upon you, this sum should be paid very soon. Take the warning.

(Sd.) ILLEGIBLE,

Naib Tehsildar, Dehra Dun.

Honorary Secretary, Broadcasting Association.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Will the Honourable Member explain what that has got to do with this demand?

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: I was submitting that once the Government of India take up any particular item, these local officials think it their duty to push it on. They know that this transmitting centre will not be a successful centre, unless simultaneously receiving centres are established, and, for what is going on in this connection, I think the responsibility rests with the Central Government. People are being harassed for subscriptions to the Broadcasting fund. Therefore, I think it is a proper subject to bring to the notice of the House.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): There is no proposal here for subscriptions?

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: That will be the result of this proposal. When they are going to demand 20 lakhs of rupees, I know that for utilising that amount they must have receiving sets at all the district headquarters. Unless that is done, there will be no use in setting up a transmitting station as Delhi is going to be. Dehra Dun is very near Delhi, and it is because it has been given out that the Delhi transmitting station will be ready by November, therefore, these enthusiasts are in a great hurry to raise money, so that they may be the first to set up a receiving apparatus.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Has the Honourable Member finished?

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: No, Sir, I have not finished.

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. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) in the Chair.

STATEMENT OF BUSINESS.

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar (Leader of the House): With your permission, Sir, I desire to make a statement as to the probable course of Government business in the week beginning Monday, the 1st April. Having regard to the amount of unfinished business, we have, in the first place, to ask you, Sir, to make a direction that the House shall sit for the transaction of Government business on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The first business on Monday will be a motion for the election to fill the vacancy caused in the Standing Committee on Pilgrimage to the Hedjaz by the death of Mr. Sherwani. Thereafter, motions will be made for leave to introduce:

- (1) a Bill further to amend the Cantonments Act, 1924, for certain purposes; and
- (2) a Bill further to amend the Indian Tea Cess Act, 1908, for a certain purpose.

Thereafter, the consideration of the Finance Bill will be resumed. On the conclusion of the Finance Bill, the following business will be taken up:

- (1) Motions for taking into consideration and passing the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Bill (Wheat and Rice).
- (2) Motions for taking into consideration and passing the Bill to amend the Indian Tea Cess Act, 1908.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): What happens to the supplementary demands?

The Honourable Sir James Grigg (Finance Member): That, Sir, entirely depends upon what happens today. If they are not passed by the end of the financial year, certain other measures will have to be taken. In their present form, they must lapse. As to in what precise form they will have to be dealt with, I can say at the end of the business, but I do not know now what is going to happen.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS—*contd.*

TRANSFER TO THE FUND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF BROADCASTING.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Before the Honourable Member, Mr. Saksena, resumes his speech, the Chair wishes to remind him that he has already spoken for a sufficient length of time, and the Chair does hope he will bear in mind that there may be other Honourable Members who wish to take part in the debate, and that he will also consider the desirability of the business of the House being proceeded with, so that, if possible, the supplementary demands may be disposed of today. (Applause.)

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: Sir, when the House adjourned, I was referring to the activities of the so-called non-official agencies at Dehra Dun. I read out an order for payment in original, and the Honourable Members can have an idea as to how these so-called non-official agencies work, so far as raising of funds is concerned. As I said beforehand,

complaints to that effect appeared in the *Hindustan Times* and I had expected that the Honourable Member in charge would take notice of it and make enquiries at least. Sir, the matter is not so simple as it looks, because once the local officials take it into their heads, that it is the policy of Government, whether local or central, that Broadcasting should be encouraged and receiving stations should be established in all the important places, they will do their level best to raise the necessary funds. In this case, besides these subscriptions, fancy fairs and *dangals*, that is, wrestling matches were held, and, in fact, sub-inspectors went about selling tickets; and I hope, now that this matter has been brought to the notice of the House and of the Government, the Honourable Member in charge will see that, not only at Dehra Dun, but at other places, no undue influence is brought to bear on persons already hard hit by their financial troubles, for finding money for Broadcasting or any other fund.

Sir, now there is another point to which I want to draw the attention of this House. We have not received any scheme. I have got a copy of the proceedings of the Finance Committee dated the 31st August, 1934. From the memorandum in this, it appears that it is likely that this scheme may be profitable and even self-supporting, because on page 164, you will find:

"The figures indicate that, even with a high customs duty and an undeveloped Broadcasting organisation the service is a promising source of additional revenue."

If that is true, I would submit that, if this scheme is going to be a profitable scheme, then the proper procedure would be to charge the expenditure to capital. Well, Sir, I would lastly inquire as to what agency is going to control the operations of Broadcasting,—whether Government will control it, or will it be a non-official agency, and if a non-official agency is going to control it, what will be its constitution, and will Government appoint any committee of elected Members of this House to control the operations? Sir, this is a very important point on which the House must have information before it can be a party to accepting this Demand. We are also entitled to know whether Broadcasting will also include political propaganda. While I recognise that Broadcasting will play an important part in the future development of society, and it has got great potentialities for good, I cannot, however, ignore the fact that it can be very much abused. It is with a view to safeguarding the country from this danger that Broadcasting in England is not in the hands of Government, but is being managed by a non-official agency, and no political party can enjoy any preference in its propaganda. I hope the House will agree with me that, without safeguarding ourselves against its likely abuses, we could not be a party to placing such a powerful instrument in the hands of an unscrupulous, irresponsible and alien administration. (Applause.)

We have had some experience of the working of the Publicity Department attached to the various Provincial Governments. Sir, you will be surprised to know that the Publicity Department of the United Provinces Government was used for promoting class hatred and communal jealousies. In 1922, there was a remarkable degree of unity among the Hindus and Muslims, and it was at that time that the Publicity Department brought out pictures of Moplahs converting forcibly Hindus and these pictures were put up in the temples at Ajodhya, Muttra and other places. Sir,

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when I saw one of them, in one of my speeches I mentioned it and the Publicity Department came out with a contradiction. But when I became a Member of the Council, I asked for a list of the publications by the Publicity Department and a list was laid on the table, when lo! there was that publication included. I confronted the Government Members as to what was the object of publishing such pictures and there was no reply and no justification of their conduct. In fact the subsequent communal troubles can all be traced to this kind of propaganda that was carried on by *Aman Sabhas* and the Publicity Departments. We all know that, during the last few years, similar propaganda, I should say, false and malicious propaganda has been carried on by the Government, while the newspapers are being suppressed.

I may also bring to the notice of the House one more instance and it is about the Frontier Province. We know that leaflets were dropped from aeroplanes and in those leaflets all sorts of misrepresentations were made. While here, it is represented to us that if the British army is removed, the Pathans will come and loot our property and the honour of our women will not be safe. Similarly, it was represented in the Frontier that if the Government were not there, the Congress will establish their own Government and they will be deprived of their property and there will be a Communistic Government and their frontiers will be in danger. Sir, this is the kind of propaganda which has been carried on by the Government, and I wanted to bring it to the notice of the House that it is not safe for the House to be a party to a scheme unless we have specific safeguard against its being used against us. I also wanted to bring to the notice of the House that the Director of Broadcasting has been appointed. I had not noticed it before, but I find he has already been appointed on a salary of Rs. 2,000—50—Rs. 2,200.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: He has not yet been appointed.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: He has been offered.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: That is not the same thing as being appointed.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena: I will read out the note:

“The High Commissioner was requested to engage a suitable officer in consultation with the British Broadcasting Corporation and has recently been authorised to offer the new appointment of Controller of Broadcasting to a candidate recommended by the Corporation on a salary of Rs. 2,000—50—2,200.”

Am I wrong in suggesting that the gentleman has been offered and it is for him to accept or not? So far as the Government are concerned, the post has been offered to him. I should like to know what are the qualifications and the special qualifications of this gentleman. What is his present salary?

There is another item here which says:

“That no real expenditure has been incurred, but an order has been placed for the purpose, involving an expenditure of approximately Rs. 2,30,000.”

[Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena.]

If the order has been placed, I want to know whether any tenders were invited. Were they invited only from English firms in Great Britain or from other European countries as well? Why were not these tenders invited from firms in India? Why was not the purchase made through the Indian Stores Department? From this one item the House will have an idea as to how much of these 20 lakhs will go out of India. In purchasing one apparatus, we have sent 2 lakhs 30 thousand, and when this Broadcasting scheme is in full swing, it will not be only the Government that will be spending money in making purchases in foreign countries, but there will be others who will be setting up radios privately and they will also be sending so much money out of the country. It is for the House to consider whether at this time India can afford to send so much money out of the country. This is the time when we are in the grips of great financial difficulties. We know that our people are starving and crying for work and bread. Are we going to give them mere talks and radios? Before voting for this demand, we have to take all these factors into consideration. With these words, I place my motion before the House, and I hope the House will take it into full consideration and will accept it. (Applause.)

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum, not exceeding Rs. 20,00,000, in respect of 'Transfer to the Fund for the Development of Broadcasting' be reduced to one rupee."

Sir Oowasji Jehangir (Bombay City: Non-Muhammadan Urban): Sir, as I understand the position it is as follows. Proposals for the construction of a Broadcasting station at Delhi with the necessary staff and the cost of maintenance was placed before the Standing Finance Committee for their consideration and was accepted by the Finance Committee. Since then, the proposal has developed into a demand for 20 lakhs to form a fund for the expansion of Broadcasting throughout India and that is the proposal that is before us today. The only part of this proposal that has been considered and agreed to by the Finance Committee is the construction of the station at Delhi and its maintenance and staff. Therefore, Sir, I think the Finance Department, especially my Honourable friend, the Finance Member, takes upon himself a considerable responsibility for the expenditure of the balance of this 20 lakhs. I find that in the Finance Committee report it is stated that a supplementary grant, during the current year, of such extent as may be necessary, will be demanded and a budget provision, in subsequent years, will be made. Under the circumstances, I would like to know what check this House is going to exercise over the other part of the expenditure and how far it will be scrutinised and checked by the Finance Committee. One method by which it can be done is by a token demand, brought before this House for all other schemes that will be covered by this general demand of 20 lakhs. I trust that will be the method adopted by the Finance Department. Is that so?

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: I will answer later on all the questions raised.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir: I think this House ought to have a voice in the question as to other schemes that may be covered by these 20 lakhs. I think it is admitted on all sides of the House that Broadcasting ought to be encouraged and I would be the last to come in the way of the expansion of Broadcasting in this country. At the same time. I do feel that this House should be associated with all the schemes that will be paid for and covered by these 20 lakhs. I would also like to be assured that the Finance Committee will be consulted and their opinion taken, and, above all, the watch-dog of our finance, the Finance Member, will keep his eye wide open when funds of this sort are placed at the disposal of departments.

