

THE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES  
Official Report

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Volume III, 1947

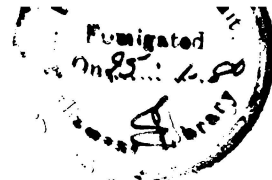
*(10th March, 1947 to 24th March, 1947)*

THIRD SESSION  
OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
1947



A. B.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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*President :*

The Honourable Mr. G. V. MAVALANKAR.

*Deputy President :*

Khan MOHAMMAD YAMIN KHAN, M.L.A.

*Panel of Chairmen :*

Syed GHULAM BHIK NAIRANG, M.L.A.

Mr. P. J. GRIFFITHS, M.L.A.

Sardar MANGAL SINGH, M.L.A.

Shrinati AMMU SWAMINADHAN, M.L.A.

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*Assistants of the Secretary :*

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Mr. HASAN MOHAMMAD KHAN.

Mr. N. C. NANDI.

*Marshal :*

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

*Committee on Petitions :*

Khan MOHAMMAD YAMIN KHAN, M.L.A. (*Chairman*).

Syed GHULAM BHIK NAIRANG, M.L.A.

Shri Sri PRAKASA, M.L.A.

Mr. C. P. LAWSON, M.L.A.

Sardar MANGAL SINGH, M.L.A.

CORRIGENDA

to

Index to Legislative Assembly Debates, Volumes I to V, 1947

(3rd February, 1947 to 12th April, 1947)

- Page 11, transfer line 9 above line 6.
- Page 13, omit line 12 from bottom and transfer line 11 from bottom after line 32 from top.
- Page 17, omit line 6 from bottom.
- Page 19, insert "Reserve Bank of India (Second Amendment) Bill. 3092, 3095-96, 3099, 3104." above line 20 from bottom.
- Page 27, insert "Publicity by certain newspapers of the recommendations of the Select Committee on — before the presentation of the report. 1538-39." over line 2 from bottom.
- Page 29, omit existing line 9 and in existing line 25 for "BISCUIT(S)—" read "BIRD(S)—".
- Page 36, omit lines 7 and 8.
- Page 42, after line 16, insert "CIVIL SUPPLIES—".
- Page 43, for line 2 under "COACH(ES)—", read "Air conditioned — on G.I.P., B.B. & C.I., M. & S.M. Railways. 2905-06."
- Page 46, above line 4 from bottom, insert "Terms of reference of Armed Forces Nationalisation Committee. 2940."
- Page 51, under "COTTON—", in line 3, for "907-07" read "906-07".
- Page 58, above line 12 from bottom, insert "Capital Outlay on Civil Aviation. 1966."
- Page 60, for existing line 5, read "Functions of the Commodities Prices Board and matters connected therewith. 1626-42."
- Page 62, under "DEMONETIZATION—", for "2399" read "2390".
- Page 65, last line, for the illegible figure read "3140".
- Page 78, under "FORCES—" after line 3, insert "See also 'Army(ies)'".
- Page 80, in line 3, for "Allied" read "Armed".
- Page 84.—(i) omit line 2;  
(ii) above line 32 from bottom insert "Consideration of Clauses. 510, 528, 945."; and  
(iii) omit line 30 from bottom.
- Page 86, under "GOVERNMENT SERVANTS—" after line 4, insert "See also 'Employee(s)'" and omit line 6 from bottom.
- Page 100, under "HOUSING—" in line 2, after "re-housing" insert "scheme".
- Page 103, in line 9, for "1958-69" read "1968-69".
- Page 107, for line 28 from bottom, read "INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES BILL—"; and omit line 24 from bottom.
- Page 110, above line 11 from bottom, insert "Motion re—".
- Page 122, at the end of last line, read "Simla. 3068-69."
- Page 123, omit line 3 from top.
- Page 127, under "LANGUAGE—" after line 3, insert "order in addressing the House in a vernacular and ruling by Mr. President that an Honour-".
- Page 134, omit line 5 from bottom and in last line, for "890-92" read "990-92".
- Page 138.—(i) under "MANUFACTURE—" in lines 13 and 14, for "dry-stuffs" read "dyestuffs";  
(ii) under "MANU SUREDAR, MR.—" omit line 4, and in line 5, insert "2753 59" before existing page numbers.
- Page 140, in line 35 from bottom, for "drystuffs" read "dyestuffs".
- Page 144, under "MATTHAI, THE HONOURABLE DR. JOHN—" after line 3, insert "Construction of new lines. 1950."

- Page 149, under "MOMBASA—" for the illegible figure read "96".
- Page 153, under "MUTINY—" after existing figures read "763-64".
- Page 154, for existing line 10 from bottom read "Recommendations of the Armed Forces Nationalisation Committee. 1758." and omit line 8 from bottom.
- Page 156, under "NAVY, ROYAL INDIAN—" in line 7, for "the Committee" read "the report of the Committee".
- Page 161, below last line, insert "See also 'Factory(ies)'"
- Page 162, for existing line 16, read "OUDH AND TIRHUT RAILWAY—" and omit lines 1 and 2 at top of the page.
- Page 169, under "PIPERADIH COLLIERY—" for "3389" read "3388".
- Page 172, omit line 7 and transfer the next line after line 1 under "POSTAL EMPLOYEE(S)—".
- Page 173, under "PRESS(ES)—" omit line 1.
- Page 180, for line 7 from bottom, read "Increase of — fares below Re. 1. 1228-29."
- Page 184, in line 10, the missing figure is "1097".
- Page 191, in line 18, for "2920" read "2926".
- Page 199, omit last line.
- Page 204, omit line 3 from bottom.
- Page 205, for existing line 3 from bottom, read "strike. 19-20."
- Page 206, at the end of last line, insert "Provinces. 169-70."
- Page 214, for existing line 18 from bottom read "SKELTON—".
- Page 220, at the end of line 9 from bottom, insert "1313-14".
- Page 223, in line 21 from bottom, for "strike as" read "strikers at".
- Page 224, under "SUGAR—" insert "Question re—" as first line.
- Page 226, under "SUNHEMP—" for "1608. 07" read "1606-07".
- Page 232, in last line, for "89" read "88".
- Page 251, line 19 from bottom, for "3396" read "3395".
- Page 252, after line 7, insert "Motion re—".

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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 12th March, 1947

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

## STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### (a) ORAL ANSWERS

**ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ART, ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**  
**854. \*Seth Govind Das:** Will the Honourable Member for Education please state:

- (a) whether Government of India have recently sanctioned the establishment of a National Museum of Art, Archaeology and Anthropology;
- (b) if so, whether the selection of a Director of Museum has been made;
- (c) if the answer to part (b) be in the negative, when it is likely to be made;
- (d) whether Government will give an assurance to the House that a duly qualified Indian alone will be appointed to such a post; and
- (e) the estimated cost of the scheme?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : (اے) گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا نے یہ تجویز اصولی طور پر منظور

کر لی ہے کہ آر کے یو ایچ اور انتھراپہ ایجی کا ایک نیشنل میوزیم قائم کیا جاوے -

(بی) ڈائریکٹر کا چناؤ ابھی نہیں کیا گیا ہے -

(سی) میوزیم کی عمارت بنانے کا کام ٹھیک طور پر آگے بڑھایا جا سکا تو غالباً

سنہ ۱۹۴۸ء میں ڈائریکٹر کا سلیکشن کیا جاوے گا -

(دی) میوزیم کے ڈائریکٹر کی جگہ ایسی پالیسی کے مطابق بھری جاوے گی جو حال

میں گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا ٹھہرا چکی ہے - یعنی خاص خاص حالتوں کے سوا عام طور

پر اب کسی سول پوسٹ پر کسی غیر ہندوستانی کو نہیں رکھا جاوے گا -

(ای) اسکیم کے لئے ٹوٹل کیپٹل کا جو تخمینہ کیا گیا ہے وہ تقریباً ایک کروڑ ہے -

اسکیم تقریباً پانچ برس میں پوری ہوگی اور سالانہ خرچ کا اندازہ تقریباً ۸ لاکھ رکھا

کیا ہے -

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** (a) The proposal for the establishment of a National Museum of Art, Archaeology and Anthropology has been accepted in principle by the Government of India.

(b) The selection of a Director has not yet been made.

(c) Most probably in 1948-49 if satisfactory progress is made in regard to the building of the scheme.

(d) The post of the Director of the Museum will be filled in conformity with the policy recently laid down by the Government of India that no non-Indians should be appointed to any civil post except only in very exceptional circumstances.

(e) The estimated total capital cost of the scheme, including building, equipment, etc., will be about rupees one crore. It will take about five years to complete the scheme and the ultimate recurring cost when the scheme is in full operation will be about Rs. 8.5 lakhs per year.



سیٹھ گوند داس : کیا جفاب یہ بتلائینگے کہ جو ڈائریکٹرز مقرر کئے جائینگے انکی نسبت کیا کوئی ایڈورٹائزمنٹ کیا جائیگا یا اپلیکیشن آنے کے بعد ان میں سے لوگوں کو چن لیا جائیگا -

**Seth Govind Das:** Will the Honourable Member please state whether the post of Director will be advertised or selection will be made from applicants who have already applied?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : ابھی اس بارے میں تفصیلات طے نہیں کی گئی ہیں تاہم

انہی ہدایتوں کے مطابق عمل کیا جاویگا جو سلیکشن کے لئے عام قاعدہ ہے -

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** Details in this connection have not yet been settled but such directions will be acted upon as are usual in making selections.

سیٹھ گوند داس : کیا سرکار اس بات کا خیال رکھے گی کہ جو عمارت میوزیم کے

لئے بنائی جانے والی ہے اسہوں صرف ہندوستانی آرٹ کی چیزیں ہونا چاہئے بدیشی آرٹ کی اسمیں کوئی چیز نہیں ہونا چاہئے -

**Seth Govind Das:** Will the Government bear in mind that the building to be built for the Museum will have articles of Indian Art only and shall have no articles of foreign art?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : یہ چیز کھلی ہوئی ہے کہ نیشنل میوزیم کی عمارت کے لئے

لازمی طور پر ایسا ہی ہوگا -

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** This is obvious. The building for a National Museum should necessarily be like that.

مسٹر سسٹکا سکھر سانیال : کیا آرٹ مشن باہر بھیجنے کے لئے سرکار نے خیال

کیا ہے -

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Do Government propose sending an Art Mission to foreign countries?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : اس پر غور کیا جائیگا -

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** It will be considered.

خان عبدالغنی خان : جو آرٹ میوزیم بنانے والا ہے اسکے لئے کیا سرکار کوشش

کریگی کہ جو ہندوستانی خزانے باہر کے ملکوں میں ہیں وہ واپس لائے -

**Khan Abdul Ghani Khan:** Will the Government try to recover for the proposed Art Museum the Art Treasures of India now in foreign countries?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : اس معاملہ پر تیہارٹمنٹ غور کر رہا ہے -

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** The Department is considering it.

#### SELECTION OF STUDENTS FOR HIGHER STUDIES ABROAD

855. \***Seth Govind Das:** Will the Honourable Member for Education please state:

(a) the number of students selected for higher studies abroad who have already started their studies in foreign universities;

(b) the position of those who were selected but could not be allowed to proceed to the universities of their choice due to lack of sea passage and accommodation in those universities; and

(c) whether Government propose to adopt any alternative scheme to employ these students usefully within the country?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: (اے) ۴۲۷ سنگٹ کے اور ۳۱۲ صوبوں کے تہرائے ہوئے

اور ۱۷۰ صوبوں کے بھیجے ہوئے۔ باہر کی یونیورسٹیوں اور انسٹی ٹیوشنوں میں تعلیم پارہے ہیں یا بہت جلد تعلیم شروع کرنے والے ہیں۔

(بی) ۹۳ سنگٹ کے اور ۱۵۶ صوبوں کے تہرائے ہوئے اور ۱۱۰ صوبوں کے بھیجے ہوئے طالب علموں کو اپنی تعلیم شروع کرنے کا موقع نہیں مل سکا۔ ان میں سے کچھ تو اسلئے رکے ہوئے ہیں کہ جہاز میں جگہ ملنے کا انتظام ہو جائے۔ کچھ اسلئے کہ باہر کے انسٹی ٹیوشنوں میں داخلہ کا انتظام ہو جائے۔ باہر کے مناسب انسٹی ٹیوشنوں میں جگہ ملنے کا معاملہ برابر کتھن رہا ہے اور کتھن چلا جاتا ہے۔ جو طالب علم اس انتظار میں رکے ہوئے ہیں انکے لئے یہ انتظام ہو گیا ہے کہ اکتوبر ۱۹۴۷ء کے سیشن سے تعلیم شروع کریں اور اسلئے انہیں اگست سے پہلے بھیجنا ضروری نہیں ہے۔

(سی) آنریبل ممبر کو سوال نمبر ۱۲ حصہ (سی) کے جواب پر توجہ دلائی جاتی ہے جو ۸ نومبر سنہ ۱۹۴۶ء کو اس ہاؤس میں دیا گیا تھا۔ کسی دوسری سکیم پر سوچ وچار کرنے کی ضرورت نہیں ہے۔

آنریبل ممبر کو اس سلسلہ میں یہ بات بھی سامنے رکھنی چاہئے کہ تھپارٹمنٹ ایک کمیٹی اس غرض سے بٹھا چکا ہے کہ اس پورے معاملہ پر نئے سرے سے غور کیا جاوے۔ یہ کمیٹی معاملہ کے اس پہلو پر بھی غور کریگی کہ باہر کی یونیورسٹیوں میں داخلہ کی رکاوٹیں دیکھتے ہوئے آگے کو گورنمنٹ کیا پالیسی اختیار کرے۔ اس کمیٹی سے درخواست کی گئی ہے کہ وہ اپنی رپورٹ ۱۵ جولائی سے پہلے تیار کر کے بھیجے۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** (a) 427 Central and 312 Provincial Government sponsored scholars and 170 Provincial Deputationists are either studying or about to start their courses in foreign Universities and institutions.

(b) 93 Central and 156 Provincial Government sponsored scholars and 110 Deputationists are either awaiting passage or admission. It continues to be difficult to secure admission to suitable institutions abroad. So far as the passage position is concerned most students are awaiting the next available ship, while others have been admitted for the October, 1947 Session and it is not therefore proposed to send them before August.

(c) Attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the reply to part (c) of the starred question No. 12 by Shri Sri Prakasa on the 8th November 1946. No other scheme is necessary.

In this connection I should like the Honourable Member to keep in view the fact that the Department has appointed a committee to go into this whole question and to place before the Department its recommendations by the 15th July. This committee will also look into this aspect of the question as to what future policy we should adopt in view of the difficulties of securing passages and admissions.

سہتہ گوند داس جو ویدارتھی آئندہ باہر بھیجے جائیگے وہ صرف امریکہ اور انگلینڈ

ہی نہیں بلکہ روس - اور دوسرے ملکوں میں بھی بھیجے جائیں اور وہاں جو خاص باتیں ہوں اسکا گورنمنٹ دھیان رکھے -

**Seth Govind Das:** In future, when scholars are sent abroad, they will not be sent to England and America only; but Russia and other countries also and the Government will take into consideration the specialities of those countries.

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : جو کمیٹی اسکے لئے مقرر کی گئی ہے اسکے ترمس آف

ریفرنس میں یہ بات ہے کہ آئندہ سال تعلیم کے لئے طلباء بھیجے جائیگے تو اس پر بھی خیال کیا جائیگا -

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** In the Terms of Reference of the Committee set up for the purpose it is laid down to send scholars abroad next year. At that time it will be taken into consideration.

ڈاکٹر ضیاء الدین احمد : کیا میں یہ دریافت کر سکتا ہوں کہ کیا گورنمنٹ

کے پاس اس قسم کی رپورٹ آتی ہیں کہ جو طلباء تعلیم کے لئے باہر بھیجے گئے ہیں انہوں نے اپنی تعلیم میں کیا ترقی کی ہے - مجھے معلوم ہوا ہے بعض امتحان میں ہندوستانی طلباء فیل ہو گئے ہیں -

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** May I ask if the Government receive reports of the progress in education of the scholars sent abroad? I have heard that they have been unsuccessful in certain examinations.

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : گورنمنٹ نے اسکا پورا انتظام کیا ہے کہ ہر مہینہ انکی

تعلیم کی نگرانی کی رپورٹ آئے -

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** Government have made complete arrangements to receive monthly reports from the supervisor of their education.

**Sreejut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri:** (Supplementary question in Assamese).

**Mr. President:** The Honourable Member may translate his question in English.

**Sreejut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri:** What is the use of granting new scholarships if all those who have been granted scholarships before have not been able to secure accommodation?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : جیسا کہ میں ابھی کہ چکا ہوں کہ اس میں بہت

دقتیں پیش آرہی ہیں - اسکے لئے ایک کمیٹی بیٹھائی گئی ہے وہ اس معاملہ میں نئے سرے سے غور کریگی۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** As I have already said lots of difficulties are arising. A committee has been set up for the purpose. This committee will reconsider this matter.

مسٹر سسکا سکھر سہال : ہندوستان کے جو استوڈنٹس باہر رہتے ہیں انکا انتظام کرنیکے لئے ہائی کمشنر کو فرمائیش بھیجی گئی ہے یا نہیں۔ کہ انکا ہر طرح انتظام کریں۔

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Have instructions been sent to the High Commissioner to make all sorts of arrangements for scholars who have gone abroad?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : یہ بہت مشکل ہے جیسا کہ آنریبل ممبر نے کہا کہ تمام فرمائیشیں پوری کی جائیں لیکن انکی دیکھ بہال ضرور کیجاتی ہے۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** It is very difficult to fulfil all their wishes as the Honourable Member desires; but they are certainly looked after.

مسٹر احمد ای۔ ایچ۔ جعفر : کیا میں آنریبل ممبر صاحب سے یہ دریافت کرسکتا ہوں کہ استوڈنٹس کو باہر بھیجنے کے لئے کسی خاص اسٹیمر کا بندوبست کیا جائیگا۔

**Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** May I ask the Honourable Member if a special steamer will be arranged for the scholars to be sent abroad?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : اسکا کوئی خاص انتظام نہیں ہے۔ بلکہ جو اسٹیمر مل سکتا ہے اسیں انتظام کی کوشش کیجاتی ہے۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** There are no special arrangements for it. Efforts are made to make arrangements in the steamer which is available.

#### POSITION OF DOMICILED EUROPEANS IN THE INDIAN ARMY

**856. \*Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** (a) Will the Secretary of the Defence Department please state what the position of Domiciled Europeans in the Indian Army of the future will be?

(b) Is it a fact that under an army order all Europeans, even though they are domiciled, are not to be permitted to enlist in the Indian Army?

(c) When did this order come into force?

(d) Does the order apply to Regular Indian Commissioned Officers who passed out from the Indian Military Academy, received Regular Commission before 1939 and have served in the Indian Army for a number of years and reached the rank of Captains and Majors?

(e) Are these officers to be retired or to be transferred to the British Army?

(f) What is the number of such officers who are to be asked to retire and are otherwise affected by the order?

(g) Does the order apply also to Anglo-Indians?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) British subjects of European descent domiciled in India are statutory Indians and are eligible for enrolment or commissioning into the Indian Army in the same way as other Indians.

(b) No, Sir. There is no Indian Army Order making all Europeans even though domiciled, ineligible for enrolment or commissioning into the Indian Army.

(c) to (f). Do not arise in view of the answer to part (b).

(g) The position is that as Anglo-Indians are statutory Indians they are eligible to enlist and be commissioned in the Indian Army in the same way as domiciled Europeans.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** Will the Honourable the Defence Secretary say what is the position about the Auxiliary Forces in which, I understand, the Anglo-Indians were in a very large number?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** That question, Sir, does not arise out of this question.

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** What are the purposes for which a difference is still maintained between a British unit, an Indian unit and an Anglo-Indian unit?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I submit, Sir, that also does not arise out of this question.

#### SHIPPING SPACE FOR VISITORS TO U. K. AND U. S. A.

**857. \*Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** (a) Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state the position of shipping space available for person desirous of visiting the United Kingdom and the United States of America?

(b) Has the position improved, if not, when is it likely to improve to the pre-war level in regard to comforts in travelling?

(c) Has the Controller of Civil Passages any control over berths available for civilians, if so, how many berths are under his control every month and to whom are these allotted?

(d) To whom are the berths not required by the Controller of Civil Passages allotted and by whom?

(e) Does he control berths on lines including the President Line to America; if so, what is the number?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** (a) Shipping is still controlled by His Majesty's Government who have undertaken to provide, if possible, a minimum of 1,500 berths a month for civilians from India to United Kingdom in transports. These are vessels still under requisition by His Majesty's Government. In addition, civilians secure about 250 passages a month in commercial vessels, which are not under requisition.

Shipping accommodation from India to the United States of America is not controlled and the Government of India have no information as to the passenger position.

(b) Pre-war standards of comfort cannot be expected until requisitioned vessels which were converted for the transport of troops during the war, have been reconverted to ordinary passenger use. This process of reconditioning vessels has begun but is likely to take some time before it is completed.

(c) The Home Department controls 200 berths each month for (i) civilians travelling on Government duty including persons entitled to repatriation on completion of contract with Government; and (ii) civilians sponsored by Government including persons proceeding overseas for tuition or training or on business which serves a direct national interest.

(d) Any berths not required by Government within the limit of 200 are surrendered to the Passage Pool from which persons without priorities are allotted passages in the order of application for them.

(e) No.

**Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** Is the Honourable Member aware that the priorities already given to people in the months of April and May are still in force and it is not possible for others to obtain accommodation on the ships because priorities have already been given to people? What is the remedy for those who want to go now?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** The only remedy is to wait.

**Sreejot Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri:** If the members of the legislature want to go abroad unofficially, can they get priority within the special control of sea passage?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Yes, they can if they are sponsored by Government.

**Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** If an Honourable Member of this House wants priority, will he be given priority without any consideration?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Not without consideration. If they come under the conditions mentioned just now in answer to part (c), they will get it.

#### RAID BY BRITISH SOLDIERS ON ANGLO-INDIANS AT RAILWAY INSTITUTE, JHANSI

**858. \*Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** (a) Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state if it is a fact that 200 armed British service personnel raided the Railway Institute at Jhansi, when the Anglo-Indians were celebrating Christmas and assaulted some Anglo-Indians and set fire to furniture and canopies in the ball room?

(b) If so, what are the causes for this raid?

(c) How many soldiers have been arrested and what action has been taken against them?

(d) How many have not been arrested and what steps are being taken to arrest them?

(e) What is the total amount of damage caused and who will bear the cost thereof?

(f) Do Government propose to hold a court of enquiry? If not, why not?

(g) What steps do Government propose to take to see that such incidents do not occur again?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) and (b). I lay a statement on the table of the House.

(c) and (d). 12 B.O.Rs. were placed under arrest immediately following the incident. After the Court of Enquiry, a summary of evidence was ordered to be taken and as a result eleven men of the Wiltshire Regiment and two men of the R.A.M.C. are in close arrest with a view to being tried by court-martial.

(e) The total cost of the damage has been estimated at Rs. 10,745. The question as to how it should be made good will receive the consideration of Government.

(f) A military Court of Inquiry has already been held.

(g) All B.O.Rs. against whom sufficient evidence is available are being court-martialled. Disciplinary action is being taken against the Station Staff Officer, Jhansi, and other officers at fault. The Battalion is being moved into a British Infantry Brigade. An expression of the severe displeasure of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will be communicated to the Battalion.

#### Statement

The facts of the incident are as follows :—

The Railway Institute at Jhansi is normally out of bounds to B.O.Rs. On the 13th December 1946, the President of the Railway Institute wrote to the military authorities requesting that the Institute should be put in bounds for officers and troops on account of a boxing tournament which the Institute intended to hold. He did not, however, state the month and the Station Staff Officer presuming that the request referred to December published a Station Order to the effect that the Institute would be in bounds to British troops. The President of the Institute on receipt of this order again wrote to the Station Staff Officer apologising for his mistake and pointing out that the dates referred to January 1947 and not to December 1946. An amendment to the Station Order was published on 24th December 1946 cancelling the previous order, but this amendment was not issued in sufficient time to make it effective. As a result, on the evening of 24th December 1946, 4 B.O.Rs. of the Wiltshire Regiment arrived at the Institute under the misapprehension that they were allowed to attend the function taking place there. These men, on being refused permission, became truculent. The Court of Inquiry is of the opinion that their eventual admission was aided and abetted by persons unknown, who were present in the Institute and who had an intimate knowledge

of the various entrances thereto. Having entered the building the four BORs were stopped and questioned and one of them was manhandled. In the meantime other BORs had arrived at the entrance to the Institute and were also refused permission. Thereafter, there were incidents of actual scuffles between them and the Anglo-Indians.

On the evening of the 26th December 1946 a larger number of BORs than usual, both from the Wiltshire Regiment and from other units in Jhansi, attended the early performances at the local cinemas. Amongst these men were some BORs who had been involved in the incident on the 24th December 1946 and who appeared to have been either legitimately or illegitimately manhandled on that occasion. After the cinema some 60 or 70 BORs set out on foot to go to the Railway Institute. Some of these men, however, returned prior to reaching the vicinity of the Institute. On arrival at the Institute the men rushed in and started breaking up the furniture, etc., and it would appear that the Christmas decorations caught fire. The BORs realising the seriousness of the situation rapidly dispersed. In the meanwhile the incident having been reported, an armed patrol consisting of one NCO and 13 BORs had been despatched to the Institute. Their presence had a salutary effect on the Anglo-Indian element in the Institute some of whom had shown signs of violence. As a result of the incident, there were no casualties, either civil or military, admitted to hospital. No women were molested. The number of BORs involved in the incident was not more than 50 to 60 and none of them was armed.

The occasion of this rude behaviour on the part of British soldiers appears to be the mistake contained in the Station Order referred to above whereby the BORs were under a misapprehension that the Institute had been placed in bounds, but despite this were refused permission.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** Will the Honourable Defence Secretary make it clear to this House whether military personnel of this type whenever they commit offences, civil or criminal, like assault, battery, damage, insult and abduction, whether they are not triable by the ordinary civil or criminal courts of this country?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** They are triable by civil or criminal courts, as well as by court-martial.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** In that case, may I know why in this case, the Government contented themselves with merely a court martial which will only look into disciplinary measures and which cannot possibly look into the damage done or the crime committed?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** My Honourable friend is under a misapprehension. A court martial is as good as a court of law. It tries a person accused of offences under the military law. As regards the extent of damage, etc., I pointed out that the Court of Enquiry had gone into the question and reported on the extent of damage done. The question as to how it is to be met is still under the consideration of the Government.

**Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** I have asked for no statement in parts (a) and (b) of my question.

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** It is a long statement which I lay on the table of the House. I would not like to waste the time of the House by reading it. In fact the same statement was made in the Council of State yesterday.

**Mr. Frank R. Anthony:** How many of these soldiers were put up for identification?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** The whole battalion was turned out for the identification parade.

**Mr. Frank R. Anthony:** Is the Honourable Member aware that the persons who were assaulted feel that the British officials and the officers of the court of enquiry have tried to cover up the tracks of the miscreants?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** No, Sir, the suggestion is absolutely without any foundation.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** How many women were among those assaulted?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** None, Sir.

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Part (a) of Question No. 858 does not call for any statement. It only calls for an answer in the affirmative or negative in a categorical way. Is it in order, Sir, for the Government Member to put the House into a statement when a categorical answer would have sufficed? I think this is unfair to the House.

**Mr. President:** To my mind, there seems to be some misapprehension in raising this point of order. Questions in the House are not necessarily of the nature of cross examination of a witness, where a categorical reply is given, "yes", or "no". Honourable Members put questions for having information and if information is given at length, it should not be a ground for complaint.

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will the Honourable Member state whether the information that he has laid on the table in connection with part (a) is a substantial answer in the affirmative or negative?

**Mr. President:** Order, order.

**Mr. Frank R. Anthony:** In view of the fact that these offences were committed within the jurisdiction of the civil authorities by troops who deliberately broke 'bounds', will the Honourable Member consider the desirability of allowing the civil police to investigate into the facts of the case?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** An officer of the civil police was actually present throughout the proceedings of the Court of Enquiry.

**Mr. Frank R. Anthony:** Will the Honourable Member make certain that the troops attached to this battalion are not smuggled out of this country or sent overseas in order to cover up their crime as a private complaint in the criminal court is contemplated?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I repudiate the suggestion that anybody was deliberately sent out of the country. Nobody is being "smuggled out" out of the country as the Honourable Member puts it with a view to shielding him from the punishment due to him.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Is it a fact that the British soldiers assaulted the inmates in the club, because some Anglo Indian ladies refused to dance with them when invited to do so?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I should like to read a portion of the Court's Report, as the House seems to desire some detailed information here and now.

"In the opinion of the Court the reasons for the incident on the 26th occurring are the incidents which occurred on the 24th, which are primarily due to four B.O.R.'s. of the Wiltshire Regiment who arrived at the Institute in a bright and merry mood thinking they were allowed to attend. On being refused entrance, they became truculent and decided to gate crash, in which the Court believes they were aided and abetted by someone with intimate knowledge of the various entrances into the Institute. The mistaken impression that they were allowed to attend is partially due to a typing error in Station Orders which stated that the G. I. P. Institute was in bounds, although NOT repeated in Bn. Orders, and which was NOT cancelled in sufficient time to make it effective. The blame for this, in the opinion of the Court, must be borne by Capt. C. N. Madiah, S.S.O., HQ, Jhansi Station, under whose signature the orders were issued.

The four B.O.R.'s having gained entrance, were at once stopped and questioned as to whether they held passes and promptly became abusive and aggressive. There is no doubt they brought up the question of colour, which in a community well known for its touchiness on this subject, is bound to lead to trouble and for which there is no excuse. One B.O.R. was particularly abusive to the Secretary of the local Anglo-Indian Association, which resulted in the B.O.R. being knocked out and the Secretary being accompanied back to his wife.

This incident had been seen and overheard by a number of Anglo-Indians and had, without doubt, roused the ire of some of the younger Anglo-Indians. Fuel was added to the flames by other military personnel of various units who had been refused entrance being rowdy and insulting outside the entrance, and that two girls dancing together were insulted by presumably a British soldier, and this led to a group of 6 or 7 Anglo-Indians, some of whom were military, to take the law into their own hands, which resulted in a number of B.O.R.s. being manhandled. Two of which, at least, were unprovoked attacks. One particularly bad case of manhandling was viewed by a number of military personnel of various units all of whom vowed they would take their revenge."



**Mr. Manu Subedar:** Does the Honourable Member expect this House to believe that it was the Anglo-Indians who were aggressive and not the B.O.R's who were both drunk and offensive and took the law in their own hands in the first instance?

**Mr. President:** That is a matter of opinion.

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I did not say anything of that kind, Sir.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** Are Government satisfied with the findings of this court which puts the aggression on the Anglo-Indians, whereas the aggression was entirely on the other side?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** It does not put the aggression on the Anglo-Indians.

**Mr. President:** That would still be a matter of opinion.

**Sardar Surjit Singh Majithia:** Is it a fact that after this incident was reported and before the identification parade took place some of the B.O.R's were transferred from that unit to another?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I have no information to that effect.

**Shri Mohan Lal Saksena:** Is the Honourable Member aware of another and a more serious incident which occurred at Jhansi station a few days ago and reported in the press today in which a number of British soldiers are involved?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I have no information, Sir.

#### RECRUITMENT TO I. C. S. AND I. P. S.

**859. \*Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** (a) Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement regarding the future recruitment to the Indian Civil Service and the Indian Police, particularly mentioning the arrangements agreed upon as a result of the talks on the subject between the Secretary of State and the Governor-General in Council?

(b) What steps will be taken to safeguard the interests of Muslims in future recruitment; and what will be the percentage of the Muslim quota?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** (a) The Honourable Member's attention is invited to the reply which I gave to Shri D. P. Karmarkar's starred question No. 197 on the 11th February 1947.

(b) In view of the reply to clause (a), the question does not arise.

#### FALL IN SILVER PRICE IN NEW YORK

**860. \*Seth Govind Das:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the news that the silver price in New York fell considerably because of the worldwide race to obtain United States dollars;

(b) how much silver has so far been sent from India to the United States of America for selling purposes; and

(c) what is the reaction on the silver position in India due to India's participation in this race?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** (a) There has recently been a rise in the price of New York silver which stands at 84½ cents and the fall which took place about a month ago appears to have been a temporary phase due to various factors such as the supply and demand position and the desire to take advantage of the high price in New York and not necessarily due to a race to obtain U. S. dollars.

(b) There has been no export of silver from India for sale in the U. S. A.

(c) Does not arise.

**Seth Govind Das:** Why do these prices fall down and immediately afterwards shoot up? Is that not due to speculative markets and are Government thinking of at once stopping this speculation in the bullion market?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** I do not know how that arises from the original question.

**Seth Govind Das:** In reply to part (a) the Honourable Member said that there was a fall in prices and they have again gone up. In view of this rise and fall occurring in the U. S. A. and in India I want to know whether speculation in the bullion market in India will be stopped at once.

**Mr. President:** The Honourable Member is assuming that the rise and fall is due to speculation, and he puts his question on that basis.

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** There may be some speculation also but I suppose the rise and fall is due to demand and supply.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** Now that private licenses for the import of silver have been stopped may I know if Government will pick up loose silver which may be available in the world from time to time below certain prices, and whether they will bring it out here and keep the difference to themselves instead of allowing the difference to go into other pockets?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** I should like to have notice of that question because it needs consideration before I can reply to it.

**Mr. Yusuf Abdoola Haroon:** With reference to the reply to part (b), although the export of silver is stopped, is the Honourable Member aware that prices of silver have gone very high in Bombay? If so, what steps are Government taking to check that?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** If the Honourable Member will put down a question I shall be able to reply.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmed:** Are Government thinking of abolishing this gambling house known as the bullion exchange, which is the root cause of non-stabilisation of prices in this country?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** As I mentioned in my budget speech, the matter is under examination.

**Mr. Yusuf Abdoola Haroon:** Is there a possibility of releasing silver from Government stocks because it is not wanted for rupee currency, and allow prices to come down?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** Perhaps my Honourable friend is not aware that the Government of India borrowed a very large amount of silver from the U. S. A. which we have to return within a certain limited period.

#### USE OF STERLING BALANCES FOR IMPORT OF MACHINERY FOR STATE OWNED INDUSTRY

**861. \*Sri R. Venkatasubba Reddiar:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state:

(a) if it is a fact that the Indian Capitalists are monopolising the available sterling balances for getting machinery for their existing and new industries;

(b) the percentage of sterling balance so far used for the purpose mentioned in part (a) above, after the end of the War; and

(c) if Government propose to consider the desirability of utilising the sterling balances for import of machinery for State owned industries?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** (a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) I would invite the Honourable Member's attention to the reply given to parts (b) and (d) of Seth Govind Dass' starred question No. 480 on the 13th November 1946.

(c) All imported machinery required for State owned industries must necessarily be paid for either from the sterling balances or from India's current earnings of foreign exchange.

**Prof. N. G. Banga:** What is the present position with regard to the outstanding balances to the credit of India?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** The Honourable Member will find the exact position in my budget speech.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** In view of the fact that a number of questions are asked about the sterling balances and their utilisation for absolute necessities in this country, may I know if the Honourable Member will appoint an *ad hoc* committee of this House to go into the details of imports from time to time and avoid the frittering away of the sterling balances?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** The matter is engaging the attention of Government and I referred to this matter also in my budget speech. I said that this is a matter which Government are seriously considering, that there should be no frittering away of the sterling balances.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** May I know whether under the Foreign Exchange Control Act which has been passed directions have been given to the Reserve Bank to get the fullest information from banks with regard to the sterling sold by them to individuals and the quantity and purposes for which such sterling will be used?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** I should like to have notice of that question.

**Mr. Yusuf Abdoola Haroon:** With regard to the reply to part (b) does the Honourable Member wish to cancel all these licenses which were issued in 1944-45 for sterling balances and which have not yet been utilised by the parties?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** I do not know how that arises out of this question.

#### POSTS OF JOINT OR DEPUTY OR ADDITIONAL SECRETARIES IN THE IMPERIAL SECRETARIAT

**862. \*Sri R. Venkatasubba Reddiar:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Joint or Deputy or Additional Secretaries' posts created in the year 1946-47 in the Imperial Secretariat;

(b) the names of the officers who have been posted to such new posts, their present pay including allowances and their pay just prior to their appointment in the present posts; and

(c) if the Provincial Governments were consulted before such officers were taken over from the Provinces?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** (a) and (b). I lay on the table of the House a statement giving the required information.

(c) Yes.

*Particulars of Additional, Joint and Deputy Secretaries appointed to posts created in 1946-47 in the Imperial Secretariat.*

Department	No. of posts created in the year 1946-47	Name of officer appointed to the post	Present pay including allowances (p. m.)	Rs. a. p.	Pay just prior to appointment to present post (p.m.)	Rs. a. p.
1. Department of Commerce	1	(1) <i>Additional Secretaries</i> — Hon'ble Mr. Y. N. Sukthaner, C.I.E., I.C.S.	3,500 0 0	3,500 0 0	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0
2. Department of Food	1	Mr. R. B. Sen	3,500 0 0	3,500 0 0	4,000 0 0	4,000 0 0
1. Legislative Department	1	(2) <i>Joint Secretaries</i> — Mr. K. V. K. Sundaram, I.C.S.	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0
2. Department of Health	1	Mr. P. Madhava Menon, M.B.E., I.C.S.	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0	1,900 0 0	1,900 0 0
					400 0 0	400 0 0
					2,300 0 0	2,300 0 0
3. Department of Industries and Supplies.	2	(i) Mr. Ikramullah, C.I.E., I.C.S. (ii) Mr. S. Bhoothalingam, O.B.E., I.C.S.	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0
			3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0	1,700 0 0	1,700 0 0
					263 0 0	263 0 0
					1,963 0 0	1,963 0 0

S. P.

W. A.

Department	No. of posts created in the year 1946-47	Name of officer appointed to the post	Present pay including allowances (p. m.)	Pay just prior to appointment to present post (p.m.)
4. Finance Department	2	(i) Mr. H. A. C. Gill, I.C.S. (ii) Mr. R. L. Gupta, O.B.E., I.C.S.	Rs. s. p. 3,000 0 0 3,000 0 0	Rs. s. p. 3,000 0 0 3,000 0 0
5. Department of Food	1	Mr. J. M. Lobo Prabhu, I.C.S.	3,000 0 0	2,400 0 0
6. External Affairs Department	2	Mr. C. B. Duke, O.B.E.	3,000 0 0	Pay. In the time scale of I.P.S., as Deputy Secretary, Department, Affairs, External. Plus a special pay of Rs. 400 per mensem.
7. Finance Department	4	(i) Mr. K. C. Roy, M.B.E., I.C.S.  (ii) Mr. K. R. P. Aiyanger, M.B.E..	1,425 0 0 S. P. 400 0 0 • 1,825 0 0 <hr/> 2,500 0 0	1,425 0 0 250 0 0 P. P. 150 0 0 <hr/> 1,825 0 0 <hr/> 1,425 0 0 S. P. 400 0 0 W. A. 263 0 0 <hr/> 2,088 0 0

(iii) Mr. M. Hashim	1,560 0 0	S. P. 400 0 0	1,960 0 0	1,560 0 0
(v) Mr. A. Balakrishnan	1,620 0 0	S. P. 400 0 0	2,020 0 0	1,620 0 0
(i) Mr. V. Narayan (I.A.&A.S.)	2,020 0 0	W. A. 243 0 0	2,263 0 0	1,960 0 0
(ii) Mr. M. A. Latif, P.E.S.	1,300 0 0	W. A. 263 0 0	1,563 0 0	1,300 0 0
(i) Mr. H. Dayal, I.C.S., Deputy Secretary (Personal) to Hon'ble Member for External Affairs Department.	Pay 1,200 0 0 per mensem (in the time scale of I. P. S.)	S. P. 400 0 0 per mensem.	Pay in the time scale of I. P. S. as Under Secretary, External Affairs, Department.	Plus special pay at Rs. 300 per mensem.
(ii) Capt. M. G. Dixon	Pay 1,400 0 0 per mensem (in the time scale of I. P. S.)	S. P. 400 0 0 per mensem.	Pay in the time scale of I. P. S. as Joint Deputy Commissioner, Mardan.	
8. Department of Labour	2			
9. External Affairs Department	5			

Department	No. of posts created in the year 1946-47	Name of officer appointed to the post	Present pay including allowances (p. m.)	Pay just prior to appointment to present post (p.m.)
1. Department of Works, Mines and Power.	3	(iii) Mr. H. Trevelyan, O.B.E. . . . .	<p style="text-align: center;">Rs. a. p.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3,000 0 0</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rs. a. p.</p> <p>Pay. In the time scale of I. P. S., as 1st Secretary, Indian Agency General Washington, Plus local allowance at £ 750 per annum rent allowance at £ 500 per annum Supplementary allowance at £ 30 per mensem.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">750 0 0</p> <p style="text-align: right;">300 0 0</p> <p style="text-align: right;">184 0 0</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: right;">1,234 0 0</p>
		(3) Deputy Secretaries— (i) Mr. S. Neelakantam . . . . .	<p style="text-align: center;">Rs. a. p.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">750 0 0</p> <p>S. P. 500 0 0</p> <p>W. A. 219 0 0</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: right;">1,469 0 0</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">1,425 0 0</p> <p>S. P. 400 0 0</p> <p>W. A. 263 0 0</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: right;">2,088 0 0</p>
		(ii) Mr. H. C. Gupta, I.C.S.	<p style="text-align: center;">Rs. a. p.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1,425 0 0</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">1,425 0 0</p>
		(iii) Post vacant.		

2. Department of Agriculture . . . . .	.....	— —	....
3. Commonwealth Relations Department.	(i) K. B. S. Inayat Hussain . . . . .	1,350 0 0	1,375 0 0
	S. P. 400 0 0	150 0 0	150 0 0
	W. A. 263 0 0	249 0 0	249 0 0
	.....	2,013 0 0	1,674 0 0
	(ii) R. B. N. C. Sen . . . . .	1,250 0 0	2,050 0 0
	Pension 708 5 4	.....	.....
	W. A. 263 0 0	.....	.....
	.....	£ 2,221 5 4	2,050 0 0
4. Department of Commerce . . . . .	.....	.....	.....
5. Department of Transport . . . . .	Mr. R. B. Elwin, I.C.S. . . . .	2,200 0 0	2,100 0 0
	(iii) Mr. H. C. Beaumont . . . . .	S. O. P. £ 30 0 0	£30 0 0
		Pay Rs. 1,300 0 0 per mensem (in the time scale of I. P. S.)	Pay. In the time scale of I. P. S., as Under Secretary, Rajputana Residency.
		Special pay Rs. 400 0 0 per mensem.	



Department	No. of posts created in the year 1946-47	Name of officer appointed to the post	Present pay including allowances (p.m.)	Pay just prior to appointment to present post (p.m.)
		(3) <i>Deputy Secretaries—contd.</i>	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
		(iv) Capt. B. K. Kapur .	Pay Rs. 1,500 0 0 per mensem (in the time scale of I. P. S.) Special pay 400 0 0 per mensem	Pay. In the time scale of I. P. S., as Settlement Officer, Baluchistan, <i>plus</i> a special pay of Rs. 150 per mensem.
		(v) Mr. A. P. Low, O.B.E.	Pay Rs. 1,900 0 0 per mensem (in the time scale of I. P. S.) Special pay 400 0 0 per mensem.	Pay. In the time scale of I. P. S., as Financial Secretary, North-West Frontier Province, <i>plus</i> a special pay of Rs. 150 per mensem as Financial Secretary, and a special pay of Rs. 200 per mensem as Financial Adviser, North-West Frontier Province Government.

BROADCASTS OF BENGALI PROGRAMMES FROM THE ALL-INDIA RADIO,  
DELHI.

363. \*Mr. Madandhari Singh: Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All-India Radio, Delhi, broadcasts programmes in Hindi, Urdu, English, Tamil, Gujrati in addition to the broadcasts of the daily news;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no Bengali programme is broadcast from the All-India Radio, Delhi;

(c) whether Government are aware of the existence of a large number of Bengalees in Delhi and the Punjab; and

(d) whether Government propose to start a Bengali Section in the All-India Radio, Delhi?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** (a) Yes, but Tamil and Gujerati broadcasts (other than news) are directed to listeners outside India and are disseminated from shortwave transmitters.

(b) Yes.

(c) The population of Bengalis runs into a few thousands.

(d) No.

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** May I know what are the languages in which Delhi station broadcasts for foreign service?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** I shall require notice.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** Will the Honourable Member kindly tell us if there is really any obstacle in giving Bengali broadcasts from the All-India Radio Station at Delhi?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** The population is very small.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** With reference to the Honourable Member's answer is not he aware that appreciation of Bengali music at least is not confined to Bengalees?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** I do not know, Sir, whether Bengalee music is broadcast or not, but it must be.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** I wanted to be assured.

**Mr. Yusuf Abdoola Haroon:** May I enquire from the Honourable Member whether it is a fact that the All-India Radio Stations at Calcutta, Bombay and Dacca are broadcasting Bengalee and Gujrati music, and as there is no Radio Station in the Province of Sind why Sindhi broadcasts are not provided for in the programme of Delhi Station, and whether the Honourable Member would consider the advisability of allotting some time for broadcast in this language from the All-India Radio Station at Delhi?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** I do not possess the information required.

Mr. President: Music seems to have been confounded with languages.

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Has the Honourable Member consulted the authorities employed in the All-India Radio Station at Delhi as to what is the volume of demand for Bengalee broadcasts?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** The Honourable Member wants to know the volume of demand for Bengalee music. The staff has supplied the information that the population is very small . . . . .

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Apart from the question of population, may I know whether a specific question was put to the Delhi Station authorities as to what was the amount of demand that was made by the public for having Bengalee broadcasts?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** As there is no demand, it cannot be measured.

**Sreejot Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri:** Is the Honourable Member aware that a large number of non-Bengalee people are fond of Bengalee music?

**Mr. President:** That has been answered, I believe.

**Shri D. P. Karmarkar:** With reference to part (a) of the question, may I ask whether Government have finished consideration of the question of allotting some time to Canarese music? I have raised this question already on the floor of the House. If the question is not yet considered may I know if the Honourable Member will consider the advisability of considering this question about Bangalee being given more time after the Canarese question is settled?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Canarese will get due priority.

WAR LEAVE TO MEMBERS OF RAILWAY WHO VOLUNTEERED FOR MILITARY SERVICE IN THE INDIAN ENGINEERS.

**864. \*Mr. Frank E. Anthony:** Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state:

(a) whether war leave, together with full pay, was given to those who volunteered from certain Government Departments for service in the military forces;

(b) whether this benefit was denied to members of the Railway who volunteered for military service in the Indian Engineers; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to give this benefit to them also?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) Yes, Sir. Annual war leave on full pay was given to Gazetted Officers of the P. & T. Department granted emergency commissions and to officers of the A.I.R.O. who held permanent civil appointments. Their terms of service provided for this.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. Under the rules the leave of permanent Railway employees who volunteered for military service is governed by the civil rules applicable to them before transfer to the Army except that in cases of sickness or disability directly attributable to military service leave is governed by military rules. Government do not propose to change these rules.

**Mr. Frank E. Anthony:** Is it not a fact that all members of the Posts and Telegraphs Department who volunteered for military service were given these concessions with regard to war leave and pay?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I have replied that the annual war leave on full pay was given to gazetted officers of the P. & T. Department granted emergency commissions and to officers of the A.I.R.O. who held permanent civil appointments.

**Mr. President:** He wants to know, irrespective of gazetted officers.

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I am afraid I have not got that information with me.

**Mr. Frank E. Anthony:** If it is a fact that war leave was given to all members of the Posts and Telegraphs Department, which is a Government Department, who volunteered for military service, will Government consider extending exactly the same concession to members of the Railway Department, another Department of the same Government, who volunteered for military service?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I have replied that Government do not propose to change these rules. The special concession to the personnel of the Posts and Telegraphs Department owed its origin to the fact that they were governed by special rules before the war.

*GRATUITIES TO PENSIONERS EMPLOYED IN A MILITARY CAPACITY*

**865. \*Mr. Frank R. Anthony:** Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state:

(a) whether pensioners who were employed in a military capacity were denied the right to gratuities granted to all other personnel; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to consider the advisability of giving the same right to pensioners also?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) and (b). The Honourable Member presumably refers to Indian military pensioners re-employed during the last war. If by 'gratuities' is meant 'war gratuity', this has been given to re-employed pensioners as well. If the Honourable Member has in mind 'service gratuity', the question of granting this to re-employed pensioners does not arise, as these personnel were allowed to draw pension in addition to pay, a concession not ordinarily admissible. No discrimination has, therefore, been made against re-employed pensioners.

**Mr. Frank R. Anthony:** Is it not a fact that the pensions were calculated on the total emoluments so that no pensioner could draw anything more than another person doing a similar job of work?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I want notice of that question.

*DATA REGARDING PERSONS FROM PROVINCES EMPLOYED IN VARIOUS DEPARTMENT*

**866. \*Mr. Madandhari Singh:** (a) Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government are collecting data regarding persons from various Provinces employed in the various Departments and their subordinate and attached offices?

(b) If so, do Government propose to state the number of such employees from each Province, community-wise, with the appointment held by each?

(c) Do Government propose to take any steps to fix a proportionate quota for each Province, in all classes of services under them, according to the population and the revenue derived?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** (a) Information is being collected with regard to the number of persons belonging to different Provinces employed in the Secretariat and Attached Offices situated at Headquarters, and not in respect of all Central Government employees.

(b) This detailed information is not being collected.

(c) No.

*DEPUTATION TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OF PERSONS PERMANENTLY EMPLOYED THE PROVINCES.*

**867. \*Mr. Madandhari Singh:** (a) Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that persons in the permanent employ of the Provincial Governments have been coming to the Central Government on deputation from 1939 onwards?

(b) If the reply to part (a) above is in the affirmative, do Government propose to recognise the services of such employees by absorbing them permanently on their staff?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** (a) Yes.

(b) Persons on deputation from Provincial Governments must return to their Provinces at the end of their period of deputation, unless the Provincial Government concerned agree to extend the period of deputation. Permanent appointments to Central Services, Class I and Class II and to Ministerial Posts in the Secretariat and Attached Offices have to be made through the Federal Public Service Commission. It is open to the persons on deputation from Provincial Governments to apply for permanent appointment in the Central Government.

with the consent of their Provincial Government. If they do apply, their cases will be considered along with those of other applicants.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** May I know what happens with reference to I.C.S. men who are brought from time to time from the Provinces and what is the procedure for their being absorbed or retained here permanently in case the Central Government wants to retain them for any particular Department?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Before making them permanent here, the Provincial Government concerned is consulted because they are drawn from their cadre.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Is the Central Government pursuing the policy of automatically sending them away after three or four years of deputation here?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** It is the general policy of Government except in special cases.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Is not the Government considering the desirability of retaining such of them and utilizing their experience here as have served for more than three years, inasmuch as in provinces the subjects that they are required to deal with are absolutely different from those at the Centre?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** The benefit of the Central Government experience is to be given to the provinces also.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** So far as the Finance Department at least is concerned, is it not necessary that there should be continuity inasmuch as the Central finances are absolutely different . . . . .

**Mr. President:** Order, order. The Honourable Member is arguing. Next question.

#### COMMUNAL PROPORTION OF REGIMENTS IN INDIAN ARMY

**868. \*Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth:** Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the leading article in the *Dawn*, dated the 13th February 1947 under the heading "Demuslimising the Forces";

(b) whether Government propose to place on the table of the House a copy of the first interim recommendations submitted by the Armed Forces Nationalization Committee;

(c) the number of Regiments of the Indian Army which are wholly composed of (1) Hindus (2) Gurkhas (3) Sikhs and (4) Muslims;

(d) the communal proportion fixed for the future for the Indian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, and the actual communal ratio in this corps at present;

(e) the communal proportion fixed for the future for (1) the R.I.N., (2) R.I.A.F. and (3) the Army, the present communal proportion of all ranks in these three Services and the proportion of officers community-wise in these three Defence Services;

(f) the communal composition of the Directorate of Personnel and the various Services Selection Boards;

(g) the number of Indian Brigadiers and the number of Muslims among them;

(h) the communal proportion of the officers and the staff selected for the Pre-cadet Training School for civilians and the Pre-Selection School for Indian Emergency Commissioned officers and the National War Academy to be started at Poona; and

(i) the steps that Government propose to take to ensure that the Muslims have their due share in all the ranks and services of the three branches of the Defence Force of India?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. These recommendations are now under consideration by Government. It is not considered desirable to publish them until a final decision is reached.

(c) to (h). I lay five statements on the table of the House.

(i) Equal opportunity exists for all. No community is denied its due share, but officer appointments are made on the basis of merit, and merit alone.