Sir, the Honourable Member sitting on the Government Benches, who spoke on the point of order, compared this fund with the Road Fund. So far as I know, the Road Fund is a fund which is distributed to the provinces. It is money from the Central Government handed over to the provinces,—part of it at least. So far as the monies that are handed over to the provinces are concerned, it is the responsibility of the Local Legislature and of the Local Governments to see that the monies handed over by the Central Government are properly used. This demand is in a totally different category. These monies are for central sources of expenditure, supervised and looked after by the Central Government; and, therefore, I trust that the Honourable the Finance Member will give a satisfactory explanation of the questions I have asked. If those answers are satisfactory I trust the House will grant this demand. I must point out to the House that it was always intended that this money should come out of revenue, and that the Finance Committee were aware of the fact that this money was coming out of revenue. The expenditure on Broadcasting up to now has, I understand, come out of revenue. Therefore, I cannot put up the same contention as I did on the other occasion that the Finance Committee sanctioned the money on the understanding that it should come out of capital. It was decided that this money should come out of revenue and I agree that it should come out of revenue, although I admit that I would have liked to see provision made out of the current year's revenue for this item of expenditure and not out of the surplus. But I am not going to stress that point at this juncture. If I get satisfactory answers, I for one, will support the motion before the House.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, the proposal is, as the Honourable the Baronet says, to utilise part of this now expiring year's surplus in order to be able to accelerate the development of Broadcasting in this country, and, therefore, to allocate to it greater sums than would be possible if you had to rely on the revenue of the coming year alone. He can rely absolutely on the Finance Department exercising just the same control, as over ordinary demands, in fact rather more, because I am quite aware of the danger that normally exists that when there is money readily available there is also a temptation to waste it. He can rely on the normal financial control being as complete as it is in the case of all other demands. As regards the participation of this House in the approval of these schemes, I do not wish to bind myself to the precise form in which the grants will be submitted to the House, and I do not want to convey any misunderstanding about that. I am not yet clear in my own mind whether the more satisfactory way would be to submit

individual schemes for individual stations, or whether it would be better to submit the programme for a year; but, in one form or another, there would be submitted to the House in the ordinary way demands for appropriations from the fund to actual expenditure.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir: For specific purposes?

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: For specific purposes which will be fully specified in the demand. That, I think, is all the assurances that the Honourable the Baronet asked for, and, I hope, I have fully satisfied him.

Sir Darcy Lindsay (Bengal: European): Sir, I am sorry my Honourable friend has moved this amendment, for if it were carried it would put back the clock in connection with the very desirable extension of Broadcasting in India. He seemed to me to blow hot and cold. He approves of the extension of Broadcasting, and yet, on the other hand, he does not want to vote the money to allow of the extension of Broadcasting. He is also afraid that the money if put in a fund will not be properly expended. Sir Cowasji Jehangir raised the similar important point and I would like to suggest to the Honourable Member in charge of Industries that a Standing Committee should be created, on similar lines to the Road Board, who would have before them all schemes in connection with the development of Broadcasting. There will then be continuity. The committee that I suggest, on approving the schemes, would put them up to the Standing Finance Committee for examination and approval or otherwise before they came to this House. It is very necessary, in my opinion, that this fund should be created, because, then, the department know where they are as regards a year or two years' programme. Unless they know what money is available for expenditure it is very difficult to formulate schemes.

Then, there is another point I would refer to. I do not know if it is generally realised that the present Broadcasting service produces a surplus revenue over expenditure of, I believe, something like five lakhs. So we are partly spending the money that has been earned by Broadcasting. As regards the desirability of extension I think we have only to examine the position in other countries. Italy has a network of village Broadcasting, and I believe that something like 50,000 sets have been installed in different parts of the country in schools and elsewhere and it is of wonderful benefit to the people. Russia, Germany, South Africa, are all moving in that direction. The latter country recently had a visit from Sir John Reith who is the head of the British Broadcasting Corporation and he has made recommendations for the full development of Broadcasting throughout South Africa. As regards India, Sir, only a few days ago, I saw a notice that a cut has been moved in the Frontier Council for the extension of Broadcasting, and there was also a suggestion that they might receive a portion of these 20 lakhs. Southern India are moving fast in the same direction. They want to see more stations erected so that Broadcasting could spread over the South. There is one other matter that I would like to refer to and that was a point raised in connection with supplementary questions a few days ago. I think my Honourable friend, Mr. Satyamurti, asked what steps were being taken for the training of Indians in Broadcasting? Now, Sir, it is not a matter that requires training in the strict

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sense. It is mainly engineering; and I can tell him, as far as my experience goes in connection with Bengal and the station in Calcutta, that the whole of the engineering staff are Indians. Young Indians are recruited and are trained and made eligible for superior posts. In India there is very very little of the European element in Broadcasting. The Indian Engineers were found to be extremely capable: the head Engineer in Calcutta is probably fully qualified in the erection of transmission stations, and what I would like to suggest to the Honourable Member in charge of Industries and Labour is that this Engineer be sent to England and to the Continent, for at least six months, to examine Broadcasting in Europe, and then he will come back to India as highly equipped and as good expert as we could wish to have. With these few words, I oppose the amendment.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: Sir, I do not propose to enter once again into that very thorny question of the propriety of debiting
 3 P.M. the amount of this grant to capital instead of revenue. That has been threshed out already sufficiently, and what I propose to do, in the few minutes that I feel is all I am justified in devoting to this subject, is to make a few comments on the speech of my Honourable friend, Mr. Saksena, who started by saying that he did not oppose the development of Broadcasting, and then ended by saying that any expenditure on it was a criminal waste of public money. I should like to remind the House of the past history of this question. Even well-informed critics, keen critics of the Government like my Honourable friend, Mr. Satyamurti, apparently did not know, until the other day, that the Broadcasting service in this country is a State service: he thought it was a private service. I should like, therefore, to remind the House of the circumstances in which it became a State Broadcasting Service. Broadcasting was originally started by private enterprise in this country in 1927. In 1930, the Broadcasting Company found that they had taken on more than they could manage and proposed to give up their enterprise. Public opinion was roused in the matter and pressure was brought to bear upon the Government to take the service over, which they did in 1930, I think it was. They paid Rs. 3 lakhs for the assets of the Broadcasting Company. When the economic blizzard set in, it was felt that there was very little justification for continuing this service in view of the many more urgent matters to which money could usefully be devoted. The Government, therefore, proposed to give it up: but great pressure was brought to bear on them, by this House and outside it, to keep it on and eventually they decided to do so. But, in order to make it pay, my Honourable Colleague, the Commerce Member, who was then in charge of my department, brought in a Bill in 1932, raising the customs duty on Broadcasting apparatus from 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. I will read to the House the Statement of Objects and Reasons attached to that Bill:

"Experience has shown that the Indian State Broadcasting service is not yet able to pay its way. The Government of India have decided to maintain the service in view of the public value of Broadcasting and the weight of public opinion against its discontinuance. They consider, however, that the service should not be a charge upon the general taxpayer and they, accordingly, propose that the import duties on wireless reception apparatus should be enhanced so as to ensure that the customs receipts, together with other revenue associated with Broadcasting, may suffice to cover the cost of the service. The present duty including surcharges is 25 per cent *ad valorem*. The Bill proposes 50 per cent and no surcharges."

Now, let me draw the attention of the House to what has happened since then. In 1932-33, the revenue from Broadcasting amounted to Rs. 3,63,000 odd and the expenditure to about Rs. 2,38,000. In 1933-34, the revenue was Rs. 5,78,000 and the expenditure was Rs. 2,81,000. In 1934-35, the estimated receipts are Rs. 8,88,000 and the estimated expenditure Rs. 3,78,000: while in 1935-36, we estimate receipts at nearly Rs. 10½ lakhs and our budget estimates for expenditure are just under Rs. 5 lakhs

Pandit Nilakantha Das: The receipt is only from the customs revenue?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: I am not giving way. I think that is sufficient to show that Broadcasting has been a valuable source of revenue and that we are really overcharging the consumer. We are making him pay in two ways, one for his license fees and the other through the customs duty; and it cannot be said that we are giving him a really adequate return. In spite of the fact that we have done so little—we have done nothing practically since we took over the Broadcasting service except to keep up the two stations in Bombay and Calcutta—yet, in spite of that, our revenue has gone up. Surely, from two points of view, from the point of view of getting still more revenue and from the point of view of giving the consumer proper value for his money, it is high time that we expanded: and it is in order to enable us to make that expansion that we are placing these proposals before the House. Our first proposal, as the House knows, is to have a Broadcasting station in Delhi. We then propose—and I may mention for the information of the House that our programme was laid before our departmental advisory committee a few days ago and, subject to a mental reservation by Mr. Bardaloi who did not oppose it, it received the approval of that committee—we next propose to bring the Broadcasting stations at Bombay and Calcutta up to date: they are now getting distinctly worn out and it is time that we replaced and made them more powerful. Their present strength is only 2½ kilowatts: we propose to make them of the same strength as the Delhi station, namely, 20 kilowatts: I fear I have got the programme rather in the wrong order. I should have said that the next proposal is to have a station at Madras of similar strength to the Delhi one and then to take up the Bombay and Calcutta stations. With the exception of a small amount for experimental work, our programme is, therefore, to establish two new stations and improve the two old ones.

Now, I think it is desirable I should say something about the criticisms which have been brought against my department in two respects, one in regard to the Controller of Broadcasting and the other in regard to the purchase of the apparatus required for the Delhi station. My Honourable friends opposite are never tired of telling us that India should be self-sufficient in all matters, but, Sir, however desirable it may be that a country should be self-sufficient in all matters, I do not think this self-sufficiency should extend, at any rate at the outset, to a refusal to obtain advice from the best quarters from which it can be got. To the best of my knowledge Russia gets its advice from the best quarters from which it can get it, and I submit that India should do the same. I submit that it would be carrying self-sufficiency to an absurd degree if we were not prepared to accept the advice and experience of countries which have