*Statements*

*The number of Regiments wholly composed of Hindus, Gurkhas, Sikhs or Muslims (Regiment in this context has been assumed to mean all Units of Lt.-Cols. command).*

Hindus	Gurkhas	Sikhs	Muslims	Total
54	37	12	19	122

*Class composition of I.E.M.E.*

Community	Existing composition (1-12-1946)	Proposed Post-war
	Per cent	Per cent
Hindus . . . . .	51·03	70·88
Muslims . . . . .	31·12	18·54
Sikhs . . . . .	5·83	1·00
Others . . . . .	12·02	9·58

*Royal Indian Navy.*—No communal proportion is fixed for the R. I. N. Recruitment to that Service is made on an all-India and non-communal basis.

As regards the existing composition of this Service, attention is invited to the statement laid on the table on the 24th February 1947 in answer to starred question No. 530.

*Indian Army.*—No communal proportion is fixed. The officers of the Indian Army, as in the case of the other two services is on a non-communal basis. The present composition of the Indian Army is shown below :—

Community	Officers	Others
	Per cent	Per cent
Hindus incl. Gurkhas . . . . .	47·84	55·71
Muslims . . . . .	23·65	31·76
Sikhs . . . . .	16·26	7·65
Others . . . . .	12·25	4·88

*Royal Indian Air Force.*—No communal composition is fixed for the R.I.A.F. in respect of either officers or other ranks. The demand for pilots and technical personnel for the

R.I.A.F. has always exceeded the supply. The present communal proportion in the service is given below :—

Community	Officers and Airmen	Officers only
	Per cent	Per cent
Hindus . . . . .	57	46
Muslims . . . . .	18·3	18
Sikhs . . . . .	5·1	11
Others . . . . .	19·6	25

The communal composition of the officers of the Directorate of Personnel, the seven Services Selection Boards and the Pre-selection officers Training School is as follows :—

Community	Directorate (officers)	Selection Boards (officers)	Pre-selection officers training school
Hindus . . . . .	9	27	2
Muslims . . . . .	6	11	1
Sikhs . . . . .	1	1	2
Others . . . . .	1	6	
Total . . . . .	17	45	5

No establishment has yet been sanctioned for the Pre-cadet Training scheme.

As for the National War Academy, no establishment has been sanctioned for the Academy as Government have not yet passed orders on the report of the National War Academy Committee.

There are at present ten Indian Brigadiers of whom one is a Muslim.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** With reference to part (c) of the question, will the Honourable Member please state what is the religion of the Gurkhas mentioned under item 2; and if they are Hindus, whether the statement that the Honourable Member gave under the heading Hindus included them also, or not?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I would ask for notice of that question. I am not sure whether the figure against Hindus includes Gurkhas.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Could the Honourable Member not tell us without any further notice as to what is the religion of the Gurkhas?

**Mr. President:** The Honourable Member says that he wants notice.

#### COMMUNAL PROPORTION OF SERVICES IN THE POST WAR DEFENCE FORCE OF INDIA

**869. \*Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth:** Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state whether any communal proportion has been fixed for the various Services in the post War Defence Force of India and, if so, what are the details?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** No, Sir.

## JURISDICTION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION, DELHI.

†870. \***Lala Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Honourable Member for Education be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of recognised schools which fall under the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of Education, Delhi;

(b) the number of other Officers employed by Government under him;

(c) the salaries drawn by each of these officers;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent of Education, Delhi Province, has also been given the task of inspection of schools in Ajmer-Merwara and Central India; if so, the time spent by him in visiting these areas during the year 1946, the number of schools visited by him, and the expenditure incurred on that account by Government by way of travelling and other allowances; and

(e) whether there is a separate Deputy Superintendent of Education and other Inspecting Officers for Ajmer-Merwara and for Central India; if so, whether Government propose to consider the desirability of the Superintendent of Education of Delhi Province devoting his whole attention to Delhi Province and the inspecting officers of Ajmer-Merwara and of Central India doing the inspection work in their respective territories directly under the supervision of their own Government?

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** The Honourable Member apparently refers to the Superintendent of Education, Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Central India. The information asked for in respect of all the three areas, is as follows:

(a) Delhi Province—347, Ajmer-Merwara—391, Central India—28.

(b) and (c). Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Central India.—Deputy Superintendent of Education—Pay Rs. 600 in the scale of 600—35—950—50—1,000.

*Delhi.*—1. Assistant Superintendent of Education Pay Rs. 550 in the scale of 300—25—700.

2. Assistant Superintendent of Female Education—Pay Rs. 300 in the scale of 200—20—400—25—500.

3. District Inspector of Schools—Pay Rs. 400 in the scale of 250—25—700.

In addition there are six non-gazetted inspecting and supervisory officers.

*Ajmer-Merwara.*—1. District Inspector of Schools—Pay Rs. 650 in the scale of 200—20—500—525—25—600—625—650.

2. Inspectress of Girls Schools—Pay Rs. 350 in the scale of 200—20—400.

In addition there are three non-gazetted Inspecting Officers.

*Central India.*—Nil.

There is one non-gazetted Assistant Inspector.

(d) The Superintendent of Education, Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Central India, is responsible for Education in all the three areas, and he should spend approximately six, four and two months in a year in Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Central India respectively. Actually the Superintendent of Education did not inspect or visit any school in Ajmer in 1945-46. Pending the appointment of a permanent Superintendent of Education, Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Central India, through the agency of the Federal Public Service Commission, the Government of India made interim arrangements for the inspection of schools in the areas concerned, by local officers. The Assistant Superintendent of Education, Delhi who was carrying on the duties of Superintendent of Education, Delhi and Central India and then officiating as Superintendent, of Education, Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Central India during 1945-46, spent 36 days in Central India and visited 23 schools. The expenditure incurred in connection with travelling allowance amounted to Rs. 2,022-8-0.

† Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.



(e) There is no separate post of Deputy Superintendent of Education, Ajmer-Merwara and Central India. The Honourable Member apparently refers to the post of Deputy Superintendent of Education, Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Central India. There are separate Inspecting Officers in Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Central India. The Government have already given the matter their most careful consideration and the present arrangements have been found economical as well as satisfactory. With the progress of educational development as administrative responsibilities grow, the situation will no doubt be reviewed.

#### DEFALCATION OF FINES IN THE COURT OF RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, NEW DELHI.

†871. \***Lala Deshbandhu Gupta**: Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in October, 1946, defalcation of fines amounting to about Rs. 15,000 was detected in the Court of the Resident Magistrate, New Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government auditors were appointed to find out the exact amount defalcated and to report as to how the defalcation happened; if so, what the findings of the auditors were and which officials were at fault;

(c) the action taken against the officials concerned and the steps taken for the recovery of Government money from them;

(d) whether Government are aware that the clerk concerned is still absconding and that the Magistrate concerned who was suspended by Government was called back by the Punjab Government and the orders of his suspension were cancelled in spite of the protest of the Delhi Administrative Authorities; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to take any further action in the matter?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**: (a) Yes.

(b) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The findings of the Auditors are still awaited. The question of allocating responsibility will arise after the proceedings both criminal and departmental have been completed.

(c) A criminal case has been started against the clerk and departmental proceedings have been taken against the Resident Magistrate. The question of recovery will arise after the result of these proceedings is known and responsibility for the defalcation can be determined.

(d) The clerk concerned is absconding. The Resident Magistrate was suspended and charges were framed against him but further proceedings could not be taken owing to his illness. At the instance of the Punjab Government the Chief Commissioner cancelled the order of suspension.

(e) In view of the answer to clause (d), this question does not arise.

#### RADIO SET AT CONNAUGHT PLACE PARK.

†872. \***Lala Deshbandhu Gupta**: Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state why the Radio set at Connaught Place Park which was managed under the orders of the War Publicity Bureau, Rajpur Road, Delhi City, has ceased to work for the last few months?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**: The radio set in question was donated by a private firm, and was being looked in turn by the War Publicity Bureau and the Field Publicity Organisation. It is understood that it went out of order last June and since there were no funds for its repair, it has ceased to function.

† Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

## RETURN OF CONFISCATED PROPERTY OF PIR PAGARO OF SIND.

†873. \***Lala Deshbandhu Gupta**: Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state whether the press report that the Government of India have decided to return the confiscated property of the late Pir Pagaro of Sind is correct; if so, the estimated value of the property to be so returned and the considerations which weighed with Government to come to this decision?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja**: The Government of India have decided to hand over to the Government of Sind a sum of Rupees five lakhs out of the money realised from the sale of the confiscated movable property of the late Pir Pagaro, and the immovable property belonging to him which was forfeited to the Government of India.

The Government of Sind will then assume responsibility for the education and maintenance of the Pir's two sons and other dependants.

It will be seen that the press report was not accurate and it has not been decided to hand over the property to the heirs.

## APPLICATION OF BOMBAY CHILDREN ACT TO DELHI PROVINCE.

†874. \***Lala Deshbandhu Gupta**: Will the Honourable Member for Education be pleased to state:

(a) the date from which the Bombay Children Act was applied to the Province of Delhi; and whether the entire Act was enforced or any portions were left out;

(b) whether a separate Juvenile Court and a probation service as required under the provisions of the said Act has been established at Delhi, and if so from what date;

(c) the total number of cases of children tried under the various provisions of the Act during the years 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945 and 1946;

(d) whether there is any provision under the Act or the Rules made by the Chief Commissioner making it obligatory for the Juvenile Court to call for a social investigation report in each case; and if so, in how many cases out of the total number of cases tried, such reports were received and considered before passing judgment;

(e) the percentage of cases of children released on probation as provided in the Act;

(f) the institutions that are recognised as fit and Certified Schools under the Act in Delhi;

(g) whether Government have any scheme to start a Certified School as provided in the Act, and if so, whether it was sponsored by the Planning Department of the Chief Commissioner, or by some private individual or Association; and

(h) the annual grant-in-aid given by the Government of India to the Delhi Children's Aid Society and whether Government propose to increase grant or to take over the work of the Society?

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad**: Necessary information has been called for from the Local Administration. It will be laid on the table of the House when received.

## ABSORPTION INTO ARMY OF MEN OF THE 1ST INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY

875. \***Sardar Mangal Singh**: Will the Secretary of the Defence Department please state:

(a) whether Government are aware that after the break up of the 1st Indian National Army, General Mohan Singh, Col. N. S. Gill and their companions were kept prisoners by the Japanese till the end of War when the Allies rescued them;

† Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

(b) whether Government are aware that they did not join the 2nd Indian National Army and suffered great privations in which a number of them lost their lives as a result of their refusal to do so;

(c) the reasons for treating the men of the 1st Indian National Army on a par with those who took active part in the 2nd Indian National Army movement;

(d) whether it is a fact that Col. N. S. Gill of the 1st Indian National Army made a statement to the South East Asia Command at Singapore immediately after his release from the Japanese imprisonment explaining his conduct in respect of the part he played in the 1st Indian National Army movement;

(e) if the answer to part (d) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to lay a copy of that statement on the table of the House; and

(f) whether Government propose to reconsider the case of the 1st Indian National Army men with a view to re-absorbing them in the Army or according them better treatment?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir, this is true of many of them.

(c) Because, Sir, neither of them were regarded as reliable soldiers.

(d) Yes, Sir, and he made a contradictory statement to the Japanese when imprisoned by them.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) No, Sir

COLLECTION AND PUBLICATION OF FOLK SONGS OF DIFFERENT PARTS OF COUNTRY

**876. \*Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will the Honourable Member for Education be pleased to state:

(a) what steps, if any, are being taken by Government for collecting folk songs of different parts of the country and for popularising them; and

(b) whether Government have considered the question of providing scholarships or stipends in order to facilitate such collection and publication?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: (اے) اس بارے میں گورنمنٹ نے ابھی تک کوئی

خاص قدم نہیں اٹھایا ہے۔ گورنمنٹ نے ویسوا بھارتی شانتی نیکیتن میں جو ٹیچرز ٹریننگ انسٹیٹیوٹ کھولا ہے اُسے ایک اسکیم بنائی ہے اُس اسکیم کے مطابق کوشش کی جاوے گی کہ ملک کے الگ الگ حصوں میں جو لوگ سونگز پائے جاتے ہیں انہیں اکٹھا کیا جاوے تاکہ وہ ایجوکیشنل انسٹیٹیوٹوں کے کام آئیں۔

(بی) گورنمنٹ اس معاملہ میں پوری طرح سوچ بچار کریگی۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** (a) So far no steps have been taken by Government direct in the matter. The Teachers Training Institute set up at Visva-Bharati Santiniketan, by the Central Government, have proposed a scheme to collect folk songs of the different parts of the country with a view to utilising them in educational institutions.

(b) The Government will give the issue their careful consideration.

مسٹر سسکا سیکھر سنیاال: کیا گورنمنٹ یہ بتائے گی کہ ویسوا بھارتی میں جو

کام شروع ہوا ہے اسکے کام کرنے کے لئے گورنمنٹ کچھ گرانٹ دیگی۔

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will the Government say whether any grant will be given for the work started in Visva-Bharati?

آئریہل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : گورنمنٹ اسپر سوچ و چار کریگی۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** It is being considered by the Government.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** In view of the work already done by the All-India Radio which broadcasts folk songs of different provinces, will Government see that duplicate moneys are not spent for the same purpose by two different departments of the Government?

آئریہل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : گورنمنٹ اسپر غور کریگی۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** Government will consider it.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Is the Honourable Member aware that a certain gentleman has been collecting these folk songs and writing a number of articles as well as books on the subject?

آئریہل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : گورنمنٹ کے علم میں اس طرح کی کوئی چیز

نہیں آئی ہے۔ لیکن اگر یہ ہے تو گورنمنٹ اسپر غور کریگی۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** Government has no knowledge of such a thing. If there is; Government will consider it.

پلڈت شری کرشن دت پالیوال : گورنمنٹ کو کیا یہ معلوم ہے کہ کون سا محکمہ

کام کر رہا ہے۔

**Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal:** Do the Government know which Department is doing the work?

آئریہل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : گورنمنٹ تحقیقات کریگی۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** Government will investigate.

COLLECTION OF MASTERPIECES OF INDIAN PAINTINGS.

877. \***Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will the Honourable Member for Education be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken by Government for collecting masterpieces in Indian painting;

(b) what steps are being taken by Government for acquainting students in Indian schools with high class Indian paintings;

(c) whether for the above purposes, Government are collecting information from countries abroad as to the methods adopted and applied by them; and

(d) to what extent and how Government are taking the assistance of Indian artists and art critics in this matter?

آئریہل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : (اے) گورنمنٹ نے ایک اسکیم اصولی طور پر پانچ

برس کی اس غرض سے منظور کر لی ہے کہ سنٹرل نیشنل میوزیم قائم کیا جاوے۔ اس میوزیم میں دوسرے دیپارٹمنٹوں کے ساتھ ایک دیپارٹمنٹ آرت کا ہوگا۔ اس میں تصویر بنانے - پتھر سے مورتیاں تراشے کی ہندوستانی کاریگری کے تمام نمونے رکھے جائیں گے۔

قلم سے لکھی ہوئی ایسی پرانی کتابیں جنہیں پرانے نقش و نگار کے ڈھنگ پر چمکیا گیا تھا اس میں جگہ پائیں گی۔ یہ تمام نمونے اس طریقہ پر جوڑے جائیں گے کہ پرانے زمانے

سے لیکر جو زیادہ سے زیادہ دور تک پیچھے گئے ہیں اور حال کے زمانے تک کے نمونے دنیا کے سامنے ابھر آئیں۔ البتہ آج کل کے زمانے کا ہندوستانی آرٹ اُن سے نہیں ملایا جائیگا کیونکہ وہ میوزیم کے چہار دیواری کے اندر کی چیز نہیں ہے۔ اسکیم میں چیزوں کے خریدنے کے لئے ایک فنڈ رکھا گیا ہے کیونکہ بہت سی چیزیں ایسی ہونگی جن کے لئے خاص طور پر خرچ کا انتظام ضروری ہوگا۔

(بی) یہ تجویز بھی ہے کہ لندن کے وکٹوریا اور البرٹ کے میوزیم کے سرکمپلیمنٹ ڈیپارٹمنٹ کے نمونے پر یہاں بھی ایک ایسا ہی ڈیپارٹمنٹ کھولا جائے تاکہ ملک کے دوسرے شہروں اور انسٹی ٹیوشنوں میں خاص خاص چنی ہوئی چیزیں چکڑ لگا سکیں۔

(سی) یہ بھی تجویز کیا گیا ہے کہ دورے کا ایک نقشہ بناکر دو افسر باہر بھیجے جائیں گے۔ وہ گریٹ برٹن اور امریکہ کے بڑے بڑے میوزیموں کی بناوت سجاوت اور بندوبست کے تمام دھنگ دیکھیں گے۔ سبھیہنگے اور اس کام میں پوری مہارت حاصل کر کے واپس آئیں گے۔

(قی) میوزیم کی گورنگ باقی میں ہندوستانی آرٹسٹ اور آرٹ کویٹک کافی تعداد میں رکھے جائیں گے تاکہ وہ کمیٹی آف مینجمنٹ کو جنرل پالیسی کے بارے میں ہدایت کرتے رہیں۔ اور میوزیم اور پبلک انٹرسٹ کے درمیان ایک ملانے والی کڑی کا کام دیں۔ جہاں تک آج کل کے ہندوستانی آرٹ کا تعلق ہے سنٹرل ادوائزری بورڈ آف ایجوکیشن نے سفارش کی ہے کہ ایک انڈین ایکادمی آف آرٹس اینڈ آرکی ٹیکچر قائم کیا جاوے تاکہ وہ ملک کی کلچرل سرگرمیوں کو ایک دوسرے سے ملاسکیں اور اس کی سفارش پر گورنمنٹ سوچ بچار کریگی۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** (a) The Government have approved, in principle, a five year scheme for the establishment of a Central National Museum of Art, Archaeology, and Anthropology. The proposed Museum will comprise among others a Department of Art, which will be entrusted with the representation of Indian pictorial and sculptural art (including illuminated manuscripts) from the earliest periods until recent times, including examples of the higher craftsmanship of artistic value, but excluding modern Indian Art or the art of countries remote from India or unrelated to the traditional Indian culture. The scheme also provides for the establishment of a purchase fund for normal acquisition of collections for various Departments of the Museum, and for exceptional collections.

(b) It is also proposed to establish a Circulating Department on the model of the Circulating Department of the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, for sending out classified loan collections to towns and educational institutions throughout India.

(c) It is also proposed to send one or two Officers of the Museum, when they are recruited for training and necessary practical experience abroad on a carefully planned foreign tour, which would include a detailed examination of the construction, administration, methods of display etc. of certain of the best museums of Great Britain and America.

(d) Indian Artists and Art Critics will be adequately represented on the proposed Governing Body of the Museum in order to guide the "Committee of Management" on matters of general policy and as a link between the Museum and official and public interest.

As for the development *inter alia* of the modern India Art the Central Advisory Board of Education have recommended the setting up of an "Indian Academy of Arts and Architecture" in order to foster and co-ordinate the development of the cultural activities of the country, as a whole. The proposal is under consideration. It will be for the proposed Academy, when set up, to devise the best ways and means to fulfil the objects for which it is to be formed.

شری سری پرکاش: کیا میں گورنمنٹ سے یہ دریافت کر سکتا ہوں کہ اس عجائب گھر میں تخت طائوس اور کوہنور ہیرا بھی واپس لیا جائیگا

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** May I ask the Government if the Peacock Throne and Koh-i-Noor diamond will also be brought back for this Museum?

آئرپیل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: اگر آئرپیل ممبر صاحب بتلا سکیں گے کہ یہ چیزیں کہاں ہیں پھر کوشش کی جاوے گی۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** If the Honourable Member can tell us where to find these things efforts will be made to recover them.

شری سری پرکاش: کیا آئرپیل ممبر صاحب کے یہ علم میں نہیں ہے کہ تخت طائوس ایران میں ہے اور کوہنور ہیرا لندن میں۔

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Does not the Honourable Member know that Peacock Throne is in Iran and Koh-i-Noor diamond is in London?

آئرپیل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: تخت طائوس کے لئے جہاں تک معلوم ہوا ہے کہ ایران میں نہیں ہے لیکن دوسری چیز کے لئے کوشش کی جاوے گی۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** So far as inquiries go Peacock Thorne is not in Iran. Efforts will be made for the other thing.

مسٹر سسکا سیکھر سانیال: جو آرٹ ایگزپیشن ہوگا اس میں ہندوستانی چیزیں بھیجی جائیں گی یا نہیں۔

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will Indian exhibits be sent to the proposed Art Exhibition or not?

آئرپیل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: ایگزپیشن جسوقت ہوگا اُس وقت اس کے لئے انتظام کیا جائیگا۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** Arrangements will be made when the Exhibition is held.

مسٹر سسکا سیکھر سانیال: جو چیزیں بھیجی ہونگی اُسکی نقل رکھی جائے گی یا نہیں؟

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will models be kept of the exhibits which will be sent?

آئرپیل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: اسکے لئے انتظام کر لیا گیا ہے۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** Arrangements have been made for it.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** Have Government considered the question of giving some relief to England in the matter of the sterling balances by taking over all the antiquities and pieces of art, manuscripts and books which have a close association with India, for the obvious reason that India is their home and in any case, is it not fair to bring them over here?

آریہیل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: اس پر تجارت مہینت سوچ بچا کر رہا ہے۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** It is under the consideration of the Department.

شری سری پرکاش: اس بات پر غور کرتے ہوئے کہ ابھی حال ہی میں مسز سوامی ناتھن کے ایک دوست نے تخت طاؤس کو ایران میں دیکھا ہے۔ کیا آریہیل ممبر صاحب اسکی تلاش کرنے کی کوشش کریں گے۔

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Considering the fact that one of Mrs. Swaminadhan's friends recently saw the Peacock Throne in Iran, will the Honourable Member try to find it out?

آریہیل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: کوشش کی جائیگی

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** Efforts will be made.

#### INTRODUCTION OF INDIAN DANCING IN SCHOOLS.

878. **\*Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will the Honourable Member for Education be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that are being taken by Government for encouraging and promoting oriental dancing and for introducing a course of Indian dancing in schools; and

(b) whether in this matter Government are seeking or taking the advice and assistance of artists and art critics?

آریہیل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: (اے) اور (بی) سنٹرل ایڈوائزری بورڈ آف

ایجوکیشن نے سفارش کی ہے کہ ایک انڈین ایکادمی آف میوزک - ڈراما اینڈ ڈانسنگ قائم کیا جاوے۔ اس تجویز پر سوچ بچا کر رہا ہے۔ جو بات اُنہائی گئی ہے وہ بلاشبہ خاص کلچرل انٹریسٹ کی ہے جو نہی تعلیم کی ذمہ اسکیم آئے بڑھیکے تو پوری طرح اس بات پر دھیان دیا جاوے گا۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** (a) and (b). The Central Advisory Board of Education have recommended the setting up of an "Indian Academy of Music, Drama and Dancing." The proposal is under examination.

The issues raised are of great cultural interest and will receive most careful consideration as the scheme of educational development is implemented.

مسٹر سنکا سیکھر سنیال: کیا سرکار انڈین ڈانسنگ قیماستیشن دکھانے کے

لئے کوئی انتظام کریگی۔

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will the Government arrange to hold an Indian dancing demonstration?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: یہ اس پر موقوف ہے کہ جب اس طرح کی چیز سامنے آئیگی۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** It depends upon the time when the question comes before us.

شری سری پرکاش: اس بات کو دیکھتے ہوئے کہ جہانسی میں ناچ کی وجہ سے بہت سے انگریزی سپاہیوں نے ایلنگلو انڈین عورتوں پر حملہ کیا تھا۔ کیا آنریبل ممبر صاحب اس بات کا خیال رکھیں گے کہ جب انکی تجویز کے مطابق ناچ کا نمونہ پیش ہو تو اس طرح حملہ نہ ہونے پاوے۔

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** In view of the fact that in Jhansi during a dance many British soldiers assaulted Anglo-Indian girls will the Honourable member bear in mind that at the time of the proposed dancing demonstration no such assault will occur.

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: مجھے اُمید ہے کہ اس وقت ملک کی حالت ایسی ہو جائیگی کہ کوئی حملہ کی ضرورت نہ ہوگی۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** I hope by that time the country will be in a state that will do away with the possibility of assaults.

سیتھ گونڈ داس: کیا سرکار کو معلوم ہے کہ دنیا میں کہاں سب سے پہلے ناچ کس معاملہ میں راکس ہوا ہے تو سرکار اسکے لئے کوشش کرے کہ جہاں پرانے ناچ کے معاملہ میں جتنے ساہت دنیا میں موجود ہوں انکو ملکا کا پہاں رکھا جائے۔

**Seth Govind Das:** Is the Government aware in what connection and in what part of the world dancing was first introduced in the world? Will the Government try to call here all the expert classical dancers from all over the world?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: قدرتی طور پر گورنمنٹ ان لوگوں کو یہاں لائیگی جو اس چیز کے اکسپرت ہیں۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** Naturally Government will call all the experts of this art.

ڈاکٹر ضیاء الدین احمد: کیا میں آنریبل ممبر سے یہ درخواست کر سکتا ہوں کہ ہر مذہب اور ہر فرقہ کے لئے ناچنا لازمی نہ کیا جاوے۔

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** May I request the Honourable Member not to make dancing compulsory for members of all communities.

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: میں نہیں سمجھتا کہ اس قسم کا سوال پیدا ہوتا ہے۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** I do not understand that this sort of question arises here.



## OFFICERS AT HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARCHÆOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

679. \*Mr. Muhammad Rahmat-Ullah: (a) Will the Honourable Member for Education please state when the term of service of the officers who are at present holding the following appointments at the headquarters of the Archaeological Department will expire: (1) Director General, (2) Joint Director General, (3) Deputy Director General?

(b) Do Government propose to consider the advisability of appointing a Muslim to any of these posts?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : (اے) ڈائریکٹر جنرل جوائنٹ ڈائریکٹر جنرل اور ڈپٹی ڈائریکٹر کے ٹرمس آف سروس ۲۳ اپریل-۳۰ جون اور ۱۹ اکتوبر میں ختم ہونیوالی ہے۔

(بی) ان جگہوں میں جو آدمی مقرر کئے جاتے ہیں انکا تقرر سلیکشن کے ذریعہ ہوتا ہے اور جو آدمی سب سے زیادہ مناسب سمجھا جاتا ہے مقرر کیا جاتا ہے مسلمان امیدوار کا حق بھی مہرت کو سامنے رکھتے ہوئے ضرور خیال رکھ لے گا۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: (a) The terms of service of the present Director General of Archæology, Joint Director General of Archæology and Deputy Director General of Archæology will expire on the 23rd April, 30th June and 19th October, 1948 respectively.