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advanced very much further than we have. I think it is generally admitted that the British Broadcasting Company has evolved the most satisfactory organisation of any country in the world, and is it unwise, I would ask my Honourable friends opposite, for us to endeavour to obtain the benefit of that experience? That is the reason why we have gone to the British Broadcasting Company through our High Commissioner and asked them to provide us with a suitable officer. They have suggested an officer who appears to be very highly qualified on the side on which we specially need assistance, that is the programme side. On the technical side, we have already very well qualified officers in our Director of Wireless and his staff. It is on the question of organisation on the programme side and all matters of organisation generally that we feel we ought to get the advantage of an expert from outside this country and that is the reason why we went to the British Broadcasting Company. My Honourable friends opposite asked me about the training of Indians. The expert, when he arrives, will be engaged in training Indians. As I have already said in answer to supplementary questions, all his staff will be recruited in this country and the majority, certainly, probably the great majority of them, will be Indians. In any case, they will be recruited under the normal rules for recruitment in India. My Honourable friend, Mr. Satyamurti, asked me the other day, "will he train an Indian to succeed him"? Well, Sir, I am not a great believer in training a particular individual to succeed to any appointment. During the time which may elapse between his selection for training and the vacancy in the appointment, he may disappoint your hopes. We shall have four Broadcasting stations within the next year or two, and, I hope, possibly another one or two, before the expiry of the five years. There will thus be ample choice for the selection of a successor to succeed our expert, that is, if the Government of the time want to select a successor. I shall not be here and this Government may not be here but the possibility should not be ruled out of consideration that the services of the expert will be so valuable that the Government of the time may think he is well worth keeping on.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: That is the danger.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: Criticism has been brought against us as to the manner in which we are purchasing wireless apparatus for the Delhi station. I can assure the House that there has been no breach of the stores rules, and I would also remind the House,—if Dr. Ziauddin had been here, he would have borne me out,—that considerable pressure was brought to bear upon us in the last Assembly to have the wireless station at Delhi erected with the least possible delay. We were constantly asked to have it erected at once. In fact, it appeared to be the general desire of the House that it should be in operation this cold weather. In order to make an early start, we had to place our tenders through the High Commissioner. It was originally intended that we should call for general tenders but that again would have caused delay. It would have meant the receipt of tenders from Europe and America and it would have taken us several months before we could come to a satisfactory conclusion. In these circumstances, tenders were called for from two firms only, the Marconi Company and the other was, I think, the Standard Telephone

Company. I am not quite sure, but I think that Company is an American Company. Those two tenders were very carefully considered and it was found that there was very little difference between them. The tender submitted by the Marconi Company was slightly more favourable but in regard to that, and this is a point to which I attach particular importance, in accepting that tender, we were able to get the very valuable advice of the British Broadcasting Corporation in regard to our requirements. They gave us most valuable help that we should not otherwise have had. We are embarking on a new enterprise in this country in erecting a station eight times as powerful as any we have already and it was desirable that we should have the best advice we could get. The policy regarding the erection of future stations has yet to be decided, but I may inform the House that we are working out proposals by which these stations will be erected by the Posts and Telegraphs Department, in which case the orders will be placed in accordance with the rules governing the purchases of that department. I hope, Sir, I have satisfied the House that there has been no Machiavellian policy underlying either of these two important matters—the recruitment of an expert officer from England and the purchase of the necessary apparatus. I cannot say much about my Honourable friend's allegation in regard to Dehra Dun because I know nothing about it. I can assure him that we are concerned only with the Central Broadcasting stations and that I cannot believe that any pressure is being brought to bear upon members of the public to purchase receiving sets in order to swell our revenue. That seems to me a suggestion which only requires to be stated to carry with it its own refutation. The last point raised was in regard to the control of these stations. There has never been the smallest complaint in this respect. There have never been allegations of any kind that the control of the stations in Calcutta and Bombay has in any way been subjected to any political influence and I can assure my Honourable friends opposite that that will continue to be the case. Control of these stations will continue to remain in the hands of the Government, as in the past, and they will be absolutely free from political influence. It is our intention, as I intimated to our departmental advisory committee the other day, to consult Local Governments as to whether the time has not come when it would be useful to have the Director of Broadcasting in charge of the various stations assisted by an advisory committee who can keep him in touch with the material which is most likely to be of value and interest to the class whom one might call the clients of the station.

My Honourable friend, Sir Darcy Lindsay, the other day, suggested that it might be worth having a single Broadcasting station for the whole of India and that this would be a less expensive business than having four stations. Well, Sir, apart from the fact that we have already got two stations in existence, I venture to think that my Honourable friend, who does not usually speak without thinking, did not stop to think on this occasion of the linguistic difficulties that would arise if you had a single station for the whole of India. How could a single station meet the requirements of Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and Assam? Apart from that, Sir, I gather that a single station would not be satisfactory. No single station would cover the whole of India. Nor would two. They would cost far more than the present scheme of covering this country with medium-powered stations, and the result would be much less satisfactory. There is more I could say with regard to the relationship of our central stations

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with the efforts of Local Governments in regard to using Broadcasting for village uplift purposes, if time had permitted, but I may have an opportunity of doing so on some further occasion. I trust, Sir, that what I have said, combined with what my Honourable Colleague, the Finance Member, said in regard to the future control of expenditure on these central stations will convince the House that this is a most desirable development and that Government are fully justified in going ahead with it. (Loud Applause.)

Some Honourable Members: I move that the question be now put.

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

"That the question be now put."

The motion was adopted.

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum, not exceeding Rs. 20,00,000, in respect of 'Transfer to the Fund for the Development of Broadcasting' be reduced to one rupee."

The motion was negatived.

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 20,00,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Transfer to the Fund for the Development of Broadcasting'."

The motion was adopted.

INDIAN STORES DEPARTMENT.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 47,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Indian Stores Department'."

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 47,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Indian Stores Department'."

The motion in the name of Pandit Nilakantha Das is a token motion, in order to raise the question of the futility of inspection, and is not in order. Does the Honourable Member want to speak on the main motion?

Pandit Nilakantha Das: Yes, Sir. One part of it is a new service. This is Industrial Intelligence and Research Bureau. This is just on the same lines as is the Agricultural Research Bureau, which is also going to be started. It is a new service which is going to be created. I shall come to this new service presently.

First, let me point out the inspection circles. Upon that, Rs. 14,000 in this country and Rs. 9,000 are spent in England for inspecting articles in the country of their origin. Now, I find that on our Stores Department—both in cases where we make purchases and in cases where we make no purchases through the Stores Department but supply inspection alone—all told—we are making a loss of about four lakhs of rupees a year. Besides, when we purchase something in England or elsewhere, we have got to supply our own inspection to English and other firms in foreign countries, and in that way we have to pay about Rs. 10,000 this year for the railway portion of the purchase alone. I do not know if this inspection is at all necessary, considering the fact that the purchases are not entirely entrusted to us. Our idea is that we should centralise all the purchases under the Indian Stores Department. Sir, where there are no purchases, it is not at all necessary to spend money on inspection. The Stores Department is being patronised by other departments with small and spare purchases and is spending money on inspection, whenever required, without adequate return—so there is the loss. Here there is a loss of Rs. 14,000 and about Rs. 10,000 in England; it is only in the supplementary demand. But, in the Indian Stores Department accounts, we shall find that the loss alone in the Inspection Branch of it is about two lakhs. So, year after year, we are sustaining a loss of about two lakhs only for inspection. Yet we are not making all our purchases through the Indian Stores Department, where we could get a survey of the whole system of purchases and we could centralize all our purchases for the sake of economy and for the sake also of the promotion of Indian industry. We could then see to what proportion the Indian articles are being purchased and to what proportion the English articles, which could have been purchased in India, are not being purchased here, and, are being purchased in England or other countries. That we have no means of seeing now.

If we ask: "what is the good of spending money on publicity or on the Trade Commissioner?", we are told: "you cannot calculate what benefit comes to you from an expenditure like that." Similarly in the case of inspection, if we ask: "what benefit is coming out of inspection?", we shall be told: "there you cannot calculate". The theory seems to be that inspection creates future customers. By means of our extending facilities for inspection, the general purchasers are gradually coming to your standard or specification, and in many other ways they adapt themselves to your requirements so that they may at some time be inclined to purchase things in this country. The same thing, it may be said, holds good in case of articles purchased by Departments of the Government of India. But my view is that this inspection should altogether be abolished and no more money should be spent on inspection, and no more loss should be incurred by the State on that account. No more money should be spent on inspection and inspection alone. Wherever we have got to purchase some articles, we must entrust that work to the Stores Department, and, in the case of purchases only, you should supply inspection. For inspection one per cent. and for purchase one per cent, and, in that way, we shall be able to make both ends meet. We shall not, year after year, go on incurring losses. That is a question which cannot be brushed aside altogether. If you make all the stores purchases through the Indian Stores Department, it is quite likely, I have not calculated in detail, that you will not make a loss of four to five lakhs each year as you are now doing.

[Pandit Nilakantha Das.]

It was seven or eight years ago only one or two lakhs; but year after year, we are sustaining more and more loss. It is a deficit budget and still our purchases are going to other agencies. I propose that all State purchases should come under this department so that the new service that is being created, this Intelligence Bureau will supply that aspect of this purchase department which is now calculated to be done by supplying inspection. You supply other people with the advantage of inspection. You want to secure thereby some kind of general propaganda among the industrialists as well as the purchasers. That will be achieved by this Industrial Intelligence and Research Bureau. For all the information they will supply and they will make propaganda.

Here, again, my idea is that in all the new services that we are going to set up, we shall see whether we can Indianise it, both in spirit and personnel. Here is a new service and we are told that somebody in England, Mr. Brodie, has been appointed.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: Mr. Brodie is not being brought out from England for this purpose. Mr. Brodie is an officer who has had long service in the Indian Stores Department in this country. We are not in this case bringing out any expert from abroad.

Pandit Nilakantha Das: I thank my Honourable friend. I stand corrected. This being a new service, I hope that all new appointments would be secured for Indians. When Mr. Brodie is a man in service already, of course there was no other way but to take him. I expect some assurance to the effect that these new services will be secured to Indians, and that the Inspection part of the Stores Department will, as far as possible, be totally abolished and will be amalgamated along with the purchases. As regards inspection and purchase, wherever there is purchase, there should be inspection. That should be the principle and we shall see that, in the Indian Stores Department, we try to meet both ends, so that the budget of the department may no longer be progressively deficit as it is now.

Mr. M. S. Aney (Berar Representative): There is one point to which I wish to draw the attention of the House. I find that this demand is made up of a number of items and the item, which consists of what is known as the Calcutta Inspection Circles, coming to about Rs. 14,000. The note in the Supplementary Demands for Grants says:

"These are required to meet excesses due to (i) increase in the demands made by the Railways for materials requiring inspection in the country of origin before despatch and (ii) purchase of plant and equipment for the testing of anti-knock properties of petrol."

The other items consist of a different nature. My point is this. This House has adopted the policy of having separate budget for railways and civil general revenues. They are being separately presented to this House. Can a demand which arises on account of purchases of railway materials be amalgamated with another demand and brought into one common supplementary demand in this House? That is a point which I want the House to consider.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: I am not quite clear about the point raised by my Honourable friend, Mr. Aney. Is it that he is surprised at the inclusion of this item owing to the fact that there is a separate railway budget?

Mr. M. S. Aney: Why was it not included in the special demand for railways? That is my point.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: I think the answer is perfectly simple. The Railway Department is a commercial department and it pays the Stores Department for any services rendered, so that this additional expenditure on the part of the Stores Department is balanced by a corresponding entry in the Railway Budget of the amount paid to the Stores Department. The Stores Department merely gets its one per cent. for inspection and one per cent for purchase. I hope I have satisfied him on the point.