(b) Appointment to the said posts is made by selection and the most suitable officers are appointed. The claims of Muslim candidates will certainly be considered on merits at the appropriate time.

## PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ARCHÆOLOGY AS DIRECTOR OF MUSEUMS

880. \*Mr. Muhammad Rahmat-Ullah: (a) Will the Honourable Member for Education please state the qualifications prescribed for the posts of Director General of Archaeology and Joint Director General of Archaeology?

(b) Do Government propose to appoint the present Director General of Archaeology to the Post of Director of Museums when he finishes his term of appointment as Director General of Archaeology in India; if so, what are the reasons therefor?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : (اے) ڈائریکٹر جنرل آف آر کے یوالجی کے لئے جن کوالیفیکیشنس کا ہونا ضروری ہے وہ یہ ہیں -

- (۱) اونچے درجہ کا ایگڈمک کوالیفیکیشن اور پریکٹیکل ٹریلنگ ساتھ ہی آر کے لاجیکل ریسرچ میں مانی ہوئی شہرت -
- (۲) کسی آر کے لاجیکل آرگنائزیشن کے انتظام کا اچھا تجربہ۔
- (۳) ماقدرن آر کے لاجیکل ٹیک نیک کی آکسپرٹ نالچ نیز چیزوں کے کھودنے نکالنے اور حفاظت سے رکھنے کا تجربہ -

جوائنٹ ڈائریکٹر جنرل کے لئے یہ کوالی فیکیشن ضروری سمجھی گئی ہیں۔

- (۱) قیہارٹمنٹ کے انتظام کی قابلیت -
- (۲) گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا کے جن قیہارٹمنٹوں سے آر کے لاجیکل سروے کا تعلق ہے

کہ وہ کس طرح کام کرتے ہیں انکا علم اور تجربہ۔

(۳) آر کے یوالجی کی کسی ایک شاخ کی اکادمک ٹریننگ اور دوسری شاخوں کا خاص طور پر علم۔

(۴) یونیورسٹیوں اور دوسرے کالجوں انسٹی ٹیوشنوں کے درمیان ایک بیچ کی کڑی کام کرنیکی استعداد۔

(۵) اچھے درجہ کی انتظامی قابلیت۔

(بی) نہیں جناب سوال کا دوسرا حصہ پیدا ہی نہیں ہوتا۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** (a) The qualifications required for the Director General of Archæology are:

(i) High academic qualification and practical training in Archaeology with established reputation in Archæological Research.

(ii) Sound experience of administration in a well-established Archæological Organisation.

(iii) Expert knowledge of modern archæological techniques with special reference to conservation and excavation.

The qualifications required for the Joint Director General of Archæology are:

(i) Intimate knowledge of the administration of the Department.

(ii) First hand knowledge and experience of the working of the Departments of the Government of India with which Archæological Survey is concerned.

(iii) High Academic training in a branch of Archæology plus a general knowledge of the principles involved in the working of the various branches of Archæology.

(iv) Capacity for good liaison work with Universities and other cultural institutions.

(v) Good administrative ability.

(b) No, Sir. The second part of the question does not arise.

سیٹھ گونند داس : کیا سرکار اس بات کا خیال رکھے گی کہ جہاں تک کوالیفیکیشن

کا معاملہ ہے وہاں ان یونیورسٹیوں کو جو سرکار کے دوازا استھاپت ہوئی ہیں نہ

صرف اسکا خیال رکھے بلکہ شانتی نکیتن گروکل اور اس طرح کی دوسری سنستھاؤں میں

جہاں ویدیارتھی پڑھتے ہیں جنہوں نے اس سہلہ میں اچ شکھشا پراپت کی ہے انکا بھی

خیال رکھے۔

**Seth Govind Das:** Will the Government bear in mind that so far as the qualifications are concerned the Santiniketan, Gurukul and other institutions where the students acquire higher knowledge, will be treated like the universities established and recognised by the Government?

آنریبل مولانا ابولکلام آزاد : گورنمنٹ کی آجکل کی تعلیمی پالیسی یہ ہی ہے۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** The present educational policy of the Government is on the same lines.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** May I know from the Honourable Member if this science of archæology is being taught in any University so as to fit persons in this Department?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : میں نے ابھی اسکے لئے توجہ دلائی ہے کہ اس کے لئے خاص کوالیفیکیشن کی ضرورت ہے اور یہ تو قدرتی طور پر سامنے رکھی جاوے گی جو جناب نے فرمایا ہے۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** I have recently directed attention to the fact that it requires a special qualification and what the Honourable Member has said will naturally be borne in mind.

**Shri D. P. Karmarkar:** Is the Honourable Member aware that there are many officers in the Archaeological Department competent enough to occupy the post of Director-General of Archaeology: and if so, will he consider the desirability of appointing an Indian in the next vacancy?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : موقعہ پر ضرور ان باتوں پر سوچ وچار کیا جائیگا۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** When the time comes these things will be taken into consideration.

شری سری پرکاش : کیا ڈائریکٹر جنرل ایسے بڑے عہدوں کی بھی ضرورت ہے۔

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Are such high posts as that of Director General considered necessary?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : اب تک اس عہدہ کی ضرورت سمجھی گئی ہے۔

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** Up to this time it is understood that there is need for this post.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** May I know how long the present Director-General of Archaeology is going to continue and whether he is a superannuated man?

**Mr. President:** The dates are already given in the reply. Next question.

#### STRENGTH OF THE INDIAN ARMY COMMUNITY-WISE.

**881. \*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** Will the Secretary of the Defence Department please state:

(a) the total strength of the Indian Army community-wise (i) at the outbreak of the war (1939), (ii) at the termination of the war (1946), and (iii) as on 22nd February 1947; and

(b) the number of Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Officers in the Army community-wise (i) at the outbreak of the war (1939), (ii) at the termination of the war (1946), and (iii) as on 22nd February 1947?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) and (b): I lay a statement on the table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) The strength of the Indian Army (VCOs. and IORs.) by community at the dates mentioned was :

Community	1-9-39	1-9-45	1-1-47
Hindus . . . . .	63,000	793,500	360,900
Muslims . . . . .	53,000	465,000	205,800
Sikhs . . . . .	24,000	98,500	49,600
Others . . . . .	1,000	77,000	31,700
Total . . . . .	141,000	1,434,000	648,000

(b) The strength of Indian Officers (including I.M.S.) for the above-mentioned dates was :

Community	1-9-39	1-10-45(*)	1-1-47
Hindus .	316	6,653	5,525
Muslims .	147	3,410	2,731
Sikhs .	96	2,218	1,878
Others .	67	,580	1,415
Total .	626	13,861	11,549

(\*) Figures for 1st September 1945 not readily available.

It is regretted that separate figures in respect of NCOs. are not maintained but since in units with fixed class composition NCOs of a particular class are replaced by members of the same class it is considered that the proportion of NCOs. will be roughly as the number of IORs of each community shown above.

#### COMMUNAL PROPORTION OF COMMISSIONED AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

**882. \*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** Will the Secretary of the Defence Department please state:

(a) the number of Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Officers recruited since the 2nd September, 1946; and

(b) how many of these Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Officers are (1) Hindus, (2) Muslims, (3) Sikhs, (4) Scheduled Castes, (5) Christians, (6) Parsis, and (7) Others?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) and (b). The information is not readily available. It will be collected and placed on the table of the House in due course.

#### GAZETTED OFFICERS IN THE DEFENCE DEPARTMENT

**883. \*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** Will the Secretary of the Defence Department please state:

(a) the total number of Gazetted Officers employed in his Department since the 2nd September, 1946, and how many of them are (1) Hindus, (2) Muslims, (3) Sikhs, and (4) Others; and

(b) the number of promotions made among Gazetted Officers since the 2nd September, 1946, stating separately how many of them are Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and others?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) and (b). The information is not readily available. It will be collected and placed on the table of the House in due course.

#### PERCENTAGE OF DEMOBILISED SOLDIERS COMMUNITY-WISE

**884. \*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** Will the Secretary of the Defence Department please state:

(a) the total number of soldiers, community-wise, demobilised since the 2nd September, 1946;

(b) the percentage of demobilised men in the following communities:

(1) Hindus, (2) Muslims, (3) Sikhs, and (4) Others;

(c) the number, community-wise, of King's Commissioned Officers demobilised since the 2nd September, 1946 and the percentage of Hindus, Sikhs, Muslims and others amongst them;

(d) the number of Viceroy's Commissioned Officers demobilised, community-wise, since the above date, and the percentage of Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and others amongst them; and

(e) the number, community-wise of Non-Commissioned Officers demobilised since the above date and the percentage of Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and others among them?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) to (e). The information is not readily available. It will be collected and placed on the table of the House in due course.

#### COMMUNAL PROPORTION OF EMERGENCY OFFICERS

**885. \*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** Will the Secretary of the Defence Department please state:

(a) the number of Emergency Officers (i) Commissioned, and (ii) Non-Commissioned, who have been made permanent and how many of them are (1) Hindus, (2) Muslims, (3) Sikhs; and

(b) the number of persons holding temporary ranks who have been made permanent in the following categories: (1) Soldiers, (2) Kings Commissioned Officers, (3) Viceroy's Commissioned Officers, and (4) Non-Commissioned Officers, since 2nd September, 1946, and how many in each category are Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and others?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) and (b). The information is not readily available. It will be collected and placed on the table of the House in due course.

**Mr. M. A. F. Hirtzel:** May I ask the Honourable Member what steps he is taking to remedy the obviously serious defects in his Department?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I think, Sir, the Honourable Member is casting a reflection which is entirely unjustified. In this case the Honourable Member who has put the question has asked for statements community-wise of Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and other communities not only with reference to the total figures, but as on the 2nd of September 1946. Now, Sir, I may explain that the Government do not maintain figures from date to date. Figures of demobilisation, of discharge and of recruitment are maintained from year to year, and month to month, but not with reference to the date to which my Honourable friend has directed his question. I therefore strongly resent the statement made by my Honourable friend from the opposite side.

**Mr. Leslie Gwilt:** My Honourable friend resented the last question. I think "Power" mechanical machines are used for keeping check of the community members in the Army, of demobilisation, recruitment etc. May I know whether there are or not cards used with these machines for each individual in the Army?

**Mr. President:** That will be, to my mind, a matter of argument. Obviously the information has to be collected.

#### DEMAND OF INCOME-TAX FROM INDIAN NATIONALS IN SAIGON

**886. \*Sri V. C. Vellingiri Gounder:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations have been made by the Indian Nationals in Saigon, Indo-China to the effect that during the War from 1941 to 1946 and the Japanese occupation of French Indo-China, most of the Indians lost their properties and business on account of the destruction due to bombing and devaluation of currency;

(b) whether Government are aware that the Income-Tax Department in India are demanding Income-Tax and Super-Tax for the above periods, though the Indians of French Indo-China have not received any money during the period; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to instruct the Commissioners of Income-Tax in the respective Provinces, to defer further action on assessment for the said period, till Government investigate into the matter?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** (a) No such representation has been made to Government though I understand that Indian residents of French Indo-China told the Honourable Mr. M. S. Aney informally at Saigon, during his tour of South East Asia in January 1946, that damage to Indian property had occurred through looting by Annamites and Allied bombing.

(b) and (c). In the assessments completed so far, the normal procedure of the Income-tax Act has been followed. In view of the time-limit laid down in the Act for the completion of assessments, no suspension of proceedings such as that suggested is feasible. But the Government of India have taken steps to secure that no demand for tax will be enforced till the correct position is ascertained.

**Sri V. O. Vellingiri Gounder:** May I know whether such instructions have been sent to the Provincial Governments?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** I don't know how the Provincial Governments come into the picture. This is about Income-tax.

**Sri V. O. Vellingiri Gounder:** I was referring to the Income-tax Commissioners of the Provinces.

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** I have said, Sir, in my reply that the Government of India have taken steps to secure that no demand for tax will be enforced till the correct position is ascertained.

**Sri T. V. Satakopachari:** Have any specific instructions been sent to the Income-tax Officers in Madras Province in this respect?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** I will make enquiries. If my Honourable friend sees me later on I can tell him.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** When Burma was raided by the Japanese for a whole year or two years was the collection of Income-tax suspended by the Provincial Government.

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** Yes, during that period it was suspended.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** So far as Indian Nationals in Indo-China are concerned, in view of the facts alleged, cannot similar arrangements be made, and cannot suspension be made for a year of the levy of Income-tax?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** I have said that everything that can be done within the law will be done.

**Sri V. O. Vellingiri Gounder:** Will the Honourable Member please say whether instructions have been sent to the Madras Government, or rather to the Income-tax Commissioner of the province?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** Sir, I have already answered that question. I will make enquiries about it.

#### LEGISLATION FOR ISSUE OF FIRE-ARMS IN INDIA

887. **\*Mr. Madandhari Singh:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state whether Government propose to introduce legislation for the issue of licences for fire-arms in India on the lines of those in force in other free countries of the world? If not, why not?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** I have no information regarding the law in force in other countries. But the question of introducing legislation or relaxing the existing rules in India is being considered in consultation with the Provincial Governments.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** May I know what the position is regarding Members of the Central Assembly?

**Mr. President:** I believe the exemption in respect of Members of the Central Assembly is already there.

**PAYMENT OF RS. 10-8-0 PER ANNUM BY EVERY LICENCE HOLDER OF GUNS IN DELHI**

888. **\*Mr. Madandhari Singh:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state whether Government have made it compulsory for every licence-holder of guns in Delhi to pay Rs. 10 8/- per annum even though he does not shoot games in the Province of Delhi? If so, why?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** The answer to the first part is in the negative. The second part does not arise.

†889. \*

(The Honourable Member for Education was not in his seat).

**Mr. President:** Question No. 889 may be passed over.

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** When will it be answered, Sir?

**Mr. President:** It will be answered tomorrow.†

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will it get priority over other questions.

**Mr. President:** It will; I will give it as a special case.

**NATIONAL WAR ACADEMY NEAR POONA.**

‡890. **\*Maharajkumar Dr. Sir Vijaya Ananda:** Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the establishment of the National War Academy near Poona is being delayed? If so, why?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** Consideration of this question is awaiting a decision on the size of the future Armed Forces.

**DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS**

‡891. **\*Maharajkumar Dr. Sir Vijaya Ananda:** Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state whether Government propose to make the Directorate of Public Relations a part of the Information and Broadcasting Department now that the war is over?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** The whole question of the future of the Directorate of Public Relations is under the consideration of Government.

**INDIAN UNDER-TRIALS IMPRISONED IN THE ANDAMANS.**

‡892. **\*Maharajkumar Dr. Sir Vijaya Ananda:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there are 13 Indian under-trials (including Pushkar Nath Baghchi) imprisoned in the Andamans against whom it is alleged that they carried out the Jap orders during the Japanese occupation of the islands?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Twelve persons (including Pushkar Nath Baghchi) are in custody under trial for offences against the ordinary criminal law committed against residents of the Islands during the Japanese occupation.

† Postponed to be answered on the 17th March, 1947. *vide* Mr. President's remarks on p. 1767 of these debates.

‡ Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

**BAN ON THE RETURN OF PROF. KHANKHOJI FROM MEXICO.**

†893. \*Maharajkumar Dr. Sir Vijaya Ananda: (a) Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state if it is a fact that there has been a ban on the entry into India of Prof. Khankhoji who has been in exile for the last 30 years?

(b) If so, do Government propose to lift the said ban, so as to facilitate his return from Mexico to his mother-country?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** (a) There is no ban on the return of Professor Khankhoji to India.

(b) Does not arise.

**MOVE OF THE PENSIONS BRANCH OF DEFENCE DEPARTMENT TO SIMLA.**

894. \*Sjt. Seth Damodar Swroop: Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pensions Branch of the Defence Department is shortly to be moved up to Simla; if so, whether Government propose to provide accommodation to all the ministerial establishment including the inferior servants;

(b) whether it is a fact that this office was recently brought down from Simla, if so, the reasons for sending it up again; and

(c) whether Government are aware that such constant moves of offices seriously dislocate the education of the employees' children and particularly of the low paid and that they involve considerable extra expenditure?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) Yes, Sir. The accommodation available for all concerned is being examined at present.

(b) Yes, Sir, it was brought down in the interest of efficiency and because the accommodation position in Delhi had become easier. It has now become worse again.

(c) Yes, Sir, and they deeply regret it.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** How long is it since the Branch was brought from Simla to Delhi?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** A little less than one year.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** What are the special circumstances which have within this short time contributed to the housing shortage in Delhi?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** My Honourable friend the Secretary for the Works, Mines and Power Department will be able to explain that better. But, as my Honourable friend knows, there has been a considerable expansion in the personnel of the various Departments of the Central Government. There has also been an increase in demand for accommodation from Consulates, Legations and other offices. In consequence, Government had to take stock of the whole accommodation position, and it was decided that this particular Branch had to move to Simla.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Will the Honourable Member be good enough to apply his mind to this particular matter specially and see whether any mistake has not been made, and also take steps to see that similar mistakes are not repeated again and again?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I do not admit that a mistake was committed.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Will he look into it carefully?

**Mr. President:** Order, order. The Question Hour is over.

**Mr. President:** I may just inform Mr. Sanyal that Question No. 889, instead of being placed tomorrow, will be placed on the next day† when the Education Member has to answer his questions and will be given priority.

† Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

‡ Postponed to be answered on the 17th March, 1947.



**(b) WRITTEN ANSWERS****RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ARMED FORCES NATIONALISATION COMMITTEE**

**895. \*Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava:** (a) Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state whether the Armed Forces Nationalisation Committee has made any interim recommendations to Government?

(b) If so, what are the main recommendations made by the Committee and how far have these recommendations been implemented or are proposed to be implemented? If so, when and in what manner?

(c) Are Government aware that the sub-committee of the Armed Forces Nationalisation Committee has expressed dissatisfaction with the manner in which the Selection Boards have been functioning and demobilization has been carried out?

(d) Has demobilization been effected with due regard to the requirements of the nationalisation of the Army?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendations are under the consideration of Government, but the Government do not consider it desirable to publish them until a final decision has been reached.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

**RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN ADMISSIONS TO INDIAN AUXILIARY FORCE**

**896. \*Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava:** (a) Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Indian Auxiliary Force is open to Europeans, Anglo-Indians, Goanese, Jews, Negroes, etc., but not to the nationals of this country?

(b) If the answer to part (a) be in the affirmative, what are the reasons for making this racial discrimination?

(c) Do Government propose to consider the advisability of removing these restrictions?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) No, Sir. The Auxiliary Force (India) is open to (i) European British subjects as defined in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, and (ii) British subjects of European descent in the male line. These include Anglo-Indians and domiciled Europeans who are nationals of this country.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir, since there can clearly be no place for a force such as the Auxiliary Force (India), as at present constituted in a self-governing India, and the Force is likely to be wound up not later than June 1948.

**COMMUNAL HOLIDAYS TO GOVERNMENT SERVANTS**

**897. \*Shri Mohan Lal Saksena** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that with the termination of the war, the reasons for granting communal holidays to Government servants have disappeared; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to consider the advisability of abolishing all communal holidays and converting them into general holidays?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** (a) The practice of granting communal holidays in addition to a fixed number of closed holidays has been in existence since 1923 and has no relation to war conditions.

(b) The question of holidays for the staff is already under the consideration of the Pay Commission.

## PROSECUTIONS FOR DISTURBANCES ON VICTORY DAY IN 1946

8. \*Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Will the Honourable the Home Member be good to state:

- ) the number of prosecutions that have been made in Delhi in connection with the disturbances that occurred on Victory Day in 1946;
- ) the names of the accused persons whose cases have been disposed of;
- ) the nature of punishments awarded in each case;
- ) the names of the accused persons whose cases are still pending in Court;
- ) whether Government of India are considering the question of releasing who have been convicted in this connection?

9. Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) Twenty nine. and (c). A statement is laid on the table.

The Government of India have already issued orders to the Chief Commissioner, Delhi, for the withdrawal of cases, remission of sentences or cancellation of bonds, in all the cases except the following: (i) Serious cases of and (ii) dacoity.

Statement of case regarding V-Day disturbances, Delhi, 1946

(a) Decided cases including cases withdrawn *italicised*

Name of accused	Case number etc.	Result
Nash Natha Mann	1. F.I.R. No. 75, dated 7-3-46 P.S. Sadar Bazar, U/S 435/434/147 I.P.C.	1. 8 months' R.I. for the burning of G.N.I.T. on 19-12-46.
	2. F.I.R. No. 75, dated 7-3-46 P.S. Sadar Bazar, U/S 436 I.P.C.	2. 1 year's R.I. for burning of post office on Library Rd. on 19-12-46.
	3. Ditto	3. 9 months' R.I. for burning of Terminal Tax Post on 19-12-46 (Sentences to run consecutively).
	4. F.I.R. No. 68, dated 16-3-46 U/R 38 D.I.R. P. S. Subzimandi.	4. <i>Case withdrawn.</i>
	5. F.I.R. No. 68, dated 16-3-46 U/R 56, D. I. R. P. S. Subzimadi.	5. <i>Ditto.</i>
Hira Singh	Involved in cases 1 to 3 above only.	Four months' R.I. in case No. 1 above, on 19-12-46.  In cases Nos. 2 and 3 above-acquitted.
Om Parkash	Ditto	Ditto.
Ram Singh	Ditto	Ditto.

S. No.	Name of accused	Case number etc.	Result
5	Ram Chander Tyagi	1. F.I.R. No. 75, dated 7-3-46 P. S. Sadar Bazar, U/S 435/147 I.P.C. 2. F.I.R. No. 75, dated 7-3-46 P.S. Sadar Bazar, U/S 436/147 I.P.C. 3. Ditto 4. F.I.R. No. 68, dated 16-3-46, U/R 56, D.I.R. P. S. Sabzimandi.	1. 6 months' R.I. for burning of G.N.I.T. Bus, on 19-12-46. 2. Acquitted on 19-12-46. 3. Acquitted on 19-12-46. 4. Case withdrawn.
6	Khem Raj	Involved in cases 1 to 3 above.	1. 4 months' R.I. on 19-12-46. 2 and 3 acquitted.
7	Mangal Dass	Involved in 3 cases as above	Convicted in No. 1 case as above on 19-12-46. 2 and 3 acquitted.
8	Dhare	Ditto	Convicted and released U/S 562 Cr. P. C. in case No. 1 and ordered to furnish S.B. in the sum of Rs. 750 for one year. Acquitted in the remaining 2 cases.
9	Chuni Lal	Ditto	Ditto.
10	Shiv Charan	Involved in 3 cases as above (Seri. I No. 7)	Convicted and released U/S 562 Cr. P.C. in case No. 1 and ordered to furnish S.B. in the sum of Rs. 750 for one year. Acquitted in the remaining 2 cases.
11	Kholil	Ditto	Ditto.
12	Misri Lal	Ditto	Ditto.
13	Mam Chand	Ditto	Ditto.
14	Allan Rakha	Ditto	Ditto.
15	Fayaz	Ditto	Ditto.
16	Dip Chand	Ditto	Ditto.
17	Chhote Lal	1. F.I.R. No. 75, dated 7-3-46 U/S 435/147 I.P.C. P. S. Sadar Bazar. 2. F.I.R. No. 75, dated 7-3-46 U/S 436/147 I.P.C. P.S. Sadar Bazar. 3. Ditto	1. Four months' R.I. for burning G.N.I.T. Bus on 19-12-46. 2. Acquitted. 3. Ditto.
18	Ram Lal	Involved in three cases as above.	1. As above. 2 and 3. Acquitted.

S. No.	Name of accused	Case number etc.	Result
19	Ishwar Dhutt	F.I.R. No. 58, dated 7-3-46. U/S 436/147 I.P.C., P. S. Subzimandi.	1. Sentenced to imprisonment till the rising of the court, on 31-1-47 for burning of Railway Clearing Accounts Office.
		2. Ditto . . . . .	2. Nine months' R.I. for burning of Timber Godown on 31-1-47.
		3. Ditto . . . . .	3. Acquitted.
20	Bawa Ram Chandar	Involved in cases 1 to 3 above.	1. One year for burning Rail- way Clearing Accounts Office.
		and 4 F.I.R. No. 68, dated 16-3-46 U/R 38 D.I.R., P. S. Subzimandi.	2. Nine months' R.I.
		5. Ditto . . . . .	3. Ditto.
		6. F.I.R. No. 68, dated 16-3-46 U/R 56 D.I.R., P. S. Subzimandi.	4, 5 and 6 withdrawn.
21	Mahabir Parshad	Involved in cases Nos. 1 and 2 noted on Sl. No. 19 above.	1. One year's R.I. on 31-1-47..
			2. Nine months' R.I. on 31-1-47.
22	Babu alias Ahmad Husan.	Involved in 3 cases as noted on Sl. No. 19.	Acquitted in all three cases.
23	Kishan Singh	Ditto . . . . .	Ditto.
24	Sukha . . . . .	Ditto . . . . .	Ditto.
25	Chander Singh	Ditto . . . . .	Ditto.
26	Ali Bux . . . . .	1. F.I.R. No. 58, dated 7-3-46 U/S 436/147 I.P.C., P. S. Subzimandi, Delhi.	Acquitted :—
		Ditto . . . . .	1. for burning of Railway Clearing Accounts Office.
		Ditto . . . . .	2. for burning of Timber Go- down.
			3. for burning of Terminal Tax Post.
		4. F.I.R. No. 58, dated 7-3-46 U/S. 427 I.P.C., P. S. Subzimandi.	4. Sentenced to 6 months' R.I. for the burning of Electric Pole Near Kamla Nagar.
27	Babu Lal	Ditto (4 cases as above)	As above.
28	Ahmad Khan	Involved in cases No. 1 to 3 as above.	Acquitted in all three cases. (noted on Sl. No. 26).