Pandit Nilakantha Das: Yet there is a loss.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: I find it difficult to follow my Honourable friend. All I can say, in reply to him, is that this demand for extra departmental inspections represents payment for value of services rendered. If inspections are made in the country of origin, they obviously have to be paid for and that is the reason for the demand. Time does not permit me to deal with the question raised by the establishment of Industrial Intelligence and Research Bureau. I should much have liked to have an opportunity of explaining to the House exactly what that Bureau is and what it is going to do. I cannot, however, do that now. I can only again refer the House to the report of the last Industrial Conference from which they will get a very full statement of our hopes in that direction. My Honourable friend, Pandit Nilakantha Das, asked about the staffing of the Bureau by Indian officers. All I can say in that respect is that we draw our staff, either from the Indian Stores department or by recruitment in this country and if my Honourable friend had studied the newspapers lately, he would have seen several advertisements issued by the Public Services Commission for Chemists and other Scientists to be recruited for the Test House at Alipore where the Research work will be carried on. We are not bringing in any one from abroad for this purpose. The Bureau will be staffed by people already in the country, either by officers of approved experience in the Indian Stores Department itself or by officers recruited through the Public Services Commission.

I trust that will satisfy him on that point.

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 47,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Indian Stores Department'."

The motion was adopted.

CURRENCY.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 3,50,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Currency'."

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 3,50,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Currency'."

Prof. N. G. Banga: Sir, it is proposed that a sum of 8½ lakhs is to be spent for the purification of currency. If any sum is to be spent in order to purify our currency, I think it will be certainly well spent. But I find that today we have some nickel coins of four annas, two annas and one anna also which are usually being counterfeited, and these counterfeit coins have come into general use to such an extent that many helpless people in the villages and even in the towns are made to suffer as a consequence. I do not know whether any steps are proposed to be taken at all either to reshape and recoin these coins in such a way that they cannot so easily be counterfeited or to withdraw them from circulation altogether. From my own experience I can state that when there were silver coins of these particular denominations, *i.e.*, four annas and two annas, there was not so much of counterfeiting. But this counterfeiting has become a real menace only after these nickel coins have been introduced into general circulation. My Honourable friend, Mr. Vencatachellam Chetty, informs me that this capital town of Delhi suffers more in this regard than any other place by a surfeit of counterfeit rupees and other coins in general circulation. I would like to suggest that, if possible, these nickel coins should be withdrawn from circulation, but if that is not immediately possible at least they should be reshaped and recoin in such a fashion that they cannot be counterfeited so easily.

Then, Sir, I find that, after I came to Delhi, there have been three or four occasions when I was cheated with counterfeit rupees also. It has now become almost a habit with every one in Delhi to try to find out the sound of the rupees before he accepts them, even from the railway authorities and post offices. This is a general complaint, and I find that very many wild-cat prosecutions are being started, in different parts of the country against those people who are suspected of trying to counterfeit these coins and notes. And, naturally, not only the general public is being annoyed and harassed but is almost cheated by the police who have found it a very profitable source for manufacturing prosecutions and cases against the public. Sir, it is always a wise policy for Government to try to manufacture these coins and notes in such a fashion that they cannot be so easily counterfeited rather than expect the police to launch an increasing number of prosecutions against those who are suspected of counterfeiting these coins and notes. I, therefore, suggest to the Government of India to devise ways and means for reprinting notes and reshaping and reminting their coins in such a fashion that they will not be so easily counterfeited.

Then, Sir, I come to item "A", where the Government of India propose to spend Rs. 1,35,000. And this particular note says:

"This is required to meet excess due to an increased demand for currency note forms, which will be offset by a corresponding reduction next year."

I do not know the exact implications of this particular item. I do not know whether it means that since there was an increase of currency notes to the extent of three crores of rupees, during last year, there might not be such an increase at all during the next year or there might even be a

corresponding reduction in the total currency supplied to our country. I should like the Finance Member to explain this particular item a bit carefully.

Then, there is another item and that is item "E" Rs. 11,000 is written off because, as is said here:

"This is required to meet excess due to the write off of the balance of the amount recoverable from the retired Treasurer of the Cawnpore Currency Office owing to the deficiencies found on the re-examination of rupees held in the Allahabad Fort vault and the Harness and Saddlery Factory at Cawnpore."

It is not stated that he has been dismissed for this particular crime of his. It is only stated that he is a retired officer. Does that mean that, even after having forced the Government of India to incur a loss of Rs. 11,000, he is allowed to retire on his usual pension or has he been dismissed or at least punished for the offence he has committed?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): These are not questions which should be discussed now.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: I hope the Honourable the Finance Member will not only try to answer my questions, but also try to accept the suggestions I have made in regard to the reshaping and recoinage of our nickel coins and our notes.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I was not expecting any such disquisition on currency when I came here this afternoon, but, as far as I can, I will answer the questions. The item under "A" is simply and solely for the purchase of paper in order to make notes. It does not relate to the amount of notes actually printed, it is a question of renewing stocks of paper. So that it has no relation whatever to the expansion of currency; but in any case, the control of currency will pass as from Monday to the Reserve Bank and we shall sell them our stocks of paper. Similarly, on the question of counterfeiting notes, the responsibility for the printing of notes will, after a decent interval, after the 1st April also pass to the Reserve Bank and they will be responsible for whatever steps are taken against counterfeiting. As regards the nickel coins and the ease with which they are counterfeited, we have already abandoned making nickel four-anna pieces and the nickel coinage is confined to two anna and one anna pieces. I personally have not previously heard complaints that these particular small coins were so liable to be counterfeited because it does not seem to me that it is really worth while counterfeiting them and it is more likely that people who go in for that sort of game will go in for coins of bigger value. As regards silver rupees my Honourable friend, Mr. Lalchand Navalrai, brought to my notice a grievance in this respect last Session. I gathered from him that the grievance is not that the coins are actually counterfeited, but that, owing to a certain number of scares as to counterfeiting, perfectly good coins are refused by cashiers in public places. I personally have a little more reason to sympathise with him now than I did then because I have been landed with the same sort of grievance. But that sort of thing is very hard to prevent because Government cannot manufacture the state of mind of the people and cannot prevent people from getting into this state of mind and saying,

[Sir James Grigg.]

when a coin is perfectly good, that it is bad. As regards the man at Cawnpore and whether he has been punished or not, I am afraid the answer is that I do not know.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai (Sind: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Sir, with regard to the small coins, the Finance Member says that there will be something done to them.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: I said something has been done,—about the four anna pieces.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: But with regard to the larger coins also some attempt ought to be made by Government, because, when I made a present of a false rupee to the Honourable Member last year, that did not involve the point that it was being refused on account of any other defect in it, but only because it was counterfeit. Therefore, Sir,

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: I am bound to say then that I received the rupee then on false pretences: I thought it was handed to me as a perfectly good rupee which nobody would take, and I tried to put it into circulation, but with no success.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: I made it clear to my Honourable friend at the time that the rupee was a false one: and I narrated the story as to how I got it at the time: I was returning from Simla, and at the railway station I offered to purchase a ticket.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Perhaps the Honourable Member is not quite singular in that respect. (Laughter.)

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: Therefore, I say that it is not only the smaller coins that must be looked to, but also the larger ones. I got that rupee, I looked at it closely when it was given by the booking clerk, it was, to all intents and purposes, a good rupee, but, after some time, when I wanted to give it to a hawker, he would not accept it, and I then found that it was a false coin. Prior to this, I had brought up the point in the House, but the Honourable the Finance Member would not believe it and wanted evidence of such circulation of coins. Therefore, I thought, if I gave him that rupee, he would have had the required evidence though he would find that the same thing happened in his house also amongst his domestic servants from whom he might have also heard complaints about coins being counterfeited. I say, therefore, that the complaints are two: one is that the counterfeiting is really rife and something should be done to check it, and the second that, on that account, even genuine rupees are also being refused if there is anything the least matter with them. These two complaints must be removed, as otherwise it is causing a great deal of inconvenience and trouble—a point which has been confirmed by the Honourable the President himself. It is necessary that some immediate steps should be taken in this matter, that people may not be cheated: Government need not wait till people are deprived of their money and then wake up and try to do something. It is important that the Government should take this matter into their consideration very early.

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 3,50,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Currency'."

The motion was adopted.

MINT.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 5,53,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Mint'."

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 5,53,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Mint'."

The motion was adopted.

CIVIL WORKS.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 4,70,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Civil Works'."

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 4,70,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Civil Works'."

The motion was adopted.

TRANSFER TO THE ROAD DEVELOPMENT FUND RESERVE:

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 40,00,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Transfer to the Road Development Fund Reserve'."

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 40,00,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Transfer to the Road Development Fund Reserve'."

There is a token cut on this—it is not in order.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Sir, I am grateful for small mercies: owing to my strenuous, but, for the present, unsuccessful attempts at getting these demands ruled out of order by you—I am grateful to the Honourable the Finance Member that he has admitted that, at least so far as one demand of Rs. 20 lakhs is concerned, he will, by and by, either by way of

[Mr. S. Satyamurti.]

token cuts or by way of getting specific schemes approved, seek a later opportunity of getting the approval of this House. . . .

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: The same will apply to Civil Aviation.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: I am very glad to hear that, and I hope he will apply. . . .

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: With regard to these schemes there is already provision: it is a perfectly well understood and clear cut procedure: they are always submitted to the Standing Committees on Roads and approved by them.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: But I should like that this House also should be brought in, and I will state my position. I thought the Honourable the Finance Member would at once appreciate this position. . . .

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: I appreciate the position very clearly: Civil Aviation and Broadcasting are two new programmes and it is quite right that the House should know the kind of schemes on which the money will actually be spent. But this is a reserve which has been going on for years, and the procedure has been laid down by the House itself and followed for years and I am not introducing any novelty there: I do not see why the existing procedure should not suffice.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: My point is this: if this House by a Resolution has stated that it does not want any further control over block grants and is willing to trust the advisory committee on roads to dispose of its expenditure, I am not satisfied. I put it to this House, to you and to the Honourable the Finance Member that the whole point of voting demands, either original or supplementary, is not only that we vote specific sums, but we vote specific sums for specific services, and we have got to see that the sums granted are not treated by the executive as lump grants, to be allocated by them as and when they choose, but to be spent for the specific purpose, and up to the extent to which the grants are made for those specific purposes and to that extent. That is why the Act and the rules and the standing orders very clearly and specifically provide that, where any extra sum is needed, they should come to us either before expenditure as supplemental demands or after expenditure as excess demands. My Honourable friend, the Finance Member, in moving this demand, has told us merely that this is in accordance with the proposal explained in paras. 28 and 30 of the Finance Member's speech in introducing the budget proposals. If you will kindly turn to paragraph 30, we only find this:

"We also propose to make a special contribution of Rs. 40 lakhs to the Government of India's reserve in the Road Development Fund."