S. No.	Name of accused	Case number etc.	Result
29	Dev Dutt	Involved in cases No. 1 and 2 noted on Sl. No. 26.	Acquitted in both cases.
30	Ajmal Ahmad	Ditto	Ditto.
31	Nabi Khan	Ditto	Ditto.
32	Karam Singh	Involved in two cases Nos. 1 and 2 noted on Sl. No. 26 above-	Ditto.
33	Islam Uddin	1. F.I.R. No. 221, dated 7-3-46 U/S 436/147 I.P.C. P. S. Kotwali.	1. Acquitted.
34	Ikram Uddin	Ditto	Ditto.
35	Sarwan Singh	Ditto	Ditto.
36	Piara Singh	Ditto	Ditto.
37	Sher Khan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ditto</li> <li>2. Ditto</li> <li>3. Ditto</li> </ol>	<p>Acquitted :—</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Burning of Fire Brigade.</li> <li>2. Burning of Railway Station Ration Godown.</li> <li>3. Burning of Terminal Tax Post and Sub-Rationing Office near Railway Station.</li> </ol>
38	Kirpan Bahadur Singh.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ditto</li> <li>2. Ditto</li> <li>3. Ditto</li> <li>4. Ditto</li> <li>5. Ditto</li> <li>6. Ditto</li> </ol>	<p>Acquitted in :—</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Burning of (1) Fire Brigade.</li> <li>2. Railway Ration Godown.</li> <li>3. Terminal Tax Post.</li> <li>4. Victory Gate near Fatehpuri.</li> <li>5. Police Vanette.</li> <li>6 Pending in court (burning of Town Hall)</li> </ol>
39	Bhagat Singh Kirti	<p>Involved in cases Nos. 1 and 2 (noted on Sl. No. 38.)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. F.I.R. No. 68, dated 16-3-46 U/R 38 D.I.R. P. S. Subzimandi.</li> <li>3. F.I.R. No. 68, dated 16-3-46 U/R 38, D.I.R. P. S. Subzimandi.</li> <li>4. F. I. R. No. 68 dated 16-3-46 U/R 56, D.I.R. P. D. Subzimaddi.</li> </ol>	<p>Acquitted in both the cases.</p> <p>Number 3 and 4 withdrawn.</p>

Name of accused	Case number etc.	Result
Jagat Singh . . .	Involved in 4 cases No. 1 and 2 noted on Sl. No. 39. 3. Ditto . . . 4. Ditto . . .	Acquitted in No. 1 and 2 mentioned above. 3. Withdrawn (case of burning of Victory Gate near Town Hall. 4. Pending in Court (case of burning of Town Hall.
Som Dev . . .	Involved in 3 cases as above on Sl. No. 40.	Acquitted in all the three cases. The Third case against him relates to burning of Victory Gate Fatehpuri.
Babu son of Kanya	Ditto Nos. 1 and 2 above.	Acquitted in both the cases.
Bnure . . .	Involved in cases Nos. 1, 2 and 3 as on Sl. No. 38. 4. F.I.R. No. 221. dated 7-3-46, U/S 436/147 P. S. Kotwali.	Acquitted in all the three cases. 4. Pending in court (for burning of Town Hall).
Abdul Hakim . . .	Ditto . . .	Ditto.
Rahmat . . .	1. Ditto . . . 2. Ditto . . . 3. Ditto . . . 4. Ditto . . .	1. Acquitted for burning of Fire Brigade. 2. Acquitted for burning of Rly. Rationing Godown. 3. Sentenced to one Year's R.I., for burning of . . . 4. Case pending in Court (Town Hall burning).
Mukhtar . . .	Involved in cases Nos. 1 and 2 above only.	Acquitted in both the cases.
Abdul Jabbar . . .	1. Ditto . . . 2. Involved in case Nos. 1 and 2, U/S 436/149 I.P.C., P. S. Kotwali.	1. Acquitted. 2. Ditto.
Ganeshi . . .	1. Ditto . . . 2. Ditto U/S 436/147 I.P.C., P. S. Kotwali.	1. Sentenced to 9 months R.I. on 30-8-46 for burning of Victory Gate Fatehpuri. 2. Sentenced to 1½ years' R.I. on 14-10-46 for burning of Reserve Bank.
Wazir Uddin . . .	Involved in case No. 1 on Sl. No. 45.	Acquitted.

Sl. No.	Name of accused	Case number etc.	Result
50	Kure Mal	1. Involved in case No. 2 on Sl. No. 45 above. 2. F.I.R. No. 221, dated 7-3-46 U/S 435/149 I.P.C. P. S. Kotwali	1. Acquitted for burning of Railway Godown. 2. Sentenced to 9 months' on 30-8-46, for burning of Victory Gate, Fatehpuri.
51	Diwan Chand	1. As above on Sl. No. 50	1. Acquitted.
52	Mahinder Singh	1. As above on Serial No 50. 2. Ditto U/S 435 I.P.C. 3. Ditto U/S 436/147 I.P.C.	1. Sentence to six months' for burning of Electric Pole in Kari Baoli. 2. Case withdrawn (burning of Victory Gate near Town Hall). 3. Town Hall burning case pending in Court.
53	Satpal Singh	1. F.I.R. No. 121, dated 7-3-46, U/S 435/147/332 I.P.C. P. S. Kotwali. 2. Ditto U/S 435/147 I.P.C. 3. Ditto U/S 435/148 I.P.C.	One year's R.I. for burning of Police Vanette. 9 months' U/S R.I. 332 I.P.C. and 6 months' R.I. U/S 147 I.P.C. on 18-12-46 One year's R.I. for burning of Electric Pole near Central Bank on 14-10-46. 3. One year's R.I. for burning a Victory Gate near Reserve Bank on 16-10-46.
54	Basta Singh	1. Ditto (as above at No. 1). 2. Ditto U/S 436/149 I.P.C. 3. Ditto U/S 436 147/149/ I.P.C.	Same as at No. above. 2. Case withdrawn (Burning of Victory Gate near Town Hall). 3. Case pending in court (Town Hall burning).
55	Sadar Singh	1. Ditto 2. Ditto 3. Ditto 4. Ditto	Cases 1 to 3 acquitted. 4. Case pending in court. (Town Hall burning).
56	Sham Lal	1. Ditto 2. Ditto 3. Ditto	Acquitted in two case. 3. Pending in court (Town Hall burning).
57	Muni Lal	1. Ditto 2. do. U/S 435/147 I.P.C.	1. Discharged. (For burning of Police Vanette). 2. Sentenced to one years' R.I. (for burning a Victory Gate near Reserve Bank.)

Name of accused	Cases number etc.	Result
Harish Chandar .	1. F.I.R. No. 221, dated 7-3-46, U/S 435/147 I.P.C., P. S. Kotwali.	1. Discharged.
Mohd. Ishaq .	1. Ditto . . .	1. Withdrawn.
Mahfuz Illahi .	1. Ditto . . .	1. Withdrawn.
Shiv Datt Kale .	1. Ditto . . . 2. Ditto . . .	Acquitted in case Nos. 1 and 2
Jalal Khan . . .	3. do. U/S 436/147 I.P.C.	3. One case of Electric Pole burning withdrawn.
Ram Kishan . . .	1. Ditto . . .	1. Acquitted.
Ram Kishan . . .	1. do. U/S 436/147 I.P.C.	1. 1½ year's R.I. for burning of Reserve Bank on 14-10-46
Dalip Singh . . .	1. do. U/S 453/148 I.P.C.	1. 1 year's R.I. for burning of Victory Gate near Reserve Bank on 16-10-46.
Om Parkash . . .	2. do. U/S 436/147/149, I.P.C.	2. Case pending in court (Town Hall burning).
Om Parkash . . .	1. Ditto . . .	1. 1 year's R.I. for burning a Victory Gate near Reserve Bank on 16-10-46.
Mohd. Fahim . . .	1. do. U/S 435/147 I.P.C.	Cases of burning of Electric Pole and Victory Gate withdrawn.
Mohd. Fahim . . .	2. do. U/S 435/149 I.P.C.	Case of Town Hall burning pending in court.
Mohd. Fahim . . .	3. do. U/S 436/149 I.P.C.	Acquitted in case of Victory Gate burning near Reserve Bank.
Yad Ram . . .	1. Ditto . . .	1. Case withdrawn.
Mohd. Bashir . . .	1. Ditto . . .	1. Case withdrawn.
Met. Shanti . . .	1. Ditto . . .	1. Case withdrawn.
Amer Singh . . .	1. Ditto . . .	1. Case withdrawn.
Amer Singh . . .	2. do. U/S 436/149 I.P.C.	2. Pending (burning of Town Hall).
Faiz Ali . . .	1. do. U/S 435/149 I.P.C.	1. Acquitted the other withdrawn.
Faiz Ali . . .	2. do. U/S 435/149 I.P.C.	
Ghias-ud-din . . .	1. do. U/S 435/147 I.P.C.	1. Case withdrawn.
Ghias-ud-din . . .	2. do. U/S 436/147 I.P.C.	2. Case pending in court (for burning of Town Hall)



Sl. No.	Name of accused	Case number etc.	Result
73	Khurshia	1. F.I.R. No. 221, dated 7-3-46, U/S 435/149 I.P.C. P. S. Kotwali. 2. do. U/S 436/149 I.P.C.	1. Case withdrawn. 2. Pending (Burning of Town Hall).
74	Allah Dad	1. do. U/S 436/147 I.P.C.	1. Pending in Court.
75	Mazhar Jamil	1. Ditto	1. Pending in court.
76	Faruqi	1. F.I.R. No. 221, dated 7-3-46, U/S 435/149 I.P.C., P.S. Kotwali.	1. Sentenced on 22-7-46 to undergo 6 months, R.I. U/S 147 I.P.C., and 9 months, R.I. U/S 4 I.P.C. burning of a Victory Gate near Fatehpuri.
77	Lal Behari Pande	1. F.I.R. No. 58, dated 7-3-46, U/S 436 I.P.C., P.S. Subzimandi.	1. Sentenced to 1 year's R.I. on 9-10-46 for burning Railway Clearing Account Office.
78	Muni Ram	1. F.I.R. No. 105, dated 7-3-46, U/S 396/149 I.P.C. P.S. G.R.P. Delhi.	1. Sentenced to 2 years, R.I. on 23-5-46 for looting Railway Booking Office, Delhi.
79	Ismail Faruqi	1. F.I.R. No. 223, dated 7-3-46, U/S 34/38 D.I.R., P. S. Kotwali.	1. Sentenced to 6 months R.I. on 7-6-46 for inciting Tramway Coy, strike.
80	R. C. Mittra	1. Ditto	1. Ditto.
81	Abdul Wahid	1. Ditto	1. Ditto.
82	Mohd. Yamin	1. F.I.R. No. 68, dated 16-3-46, U/R 38 D.I.R. P. S. Sabzimandi. 2. do. U/R 56 D.I.R. P. S. Sabzimandi.	Both cases withdrawn.
83	Shakil Ahmad	Ditto	Ditto.
84	Herbandhan	Ditto	Ditto.
85	Ved Prakash	1. F.I.R. No. 68, dated 16-3-46 U/R 38 D.I.R., P.S. Sabzimandi.	1. Case withdrawn.

(b) Pending case.

Only one case viz., that with regard to the burning of Town Hall on 7-3-46 is pending in court. The accused in this case are as follows :—

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Amer Singh.      | 2. Dalip Singh.    |
| 3. Sham Lal.        | 4. Jaggit Singh.   |
| 5. Mohinder Singh.  | 6. Mohd. Fahim.    |
| 7. Allah Dad.       | 8. Ghiasuddin.     |
| 9. Basta Singh.     | 10. Sardara Singh. |
| 11. Kirpan Bahadur. | 12. Khurshid.      |
| 13. Mazhar Jamil.   | 14. Bhuro.         |
| 15. Abdul Hakim.    | 16. Rahmat.        |

Note.—All these 16 accused have figured in one or the other case under (a).

## VIEWS OF THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT ON THE PENSIONS INCREASE BILL.

**899. \*Maharajkumar Dr. Sir Vijaya Ananda:** (a) Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state if the attention of Government has been drawn to the statement of Mr. Arthur Henderson, Under Secretary of State for India, in the House of Commons on 11th February, 1947 that the British Government had asked the Indian Government for their views on the question of applying the Pensions Increase Bill to both Civil and Military Pensioners of Indian Services and that they had received no reply?

(b) If so, do Government propose to state whether their views have since been conveyed and if so, what they are?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is still under correspondence with Provincial Governments. The Central Government have however expressed their willingness to the existing scale of increases being continued in respect of their pensioners pending consideration of the further increases proposed in the Bill.

## DISMISSED AND DISCHARGED PERSONNEL OF THE INDIAN ARMY WHO JOINED I.N.A

**900. \*Sri Satyapriya Banerjee:** Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state:

(a) how many of the officers and other ranks of the Indian Army who joined the Indian National Army have been dismissed and how many have been discharged;

(b) the basis on which Government discharged some and dismissed others;

(c) how many Commissioned Officers, Viceroy's Commissioned Officers and other ranks of the Indian Army who joined the Indian National Army have been retained in the Army; and

(d) the reasons for retaining some officers and men and removing others from service?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** (a) Dismissed—6,175. Discharged—13,211.

(c) Commissioned Officers—21. V.C.Os. and I.O.Rs.—3,859.

It is regretted that figures for V.C.Os. and I.O.Rs. separately are not available.

(b) and (d). I would refer the Honourable Member to the Press Communique issued on the 30th of November 1945 and the debate on Pandit Govind Malaviya's adjournment motion in the last Budget session.

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

## MONEY GRANT TO VISHWABHARATI

**78. Sree Satyapriya Banerjee:** Will the Honourable Member for Education be pleased to state:

(a) the amount granted so far to the Vishwabharati;

(b) whether Government have any definite policy with regard to the grant of money to this institution; and

(c) whether there are any conditions attached to the grants that have been made so far?

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** (a) Since the financial year 1941-42, an annual grant of Rs. 25,000 has been paid to the Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, in recognition of the contribution that they have made to the aesthetic education of this country. In the present year the grant has been raised to Rs. 30,000. In addition, Rs. 2,500 and Rs. 12,500 have also been paid to the Visva-Bharati towards their Dearness Allowance grant in 1944-45

and 1945-46 respectively. The annual grant is paid on submission of audited statement of accounts and the annual report of the Institute for the preceding year.

On the occasion of their Silver Jubilee Celebrations in December 1946, a special grant of Rs. 4,75,000 has been paid to the Institute in recognition of their services rendered to the country. The grant will be spent in improving some of the existing facilities of the Institution, such as residential accommodation, sanitation etc.

At the request of the Central Government, the Visva-Bharati Authorities have undertaken to set up an institute for training teachers in arts and crafts in connection with the scheme of educational development. The total cost of the project would amount to Rs. 4.9 lakhs non-recurring and Rs. 75,000 recurring. Against this scheme, in 1946-47, rupees three lakhs non-recurring and Rs. 25,000 recurring, based on actual requirements have been sanctioned. This is, however, a financial assistance for carrying out a particular project and cannot be considered a grant to the main institution.

(b) The Government have recognised the good work done by the Institution and the main object of the financial assistance has been to put the Institution on a sound financial footing.

(c) Subject to the remarks made above, no other conditions have been attached to the grants.

#### EUROPEAN OR AMERICAN MANAGED RUPEE COMPANIES CARRYING ON BUSINESS IN INDIA

**79. Mr. B. P. Jhunjhunwala:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state:

(a) whether Government propose to lay on the table of the House a list of rupee companies, under the management of Europeans or Americans, carrying on business in British India;

(b) whether these companies have been supplying regularly returns prescribed in section 19-A of the Indian Income-tax Act;

(c) which of these companies are private companies;

(d) whether section 23-A of the Indian Income Tax Act has been applied to these companies;

(e) the amount of total dividends distributed by these companies during the financial years 1943-44, 1944-45 and 1945-46;

(f) how much of this dividend was paid to (i) investment companies, (1) registered in British India, (2) registered outside British India, (ii) other non-resident companies, and (iii) non-resident individuals;

(g) whether any super-tax was deducted at source under section 18 (3D) of the Indian Income-tax Act, from dividends payable to non-residents and if so, the amount of super-tax revenue short recovered from this source;

(h) whether Government propose to lay on the table of the House a list of the investment companies registered in British India to which dividend referred to in part (f) above were paid;

(i) which of these companies were exempted from super-tax under the Finance Department Notification No. 47, dated 9th December, 1933; and

(j) whether Government propose to consider the desirability of having returns on these lines published annually along with the report of the Central Board of Revenue?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** (a) to (j). The Government do not consider that the expenditure of time and labour involved in compiling the information asked for would be commensurate with any results that may be expected to be achieved.

## MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

### PROPOSED TERMINATION OF SERVICES OF CIVILIAN ORDNANCE OFFICERS

**Mr. President:** I have received notice of an adjournment motion from the Honourable Member, Mr. Guruswami, who wants to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely:

"The proposed termination of services of Ordnance Officers (Civilian) of the Indian Army Ordnance Corps beginning from 14th March, 1947 despite the interim recommendation of the Nationalisation Committee to withdraw the notices and release a corresponding number of British officers."

May I know what the Honourable the Defence Secretary has to say?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja** (Government of India: Nominated Official): Notices have been issued to 135 Ordnance Officers civilians, because their services are no longer required. These 135 Ordnance officers have to go in any circumstances.

12 NOON Notices have been issued on the principle of 'last in, first out'. There are at present 1,636 Indians on the officer strength of the Indian Army Ordnance Corps but the future total officer strength cannot possibly be more than 750. It will probably be less. Out of this 750, not more than 650 can be military officers, for which there are 706 Indian military officers to compete and not more than 100 can be civilians for which there are 930 to compete. This leaves no room for doubt that the 135 who are under notice will have to go very soon. A suggestion was made that certain British Emergency Commissioned Officers should be asked to go first. The majority of these Emergency Commissioned Officers hold positions of considerable responsibility and are not young officers without experience, as the title 'emergency commissioned officers' would suggest. The real problem therefore is to replace these officers with Indians who have to be given the opportunity to qualify for these higher posts. This can and will be done before June 1948. How best it can be done is now under investigation in relation to the overall problem of the armed forces. This investigation has been specifically set to the Chiefs of Staff Committee by the Nationalisation Committee.

The position therefore is that there are very many more Indian officers than can be provided for in the post-war army and therefore I suggest that the services of these 135 officers to whom notices have been given have been rightly terminated. It has been often urged in this House that there should be retrenchment in the expenditure on the Defence Budget. Here is a case in which a suggestion has been made that the release of these officers should not be made.

**Sri R. Venkatasubba Reddiar** (South Arcot *cum* Chingleput: Non-Muhammadan Rural): On a point of information. Is the Honourable Member discussing the merits of the motion now?

**Mr. President:** No. He is mentioning the facts in connection with this motion, so that the House and the President may appreciate the importance and the urgency of the matter.

The point, as it appears to me, is that the Government have set aside the recommendations of the Nationalisation Committee and instead of releasing the British personnel they are releasing the Indian personnel. That seems to be the point. It is not the point that no Indian officers should be given notice of release. On account of retrenchment many people will certainly have to go but the point is why Britishers are kept and Indians are released. That seems to be the point.

**Diwan Chaman Lall** (West Punjab: Non-Muhammadan): How many Britishers are there?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I tried to explain that these emergency commissioned officers are holding special posts of responsibility and the whole problem of retrenching these people and terminating their services is being carefully considered and a decision will be taken in the near future. Till that decision is

[Mr. G. S. Bhalja] taken, I submit that in any case these 135 officers who were the last to be appointed have to go, because even if all those 600 officers—assuming the number given by the Honourable Member is correct—even if their services are terminated, even then we have more officers than we have got work for and therefore some have to go and these are the officers who joined last and therefore their services have got to be terminated.

**Diwan Chaman Lall:** Are all these 611 officers holding posts of great responsibility?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** I have not got detailed information as to how those officers have been posted. Many of them, I understand, are outside India, in Burma and other places. But the point which I am making is that Government are drawing out a definite programme for the termination of the services of these emergency commissioned officers as soon as possible and in any case within less than 15 months and therefore even if their services were not terminated today, these officers will have to go, unless we keep on the roll of the army persons for whom jobs must be found, even though there is no work for them.

**Mr. President:** Do I understand that the British officers will have to go by the 30th June 1948? All these are 600 people?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** Yes. The Government have further directed that no further retrenchment notices will be issued to these personnel, until the question of terminating the services of the emergency commissioned officers has been decided by the Government.

**Mr. President:** What about those who are already served with notices?

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** They are men for whom we cannot provide work and have to go.

**Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth** (West Coast and Nilgiris: Muhammadan): May I remind you that he has not said anything about the recommendation made by the Nationalisation Committee. They must have found some means of adjusting the position?

**Mr. President:** The recommendation is to release a corresponding number of British officers. With reference to that some questions were put. It appears that from the facts disclosed there seems to be no case of urgency about this matter.

**Diwan Chaman Lall:** Very serious urgency.

**Mr. President:** I am stating my own reactions before I finally say as to whether I agree or do not agree. The point seems to me to be that certain people who have been served with notice have, in any case, to go because there are not sufficient jobs. Then the only question is about preference being given to Britishers as against the Indians. We are not in a position to judge about the individual merits of those officers who are retained. (Interruption by Mr Ayyangar). The Honourable Member will not interrupt while I am speaking. Then, the other point that he has stated is that Government have now decided not to retrench or give notice for release to any further Indian officials. He has also stated that, in any case, all these Britishers are going by the 30th June 1948. So, the point of the adjournment motion, to my mind, on the ground of urgency is lost now in view of the statements which he has made. The question as to what should be done with reference to the notices which have already been served is an entirely different question. That is a question which may be considered by the Department or the Members of this House may make recommendations to the Government on that point. But that need not be a subject of an adjournment motion. The policy is now settled.

**Diwan Chaman Lall:** May I ask you, Mr. President, as to whether you are convinced that the statement that all these officers have got to go is really correct? We have been informed on the Defence Consultative Committee that the post-war numbers have not been fixed. We do not know whether the figure will be 650 or 1160. In fact, nobody knows. My Honourable friend who is himself a Member of the Defence Consultative Committee was not in a position to tell us what the numbers would be. May I, therefore, suggest that the urgency of this matter arises because of certain recommendations made to the Department by the Nationalisation Committee, which, I understand, have been flouted? Further, the urgency arises because even if these people have got to go after a year, there is no necessity to let them go now when instead of these, certain others who ought to go should have been demobbed.

**Mr. Manu Subedar** (Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau: Indian Commerce): May I add one more word to this? We are not satisfied with the statement of the Honourable the Defence Secretary. He said that these emergency officers were doing work of great responsibility and he tried to justify the fact that some of the Europeans being out of the country it was not possible to deal with the batch of Europeans in this lot who are being sent away. Excuses have been found for prolonging the services of the Europeans, a point which is much more serious from the point of view of finance. We feel that the Defence Department's energetic pursuit for the reduction of expenses is not there. We feel this on general grounds and specifically on this ground we would very much like to have a discussion on this subject.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar** (Madras Ceded Districts and Chittoor: Non-Muhammadan Rural): May I also add a word, Sir? These are civilians who are first class graduates from Indian Universities and many of them are M.A.'s. So, until the last European quits this country, not a single Indian should be retrenched.

**Mr. President:** I am not concerned on this occasion with the merits of the case I am only deciding the question of the admissibility of this motion. As regards the statement of facts, I think I must accept the Secretary's statement as a true statement of facts coming, as it does, from Government.

**Diwan Chaman Lall:** You might ask the Secretary whether he has any definite information that a policy of this nature has at any time been laid down and any decision arrived at in regard to the numbers to be retained.

**Mr. President:** I am afraid it is not necessary for the present purpose, because he has also argued the alternative that they have at present just the number of men that the future strength of army may require.

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja:** The number of Indian Military officers is 706.

**Mr. President:** Whatever the importance of the question on the merits may be, so far as the urgency of the matter is concerned now, in view of the facts that have come out during the course of the discussion, I do not think I can treat the matter as urgent so that the adjournment motion may be admitted.

As regards the merits of the question, Honourable Members will have an opportunity when the Finance Bill comes before the House to discuss the same as they may like.

## DELHI AND AJMER-MERWARA RENT CONTROL BILL

### [PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE]

**Mr. B. K. Gokhale** (Government of India: Nominated Official): Sir, I beg to present the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to make better provision for the control of rents in certain areas in the provinces of Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara.

## IMPORTS AND EXPORTS (CONTROL) BILL

[PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE]

**The Honourable Mr. I. I. Chundrigar** (Commerce Member): Sir, I beg to present the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to continue for a limited period powers to prohibit or control imports and exports.

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

#### SECOND STAGE—*contd.*

DEMAND No. 55—DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES AND SUPPLIES—*contd.*

*Inadequate Supply and Mismanaged distribution of Yarn amongst Handloom Weavers and Fisherman.—contd.*

**Mr. President:** The House will now proceed with the consideration of the cut motions.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar** (Madras Ceded Districts and Chittoor Non-Muhammedan Rural): Sir, I would like to say a few words on this cut motion. Surely, this Department is in the hands of a very able administrator, but I am afraid of the arguments that he may advance and he may refer to things for which he is not responsible and which happened before he came to this Department. So, I am more afraid of his arguments and not of his talents which are really very useful. Therefore, with very great caution I am only making a few suggestions for his consideration and if he will take them into his consideration, I am sure will be able to do a great lot to this handloom industry. The object of this cut motion is to have greater production and to secure employment for the handloom workers in this country. There are about 2½ million handloom weavers and if you include their family members also they come to 13 million odd and they are all living on this handloom industry, whereas the power loom provides occupation only for 500,000 or even less than half a million of workers. Therefore, this problem assumes much greater importance than is ordinarily realised.

Now, Sir, there are two portions of this cut motion. One relates to the increase in the output of yarn for the purpose of consumption by handloom weavers and the other relates to the fair distribution of the quantity that is available. I will make a few suggestions regarding the manner in which the output can be increased. In the first place, I would say that the mills that are already in existence ought not to be allowed to produce so much cloth as they are producing now below 40 counts. In fact, no mill ought to be allowed to produce cloth below 40 counts, otherwise the handlooms will be starved. This was one of the things that was suggested to a Trade Delegation that came from Japan a number of years ago. During the negotiations it was suggested that they ought not to send cloth below 40 counts. At that time 20,000 handloom weavers from one district of Salem were thrown out of employment. They came all the way to Delhi and millions of other handloom weavers in other parts of the Presidency were also thrown out of employment. The only way in which this unemployment can be stopped is by putting an embargo upon such cloth as comes from foreign countries. Fortunately for us such cloth is not now available from Japan and from Manchester we get only the superior cloth. Therefore, the only competitor of the handloom industry is the mill industry in this country. 50 per cent of our needs before the war were being met by the mill industry. 25 per cent. cloth was being brought from foreign countries and 25 per cent. was being produced by the handlooms of this country. Now, 25 per cent. foreign imports have gone and that deficiency has been made up. I would, therefore, suggest that it is just and proper that these 13 million odd weavers of our country must be supported in preference to the 500,000 or less than half a million workers who

are being employed by the mill industry. Greater quantity of yarn should be released for handloom weavers and the textile mills should be prohibited from producing coarser cloth, below 40 counts. That would really go to help the handloom weaver and make more yarn available to him so that he can make a good living.