I am sorry I am ignorant, but I shall be obliged to know what are the proposed conditions on which this fund is kept and administered: who is the authority which sanctions expenditure out of this fund: to whom is that money transferred: does part of it go to Local Governments and do they control the expenditure of those parts which are allocated to Local Governments?

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: No.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: I take it, therefore, that all the 40 lakhs is to be spent by the Government of India.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir: No, no.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: There is evidently more than one Finance Member here: the Honourable the Finance Member says in answer to my question as to whether part of it goes to Local Governments, "No": I stand corrected, but later on the Right Honourable the Baronet from Bombay says it goes to Local Governments.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir: Part of it.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: If my Honourable friend will give me an opportunity I will explain the position when he has finished asking questions.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: I wish the process were reversed: when 40 lakhs are demanded, I do expect, unless the Treasury Benches think
4 P.M. we are here to vote and not to understand, they had stated something as to how this fund is proposed to be spent. Why should they not?—

"There is obviously great scope for expenditure on road development and I am very glad to be in a position to supplement the somewhat exiguous resources of the Road Development Fund. It was designed, as Honourable Members are aware, for the purpose of making grants towards works of special importance—(*grants to whom and on what principles*)—or to specially necessitous parts of India. The Government have drawn up a programme for the expenditure of the additional sum now available."

I wish this programme had been placed before this House and copies had been circulated to Honourable Members so that we may have some previous notice as to what this programme is, how the money is going to be spent. Why all this secrecy about this?—

"And in this, prime consideration is being given to the needs of the province of Assam which seems to be about the most necessitous of all the provinces."

There the Honourable the Finance Member has my fullest support, that Assam should get a good part of this, being the most necessitous province of all the provinces; but, except this, we get no details.

Now, Sir, I want to put a few more questions to be answered also. ("Laughter" from the Official Benches.) I know the Treasury Benches have been accustomed not to be asked too many questions. We want to set them a new example, and we want to get them accustomed to answering questions. I am sure, Mr. President, you realise, as every Honourable Member realises, that if there is money going for road development, it ought to go first and foremost to village roads. There are thousands of villages today in your province, in my province, and in every province in which there are villages which have no communications whatever, and, in winter, these villages are absolutely cut-off. There is no use pretending here about your great sympathy for the villages and your anxiety to serve their interests. When you get money for the roads, why don't you tell us that the first charge on that will be the construction of village roads? If that is the proposal, I shall be glad to welcome it, and support it. I should like to know if it is. Then, I should like to know, in spending this money, whether foreign material will be imported.

[Mr. S. Satyamurti.]

That is the usual way in which our money is spent. It is said to be spent for our purposes but a considerable part of it is spent in importing engines, motor lorries and rollers and so on and so forth. It will go to swell the pockets of the foreign capitalists by the purchase of foreign materials, and who is to control the expenditure? If really this money is going to be added to the Road Development Fund, I think the control of this House ought to be ascertained. I would once more appeal to the Honourable the Finance Member. Let him forget the past. He is here as the Finance Member of this Government and responsible to this House, such as he is under the Constitution. Now forty lakhs is being set apart for a fund. What is the control over it? Will he be told as to when the money is going to be spent and how it will be spent? Otherwise, he will have no more control over it, than we have. Sir Frank Noyce may go on spending it jolly well as he likes, so long as it is spent on some road or other.

An Honourable Member: No, no.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: That is the position, as far as I can see it. I am looking at what is stated here. So long as the money is spent on some kinds of roads, we cannot say anything as to the manner or extent or nature of the expenditure. If the position is that the money is granted to the Local Governments, then I should like to know whether the Local Governments have got to approach their own Local Legislatures and get their sanction. If that is so, I am quite content, because if the money is going to be spent, after sanction by any Parliamentary authority in India, I am quite content; but what I want to know is whether it is going to be done like that, and what are the purposes for which this money is going to be spent.

One last word and I have done. The Honourable the Finance Member suggested that we should gradually develop the practice of building up funds. I think the Honourable the Industries Member said it, so that the departments might know how much money they have for their future development and future programme. This is a dangerous financial principle. As it is in Britain, so in this country, we have a large part of the expenditure which may be called consolidated fund charges, which are commitments from which we cannot get out—salaries, pensions, interest on debt and so on and so forth, which are commitments which this House cannot upset; and if we are going to add to it still more sums which really amount to consolidated fund charges, the amount of control of this House will be further attenuated. I do not think it is sound finance to go on making grants like this as block grants, which departments may go on spending as and when they want to spend them. The House would like to be satisfied on all these matters.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: I described my Honourable friend, Mr. Satyamurti, just now, as usually well-informed. I fear that I have to withdraw that characterization. I find it difficult to understand his complete ignorance of everything connected with the administration of the Road Development Fund. I should have thought that before he came here to criticise this proposal and to criticise administration of the fund generally he would have taken the trouble to consult the gentleman who sits immediately behind him, my Honourable friend, Mr. Deep Narayan Singh, who is a member of the Standing Advisory Committee on Roads or

[Sir Frank Noyce.]

my Honourable friend, Mr. Sham Lal, who is also a member and have made some attempt to find out exactly what we are doing. I am now in the fortunate position of being in a stronger position with reference to this proposal than in regard to any other proposal which has been put up before this House today. I can state without the slightest hesitation, and I am quite sure my Honourable friends, Mr. Deep Narayan Singh and Mr. Sham Lal will agree with me, that there is no expenditure over which this House exercises closer control than it does over the expenditure from the Road Development fund.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: How?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: I will explain that now. If my Honourable friend had taken the trouble to apply to me for information, I should have been very glad to give him the very fullest information, even though I know that it was going to be used against me. If he had done that, I should have supplied him with an immense amount of literature on this subject. I should have been happy to give him the Resolution on this subject adopted by the Central Legislature on April 21st, 1934. I should have been happy to give him the proceedings of the Rail-Road Conference two years ago. I should have been happy to give him all the printed proceedings of the Standing Advisory Committee on Roads which are placed before this House at the first possible opportunity after the meetings were held. Now, Sir, let me remind the House of the constitution and functions of this committee. It is very difficult to find out exactly what the House does know on these questions. I was under the impression, but I cannot be so sure about it now, that the House knew that the Standing Advisory Committee on Roads assists Government to administer the fund which is made up of the 2½ anna duty on every gallon of petrol consumed. We get about a crore and a quarter a year out of that of which all but 15 per cent. is allocated to Local Governments and Indian States in proportion to the petrol consumed in the provinces and States. For the purpose of administering the Fund, there is the Standing Advisory Committee on Roads which consists of the Member of the Governor General's Executive Council in charge of the department, two nominated official members, of whom one is a Member of the Legislative Assembly, three members elected by the Council of State and six Members elected by this Assembly from amongst themselves. Sir, non-officials on that committee are in the proportion 9 to 3. Now, I wish to draw special attention to the fact that no approval to any proposal for expenditure from the road account can be given by the committee unless it is accepted by a majority of the members present and voting, who are Members of the Legislative Assembly and by a majority of the members of the whole Committee, present and voting. It will, therefore, be seen that no approval for any proposal for expenditure from the Road Account can be given by the Committee unless it is supported by the majority of non-official Members on the Committee. What better control can you have over expenditure than that?

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Where does the House come in?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: Sir, it is a Committee of this House that I am talking about. I would repeat that no approval to any proposal for expenditure from the Road Account can be given by the Committee

[Sir Frank Noyce.]

unless it is supported by a majority of the members, present and voting, who are Members of the Legislative Assembly. Did my Honourable friend follow me there? No expenditure can be approved, unless it is supported by a majority of the members, present and voting, who are Members of this Assembly. Again, I would ask what better control can you have over expenditure than that? And, Sir, although the functions of the Committee are to advise upon all proposals for expenditure from the central reserve, I have now been Chairman of this Committee for the last three years, and I am glad to say that we have never had the smallest difference as to what proposals for expenditure should be approved. This Committee is, I consider, one of the hardest-worked committees of this House. We have three or four meetings every Session, three or four long meetings, we get through an immense amount of detailed work, and I should like here and now to pay my tribute of appreciation to the invaluable help I have invariably received from all its members, including my Honourable friends opposite who belong to Mr. Satyamurti's own Party, Mr. Deep Narayan Singh and Mr. Sham Lal, who have, I am happy to say, brought to the work of the Committee the same energy and enthusiasm which has characterized that Committee ever since I first presided over it. (Hear, hear.) They could have told him, if he had asked them, that it was only last week that we went very carefully through all the proposals for using those forty lakhs, which my Honourable colleague, the Finance Member, had promised us, subject to the necessary sanction. He has, I am very glad to say, agreed that that amount should be thrown into the pool, and that it should be placed at our disposal, and that has enabled us to prepare a comprehensive scheme in a detailed and balanced way, in a way, that we should not have been able to do if he had said the expenditure of this Rs. 40 lakhs was not to be subject to the purview of the Standing Advisory Committee on Roads but would be subject to some other sanction. I maintain, Sir, that over the administration of this Road Development Fund, this House has the very closest control. My Honourable friend wants to know—what about the village roads? Well, Sir, we are doing our best to push forward the development of feeder roads to railways, we are doing our best to help agricultural development in that way by enabling villagers to get their produce out to the nearest market or the nearest railway. Sir, paragraph 7 of the Resolution, to which I have referred, lays down that the expenditure is to be on various objects, the first of which is on the construction of new roads and new bridges of any sort. Here, as in so many other cases, we have to leave discretion to Local Governments, but even in that respect the schemes they submit have to be submitted to us. The schemes on which they propose to spend their share of the Road Development Fund have to be submitted to us and have to be approved by us. It may interest the House to know that some Local Governments have resented that. They feel that this is their own money and that they should be allowed to do with it as they like. I dealt with that aspect in a very long speech I made almost exactly a year ago. We have done our best to hold the balance even: to retain the control of this House over the money voted by it, and at the same time to enlarge the objects on which Local Governments could spend such funds as are allotted to them. I should have mentioned, that we have full control over the amount in the reserve. We can do with that exactly what we like. The reason for the increase in the reserve from ten to fifteen per cent. last year was to enable

us to help backward provinces, such as Assam. In a few days this House will have before it the proceedings of the last meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee on Roads, and from that it will be able to gather exactly how we are proposing to spend these forty lakhs. That, as I have said, has been most carefully considered by the Standing Advisory Committee on Roads, and it may be of interest to my Honourable friend, Mr. Bardaloi, if I tell him, that Assam is getting by far the biggest share in the grants that we propose to allot from the reserve during the next five years. We have worked out a five-year programme. Five years is a popular period for a programme, and we have followed it here also. I hope, Sir, I have satisfied the House that it has a very full control over this expenditure. Surely, Sir, if it is in a position to elect six Members to the Standing Advisory Committee, all that it need do, if it wants to ensure strict control, is to select six Members who are likely to take a real interest in the proceedings of this Committee. That, I am glad to say, it has done, and I hope will continue to do.

Maulvi Syed Murtuza Sahib Bahadur (South Madras: Muhammadan): Will my Honourable friend be pleased to inform us as to whether he has any objection to setting apart a certain percentage towards the construction of the village roads? (Hear, hear.)

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: No, Sir, that I am afraid we cannot do. We cannot dictate to Local Governments how to spend their money, except that their schemes must be approved: and it seems to me to follow that, if we help them in regard to their main roads, they should have additional money to spend on village roads. That is the best way in which we can help them. We can help them to improve the main lines of communication. One point, I may say, to which we are paying particular attention at the moment, is that, when they construct or re-construct a main road, they should provide means of access from it to the nearest railway. We attach very great importance to feeder roads. We cannot dictate to Local Governments that they should spend money on village roads. If they have any schemes of village roads and that appears to be the best way of spending their money, such schemes will certainly receive our sympathetic consideration.

Maulvi Syed Murtuza Sahib Bahadur: May I suggest that the sense of this House should be communicated to the Local Governments so that they may act up to our desire?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: The Local Governments already know the position, which was explained at very great length to them at the meeting of the Road-Rail Conference; and I may also point out to my Honourable friends that we have now the Transport Advisory Committee, which we hope will meet annually, when all these questions can be gone into and there will be plenty of opportunities for exchanging views with Local Governments.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: Have the Provincial Governments also Committees elected by their Councils on the Road Committees?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: I think there are now Provincial Boards of Communications in all provinces. I am not quite sure of their constitution and how far the Provincial Legislatures are represented on them, but there are certainly such Boards in all provinces.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Before putting the question, the Chair would like to point out to the House that it has been asked for a ruling on the different points of order raised by the Honourable Member, Mr. Satyamurti. The Chair confines itself entirely to the interpretations of the Government of India Act and of the Rules and Standing Orders in the light of the prevailing practice. As regards the question whether the Government or the Honourable the Finance Member are justified in putting certain demands in the form that they have done, for instance, without giving sufficient particulars, that the Chair regards is not purely a point of order, but it is for the Government to consider whether the demands contain sufficient particulars or not; and, in that connection, each demand has to be considered on its own merits, and the Government alone, in the Department concerned, can give explanation as regards the form in which the demand is actually put. The Chair thinks Honourable Members have had explanations given on that point and an assurance has also been given that, as regards any new services for which any large demand is made, the House would be given ample opportunity to consider it and to sanction the same after due consideration. Therefore, the ruling is not to be mixed up with the form in which particular demands are put before the House. Upon that, the House can express its own opinion.

The question is:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 40,00,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Transfer to the Road Development Fund Reserve'."

The motion was adopted.

SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 3,85,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Superannuation Allowances and Pensions'."

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 3,85,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Superannuation Allowances and Pensions'."

The motion was adopted.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 2,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Miscellaneous'."

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 2,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Miscellaneous'."

The motion was adopted.

TRANSFER TO THE FUND FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT OF RURAL AREAS.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 1,13,00,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Transfer to the Fund for the Economic Development and Improvement of Rural Areas'."

I should like to give the House an explanation of the alteration from one crore to one crore and 13 lakhs. The thirteen lakhs is the amount of un-allocated surplus. If this House will remember, when I spoke in the budget speech about setting apart of one crore, I proposed that 10 to 15 lakhs should be allocated specifically to co-operative movement and for the rest it should be divided amongst the Provinces probably on the basis of rural population. We have decided to allocate 15 lakhs to assist the co-operative movement and as regards the division of the remaining 85 lakhs, I have found that in dividing on the basis of rural population some of the smaller and backward provinces got a very small sum indeed. I would very much like to supplement their allocation on the purely rural population basis, and to some extent that is why I have asked the House to alter the demand and to transfer the remainder of the surplus to this fund so as to enable us to allocate rather more than their share to the smaller and more backward Provinces. As regards what it will be possible to do by way of giving information to the House on the schemes which are ultimately sanctioned, I cannot say definitely because we have not got schemes submitted in any final form. I can certainly undertake, in due course, to lay before the House all the information in our hands. I can certainly give them the final allocation to the Provinces, and, in due course, after the schemes have been sanctioned or the principles within which the schemes will be sanctioned have been laid down. I should be glad to lay the information before the House. I cannot do that at the moment because the Provinces have not yet submitted their schemes in any final shape.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Will sanction be taken?

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: The sanction of the House will not be asked for for individual schemes. I would take the sanction of the House, if necessary, to the allocation of sums to individual Provinces. We cannot obviously take the sanction of the House to individual schemes for which the Provinces will be primarily and finally responsible.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir: I presume the Local Councils will have the right of interfering and suggesting to their respective Local Governments.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: I imagine so, Sir.

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 1,13,00,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Transfer to the Fund for the Economic Development and Improvement of Rural Areas'."

There are several motions with respect to this demand. The Chair may at once say, in connection with those motions, that they are merely token cuts to discuss the general policy, and those token cuts are out of order. But as regards the policy involved in this item, as the Chair has already said previously, discussion of policy to that extent is permissible.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Sir, this is one of the few motions of the Government, to which I have no serious objection. I feel, Sir, that after all the Government are realising, thanks to the Gandhian pressure, their primary obligations to the unhappy millions of inhabitants in the villages. But I do plead, Sir, with the Honourable the Finance Member that they should be slightly more consistent than they are. Of course, the Honourable the Finance Member is not responsible for the famous Hallet circular, but undoubtedly his Government is. The Honourable the Home Member with one hand tells his district officials and the various officials, "Hands off Mahatma Gandhi". Mahatma Gandhi is trying to form an all-India Village Industries Association for helping the villager. He said he had taken leave of politics for the present, and yet Government on the one hand say they will not allow their officials to co-operate with him, and on the other hand they want to spend this money, in the words of the Finance Member:

"In order to show that the Government of India have a very deep concern with the welfare and prosperity of the cultivators and are prepared to help Local Governments to carry out schemes for their benefit."

The Honourable the Finance Member is new to this country, but I think he will learn, if he has not learnt already, that, if Government want to show that they have a very deep concern for the welfare and prosperity of the cultivators, they have no better or stronger ally than Mahatma Gandhi himself. Therefore, they must make up their minds that, if this money is not to be wasted, but is to be spent to the best advantage of the villagers for whose benefit this money is set apart, they should enlist the sympathetic and active co-operation of Mahatma Gandhi. And, I can assure Government, that Mahatma Gandhi will not be slow to grasp the hand of co-operation, if it is sincerely and honourably extended to him.

There is one other point, Sir, with regard to these schemes. There is a danger of part of it being spent on services which will not directly benefit the cultivator. Again I take the cue from the Hallet circular. It says *inter alia* that officials must tour in villages, which are out of the way, in order to be in touch with the villagers; and so I say there will be demands for tent allowances, for special horse allowances, etc., to visit the villages where they cannot go by motor cars; and we shall have requests for tents, as they cannot have pucca buildings to have their camps. There is a danger of this money. . . .

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: It will not be spent like that, I can assure the Honourable Member.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: I am very glad to have that assurance, and I will say no more about this.

There is only one other point that I want to mention. The elections are coming on, as far as one can judge, in all the provinces next year, to the Provincial Councils. There are exiguous ministers in many provinces, certainly in my province, who have nothing to their credit, and they want to go to the electors to get votes. Already my Chief Minister has said that he has a large scheme of rural development, for village wells and for rural education, etc. I am very anxious that this money of the general taxpayer should not be put into the hands of these ministers, just at the time of the election, in order that they may go and spend that money on grandiose schemes, and say that what we pay through the Honourable Sir James Grigg here is to be spent for the greater glory of decadent ministries in the provinces. I am very anxious that some attempt should be made to get the consent of this House for the general principles of the scheme. I entirely agree with the Honourable the Finance Member that it will be intolerable, if we are going to have discussion and control over small schemes of each province. But he has mentioned two principles himself. First, that it will be spent on schemes approved by the Government of India which will improve the economic position of the people; and secondly, it will be devoted only to schemes which the Local Government would not otherwise have been able to undertake in the immediate future. These two principles and others which this House or he himself may think of may well be put before this House, and their approval taken. And speaking for myself, I may say that we have waited so long and I would wait for the expenditure in the provinces, till after the elections are over. But if the Finance Member thinks that he cannot wait, let him go forward. At the same time, I am anxious that definite principles should be laid down that this money should not be used for the purpose of exploiting the villages, for a particular party or parties in the provinces. I hope, Sir, that these suggestions which I have made will be borne in mind, and that the control of the House will on the one hand be maintained, and on the other the Local Governments will also be told that the primary responsibility for finding this money is on their shoulders and the Government of India cannot be expected to play Deputy Providence for them for all time.

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar (Salem and Coimbatore *cum* North Arcot; Non-Muhammadan Rural): Sir, rural reconstruction is a subject which is dear to most and I will try to give some small suggestions for consideration of Government and of the House. I myself know of cases where Government want to do service but the administrative charges and the establishment charges swallow three-fourths of the amount. Here I will try to point out the wholesome example of some of our national organisations. I will refer to the *Harijan Sevak Sangh*, which was started some time ago. We have there a scheme in which we have laid down that about only five per cent. of the expenditure should be on administrative charges and almost the whole of the 90 or 95 per cent. should go directly to the service of *Harijan* and towards the amelioration of those classes. I would suggest to Government that, of this one crore, at least 90 or 95 lakhs should reach the villagers proper, and, if possible, only five lakhs should go towards the administrative expenses of this huge scheme. And, here, I would suggest that they should whole-heartedly co-operate with the non-official

[Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar.]

organisations that are existing throughout the country. My Honourable friend, Mr. Satyamurti, said that Mahatma Gandhi will not be slow to grasp the hand of fellowship, if ever it was extended by Government. It is not a matter of surmise; Mahatma Gandhi himself has made a statement, more than once, and said that he would work miracles in this country, if only Government would co-operate with him in this matter. And, Sir, Mahatma Gandhi has worked miracles without the support of Government; and with the support of Government I can tell you that Mahatma Gandhi would work a miracle greater than ever.