The next suggestion that I wish to make is that the Government themselves should start spinning factories or mills in this country, spinning as opposed to weaving. Hand spinning no doubt ought to be encouraged, but hand spinning alone would not be able to cope with the needs of the country and hand spun yarn alone would not make us self sufficient in the matter of cloth. So far as the textile mills for whom spindles are allowed are concerned, it must be made a condition precedent that not one yard of yarn they produce in the textile mills should go towards production of cloth in the mills themselves, all the yarn must be handed over to the handloom weavers alone. That condition might certainly be placed by the Government and that can be exacted from those persons to whom permits are granted.

The next point is this. So far it was said that there was not a larger output of yarn in any of these mills on account of strikes, reduction in the number of hours of work and on account of the easy going manner in which workers are taking to this business. That is what I found in a small brochure which was circulated to the Members of the Assembly issued by Mr. Thackersay, the Chairman of the Textile Control Board by way of meeting certain criticisms levelled against the textile mill industry and the manner in which they were making unusually large and abnormal profits and working against the interest of consumers and hand loom weavers. That plea was in refutation of the charges made against them. Now there is a reduction in the production of textiles by 700 million yards and the reason given is that owing to strikes, lessening the hours of work of labourers, and owing to easy going manner in which the workers attend to their work, all these factors have led to the reduction in the production of mill goods. In answer to this, I would only say that the only remedy lies in the textile mill industry giving some incentive to the workers also to take a greater interest by giving them a share in the profits which the mill industry earns. At present the mill industry is making abnormally huge profits. Even the so-called small profits against which they complain are also staggering profits according to us. I do not know if all Honourable Members have got this brochure supplied to them. I will refer to the profits which cotton mills have earned for the past few years. In 1939, they distributed a dividend of 10 per cent. In 1940 it was again 10 per cent. in 1941, it was 14 per cent. in 1942, it was 27.03 per cent, in 1943, 26.82 per cent, in 1944, it was 17.88 per cent, on account of the fact that there were strikes and so on. But it will be noticed that the percentage of dividend has steadily increased from 10 per cent to 26 and even 27 per cent. The complaint of textile industry is that it is not earning as much dividend as the tea companies have declared. The percentage of dividend of tea companies rose from 14 per cent to 26 per cent or 25 per cent and in 1944 the tea companies declared a dividend of 22.37 per cent as against cotton mills declaring 17.88 per cent. That is the complaint of the Chairman of the Textile Board, that whereas the tea industry got as much as 22 per cent, he got only 17 per cent in 1944, though in previous years, he got even more than tea industry, 27 against 26. That is the way in which this Chairman of the Textile Board tries to justify the scarcity of cloth and also tries to make out that he has made a lot of sacrifice for the poor of this country. I say, it is time we cry halt and the sooner such kind of gentlemen are removed from posts of responsibility, the better it is for this country. There is absolutely no justification why they should declare a dividend of more than 6 or 7 per cent. What is the present rate of bank interest. The Reserve Bank rate.



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is only about 3 per cent or even 2½ per cent. By all means let the textile industry get double or even treble the bank rate. What is the justification for having 26 per cent and even 27 per cent. That gentleman, the Chairman of the Textile Board sheds crocodile tears for the poor of this country. I would say that it is improper that the textile mill owner should walk away with all the profits that he makes from the consumer, he should at least distribute a portion to the poor workers whose living conditions are most unsatisfactory. In the interest of the larger production of yarn in this country and for the sake of handloom weavers, it is necessary that the Government should take steps to see that the textile workers who are taking time so easy ought to be given some other inducement and they should be made to work longer hours or if this is not possible under the statute, they should at least be induced to work more vigorously and show a greater output during the hours of work that they are working. Government should introduce legislation compelling the textile industrialists to pay a portion of their profits as increased salary to workers. Otherwise there is absolutely no chance of increasing the output of production of cloth or yarn in this country.

The next suggestion that I wish to make is that Government should open depots for sale of whatever yarn is available. The Government should also see that whatever little yarn that is released should reach the ultimate user, the handloom weaver. I can narrate the instance which took place in front of my house in my place, Chittoor. Opposite to my house there is the Textile controller's office. One morning I saw about 20 or 30 women sitting in front of my house. I noticed them when I was just going to Court at eleven of the clock. When I returned home at five o'clock, I saw them sitting still in front of the Textile controller's office. I asked them what the matter was. They said they were all weavers and they had come to obtain permits for yarns for handlooms. That was the first time I came to know that women also had to take permits for handloom yarn. I was told that they came to obtain permits for yarn and then they would sell the yarn to the weavers making a profit over the transaction. Thus you will see that in the matter of distribution of yarn also, there is equal deficiency. I am not casting any aspersion on the fair sex, there may be good women, there may be bad women, just as there are good men and bad men. I am narrating this incident simply to show how even the small quantity of yarn does not reach the actual handloom weaver, but is allowed to be black marketted by the introduction of permits. The suggestion was made by Mr. Thackersay himself to the Government of India that in order to see that the quantity reached the handloom weaver, the Government themselves must open shops wherein they will sell yarn. As early as November 1941, the industry had put forward a scheme by which it was proposed that they should supply yarn in shops managed by Government. The then Member for Commerce and Industries, Sir, A. Ramaswami Mudaliar called a conference of provincial government representatives and the scheme was discussed. Neither the central government nor the provincial governments came forward to adopt the above scheme for distribution of yarn in any form. It is not fortunately 'Mudaliar' that is in charge of the present Government. Possibly on account of the office which he held then, he held those views. I say times have changed, and it is for the Honourable Member who has taken his place to see that so long as scarcity of yarn continues, Government themselves should open shops for selling yarn or at least entrust the sale of yarn to various co-operative societies and see to it that the co-operative societies only sell yarn to those weavers who become members thereof. Another suggestion that I would like to make is that the Government should see that yarn does not get into the States. Even the small quantity of yarn that is now available

does not reach the handloom weavers, vigorous blackmarketing operations are going on on the borders of Madras province, overnight yarn is transported to the adjacent States of Mysore or Cochin. In order to avoid this smuggling, steps should be taken not to distribute yarn to middlemen who make huge profits, but give them directly to co-operative societies to be distributed only to members of co-operative societies. There ought to be co-operative marketing. This is an unusual time, but I am not going to the length of suggesting that the textile industry as a whole should be taken over by the State. I would have urged that course, had I thought it necessary at the present juncture as in the case of food. I would have suggested that cloth also ought to be managed by the State and that the entire social fabric ought not to be made to depend upon the whims, be they agriculturists or cloth producers like the mills. My Honourable friend Prof. Ranga once said that unless you increase the wages of agriculturists, there was going to be great trouble and strike. A strike among agriculturists means killing society. I do not want that we should be placed at the tender mercies of the agriculturists or textile mill owners. It is high time that Government took steps to compel for a short period at least some of the mills in Bombay and other industrial centres to produce only yarn and distribute them to the handloom weavers through the co-operative societies. Let yarn be given only to member of co-operative societies, let all the cloth produced by them be collected, let them be paid only fair wages for their work, let the cloth also be marketed through co-operative societies. This is a very easy matter to do. In my province of Madras they have instituted these co-operative societies and with proper working they are bound to prove a success.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra** (Calcutta: Non-Muhammadan Urban): Even in the case of co-operative societies, the yarn that is made over to co-operative societies go into the blackmarket in the shape of Government officers themselves.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar**: I am not in the know of what takes place in his province. He comes from a province against whose Government he says even government officers do black marketing. That is very unfortunate, if mothers themselves eat away their children there is no help. The serpent also eats its eggs. There is no safeguard against that. You must get rid of a government which behaves in the way you say it does. If the Government is bad, we are helpless. I am taking the case of governments which normally function. I know accusations have been made against particular members of government, even in my own province. I find, Sir, that the co-operative societies are working fairly and every attempt should be made to encourage cooperative concerns for the purpose of proper distribution. With regard to cloth, handloom cloth has become enormously dear; if the price has not gone up five hundred times it has at least gone up five hundred per cent. There is no justification for this because the price of cloth has not been controlled except recently. But before the control was introduced a *dhoti* was available for Rs. 8 and after the control you cannot get it for anything less than Rs. 13. I do not know why they are giving such enormous sums to these middlemen. Actually there are 24,000 weavers in my district. The weaver never wears a yard of cloth, he just wears a *langoti*; and what he takes is not coffee or tea but from morning to evening, twenty times in the day, he takes rice gruel with a pinch of salt. He lives in a thatched cottage, his wife goes and picks up dry leaves which she uses as fuel. The producer thus lives in abject poverty and his wife and children all work together, and they live under such conditions. It is the middleman who does not put forth any kind of energy who takes away all the profits. I therefore urge that there should be a change and I appeal to Government. I have myself tried to find out a solution for this; the only

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solution that strikes me is to set up co-operative societies or Government should take charge during this critical period; have only spinning mills and not cotton mills; ask the regular mills not to produce cloth up to 40 counts. These are the few suggestions that I will humbly place for the Honourable Member's consideration and acceptance; and I hope that as one of our ablest administrators he will relieve us from this difficulty ere long.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad** (United Provinces Southern Divisions: Muhammadan Rural): Sir My Honourable friend Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang raised this question on the 31st January last year and we thought some progress might have been made in this direction since then but I find that after the lapse of 14 months the position is the same and nothing has been done by Government. The reason, as I said then—and I repeat it now—is that in the matter of textiles it is the industry that rules the Government and Government does not rule the industry. If that position is not reversed there is no hope for the poor people in this country who live from hand to mouth. My Honourable friend Prof. Ranga comes from a province where the handloom industry was once in the most flourishing condition and my province came next; and it so happens that most of the looms are situated in my own constituency. The difficulty is that the handloom industry is growing in importance but is being impoverished from day to day by textile mills. My Honourable friend will have noticed that the Resettlement Directorate is establishing cottage industries everywhere and the handlooms are most popular with the demobilised soldiers because in their homes they can augment their income through this industry. The point of view which Government have always overlooked is that handloom industry is most popular with our villagers, because for eight months in the year they have nothing to do and they can utilise this time on the looms and derive an additional income. We have been pressing here that the income of the people should be increased; we pointed out that the *per capita* income in this country is only Rs. 64 per annum, and when you count the large number of millionaires it will come to a very insignificant figure. Their purchasing power should be raised not only in their own interest but in the interest of the industry itself because the industry will flourish with greater purchasing power in the hands of these people. So from the economic point of view and in order to find employment for a large number of people I suggest that the Honourable Member in charge should take special care for the development of the handloom industry which is just now at its lowest ebb. The competitors of the textile factories are these handloom weavers but the raw material of these weavers is in the hands of their competitors. This position is economically unsound and politically dangerous. These handloom weavers should be relieved of their troubles and difficulties due to the undue action of their competitors. Let spinning factories be established separately from the weaving factories. At present all these manufacturers always produce yarn; if they produce it for themselves I do not mind. In sugar mills some factories like to have their own farms in order to save the trouble of export; in the same way if these textile mills want to produce yarn for their own use let them do so. But Government should look after the production of yarn for the handloom industry. The present production of cotton in India is about six million bales and we consume four million bales for our mills, the rest being perhaps exported to foreign countries. I think Government should determine how much cotton should be given to these manufacturers out of these six million bales that we produce. Let them have half of it; the remaining three million bales should be given to the handloom weavers, and this production of yarn should not be left to the textile mills. Let them spin and weave their three million bales; but Government should look after these poor weavers and establish spinning factories at different places in order

to provide cheap yarn to these handloom weavers. Sometime ago they started a new mode of distribution among various provinces and different methods were suggested. Most of these were located near the textile factories because they produce the raw material. I suggest that we should see the production of cotton, and we should try to spin it in those very provinces where it is produced, and then it may be distributed in an equitable manner amongst various other provinces. This is one of the most important things which the present Government has to do, and if they succeed—of which I am extremely doubtful, because their scissors are not sharp enough to cut through the pockets of these big textile manufacturers—but if they succeed it will be feather in their cap. Once on the floor of the house, I pointed out to Sir George Schuster that these textile manufacturers are not in his pocket, but he (Sir George Schuster) was in the pocket of textile manufacturers. He retorted that he will have a pair of scissors and will get out of their pocket immediately! I could not retort at that time, but I do it now that the scissors of our Government are not sharp enough to do that. They are there, and they will remain there until the economic conditions are changed in this country. Government have to look after the interests of handloom industry as this is one of the most important problems. In this connection may I point out that whenever we made an attempt to get a licence for establishing spinning industry, the Government have invariably refused to give licences. Charkha was supposed to be good enough for them. I approached the predecessor of my Honourable friend,—Mr. Waugh,—for a licence but he refused to give, and so he left us at the mercy of these textile millowners. If my Honourable friend succeeds in this he shall have afforded great relief to the handloom weavers. Give them their share of cotton and let them spin and weave. Establish separate spinning factories; this should be done either by the Government or they should ask the handloom weavers to do it. In many places they are prepared to establish their own spinning mills. In my constituency, for instance, there are four places where the handloom weavers are prepared to do so provided the Government would issue them licences, or abolish the system of licenses altogether. It seems the Government are embarking on a new scheme of receiving a fee for issuing permits. Well, people in my constituency—at least in four places—are prepared to pay this *pugree* provided the licences are giving to them. I am sure my Honourable friend, Mr. Ayyangar, will be able to produce a number of persons in his own provinces who would be prepared to pay this *pugree*.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Don't ask me to produce; I will collect money from them.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** I think I used the wrong word for my Honourable friend. However, these people are so much terrorized, and they are so much in agony and trouble, that they are prepared to pay any price.

Then, Sir, I may point out that pressure will be brought to bear on the Honourable Member in a different manner. They are establishing handloom industries in various depots opened by the Resettlement Directorate, but they will not be able to get yarn to run these factories. Very soon they will demand that they should be permitted to have their own factories. I hope that this would be the policy of the Government to help in the production of as much yarn as possible. We have got, as I have already pointed out, six million bales. Why export anything? If we can turn them into yarn in our own country and provide living to our own people, why should we not make the cloth ourselves both by handlooms and mills and export it instead of exporting either cotton or yarn. We do not want to attack the manufacturers. Let them live, but we request them to adopt the policy of 'Live and let Live'. With these few words, Sir, I support the motion

**Mr. P. B. Gole** (Berar: Non-Muhammadan): Mr. President, I support this motion which has been very ably supported by my Honourable friend, Mr. Ayyangar. In fact I entirely endorse every word of what he has said. I do not propose to take much time of the House in dilating upon this subject, but I wish to bring to the notice of the House the grievances that have been felt by weavers in the Central Provinces and Berar. I find that whereas in 1937-38 1,160 million lbs. of yarn was being spun in the textile mills—I am quoting from the small leaflet which has been distributed by Mr. Thakersay—in 1945-46 the total output of yarn was 1,614 million lbs. Therefore you will see that whereas before the war 1,100 million lbs. of yarn was being turned out, 1,600 million lbs. is being turned out now. I know that in 1937-38, the Nagpur/Textile Mills sent yarn to China after supplying the needs of all the weavers in the Central Provinces and Berar. Today I find that all the weavers in this province are finding it extremely difficult to get yarn. I am referring to the co-operative societies in my province. There are Weavers' Co-operative societies and I know that the policy of the Government is to encourage co-operative societies, but I do not understand how these societies find it difficult to obtain yarn. I have received many complaints from these co-operative societies because I happen to have connections with the co-operative movement in C. P. and Berar. The main complaint is that instead of giving this distribution of yarn to the co-operative societies or to the Registrar of co-operative Societies, the yarn is being distributed through what is called the usual trade channel. Now what happens is that these 'usual trade channels' are accustomed to deal in blackmarketing. These persons are not weavers; they are agents and they distribute yarn to persons who take away the yarn in the black market. The Weavers' Co-operative Societies, although they have been encouraged from time to time, by the Provincial Government, find it extremely difficult to get the yarn. Even the Registrar Co-operative Societies finds it extremely difficult to induce the Textiles Commissioner to hand over the distribution of yarn to the Registrar Co-operative societies. I do not understand why these so called 'usual trade channels' are being preferred to even a senior Government officer like the Register, Co-operative Societies. That is what is happening in the Central Provinces and Berar: whereas Weavers' Co-operative Societies do not get any yarn, other persons, who are the agents of 'ordinary trade channels' get these bales of yarn and distribute them to some one—we do not know where it goes. The result is that all these weavers—probably the Honourable Member in charge is aware that Nagpur is a great centre where very good cloth is made—find it difficult to get yarn. The Textiles Commissioner is not moving an inch although the Registrar of Co-operative Societies is pressing that yarn should be distributed through him. I want the Honourable Member to give his attention to this question. When the Government themselves want to undertake this distribution work in order that the workers may get a steady supply of yarn for their work, it is no use handing over the distribution of yarn to ordinary trade channels.

I would draw the attention of the Honourable Member to another fact. Whereas formerly, for instance last year, Rs. 5 lakhs were provided for as grants for the weaving co-operative societies, this year this grant has been taken away. I would like to know whether the Government want to encourage these weavers' Co-operative Societies or not. If the Government's policy is to encourage these co-operative societies, how is it that this year, particularly, this grant of five lakhs has been taken away. May I ask the Honourable Member to see that the co-operative movement, especially in the case of the weavers, is encouraged because they are serving a very great purpose in rural areas. Therefore I support the motion so ably moved by my

Honourable friend and I hope the Honourable Member in Charge will take care to see that at least the Weavers' Co-operative Societies do not suffer for want of yarn.

**Sreejot Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri** (Assam Valley: Non-Muhammadany: Sir, I rise to support the motion. The miserable condition of the people of my province so far as the shortage of cloth and yarn are concerned is not unknown to the Honourable Member in charge. My Honourable friend Mr. Karmarkar complained bitterly yesterday that in his district of Karnatak, there was not a single mill, that in his district there is a large number of handlooms but a very small quantity of yarn was allotted to them. But the House, I am sure will be surprised to learn that in the entire province of Assam there is not a single cloth mill though in every household on the average there are at least two looms working. There are no professional weavers in my province. Every woman or girl in our household weaves her own cloth. In our part of the country the eligibility of a girl for a good bridegroom does not depend on the dowry which her parents are prepared to pay nor on her fashionable dress, her ability to use lipsticks, nor on her bright-coloured flowing sares or her silken pyjamas but it depends on her skill in weaving and the skill with which she can weave her embroidery.

**Shri Sri Prakasa** (Benares and Gorakhpur Divisions: Non-Muhammadan Rural): What a happy province!

**Sreejot Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri**: It was indeed so. Pandit Malaviya of revered memory when he went to Asam in the early days of the Non-Co-operation Movement, was struck very much by the uncoloured cloth woven by our women. He said that here at least in Assam *Satyajuga* was still lingering. Mahatma Gandhi paid the same encomium to our women folk. Even Pandit Nehru would have made the same remark about them if he had only cared to look at them. But those looms have stopped working. If my Honourable friend the Member in Charge visits Assam I am afraid he will find instead of the simple women folk of old who wove their own cloth, a different set of women wearing all sorts of fashionable dress of imported silk with lipstick and other feminine adjuncts. I do not know whether he would like to see them in their present condition or as they were before, which evoked the admiration of Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Malaviya.

**Shri Sri Prakasa**: It depends on one's mood!

**Sreejot Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri**: Certainly, but I believe that Honourable Member would like our women folk to weave their own cloth and lead a simple life. I would therefore request the Honourable Member to allot a larger quota of yarn to our Province of Assam and also see that mills give us some spindles as soon as possible, so that at any rate the Spinning mills may be started. The austerity of my Honourable friend enable me to hope that our women folk shall get more yarn for weaving their cloth.

**Several Honourable Members**: The question be put.

**Mr. President**: The question is:

"That the question be now put."

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari** (Member for Industries and Supplies): Sir, I am rather puzzled whether to express my full sympathy with what has been said and leave it at that or to deal with the actual difficulties of the situation. There is a stone wall against which this problem has to struggle.

Honourable Members referred to conflict and competition between the millowners and mill production and the handloom weavers. This problem has not been taken up by me only as a member of the Government. I have been in the midst of weavers for a considerable length of time. From the time, if I may say so, when I was able to understand things I have been among weavers. Reference was made among many other places to Salem, to which

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I belong and where I think the population of handloom weavers is probably the largest in this country. I am able to understand the difficulties of the weavers not only in the general way which legislators are used to, but I have for more than ten years with my own hands given yarn to weavers and got cloth from the weavers and have tried to see them properly employed. Having been intimately associated with this kind of work I know that all that has been said in the House today is true and all that has been said is important.

Once upon a time the competition was between the millowners and the handloom weavers. I wish at this point to say something which Honourable Members do not appear to have realised. Once upon a time this competition was very keen and I was among the few who were actively concerned in getting the mills not to make course cloth and getting the handloom weavers to have more yarn. Then was the time when we had foreign cloth and foreign yarn as also indigenous mill production. The handloom weavers were up against an array of very powerful forces then but today the position is somewhat different. There is practically no foreign cloth and there is practically no foreign yarn and with the two wings of this industry—mill production as well as handloom production—taken together, we are still having a shortage of cloth in this country. I know the time when the mills were objects of trouble to the handloom weavers. Today that is not the case: it is slightly different. The mills are producing yarn, some of them only yarn and some of them produce both yarn and cloth. The composite mills (that is those which produce both yarn and cloth) are using up practically all the yarn that they produce. When I say that anybody does anything, it should be taken with this qualification practically though not wholly. The composite mills are practically using up all the yarn that they produce in their own mills. There are, however, mills which are producing only yarn. The present situation is that all that yarn which is produced by spinning mills in the southern part of India is not at the disposal of the handloom weavers of that area. The yarn produced in the south

1 P. M. has to feed all the handlooms throughout India, inclusive of the handlooms in the south. The mills in Bombay and Ahmedabad and other places up here are using practically all the yarn that they produce. There is therefore firstly a shortage of cloth for the whole country, and secondly a shortage of yarn for full capacity of the handloom weavers. At present it is not as if the millowners take something to make it difficult for the handloom weaver and which if we set right, everything will go on well. Both together are not able to do what we have to get done for the whole country. That is the position.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** Why not spin more yarn?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** When I finished, Hon'ble members will find considerable room for agreement with me even as I have found considerable agreement with what has been said all the time this morning and yesterday evening. The mover of the cut motion confined himself rigorously, and very succinctly he expressed his points about the motion itself, namely the question of the supply of yarn to the handloom weavers. But in the later part of the debate we have launched out into the dividends earned by the millowners and various other topics which are more matters of general observation than having anything to do with the supply of yarn to the handloom weavers. Now, I wish to take not more time than necessary. I wish to deal only with the motion.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** On a point of personal explanation, Sir. It was for the purpose of saying that unless you pay the labourer...

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** I do not question the relevancy. But I am explaining my own reasons for not talking on subjects other than the supply of yarn for the handloom weavers, on subjects associated with the motion but very distantly.

The yarn that is available for handlooms today, if India is taken as a whole, is a fourth of the entire production of yarn in the mills of the country. That is the quantity placed at the disposal of the handlooms. It is a little more than a fourth. It is nearer 28 per cent than 25 per cent. About a fourth of the entire mill yarn production of the country is placed at the disposal of the handlooms today. Now, 80 thousand bales—I am giving round figures—each bale weighing 400 lbs, of yarn are sent round every month for the use of the handloom weavers. The distribution is made this way: It is sent to each province according to an allotment arrived at after considerable calculation as to the rights and the wrongs of the position. Each province gets a certain fixed quota—each province and not individual dealers, let it be remembered. 80 thousand bales per month are distributed in this manner among the handloom weavers of India through the various provincial governments and the States. The distribution in the provinces is entirely in the hands of the Provincial Governments.

Much was said about the co-operative societies through which this could be done, or private dealers through which this was being done, and the difficulties arising out of this or that method of distribution. This is entirely left to the Provincial Governments, and I think that it would be difficult for me to deal with the proprieties and the rights and the wrongs of the various measures taken by the various Provincial Governments. Notable reference was made to the method recently attempted to be adopted in Madras for getting the distribution done through co-operative societies. It is not for me to judge it or to take up any part of the time of the House over that matter. I shall content myself with saying that this question of distribution in the Province of yarn to the handloom weavers is within the full discretion of the Provinces, and if Honourable Members will assist in that direction they can get the Provincial Governments to make whatever reforms they think fit in regard to this matter. I need not take up the time of the House with the success or the failure of the various methods. As long as character remains where it does, there are difficulties whether you employ one agency or another agency. I only wish to say that I am not a stranger to the co-operative movement and I know also the difficulties of distribution and co-operative marketing. I also know the black-marketing that will arise in various forms, whatever may be the distribution system. The point is what is ultimately the quantity of yarn that is available. The evils referred to by Honourable Members are all traceable to the shortage of supply perhaps even more than to defects in character. Therefore we must look to production. I said already a fourth of the yarn production or a little more than a fourth, is now being made available for handloom weavers. I know very well that the handloom weavers do not work to full capacity with this yarn.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga** (Guntur *cum* Nellore: Non-Muhammadian Rural): It is only one-third.

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari**: I know it may truly be said to be a third or a half. If, we make a very conservative calculation, we would have to double this supply. That is to say, instead of supplying 80 thousand bales a month to the handloom weavers we will have to supply an additional 90 thousand bales per month if we wish to do fairly well by the handloom weavers. There are about 2 million looms, in the country. If we wish to give full capacity raw material to the handloom weavers we will have to give 170 thousand and odd bales to them per month. If we do this out of the existing mill yarn available in the country, we would have to double the quantity that is now being distributed. That means, so far as the composite mills are concerned, they would be reduced to less than half of their present weaving production. They will have to go down to nearly 30 or 40 per cent of their present limit of production. That is not easy to do. Many Honourable Members



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realising this suggest various measures. One suggestion is this: let the State start spinning mills and produce yarn which should be reserved for the sole use of the handloom weavers. A very good suggestion. I think it is a very good suggestion for Provincial Governments. It is also a good suggestion for provinces where there are large numbers of handloom weavers, for taking up some existing spinning mills and nursing them and bringing them up to the proper level. I do not say that the Central Government may not do it. But I say it is a fitter thing for the Provincial Governments to do. The Central Government has to take up the question of steel, the question of coal, the question of transport and many other matters, and I humbly suggest to Honourable Members who are interested in this matter and who are keen upon nationalising various industries that this industry is of a size and quality which should fall more within the competence of the Provincial Governments. But this is by the way.