Now, Sir, I will make a submission with regard to the allocation to the provinces. I understand the allocation will be made in proportion to the rural population. And I hope that when this money has been allocated to the Provincial Governments there will be a wholesale check maintained by the Central Government that the money is actually and really spent on the rural population. I hope some method of check will be found so that this money is not frittered away, as my Honourable friend said, on things which really do not make for the amelioration of the rural population. The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce was talking to us about a committee for roads which is really exercising an excellent check upon the money that is spent on roads. I would suggest that in almost every district some such non-official committees are formed of men who have worked for the country regardless of political opinion whose advice and guidance will be taken into consideration. The Honourable the Home Member said the other day that the rural work that was attempted to be done by Mahatma Gandhi may have a political motive. I say let not this Government also have a political motive behind this rural reconstruction movement. I would appeal to them that just as they have laid down that rural work should be for the sake of rural work only, let them also not combine any political motive with it. Let them warn the District Magistrates and District Collectors against doing any political propaganda about the benefits of British rule in this country by the money that is going to be spent from this item. I appeal to them that whatever they spend, let them not think of the political effects it would have upon the country, whether they would become greater *Swarajists* and greater lovers of the country or otherwise but let this money be spent purely for rural amelioration, purely for the sake of making them better and stronger men. It should be spent for fighting illiteracy and for better sanitary arrangements, and to make improvements in the villages. It was suggested in some quarters that something out of this money may be spent on the development of village roads. I protest against any such idea. There are separate funds for roads and a sum of 40 lakhs has been voted today for that purpose, and I suggest that this money should not be frittered away in the matter of roads or in the matter of Broadcasting or any of those grandiose schemes which, by a different interpretation, may be put down as amelioration of the rural classes. The people of our villages are the poorest and most ignorant, and that is why I suggest that this money, if it is to be spent well, should be spent on basic work, i.e., health, sanitation, education, removal of illiteracy and such other like things which would help them to become a higher and nobler people, and I would suggest another thing: it has been feared in many quarters, and I may say it here frankly that I share that fear, that this money may be spent in creating a sort of spies in this country to spy over

the political activities of people whose opinions are different from the opinions which the Government hold. I request and I appeal that not a pie of this money should be spent in that way. I would like to mention one more point: I do not know whether the Government knows, but I may tell them that there was a proposal to import an Englishman to teach and to do some research work about sheep-rearing, in the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. I may say that sheep-rearing is as well-known in India as in any other country: what I suggest is that this money should not be spent in any way so that the unemployment of another country might be solved. I have said and I repeat it once again that almost 95 lakhs out of this money should reach the villagers for their uplift and only five lakhs should be spent on administrative charges. I have done.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Chair hopes the Honourable Member, Prof. Ranga, will be short.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: I will try to be as brief as possible, Sir. I preface my remarks on this subject by a reference to what the Honourable the Finance Member has said in regard to the distribution of this money and the management of it. He said—he gave us an assurance—that at least the schemes that may be financed out of this money will be placed before this House: but he does not give us an assurance that this House will be given an opportunity to discuss and also to decide upon the schemes that will be eventually financed out of this particular fund. In this connection, I would like to suggest for the consideration of this House, that there should be a central committee to supervise and control the expenditure out of this fund and this committee should be constituted in the same manner in which the roads committee is at present constituted, and, whatever vote may be taken, it should be taken by a majority of the non-official Members and not by all the Members of that particular committee. If such a committee is constituted and if that committee is expected to control and supervise the expenditure and also to see that the provincial schemes that are submitted to it are properly scrutinised and examined, then this House may have some confidence that, after all, this money might not go entirely into the hands of those *Aman Sabha* members and other loyalists and also Rajahs like Bobbili and other Knights from the Punjab and other provinces]

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member ought not to mention names.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: .. who may be more interested in fighting the Congress than in really doing any good to the villagers. I come next to the three schemes, national schemes that have been already placed before this House for consideration by my Honourable friend, Dr. Rajan—a national campaign against malaria, a national campaign against venereal diseases and a national campaign against brothels; and I would like to add to these three, a fourth scheme, that is a national campaign to supply drinking water for all the people in our villages: I find that at least 50 per cent. of our villages today are suffering for want of drinking water, merely because there is not sufficient amount of rain or there are no proper irrigation facilities available in the locality. There is already a complaint before the House—from the very eloquent speech of my Honourable friend, Mr. Ghansham Singh Gupta, we have heard about Chattisgarh: this particular case ought to be investigated and,

[Prof. N. G. Ranga.]

similarly, all over this country, there should be a real serious attempt to see that a good drinking water supply is assured to all our people. In this connection, the *Harijan Sevak Sangh*, started and run under the supervision of Mahatma Gandhi, is doing excellent work, and Mr. Birla, who is the President of this *Sangh*, has already given grants for the sinking and construction of wells in various parts of this country, and, for each well, they have been granting to us about Rs. 250 on condition that locally we should be able to raise another Rs. 250 and sink a well and construct it and protect it properly. Some such schemes ought to be undertaken by the Government of India with a portion of the money they have at their disposal.

I shall enumerate certain other suggestions, without attempting to discuss every one of them particularly. There is the *Harijan* uplift work which has already been referred to by my Honourable friend

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Honourable Members have already mentioned it specifically.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: There is the *Harijan* uplift work: in this connection, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a speech made by the Rajah of Bobbili, the Chief Minister of the Government of Madras

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): These are matters which will be considered by the provinces concerned.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Yes: there he says that 70 lakhs of rupees have been spent in the last 12 years by the Government of Madras and he asks: "What has the Congress done?" If that is the way in which this money also is going to be spent and these questions are going to be put to the people at the time of the elections, as is being done in Madras at the time of the bye-election there, and if it is going to be put to the Congress and the people: "What has the Congress done? What has Mahatmaji done?", and so on, then this money is going to be wrongly used and is going to be used against the people who really wish to get rid of this Government and have another form of Government.

Next comes elementary education: my Honourable friend has already mentioned it and I would like that more and more money is spent on it. Then there is housing: this may create some sort of surprise in some Members, but I would like every one of us here to realise the fact that most of the people in our villages today are suffering from defective housing in slums. Believe me, Sir, when I say that millions and millions of *Harijans* are not allowed to live in our villages but are relegated to a hopeless place outside the village to live amidst refuse, amidst jackals and asses and all sorts of rubbish; and if you will only

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): If the Honourable Member makes out an exhaustive list and hands it over to the Local Governments, it would be very useful.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: If I can only feel sure that the Local Government will be just as responsible as this House to the cares and needs of the people, then certainly I would have followed that procedure; but, unfortunately, I do not have today even an iota of confidence in any of the Local Governments not to speak of the Central Government.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): What is the advantage of making these suggestions, then?

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Excuse me, Sir, for trying to reply to your suggestion; but anyhow as far as houses are concerned, I do not want thousands and thousands of rupees to be wasted in constructing the kind of houses in which we are housed here in this New Delhi, so that there may be another cemetery in this Delhi. But I would like small huts to be constructed and I do not want to waste all this money in financing the construction of houses, but to make partial grants for the construction of these huts so that the poor classes of *Harijans* as well as the agricultural workers can really hope to have, not temporary houses as they have now which look at the sun, not with one facet but with several facets—as many facets in fact as there are in a diamond—but Government should construct small decent huts.

Then, I come to irrigation works. The other day, when my friend, Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant, suggested that these irrigation works, as well as other construction works, should be undertaken by the Government of India, the Finance Member replied by saying that those works will only be undertaken by the Government of India which will be productive

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Is not that good sense?

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Who will undertake the development of unproductive works? There is a great necessity for undertaking unproductive works, and it may not be such a matter for laughter on the other side and they would certainly repent for laughing when I tell them that there are today very many unproductive irrigation works, established by the Government of India in order to protect famine-ridden areas and, I would like that the Tungabhadra Project, the Krishna Reservoir Project, Lower Bhavani Project, and other similar projects ought to be undertaken. They have been given up now because Government has found them to be unproductive in their usual commercial sense. I want them to take up all these irrigation projects which have been considered by the Local Governments as well as the Central Government as famine protection works.

Now, I come to the question of the handloom weavers. Only yesterday

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): All these questions have been discussed.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: I want more money to be given to handloom weavers and cottage industries. Then, there are the hydro-electric schemes. I want electricity in every village. Serious attempts are made in Madras and Mysore in this direction, so that cottage industries can be undertaken with small dynamos and small power plants, and so on.

[Prof. N. G. Ranga.]

Lastly, Sir, only yesterday, the House was told that there was not enough money for agricultural marketing. The Government of India are not serious about collecting information. They gave a sort of false answer and suggested that there were Trade Commissioners in all countries. There is no Trade Commissioner in the United States of America, in Japan and other countries. I want the Trade Commissioners appointed in all other countries as soon as possible.

Then, I come to the question of village post offices. Only the other day, my friend told me that 1,500 village post offices were abolished and that a sort of subsidy that was being given for the maintenance of these village post offices was stopped. I would like the Government of India to consider that problem also. I want the Government of India to consider the small wants first. I do not want them to simply waste the money on these Provincial Governments. I do not want my Honourable friend, the Member for Industries and Labour, say "I have handed over the money to the Provincial Governments. I have no control over them", and so on. You have wasted millions of money for all these years in creating institutions in the shape of railways, aeroplanes and telegraphs. They have gone to waste and have not succeeded in winning the people over to your side. This one crore and 13 lakhs is not going to help you to win the people to your side, and, if this is the policy you are going to adopt, we shall make every attempt to get rid of this Government, and, I am sure, we will have the people with us.

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 1,13,00,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Transfer to the Fund for the Economic Development and Improvement of Rural Areas'."

The motion was adopted.

REFUNDS.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 11,36,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Refunds'."

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 11,36,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Refunds'."

The motion was adopted.

BALUCHISTAN.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 34,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Baluchistan'."

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is: "That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 34,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Baluchistan'."

The motion was adopted.

DELHI.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 1,54,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Delhi'."

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 1,54,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Delhi'."

Mr. Sham Lal (Ambala Division: Non-Muhammadan): I shall not take much time over this. I will say that so far as the Delhi City is concerned, the Delhi Municipality should be a model municipality for India. What we generally find is that even people living on the banks of the Ganges never bathe. So it is with this Central Government. This is the Imperial City of Delhi, but about the Delhi Municipality the less said the better. We read in the newspapers that there is corruption and inefficiency in the Delhi Municipality and even the Secretary of the Municipality had to admit that there is too much corruption. In the case of other Municipalities the explanation is generally given that there is no official Chairman, and, therefore, there is all this corruption and inefficiency.

Mr. G. S. Bajpai (Secretary, Department of Education, Health and Lands): On a point of order. You ruled the other day that when a vote of this kind is being taken, the discussion has to be limited to the proposals for expenditure which are immediately before the House. I submit that there is nothing in these proposals which relates to the activities of the Delhi Municipality. Therefore, I submit for your consideration that, however interesting they may be, my Honourable friend's remarks are out of order.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): On a motion like this, there cannot be any general discussion of grievances.

Mr. Sham Lal: There is an item of Rs. 60,000 which is going to be given as subvention to the Notified Area Committee.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): General grievances cannot be discussed on this motion.

Mr. G. S. Bajpai: I submit for your consideration that the Delhi Notified Area Committee is entirely independent of, and separate from, the Delhi Municipality.

Mr. Sham Lal: Cannot I take up this item with regard to the Delhi Municipality?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): This motion does not relate to the Delhi Municipality.

Mr. Sham Lal: I shall take up this 60,000 which is going to be given to the Notified Area as subvention. This Notified Area used to be part of the Delhi Municipality before the Capital was transferred from Calcutta to Delhi. Now, the Capital was not built there, but in Raisina, but those charges remain and subvention is proposed to be given to a Notified Area where the civil officers live. You will always pay a subvention for the convenience of civil officers. The question is: "why not transfer this Notified Area to the Delhi Municipality and make the latter responsible for its administration? Why go on increasing additional charges?" Now, the question is: "Are we going to transfer it to a corrupt Municipality?" (Laughter.) Then, of course, the question of the corruption of the Municipality and the inefficiency of the administration of the Municipality come into question, and I can talk about it. (Laughter.) I can say that the Municipality should be reformed, and this Central Government should see that the Municipality, that is being administered under the very supervision of the Chief Commissioner, should be reformed. Sir, the general impression is that the Municipal Commissioners here belong to the "loyal" section: and if they can organise functions in honour of the Chief Commissioner, then everything is all right. For example, they may take Rs. 500 or Rs. 1,000 for permitting a building. Everything would go alright if they can also organise functions in honour of the Chief Commissioner and some of the Government officials. Sir, all this is simply a tale of disgrace, and it is all scandalous, and I think if there is any one reason for this Government to go, it should go on account of the Delhi Municipality. (Loud Laughter.)

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 1,54,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Delhi'."

The motion was adopted.

AJMER-MERWARA.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 5,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Ajmer-Merwara'."

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 5,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Ajmer-Merwara'."

The motion was adopted.

RAJPUTANA.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 3,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Rajputana'."

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 3,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Rajputana'."

The motion was adopted.

HYDERABAD.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary 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, 1935, in respect of 'Hyderabad'."

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

"That a supplementary 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, 1935, in respect of 'Hyderabad'."

The motion was adopted.

ADEN.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 25,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Aden'."

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 25,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Aden'."

There are a number of motions in respect of this demand. Apparently notice in respect of them has been given in order to raise certain questions of policy, and all these are out of order.

Mr. S. Satyasmurti: Sir, I am glad my Honourable friend, Dr. Ziauddin, is here, because he took part in a debate in this House on the 31st day of August, 1933, with regard to the proposed separation of Aden; and I find, Sir, from the Standing Finance Committee proceedings that this question came before them. They said:

"Three members of the Committee (*all belonging to our Party*) were altogether opposed to the grant on the ground that in view of the impending separation of Aden, no further supplies should be voted under this Demand from Indian revenues."

[Mr. S. Satyamurti.]

Aden, Sir, is one of the many issues on which this House and the Government have fought and lost. "Aden", "Burma", "the Statutory Railway Authority", "direct election to the Assembly", and so on and so forth. On this matter, Sir, we had a full-dress debate in this House some time ago, and I merely want to tell the House in order that the House and Great Britain and the Indians in Aden may understand our position. Aden, Sir, became a part of India out of Indian money. We have spent some crores of rupees on building up Aden, and there is a considerable Indian population there. There is a good trade between Aden and India. There is shipping between India and Aden: but, because Aden unfortunately happens to lie on the strategic route, so far as the British Empire is concerned, Burma on the east shall be separated and Aden on the west shall be separated, so that India, even when she becomes free, may be between the two outposts of the British Empire. (Laughter.) Now, Sir, I want

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe (Foreign Secretary): Sir, on a point of order. May I inquire if the Honourable Member is in order in discussing large questions of policy on this motion?

Mr. S. Satyamurti: I refuse, Sir, to vote a single pice for Aden, and I am giving my reasons why I propose to do so. I am simply surprised at the alacrity with which Members of the Government want to stifle discussion. Why should they be afraid of the Congress Party stating here what they feel should be done with regard to the future administration of Aden? My point, Mr. President, is this. We are told—and I may repeat the sweet words of the Honourable the Commerce Member; I am sorry he is not here. At that time he said

The Honourable Sir Henry Crank (Home Member): Read it all through. (Laughter.)

Mr. S. Satyamurti: No, I leave it to your Leader. I am much more business-like than your Leader. (Laughter.) Sir, he said "I need hardly assure the House that the views expressed here will be forwarded for the consideration of His Majesty's Government". That was, Sir, on the separation of Aden.

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe: They were forwarded.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: They sent all their views and they were sent to the usual place in the India Office, the waste-paper basket, and the result was that Aden was separated. (Laughter.) Sir, on that matter it is often trotted out

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe: Sir, on a point of information: Aden has not been separated. That is why we ask for this supplementary grant in order that the administration of Aden may be carried on.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Till it is separated?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): In that case the Chair cannot allow this discussion of the question of the separation of Aden. If this demand had been in connection with the separation, then, of course, the Honourable Member would have been in order in stating his reasons as to why he opposes this grant.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: My point is this, Sir, that if Aden is to be separated, I do not want to spend the Indian taxpayer's money on Aden. If Britain wants the separation, why should she come to us and ask for money?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Chair understands the position is this. The Honourable Member objects to the separation of Aden and to any expenditure in connection with that. But as this amount that is asked for is not in connection with the separation of Aden, but in connection with things as they stand at present, the discussion of the policy of separation is not in order.

Maulvi Syed Murtuza Sahib Bahadur: May I know, Sir, if it has been decided that Aden will not be separated from the Government of India?

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar: We heard just now from the Honourable Member that Aden is going to be separated.

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe: I beg your pardon, I said nothing of the kind. The Honourable Member has no right to misquote me. I said that Aden has not been separated.

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 25,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Aden'."

The motion was adopted.

COMMUTED VALUE OF PENSIONS.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 5,00,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Commuted value of Pensions'."

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

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 5,00,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Commuted value of Pensions'."

The motion was adopted.

DELHI CAPITAL OUTLAY.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: Sir, I beg to move:

"That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 4,92,000, 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, 1935, in respect of 'Delhi Capital Outlay'."

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

“That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 4,92,000, 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, 1955, in respect of ‘Delhi Capital Outlay.’”

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Sir, may I oppose this demand on the ground that Delhi should be made the permanent Capital of India? Sir, I have been here for nearly three months, and I find that New Delhi is being lavishly improved upon and nearly 16 crores have been spent upon it. It seems to me that any responsible Government, which had any financial conscience, would not have spent this huge sum of 16 or 17 crores without the object of making it a permanent Capital of India. We are often taught in our school history, I do not know how far it is true, that the Emperor Muhammad Bin Tughlak changed his Capital from Delhi to Deogar or Tughlakabad, and this Emperor is held up to us as an object of contempt and ridicule, because he changed his Capital. But, Sir, whatever the truth of that historical statement may be or may not be, the modern Muhammad Bin Tughlak is hard to beat. The Government changed their Capital from Calcutta to Delhi. That policy is now many years old, and I am not going into that. You chose Delhi, and, rightly or wrongly, you have done that. I am not questioning that. Having come here, I put it to my Honourable friend whether he is right that, after having spent 17 crores and budgeting for more and more expenditure, you should not have Delhi as your permanent Capital.

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce: May I correct my Honourable friend? As I said the other day, so far we have spent 15 crores, and not 17 crores.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: I stand corrected. My Honourable friend, Dr. Zia-uddin Ahmad, who is usually well informed in figures, corrected me the other day saying that it was 17 crores. However, I stand corrected. Even if it is 15 crores, it is not a trifling sum even for this Government of India which is dealing in crores and crores. Perhaps nothing matters to them. But I submit that, even to the Government of India, 15 crores must mean something. Well, Sir, after having spent these 15 crores, they should now come forward and accept the proposal to locate the Capital permanently in Delhi. I am sorry my Honourable friend, from Bombay, is not here. He was one of those who were enthusiastic the other day in supporting this exodus. I say, Sir, that I also like physical comforts, and I should also like to go to a hill station for a short time, but I do not like to do so at the expense of the tax-payer. It seems to me, Mr. President, that there are now certain offices, manned both by Indians and Europeans, certain firms and banks, which go on throughout the twelve months in Delhi. I have never heard that they have not been able to survive this heat. Secondly, as far as one can judge, modern scientific inventions and modern scientific knowledge have placed at man's disposal processes and devices, by which even the hottest places in India could be made tolerable to live in, during the hottest months of the year. I am told, Mr. President, that the cost of the annual exodus is something more than 50 lakhs. I do not know the exact figure, but the total cost of the annual exodus is said to be about 50 lakhs. Can the Honourable the Home Member or any Member on the Treasury Benches tell me the exact figure?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik (Home Member): I do not know the exact figure. It is certainly not 50 lakhs. Your figure is nearly ten times the actual figure.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Does anybody know the exact figure?

An Honourable Member: What do they know? They know nothing.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: Yes, they do not know anything, but they only know how to spend what we pay.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg: It is six lakhs.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: I am told it is six lakhs. Whatever be the amount, if that expenditure is spent in increasing the physical amenities of buildings and of other places in Delhi, I submit that these places can be made tolerable to live in, even during the hottest months of the year. After all, if there are big Nawabs, who sit on the Treasury Benches, and if they want to go to hill stations, they can do so for a few months at their own expense, but the offices themselves can remain here. I am often told that it is more efficient to work in Simla than in Delhi. I have lived so far in Delhi, but I hope this summer to go to Simla, and I shall then compare notes as to how it leads to greater efficiency, working in the hills during summer. It seems to me, as far as I hear, that Simla is a sorry place to live in and to work in. It is perched on a hill, and it is raining incessantly for several months in the year. I understand that there is not enough accommodation of houses to live in worth mentioning.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai: It rains there the whole time.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: I wonder, Sir, if any calculation has been made as regards the increase in efficiency of work in Simla. At any rate, speaking on behalf of the poor tax-payers in this country, it is my duty to protest against this exodus, involving a huge waste of the tax-payers' money.

Mr. M. S. Aney: The Government Members become much cooler in their temperament in Simla.

Mr. S. Satyamurti: It is all a matter of temperament. Whether in Delhi or Simla, the Government Members put on the same temperament. I submit, Sir, this poor country cannot afford to have two Capitals and it can afford to have only one Capital and that in Delhi. I, therefore, think that this House ought not to vote this sum, unless the Government assure us that they will consider this question, in consultation with all relevant opinion, and see that the permanent Capital is located here. In any case, Mr. President, when the Federal Legislature comes, I do not think you can live between Simla and Delhi. You are bound to stay in Delhi. In Simla, there would not be room enough for bi-cameral Legislatures, or for the Princes and their representatives and their retainers and their dependants; and, therefore, it appears that it is a question of time when you will have to make Delhi your permanent Capital—sooner or later. Why not take credit for yourself and make Delhi the permanent Capital even now? That is the consideration which I should like the Honourable Member in charge to take into consideration, and see that Delhi is made the permanent Capital of India.

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

“That a supplementary sum, not exceeding Rs. 4,92,000, 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, 1955, in respect of ‘Delhi Capital Outlay.’”

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