Without producing more yarn, I was trying to show, that it is not possible to meet the situation satisfactorily. Of course we can take measures to make mills go from fine to coarse, so that they might produce more yarn and save more yarn for distribution to handloom weavers. These are possible measures, I admit and the matter is being very seriously and earnestly examined in my department with the help of all people concerned. I might assure Honourable Members that during the last few weeks I have been doing nothing but thinking on this subject, not because of this motion or this debate but as a matter of ordinary routine work pertaining to the department. This is the intensive work we have taken on hand just now. We wish to find out by what means, either by way of regulation of cloth production in the mills or by going down from fine to coarse or by any other means of pressure, influence or even coercion we could get more yarn out for the handloom weavers. Because I am convinced of one thing,—even though the conviction of Honourable Members is very strong in this matter, I may claim that my conviction is even stronger in this respect,—the immediate short term plan of producing more cloth can only be achieved through the handlooms. The mills will take time to get new machinery for expansion. The mills will take time to influence and bring round labour to rationalised production but the handloom is ready there. The skill is there. The instrument is there. There is no question of shortage, of labour. The man, and the women and the children, I know are ready and willing to work day and night. There is no trade union which can make the handloom weaver cut down his working hours. His work is not limited to any particular number of hours. I know this, as I have lived among them. All the night, you can hear the fly shuttle moving. You can hear the noise right through the night if you live among them. I know that big production through the handloom is ready to hand, if only we give them yarn and you are prepared to pay for it. The problem is how to give them yarn. We know the number of looms available. We know that they can weave so much per day, if we give them yarn. If there is any prospect of increasing cloth production within the year or within the next year, it can only be done I feel through the handloom. The only problem is how to get the yarn to the handloom weaver. The solution of robbing Peter to pay Paul will not do; in the interests of the country Peter and Paul are both the same, in the sense that the total production has to be looked after. That is what I meant when I refer to Peter and Paul. It is not my intention of making any racial or class or other distinction. I have in mind the production of cloth as a whole. If we take away the yarn from the mill, we must reduce the cloth production of the mill to that extent. We must produce a new and make a little more effort to get more yarn free out of the mill by regulating the mill production. These are the ways in which we can deal with the matter.

Now, I would like Honourable Members to think a little further in this direction. Today we are producing, as was pointed out, 16 hundred million pounds of yarn, out of which 12 hundred millions are being used up by the mills themselves and the remainder is being distributed mostly among handlooms, because the "power-looms" may be neglected in this connection as not of much account. The new mills will take time to be set up and to start working.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Can't you allot all the new spindles for the spinning mills?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** That is a long term plan but the previous Government reserved for hand-looms the same proportion, namely, 25 per cent of the out put of the new spindle. The suggestion that the entire expansion may be reserved for hand looms is certainly worth consideration. In the case of expansion of spindle where they are only spinning, it will certainly be available for handlooms as it is now; but the question of spindle in composite mills will also have to be taken into consideration in connection with the suggestion just now made. The question will arise as to whether the whole of that new yarn must be made free for handlooms. We shall have to examine more details in that connection but in any case the expansion will take time.

I therefore see no other way except the old proposition, the very old proposition, so far as I am concerned, that so long as the handlooms are linked up to the mills, the trouble will be there. In the old days the trouble was competition. Today the trouble is not competition, want of adequate quantum of production. One depends on the other and the yarn produced now is practically all taken up by the mills themselves and there is no yarn left. So that, you are linked to a partner who uses up all the raw materials.

So the basic thing that we must resort to is hand spinning. Here is the *charka*, here are the two hands. The skill is easily available. You can with these factors produce yarn in abundance throughout the country. A certain amount of regulation and guidance is necessary in order to see that good and sound yarn is produced. That is the only solution which appears to me to be possible so long as foreign yarn is not to come into this country and so long as foreign cloth is not to come into this country. Mathematically I am coming to this, not because I am wedded to a particular method or a particular fact. The facts are there and we can see what the position is. It may be said by the Machine party—'let there be more spinning mills and let them produce at a quicker rate good and sound yarn through the machine'. That is a sound proposition I admit but it is a long term plan.

**Mr. President:** The Honourable Member can continue his speech after Lunch.

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 Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

**Mr. President:** I have received a communication from the Honourable the Education Member in which he says:

"I am very sorry that during the question hour today I left before the final question in my name had been answered.....I answered what I thought was my last question and left. I request you to convey my regret to the House for my unintentional absence."

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** Sir, I was setting forth the difficulties in the way of supplying a sufficient quantity of yarn to the handlooms. It is no longer, I said, a case of conflict arising out of competition with either foreign cloth or with mill-cloth. But it is a difficulty arising out of the total

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shortage in the supply of yarn. We will have to struggle against this on all fronts. We must increase the total output of yarn and for that reason we will have to utilise all our resources. Some suggestions have been made and I am having them examined whether we can requisition a certain quota of yarn from even composite mills and place it at the disposal of handloom weavers as a first charge on the production of yarn in the mills. That will not be mere coercion. It is that kind of pressure which may provoke further efforts in re-adjusting production in the mills. It might lead to going from fine to coarse and it might lead, on the whole, to an increased production not only of yarn but of cloth also. It is also possible to adjust a few other things into which I need not go just now by which we might get a little more of yarn from the mills for the sake of handloom weavers. But, as I said, the more effective and immediate step seems to me to tap another source which we have not hitherto been doing, and that is getting the yarn from the cottages in addition to getting it from the mills themselves. There is no competitive conflict now. All our efforts must be to produce a larger amount of yarn. So, the cottage yarn, the handspun yarn, will go to supplement and it is such as we can get straightaway into working operation, if only we put our shoulders to the wheels. It should really be considered—and I take this opportunity of referring to it—a matter of disgrace that anybody who can afford it should wear the mill cloth which of right belongs to the poor man. It should be considered a matter of fashion and a matter of dignity to wear hand-spun and hand-woven cloth. It is only then that we will be able to get more yarn out into the looms from all sources possible. There is ready to hand a simple machine and a form of labour which can give us the cloth that we require if only we make special efforts in these directions. My colleagues and I will make our best endeavour, on the whole, to get more yarn for the handloom weaver and to help him in every way. It is not merely a matter of concern for the handloom weaver and for his occupation but it has become today a concern for the whole nation as to the amount of cloth that we require and which we do not have. Therefore, it is not condescension on our part to help the handloom weaver; it is our own necessity that drives the Government to do everything possible for its production. Therefore, it is necessary that we should make every endeavour to get more cloth out of the handloom and more yarn for the handloom.

Reference has been made in the course of the observations made by the Mover of this cut motion to the export of yarn. He rightly said that we should not export yarn when we are so much short of it ourselves for our own handlooms. But there are always two sides to everything. To what places are we now exporting? Honourable Members may not perhaps know that it is only to Nepal, Afghanistan, some Arabian States on the Persian Gulf that we are exporting a little yarn for the handlooms of those countries. The yarn that we export is about 478 tons or even less. To Nepal we are sending about 320 tons; to Afghanistan 130 tons; and to the Arabian States on the Persian Gulf 28 tons; altogether we send 478 tons of yarn. This is nothing. We must remember that we cannot cut off all connections with our neighbours. We should not look upon this as any serious inroad into our economy. Honourable Members should not mind this insignificant export to our neighbours for the purpose of helping the poor people in those parts of the world.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** Is there any export of yarn to Burma or Indonesia?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** No; there is no export of yarn to Burma or to Indonesia. (*An Honourable Member:* "There is some smuggling going on.") That is a different matter.

Then, Sir, coming to the actual proposition which the Honourable Mover of this cut motion had in mind, namely, that we should increase our supply

of yarn to the handlooms by a third. That is to say, a third of the yarn output should be given instead of a fourth. It comes to the same thing. We should increase the present supply of 82,000 bales, by one-third. I think Government will be able to manage it and I have great pleasure in assuring Honourable Members that an attempt will be made in that direction. The figure given in the cut motion can be reached with a little difficulty; it is not impracticable. But my efforts should be to make a little more than that, to give the handloom weavers more than what is proposed in the cut motion.

**Sri V. C. Vellingiri Gounder** (Salen and Coimbatore *cum* North Arcot: Non-Mubammadan Rural): What about the export of cloth to other countries?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari**: Export of cloth is not in the motion and you would not like me to go into that just now. The export of cloth is insignificant, but that is not in the present motion, and I need not take up the time of the House over that. Then reference was made to the actual distribution within the provinces. I have already said that it is entirely within the discretion of provincial governments. I may inform Honourable Members that I have been able to make specific enquiry and ascertain that in provinces where Government employ co-operative societies, the Textile Commissioner directly puts yarn in charge of those co-operative societies. If the provincial governments make legitimate efforts, they can see that the yarn is distributed by co-operative societies. There is no difficulty in this whatsoever. But it is not really mal-distribution that is at the bottom of the trouble. There is a great deal of competition on account of shortage, among the weavers themselves and there is black marketing and wrong practices indulged in. But the solution lies not in just changing the machinery. The solution lies in increasing the amount of yarn that is available when those malpractices will go down. Whether it is the trader who puts a small commission on his yarn or whether it is the co-operative society that distributes it, when there is plenty of supply there will be no difficulty in the position. When there is want of supply, difficulty will be felt whatever be the machinery that we may set up. Regarding the co-operative machinery for distribution within the province, as I have said, we have no objection whatsoever. If in the circumstances of a province, it is felt that co-operative societies might work better, well and good. Honourable Members must convince their respective provincial governments and the people concerned in regard to this matter. I might mention that handloom weavers are on the whole better off now than they were before. There is no control over the price of handloom products. By increase in prices, the handloom weavers have greatly benefitted. It is only recently that in one or two provinces attempts were made to put a price control upon handloom products, but those attempts have not succeeded very much so far as I am aware. On the contrary it has led to increase in prices at which the cloth is available to the people. Restrictions sometimes act in that manner. I do not advocate price control over handloom cloth because it will be very difficult to enforce this regulation and harassment to the handloom weavers would be much more than any advantage that you will be able to get out of it. That is the reason why practically no province has attempted to put a control on price of handloom products. On account of shortage of yarn and on account of increase in the price of handloom products, there is increased competition between one handloom weaver and another, and hence a great deal has been heard about corrupt practices and maldistribution. As I have already said, it is shortage that is at the bottom of it and that will be looked into.

Finally, I may say that I am not behind any Members of this House in my sympathy, and the Government as a whole are in full sympathy with the handloom weavers and feel necessity to improve their condition. In increasing production by handloom weavers lies the only way of immediately improving the cloth supply in this country. I hope with this assurance that we will put forth

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our best efforts to improve the handloom weaver's position, the Honourable Member will withdraw his Motion.

**Mr. Tamizuddin Khan:** What about Government establishing in future spinning mills. That is what the Honourable Member was going to say, but he did not say anything definitely. Or in the alternative what about Government distributing as far as possible to various provinces spindles on condition that only spinning mills should be established and that they should set apart a certain portion of their products for handloom weavers.

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** Everything will be done in that direction as fast as possible. I have no objection whatever to the plan suggested by the Honourable Member. The thing is, it may not have immediate effect in regard to the handloom position. As I have already said the opening of new mills is a definite plan and it will be taken up, but for the present we will have to concentrate on how to get more yarn out of the existing machinery available.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Have the Government evolved any scheme to increase hand spinning and production of hand spun yarn?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** If the question is with reference to the Central Government, the answer is, no, Sir, except by way of promotion.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** What do Government propose to do to promote it?

**Babu Ram Narayan Singh** (Chota Nagpur Division: Non-Muhammadian): I want to know whether Government are taking any practical steps to meet the situation?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** That is what I have been trying to say that Government are taking practical and immediate steps in order to get more yarn available to handloom weavers.

**Babu Ram Narayan Singh:** What are those steps?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** The steps that I referred to are all directly concerned with the production of yarn. I hope Honourable Members will leave the matter to be thrashed out and not merely spun out in a speech.

**Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang** (East Punjab: Muhammadian): In view of the assurance given by the Honourable Member, I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

The cut motion was by leave of the Assembly withdrawn.

*Marking of price and control on cotton cloth produced by the Indian mills*

**Mr. Muhammad Nauman** (Patna and Chota Nagpur cum Orissa: Muhammadian): Sir, I move:

"That the demand under the head 'Department of Industries and Supplies' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Sir, I move this cut motion in order to elicit information from Government as to the particular policy adopted in the matter of marking price on mill products of Indian mills in this country. Even in 1945, I raised this issue. I would refer the Honourable Member to the speech I made on that occasion. I do not want to repeat all the arguments I advanced at that time. They will be found on page 1325 of the Debates of 1945. I displayed at that time certain pieces of muslin and long cloth and I then pointed out that for superior stuff, lower value was marked and for inferior stuff, higher value was marked. We are not able to understand the mysterious process adopted by the authority which does this in marking the prices. At that time the Member in charge was Sir Azizul Huque and he could not give satisfactory explanation. I thought it was the Textile Commissioner who was doing this, but the Honourable Member denied that it was the Textile Commissioner. He said that it was some other officer

who was responsible for marking of prices. Of course like the irresponsible Executive Councillor that he was, he did not do anything to remove this anomaly. I would again try to impress upon this House the vagaries that are followed in marking prices by displaying a piece of cloth that I have brought with me. On this piece of cloth, it is marked retail price is 7 as. 6 ps. a yard; but as soon as it is printed—I do not know whether the colour is fast—the retail price marked is Rs. 1-14-0. The retail price of a coloured piece does not bear any comparison to the retail price of the same stuff when it is not coloured. I cannot understand how one and the same stuff can become so expensive when it is coloured. What are the factors which go to contribute for the sudden jump in prices, I leave it to Honourable Members to find out. I have particularly got this specimen to impress upon the Honourable Member in charge that prices should range on a certain basis and should rest on certain principles. For printing this kind of cloth, surely it would not cost more than two or three annas per yard and after being coloured, it should be in the neighbourhood of 10 annas per yard. Instead of that, it is marked as Rs. 1-14-0. The public in this country has been compelled to buy this stuff at such a heavy price. It is more a black market price than the real price, even according to their own marking even according to their own valuation as the cloth was taken out of the mill before being printed. On production it is valued at Rs. 0-7-6 but after printing its price is Rs. 1-14-0. I will not give other samples.

**Mr. Vadilal Lalubhai** (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association: Indian Commerce): Is it hand printing or machine printing?

**Mr. Muhammad Nauman:** As a millowner the Honourable Member should know it; I am a layman and cannot answer that.

**Mr. Vadilal Lalubhai:** I think it is printed outside.

**Mr. Muhammad Nauman:** That is something with which I am not concerned; I am only asking the Honourable Member to see whether this is justifiable. In that debate also I pointed out that certain mills produced long cloth which was priced at as. 13 a yard; and this was of definitely better quality than long-cloth produced by some other mills and priced at Rs. 1-8-0. This discrepancy exists even now. To our surprise the Honourable Member's predecessor Sir Azizul Huque—an irresponsible Member of the Executive Council—took no notice of the debate and the speeches made. But I hope and trust that the present Government with different ideals will consider feelings in the country and mend matters immediately. When my Honourable friend Mr. Haroon spoke on the subject Sir Azizul Huque said:

"I will look into the matter and try to see what best can be done. I am prepared to have that matter discussed in the Consumers' Council and the question of price examined."

But nothing was perhaps done after that. I will next deal with the method of control. We find that every year and every month the production is coming down; at least we are asked to use less cloth. The production is shrinking, or the quota given to provinces is shrinking, for reasons best known to the administration. What I want to say is that Government have not been able to compel these mills to have double or triple shift to meet the needs of the country. In the alternative Government should have imported cloth from outside, as they are importing foodgrains. Of course food is the first necessity but cloth comes next; and so I should like to know the reasons why it has not been imported so long from foreign countries like America or other places which have surplus stocks. I do not know which countries have got this surplus but the Honourable Member should know and tell this House what the position is in other parts of the world. I understand from quotations received from America by some merchants who want to import American goods that America has got surplus cloth which they can ship to this country if special facilities are given to them. One point of course is that while importing we must look to the prices and see how they compare with the indigenous prices.

[Mr. Muhammad Nauman.]

Much has been said about black markets and I will not dilate on that subject; but I must say that these millowners also have found out methods to show to Government only a certain amount of production and perhaps hold up the rest in order to dispose of it in some other manner. I do not know what methods of control are followed by Government but I should like to know how Government can be sure that the entire production of the mills is tendered to Government.

As regards export of cotton clothing, although a very small amount has been exported I must say that in our present conditions we cannot afford to export and cotton clothing as we cannot export foodgrains. I should like to know from Government whether certain mills were allowed to make exports to other countries and a certain quota was given to them for export to the Persian Gulf and other places; and whether the interests of the country were considered and the circumstances in which such permission to export was given. It is particularly important in view of the fact that our own cloth quota is being reduced every day, thus making the life of the people more or less impossible. In Delhi the individual quota of 36 yards per year has been reduced to 12 yards and in my own province of Bihar from 24 yards in 1945-46 it has come down to 18 yards. I should like to know from the Honourable Member whether these factors were taken into consideration and whether he can give an assurance that he will be able to adjust the price to production in a manner which will meet the needs of the people of the country. Sir, I move:

**Mr. President:** Cut motions moved:

"That the demand under the head 'Department of Industries and Supplies' be reduced by Rs. 100."

As the time limit expires at 3-15 p.m. I will call upon the Government Member to intervene at this stage. It will not be by way of reply but the House will be in possession of facts from the point of view of Government. If there is time left, the debates may be proceeded with.

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** Sir, with regard to the wrong marking of prices I am sorry to say that it is impossible for me to reply to the specific case that has been referred to in the course of the Honourable Member's speech, unless the matter is placed in my hands more specifically and with some time to make inquiries. It is not possible for a Member of Government to say why a particular piece is marked wrongly in pursuance of a policy for which he is responsible. I accept responsibility for errors of the administration but I cannot answer in any satisfactory manner with reference to a particular case or a particular error. The policy is that prices should be controlled and prices should be marked on the pieces, there are various schedules and rules governing the matter and there are officers entrusted with the work and a prescribed procedure. If any errors like this are pointed out in time so that some inquiries may be made I shall be only too glad to look into the matter and give satisfaction. The gist of the matter is this: The complaint is that this hand-printed piece is marked at too high a price. If that is to be enquired into, I have got to get all the details about it, and I have to get explanation of all the persons who are responsible for it before I can venture to give any verdict on the matter.

3 P.M. But I assert that the rules that have been made are good enough for fixing fair prices and the procedure prescribed is good enough. Infringements should be looked into when they are pointed out, but we cannot simply assume that because this particular piece of cloth rouses indignation in the mind, of the Honourable the Mover, all cloth is dealt with like this. It is quite wrong to generalise from this case.

As regards the policy, without this price-fixing we cannot simply get on at all, and the people would have much more trouble than if we dropped these methods. The thing has of course to be done properly, and for that reason I would ask the Honourable the Mover and other Honourable Members to bring such matters to the notice of the administration.

**Mr. Muhammad Nauman:** I have been bringing these matters to the notice of the Honourable Member's Department since 1935.

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** I am very sorry but if this piece is as old as that I disclaim all responsibility.

**Mr. Muhammad Nauman:** This piece is new.

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** Restricting ourselves to matters on which I can give reasonable explanation. I have said that matters of this kind should be brought to the notice of this Department, and not merely made a subject matter of comment on the policy, unless of course it is the intention of the Honourable Member to see that there should be no marking on pieces.

**Mr. Muhammad Nauman:** It is not my intention. I have pointed out about the way in which these pieces are marked; there seems to be something wrong there.

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** As I have said even a single case has to be looked into before coming to a verdict. But one case will not prove that the machinery is bad.

With regard to export policy, though it is not relevant to the cut motion itself, it is important enough for me to say a word about it. We are exercising the most stringent attitude in regard to the export of cloth. I may assure Honourable Members that it is with very great unwillingness and after very severe examination that we allow the very small quantity of export that has been kept up even during these difficult years. Just as even when we are on ration and we do not get sufficient rice from the bazaar in existing conditions, when a visitor comes we do not turn him out, in the same manner with all our difficulties we cannot cut ourselves off from neighbouring countries who are in great difficulty. They send their Missions, representatives and high-placed officials for a quota from here and there. In some cases Honourable Members themselves press that small quotas may be allowed under circumstances connected with any particular case. We cannot entirely get rid of all exports, but I can assure my Honourable friends that it is only after most stringent examination that any such proposal is entertained, and I am particularly hard upon all these exceptional cases and I am trying to reduce them as much as possible. But there are many departments concerned in such matters. There is a department pressing for the claims of foreign countries and neighbourly relations. The Commerce Department has its own outlook in the matter. It must keep its contacts and trade connections with certain countries which they cannot give up on account of bad conditions now. A number of considerations have to be taken into account and some time the Industries and Supply Department has to yield, but I can assure this House that so far as my Department is concerned, they are all out against exports. Wherever it is possible we object to exports.

I do not think I have anything more to say, but every effort will be made to make the administration as easy as possible. We hope when one day we get our production to the right dimensions, all these difficulties will disappear and we need not then depend upon very careful marking and we may leave it to the buyer and the seller to fix the price as they want.

**Mr. Muhammad Nauman:** Why can't we increase our production?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** That is attempted; that has been the subject of very anxious consideration and we are trying to do it. Double shift is going on in most cases, and treble shift is being considered.

I may also take the House into confidence that we propose to have double and treble shifts at least in respect of yarn so that we may have more yarn and more hand-loom cloth. All these aspects of the matter are being looked into and once again I assure the House that everything possible will be done.



**Mr. Vadilal Lallubhai:** Sir, the example given by my Honourable friend Mr. Nauman, is certainly a serious one. The price of cloth was As. -/7/6 per yard when the cloth was grey and when the cloth was printed, it was 1/14/- a yard. I understand certain quotas were given to hand-printers in Bombay, Ahmedabad and other places, and I also understand that these hand-printers instead of printing by hand, they printed on small machines. What they did was this that they printed *kacha* colour which would fade and go down in water or steam and ruin the prestige of Indian prints. It is possible that this machine-printed cloth by hand printers may have been given at a high price, otherwise it is impossible that a piece of cloth valued at -/7/6 would be sold at 1/14/-. I would request that the Government should go deep into this matter, especially into the case which has been pointed out by my Honourable friend, Mr. Muhammad Nauman, and if there is any misuse on the part of hand-printers they ought to be punished because it ruins the prestige of Indian prints. I understand extra quotas were being given and if that extra quota is being used, it should be reconsidered.

Further my Honourable friend was talking about holding out production. I can assure him that the entire production by the mills has got to be given over to the Textile Commissioner for distribution. There is no question of mills not giving over their entire production, but the difficulty is that the production has gone down considerably during the last year. It has gone down by 25 per cent. and I must say that this House has to thank itself for that because they did not listen to my advice last year. I said that the Textile Industry ought to be given some time to reorganize so that we may have three shifts where it is possible, but the nine hour day was reduced to eight hour day. Although the Government of India wanted to exempt the textiles industry but to the Bill which was passed it was not agreed to. I said that the Textiles industry should be given exemption because we were passing through abnormal times and it was very necessary to reorganize the industry. At that time I said that whatever exemption you give, you ought to do it here, but if you leave it to the provinces they will dare not do it. My prophesy has come true and I may tell you that even if the Provincial Governments try now they will not be able to come back to nine hour day. But I must say that it is possible to rationalize the industry and if the Government tries they can have in many centres three shifts in which case we can produce more yarn. On the other cut motion, the Honourable the Industries Member said that he would like to give more yarn to the handlooms. I feel that not only what he desires will be obtained but if he perseveres, as I know he is persevering day and night these days, he will be able to get more yarn and more cloth with the co-operation of industrialists, labour and technicians. I am sure in a few months time India can expect more cloth and yarn production due to the hard work of the Honourable the Industries Member.

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** Sir, there is just a point on which I should like to make a brief statement in reply. The mover of this cut motion suggested that we might import cloth and yarn from outside. There is very little chance of this. In fact there is no chance of our getting any textiles from abroad, whether it is good or bad. Even if there were some chance, Honourable Members should consider very seriously whether it is a wise plan. It may be that we are having a shortage but as long as we are able somehow to get on with the quantity of cloth that is produced in this country. I think it would be wise not to go back to the old tendency of importing foreign cloth.

**Mr. Muhammad Nauman:** We are not able to get on: that is the trouble.

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** It is a matter of degree, Sir. In the case of cloth the fact is there, that we are getting on. The demand is there, I admit. The misery is there, I admit. But we are getting on, thanks

to the sun under which we live, for we can bear a lot of shortage in respect of cloth, if only we make up our minds rather than hand over the prosperity of our country once again to the tender mercies of foreign exploiters.

**Babu Ram Narayan Singh:** That is no justification.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Could the Honourable Member tell us how it is that there is this sudden difficulty, a difficulty that was not experienced before in regard to this matter.

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** It is due to this. Possibly we, all of us, do not have all the facts before us. The picture would be slightly different if we had all the facts. When we have just reached sufficiency, even a little shortage is felt very acutely. From 4,500 million yards we have come down to 4,000 million yards and that creates all this difficulty. In the old days we were less in population. Now every year we are increasing by about four millions. It should be remembered also that our standards are higher now. In the old days a large fraction of our people did not wear adequate cloth: now a much larger fraction of our people are wearing adequate cloth and wish to wear adequate cloth. In the old days the cloth that was produced in the country was ample for the city and small-town dwellers, because the villagers did not want much cloth. But today if we keep our eyes open when we go round we find everybody of every rank in life wearing more dress than they used to do before. Therefore the average demand, has gone up and the position has become more difficult. That, in my opinion, is the reason for this difficulty. Figures point out that there is a slight fall but that slight fall is not enough to explain all our troubles. The rise in the standard of living is the real explanation of the difficulty that we experience.

Then there is a further thing. During the war the output was very great and machinery was worked to death and there was no proper replacement. All these difficulties have to be dealt with and they are a matter of time.

**Mr. Muhammad Nauman:** Sir, In view of the assurances given by the Honourable Member I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.

The cut motion was by leave of the Assembly withdrawn.

#### DEMAND NO. 11—CABINET

##### *Necessities of effecting General Economy in the Expenditure of various Departments*

**Shri D. P. Karmarkar** (Bombay Southern Division: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Sir, I beg to move:

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

The object of this cut motion has been mentioned as “to discuss the necessity of effecting general economy in the expenditure of the various departments.”

Earlier when in the course of the general discussion of the Budget this point was raised, the Honourable the Finance Member was very emphatic in the expression of his conviction that there is very great scope for effecting economy in the expenditure which is at present incurred. It is very conventional to say that there has been extravagant expenditure in so far as the Government of India is concerned.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Sir, may I know what member of the Government is in charge of this cut?

**Shri D. P. Karmarkar:** Looking at the cut as a whole it seems to me that the whole Cabinet is responsible, as it is a cut for the reduction in the expenditure of the Cabinet.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** But still somebody's head has to be cut.

**Shri D. P. Karmarkar:** To continue the thread of what I was saying, it is also conventional to say in justification of the huge expenditure now being incurred by the Government of India, that the various departments are expanding, that the functions of the state, though they started originally with the policing of the area under their control, now in civilised times, have extended and indeed the Government of India has begun to look after the good of the people as a whole and has embarked on new schemes involving direct expenditure. I will not look at this question in the brief time at my disposal from a mere superficial point of view by looking at the expenditure which was there before the war, by looking at the expenditure which has resulted as a result of the war and by making a comparison of the present expenditure and the past expenditure and suggesting that there should be retrenchment and economy only in that respect. If we have to take a whole view of the situation under the present circumstances, I think we should judge ourselves as being on the threshold of achieving a new status, namely a status of sovereignty. In times past we were a subject nation, subject to the economic control of a foreign nation and therefore our budget structure, our expenditure structure, our revenue structure, all these were influenced by considerations extraneous to the popular good. If only we were to cast a glance at what has happened, the present administration started as an administration, principally and primarily, for maintaining law and order. Of late it has launched on schemes which might come under the category of the general good of the people. Now that we are analysing the present economic position and making proposals for introducing economy, we have to pay attention to both these aspects and while doing so, with all respect I have to suggest that there should be a double way of approach to the subject, one of them being a long term view and the other a short term view. The long term view would involve our considering what is likely to be our revenue structure, our expenditure structure during the next five or ten years. I will be told naturally that at this stage our present constitutional position is hanging in a balance and therefore in anticipation of what our revenues might be or what our expenditure might be and we would make an uncertain sort of judgment. But as we are considering the matter at the moment and giving a little serious attention to it, I should myself be tempted to take also a long term view. Assuming for our present purpose that the present arrangements may continue, if these arrangements are disturbed, those who will be in charge of the administration in the disturbed arrangement will take care to make an assessment of facts as they exist at that time. But at the present moment I should suggest that we should also have a long term view of what our economy should be like and when we take that view I should respectfully invite the attention of the House to what has been our revenue and expenditure structures in the past. Of course that past is not likely to be the sole guide to us in judging of the future as a whole. I see, making a few broad references, that twenty years ago, that is in 1927 our total expenditure stood somewhere near about 93 and odd crores. Then it continued like that with more or less slight changes till we came to the war. And the war has disturbed our economy. The total expenditure as it stood in 1939 was somewhere about 88 and odd crores. It went up to 107 crores in the first year of the war, to 120 crores the next year, to 280 crores the next year and in the last two years it went up to the abnormal figures of 434 and 484 crores. As I said in my earlier observations in the course of the general discussion on the Budget, the expenditure in the current year has not reduced itself to the proportions to which we expected it to reduce itself.

Reviewing the revenue structure during a similar period, twenty years ago the total net revenue was 93 crores. Passing over a period of fifteen years the revenue dwindled to 70 crores and odd and stood somewhere between a little above 70 and 93 crores. Then the war disturbed our economies. Taxes were piled upon taxes. We know to our cost that the additional deficit incurred

during the last nine years amounts to the fabulous sum of 1285 crores—a heavy burden upon the revenue resources of the country. While judging of the future for the next five years we have to have a broad estimate of what our definite revenues are with a margin of error, and so shape our expenditure from now on so as to make it fall reasonably within the revenues that can reasonably be expected. We know how the Honourable Member's present taxation proposals have greatly disturbed many interests in the country. I shall not speak on the merits of the proposal at the present moment. But I should certainly say this that if at the present moment Government were in a position to recast their expenditure in such a manner as not to have necessarily to increase the revenues by having recourse to fresh taxation of a contentious nature, it would certainly have meant very well for us, because from now onwards we are in a position to think how to meet our expenditure from our revenue in a better manner than it was permitted to us in the past. Looking at the question from that point of view and especially inviting our own attention to the fact that during the last 20 years the only surplus years were about three or four—almost all of them, even prior to the war, were deficit budget years—taking into consideration all these factors, it is certainly up to us to so arrange our expenditure for this year and also for the succeeding years as not to disturb the economy of the country very greatly. Certainly we shall have to take steps to increase the expenditure in matters which absolutely make it necessary to increase our expenditure. We may also find it necessary to impose fresh taxation where the community concerned is strong to bear it. And we shall have to expand our economy. It is up to us to consider what has happened in the past, what are our present conditions, and what may reasonably be expected to happen in the near future. Judging from that point of view, Sir, one or two facts stand foremost in our present position. Firstly, as I said, there is our recurring deficit, secondly our increasing public debt. As figures show, the public debt as it will stand at the end of the present year will be to the tune of about Rs. 1,886 crores—an increase of Rs. 959 crores, as figures stood prior to the war. Thirdly, our increasing responsibilities. There is one little paragraph devoted in the Explanatory Memorandum of the Budget to what the expenses of the Defence Department may stand like. His Majesty's Government and this Government have agreed, it is pointed out there, that hereafter the services of troops lent to the particular Government will be paid for by the Government which utilises them. As I visualize things, a little after about the end of this year when the British Government has promised in all solemnity that the British would quit India, I am afraid our defence responsibilities would increase far more than we could imagine now, and every soldier that we may invite for a temporary period will cost us greatly. Judging the question from that point of view I am afraid our responsibilities for defence expenditure will be far more than what we are likely to think about.

The question is this. In our present position we find ourselves surrounded by the increasing personnel of the administration. I will not tease the courtesy of this House by going into very great details. There have been figures worked out in every Department. We find as I had the occasion to observe in the course of the general discussion of the budget, that things have grown worse, especially after the end of the war, than before or during the war. Looking at the question in that perspective, taking both a long-range and a short-range view, there are certain suggestions that come uppermost in one's mind while judging of these things, namely the economies to be introduced now and in the immediate future. One would obviously be the decrease in the personnel. And there one has to face the objection that if you are growing into a free nation you will necessarily have to expand your personnel. For instance in the External Affairs Department you will have to increase the number of Ambassadors. Certainly, yes. We shall expand our Departments wherever there is absolute necessity. And we shall curtail our Departments where they have expanded beyond all reasonable necessity.

[Shri D. P. Karmarkar]

The second way is one which Government are already thinking of taking, and that is to Indianise the services as much as possible and thus reduce the expenditure which is involved in inviting personnel from outside for serving us. That would also incidentally, if I might mention, increase our own efficiency. There is a fallacy,—and I am not speaking disrespectfully of any experts whom you might have invited—that after all is said and done, whatever the exploitation in the process of history may have been, the British Civil Service has justified its own existence and has rendered very nice service by the country. That, Sir, in my opinion is a fallacy. And this process of Indianisation will not only involve a reduction in expenditure but will also increase the efficiency of our services.

While on that point I would also briefly refer to the departmental tiers. When I first looked into the demands for grants last year and saw the tiers of officers I was reminded of the South Indian temples. The Virupaksha temple at Hampi for example has nine tiers one above the other. When I looked at the demands for grants I saw all types of officers, research Officers, Special Officers, Under Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries, Controllers, Supervisors and Superintendents and so on. There is no end to this terminology. There seems to be some charm in the nomenclature. I would not quarrel if you call a chaprassi a Controller-General. There is no quarrel about the name. But if a Controller has to be paid Rs. 2,000 then I would certainly quarrel. These tiers have increased especially during the war. I would invite the attention of the House, without going into details, to the series of officers, for instance, in the Information and Broadcasting Department or the Industries and Supplies Department, or I might well with liberty say take a dip into any of the Departments and you will find officers over officers, possibly with some little purpose but largely without any purpose. That, Sir, should be simplified as much as could be simplified.

Another useful way of reducing expenditure is this. My honourable friend Mr. Reddiar has placed a statement in my hands giving the new appointments in reply to a question of his which he put this morning. That will show that even last year has been an unnecessary increase in the number of officers. On the point of this personnel I think it would be extremely useful if a rational analysis were to be undertaken in respect of each department. Such a thing was done by the Government of India with regard to the Postal Department; they calculated exactly how much time would be required for a clerk to give five envelopes when a customer comes for them. I would not suggest such a harsh treatment. If even half the care is exercised I should think that that would cut down the expenditure of Government a great deal.

I will enter on the discussion of a little contentious measure because I feel that some Honourable Members of this House may not agree with me. I should certainly understand a very liberal minded but wealthy man parting with his amounts in charity. But I find myself difficult to agree with proposals for handing over large amounts to the Provinces as grants in a year during which the only correct description of our financial position would be 'bankruptcy'.

Now under those circumstances, whether it would be wisdom to spend crores and crores of rupees over schemes of development undertaken by the provinces is a question on which I hold strong opinions and my opinion is this, that at the present moment it would be wiser to go slower.

Those are the different ways in which one can go into the whole question of introducing economy. May I respectfully ask, Sir, how much more time is available to me?

**Mr. President:** The Honourable Member has spoken for 15 minutes. As a Mover, he is entitled to 20.

**Shri D. P. Karmarkar:** I will only give one instance by way of illustration. I could not resist the temptation lately of going into the details of one of the departments. What I am going to say is intended to serve only as an illustration. The same is true of almost every other department. I mention as an instance the Information and Broadcasting Department. If any one cares to look into the details, he will find that it began in a very humble manner. Formerly the officer in charge of it was called the Controller. Not being content with that name, the Government of India made him Director General and if one were to go into the lists of officers he will find that after the Controller became the Director General, he required three Deputy Directors General and other subordinates also. Now, we find that a department which started with very humble beginnings has got three Deputy Directors General, one Director of Administration, an Assistant Director of Administration, an officer on special duty and two Superintendents. I am only summarising the number of officers in order not to tease the patience of the House. In addition there is also a Deputy Director General for Programmes, an officer on special duty and a Director of Programmes, all of them undoubtedly drawing high salaries.

Now, there is another organisation, as part of the Broadcasting Department and that is the Central News Organisation. It started with very humble beginnings. It originally started with a news editor and three sub-editors. Now, there is one Chief Editor. This organisation which started in the first instance with one News Editor and three sub-editors now has one Chief Editor seven News Editors, 32 Assistant News Editors and Sub-Editors. In addition there are a special representative and two reporters. This is about the Central News Organisation.

Here I have a local complaint to make and that is that in spite of the whole of this staff the department finds it very difficult to spare an additional 15 minutes to the Kannada language which is spoken at the present moment by lakhs and lakhs of people. This is just as an aside.

I should like to point out that whatever artificial importance, English may have had in the past, it should at least cease now but we find to our surprise that a gentleman or a gentle woman, whoever it might be, if he or she has a good voice for the microphone gets a post and just for announcing in English and doing nothing else, they are getting Rs. 700 whereas a poor Indian Announcer with similar qualifications is receiving not more than Rs. 150 for corresponding service. That is the thing to which I want to draw attention.

I am also staggered, I am speaking subject to correction on this point, to see—and I find it very difficult to bring myself to believe—that there are not less than 100 gazetted officers of the Central News Organisation. What all of them are doing I am really at a loss to know.

You will also be surprised at another thing. If the same thing happened in the Legislative Assembly Department, you, Sir, would immediately pounce upon it and stop it but what do we find in the All India Radio. There are three different reference units with a number of different officers for the different kinds of work to be done. They are occupying three different rooms in the same place. If all these units could be amalgamated and if one Central reference unit could be established, it would result in considerable economy of time and money. All these things could certainly be reorganised. I will not go into further details of this organisation. The same type of remarks might be multiplied in the case of other departments but I shall not add to the misery by doing so. I think it will be better to repeat the formula which Gautama Buddha laid down when dying. He said 'Pursue thy salvation with diligence' I should say to the Government of India that the salvation of the Government of India lies in the economy that they might practise.

[Shri D. P. Karmarkar]

I was myself struck with a very little thing and I was very much stunned myself to hear it. There are a lot of little things that happen. I was told, I am speaking subject to correction—something about a highly placed officer of a department of the Government of India. I could even mention the name of the officer concerned. He wanted a radio at the expense of the Government exchequer and he thought of getting one and debiting it to the Government accounts. Now, if it was given out that a radio was going to be purchased, the Audit Department would pounce down upon that department. The audit officer might say—why do you want a radio when your department has nothing to do with radio listening. Now, a new name was invented for the purpose and they called it—high frequency electro magnetic set and that was how it was entered in the accounts of the Government of India. If such things could happen I should respectfully say that we are living in an atmosphere of very great extravagance. One should expect better things to happen in the Government of India. The Honourable the Finance Member has already said that there is going to be an inquiry into the question of economy and I hope that Government will take note of all the new expenditure entered in the Budget for next year. They should hold up all unnecessary expenditure until the committee goes into the matter and the money may be spent afterwards if necessary. If officers are appointed beforehand they will hold on and it will be difficult to dislodge them afterwards. I suggest one remedy. When an office falls vacant, do not fill up that office again. I should certainly request that this matter be placed before the Standing Finance Committee and before the Public Accounts Committee and until their report is received, I should certainly suggest that no new expenditure should be permitted unless it is **absolutely necessary**.

**Mr. President:** Cut motion moved:

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

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan** (Finance Member): I must compliment my Honourable friend on his speech. He has placed the matter in a very reasonable and very forceful manner. As I said in my Budget speech, the Government of India are seriously perturbed over the expenditure of the Government. I have already proposed the appointment of a committee to examine this problem and I have said that it is my intention that that committee should consist of members of the Central Legislature as well. I can assure the Honourable Members of this House that we are as anxious as anyone of them to curtail all unnecessary expenditure. My Honourable friend has given some figures of the budgetary position in the past and of our income and of our expenditure. All that I need say is that I hope we will not go back to the past. With development and improvement, both our income and expenditure must increase. What we have got to see is that there is no wasteful expenditure incurred by the Government of India. I cannot agree with him that we should cut down any necessary expenditure which will benefit the country in some form or other. My Honourable friend has stated that if our expenditure had been less, there would have been no need to raise any more money. I think we should not look at this problem in that light. The more money we will have the better improvements we will be able to carry out for the good of the peoples of this country. Therefore, I should not look at this problem merely from this point of view that we should not get any fresh money for our revenues. We must get as much money as we can without injuring the economy of the country.

My Honourable friend has laid great emphasis on the increase in the personnel in the various Departments of the Government of India. This is one of the war-time legacies and all that I need say is that the Government is fully aware of the great increase that has taken place and that also will be one of the matters for the Committee to examine.

Now, Sir, my Honourable friend has not looked with favour on the grants that have been provided for development purposes to be given to the provinces. I am afraid I cannot agree with him on that point. Any money that is spent on the development of the country—social or economic—is money well spent, and I would not grudge giving any amount of money to the provinces for developing their areas so as to benefit the population of those areas.

My Honourable friend has given some details about one particular Department. I do not think I need go into that. There is one proposal that he has made and that is that no new expenditure should be incurred till the Committee has had an opportunity of examining the position. I cannot accept the proposition that no new expenditure should be incurred, but I think one can say that no new expenditure which is not necessary should be incurred till such time as the Committee has had an opportunity of examining the position of the various Departments of the Government of India. And in this respect, I think, those of the Honourable Members who are members of the Standing Finance Committee would bear me out that I have always given them the freest hand to express their views and give their opinion with regard to every item of expenditure that is placed before the Standing Finance Committee. I have never tried to influence them in any way that they must give their approval to certain items of expenditure which are placed before the Committee. I want to give as much freedom to the Standing Finance Committee with regard to this matter as it is possible for me to do, and it will be my endeavour, as far as possible, to carry out the wishes of the Members of the Standing Finance Committee, who are the representatives of this Honourable House. Sir, as I said at the beginning, we are all anxious for economy in the expenditure of the Government of India and I am very hopeful that the Economy Committee, which we propose to appoint, will be able to give some very valuable suggestions and make some very useful recommendations to the Government for reducing unnecessary expenditure in the various Departments of the Government of India.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Will this Committee add to the expenditure of the Government?

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** That will depend on the Honourable Members themselves.

**Shri D. P. Karmarkar:** With your permission, Sir, I beg to withdraw my motion.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Sir, I beg to move:

The cut motion was by leave of the Assembly withdrawn.

#### DEMAND NO. 55—DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES AND SUPPLIES

##### *Policy in regard to Controls of Articles other than Food*

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Sir, I beg to move:

“That the demand under the head ‘Department of Industries and Supplies’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

Sir, before the war began, I was all for more and more controls, because I was then under the impression that left to Government many things would come to be managed properly, efficiently and in the public interest. But as the war has gone on and now that the war has been over, I am coming to feel that the less work you leave to Government, so far as these controls are concerned, the better it will be. We have learnt one thing as a result of this war and that is how weak, inefficient and undependable are generally these public functionaries in the employment of the Government, especially when they happen to hold key positions and are in charge of the distribution of commodities and services which are in short supply. We are of the opinion that my Honourable friend Mr. Karmarkar will find greater satisfaction in regard to his plea for economy if we can only get rid of the maximum number of controls



[Prof. N. G. Ranga]

that we are suffering from today. For every rupee that we spend publicly through the public exchequer on the administration of these controls, it shows that the public either as consumers or as producers or even as middlemen are spending or losing easily Rs. 10. Because of these controls, whether in the shape of black markets or too high prices or too high margins of profits and commissions by these various cadres of middlemen, more money is being wasted by Government upon these various officers and the hirelings who are associated with them. One would have excused it if these controls had come to an end six months after the war was over. The fever of controls seems to have caught up the imagination not only of the Central Government but also of the provincial governments with the result that every day new controls are being instituted and people are being persecuted. I wish to give one or two examples from my own province. Some merchants in my province took it into their head to make some money in regard to what is known as sun-hemp seeds which are very badly needed by the peasants for production of cattle fodder. One of the merchants seem to have told some Madras official that the price at Rs. 30 per bag was too high. Government really thought the price was high. The gentlemen who were in charge of controls found another opportunity to hold people to ransom and they suddenly decided to bring sun-hemp under control just two or three weeks before the season actually came upon the peasants to sow the seeds. Though the sun-hemp was controlled at Rs. 30 per bag, at that time it was selling at Rs. 35 in the market, immediately the stuff went out of the market, one never knew where, the peasants could not get at the stock, they had no information as to where the stocks were hidden, nor were the Government able to find out what total quantity of stocks were available, but all the same the peasants needed sun-hemp seeds for sowing and they had to purchase them at prices ranging from Rs. 50 to Rs. 120 per bag, though nominally it was supposed to sell at Rs. 30 or Rs. 35 per bag at the control rate. What is more even after getting the sun-hemp seeds at the black market rates, the poor peasants had to tip the policemen in order to smuggle away the seeds to their homes. You can very well imagine the misery of the peasants. The same thing happened in the case of cotton seeds. That is also a vital necessity for cattle fodder. Even in case of cotton seeds the peasants had to pay to the Controller and other hirelings under him. Take the case of matches, kerosene, jaggery, sugar and various other commodities, in regard to all these things, there is so much corruption.

Only this morning my Honourable friend the Member for Industries and Supplies told us that there is real shortage in total yarn production in this country and he was asking us to bear with the Government because the standard of living of the people has gone up and therefore their expectations have gone up and therefore there is real shortage, effective shortage in the supply of yarn and that is why all this clamour and dissatisfaction and so on. It may be so. During the war, there was much more cloth and yarn. All that were being diverted away from general consumption for defence purposes. All that now must be available to the people. The same machinery, the same mills are still working, even according to the report of Mr. Thackersay, it was proved by one of my Honourable friends that production is much greater now, and in spite of that, there is shortage. The wonder of it is that people are not going naked without clothing, they are having all the cloth they want, they are getting all these controlled commodities. The only trouble is there is maldistribution. Those who have got plenty of money are able to get more and more, as much as they want and those who have no money are going without a proper supply and any one who gets any sort of supply, adequate or inadequate is obliged to pay all these officers and the various adjutants a very heavy price by way of corruption. It all comes to this. The stuff is there, it is being distributed, but it is being ill distributed. That is complaint number one. Next in the process of this distribution, the control officers and

the various departments associated with them and all the various middlemen and all these people are getting their ill earned profits. That is one of the reasons why I want these controls should go. Then the question arises do we want all these controls to go or do we want only some controls to go and some to remain? I would like to join my Honourable friend Babu Ram Narayan Singh and say that all controls should go. The difficulty is this. If you do not have controls you experience certain difficulties, when you have controls, you experience certain other difficulties, when you think of giving up these controls, their fears go up by leaps and bounds, and sometimes we are also told that once these controls have gone, the things are not available at all anywhere. Recently we experienced difficulty in the case of cotton seeds and some other commodities which have gone out of control. I am also assured by certain people that prices have gone down by 20 to 50 per cent. and the stuff is available in the market.

**Sjt. N. V. Gadgil** (Bombay Central Division: Non-Muhammadan Rural) : The price of groundnut, has gone up by 30 per cent. in one day.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga**: In Bombay, everything is peculiar, your Stock exchange manipulates things in any way they like.

**Sjt. N. V. Gadgil**: Not only with regard to groundnut but of various other commodities, prices have gone up.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga**: Your merchants are capable of mischief. Therefore it is not so easy for me to suggest that Government should remove control over food. I dare not suggest that. I shudder to think what will happen if control over food is removed. I am afraid of the consequences, if things go wrong. Therefore I would rather put up with controls for some time. In the meanwhile I should like to make one suggestion to the Government not only in regard to these controls but in regard to controls over other commodities that they should call some sort of conference of experts who have experience of these controls and also of those who claim to represent the consumers and also those who represent the middlemen and then with their help try to find out why these controls have created so much trouble for the masses and in what manuer these controls can be better administered or can be completely given up. That is particularly in regard to food control. Coming to other controls there is one very useful pamphlet published by one of my friends who is associated with the Ahmedabad Labour Union. He is Mr. Kandhu Desai. I dare say my Honourable friend Mr. Rajaji has already read that pamphlet with the care which it deserves. There are so many facts given in this. I do not wish to traverse all of them. I would commend this pamphlet for the attention of every one of the Honourable Members of this House. I only want to touch upon one or two things. We are told in this pamphlet that before the war the middlemen or the wholesalers were allowed only a margin of one per cent. profit for all their troubles over their total turn over or over the price of cloth or yarn that they were selling but the Textile Control Board has allowed them three per cent. They have given no reasons at all for this 3 per cent. over the total value of cloth or yarn that was passing through their hands. The price of cloth and yarn has already gone up by 200 per cent. and even 300 per cent. over prewar prices. In spite of that, these people are being given 3 per cent. instead of one per cent. He also mentions the illegitimate and secret gains made by the managing agents and their friends and associates in the purchase of materials and stores and on the sale of products etc. Not being satisfied with this, these gentlemen want to make more money. Today the industry has got on hand 40 crores of liquid cash which might be utilised for renewals. Notwithstanding all these facts the plants and mills are still in good working condition and the amount drawn as commission is ten times the amount that was being paid to managing agents during normal period for services rendered by them to run the industry. If one were to look very closely into cloth control business, one would be convinced that it is a very well planned out racket to defraud the

[Prof. N. G. Ranga]

consumers under the camouflage of government authority and dignity. Why does it happen? I think one explanation is that when these prices are being fixed these officers are expected to take into account the cost of production at the marginal form and the marginal form of cost of production is naturally the maximum and because it is inefficient and it is incompetent and so on—the machinery may be dilapidated or out of date and various other things—the marginal forms of cost of production is so high and the control prices are being fixed at the maximum level with the result that a maximum number of items in any one particular industry can enjoy what is known as producers' services. And the consequence is that there is no possibility at all for the consumers to enjoy any consumers' surplus. And once you make this free gift of producers' surplus to these various producing firms the prices naturally go higher and the consumers are continuously exploited.

[At this stage Mr. President vacated the chair which was then occupied by Mr. Deputy President (Khan Mohammad Yamin Khan)].

Thirdly, Sir, in the administration of these controls only the producers' interests are taken into consideration and not the interests of consumers. I may be told that on the Textile Control Board there are one or two representatives of the consumers. I do not know; but even if there were to be one or two that is not enough. Their interests are not properly assessed and valued and they are not properly considered; and the result is that they suffer. The worst of all these controls is this. The face value of the commodities or services that are being controlled today is not the real value to the consumers; it is only one-third, and often-times it is even one-fourth of the real value that the consumers are obliged to pay. That is why I want these controls to go; but supposing these controls go what is likely to happen? It is our duty to think about that also. We expect all these industrialists and middlemen to compete with one another. But how will they compete? Has it not been a fact that during the war most of these people have come to organise themselves into a sort of semi-monopolies? To some extent it is true. But even then once these controls go there will be a chance for new people to come into these trades and these industries and the earlier people also may fall out among themselves as sometimes robbers do. Then there is bound to be a greater chance for competition among these people than there is at present. Thirdly, the efficiency of any production is likely to go up. Even in distribution what is happening as a result of these controls is this. These people are assured of a particular rate of return whether they are efficient or inefficient, and so there has been no inducement at all for greater and greater efficiency or for weeding out inefficient firms or individuals. That difficulty can be minimised, if not completely eliminated, if these controls were to go. Fourthly, I may be told that if the controls were to go the poor people are bound to suffer much more. I agree that controls there should be only for the sake of the poor people. May be some of these controls were instituted in the interest of the poor people,—I do not know,—but in actual fact it is not the poor people who are being benefited in most cases by these controls, but only the rich people. Why? Because the stuff is there and according to the controls the stuff is given to certain permit-holders—retailers and wholesalers. They keep it there; they are expected to keep some sort of a register of the consumers to whom this stuff is being supplied. There is no control at all to prevent these people from keeping these bogus returns. And the rich people are able to get all the stuff through the back-door. When the poor people go there they are very often told that the stuff is out of stock and is not at all available. They do not know what to do; they simply scratch their heads and curse their fate and go back home. That is what is happening everywhere, in towns and cities.

Secondly, as between towns and villages there ought to be proper distribution of these commodities. But actually what happens is that these permits

are given only to business people who live in towns and the village folk are obliged to go to the towns; they are generally very apologetic and they are fearful of these businessmen. They go to these businessmen who simply turn round and say that all the stuff that should have gone to their village had gone away and they had better go back. They go back and the stuff goes to the black market. Somehow or other he has got his own storages where he keeps the stuff and sells it overnight or at any other convenient time. In this way today in actual practice there is maldistribution of these commodities as between the towns and villages, as between the rich and the poor; and it is the poor people and the village folk who are really suffering and demand the abolition of these controls. Sir, I have been roaming our countryside, even after the session had started, in Andhra, and no slogan is more popular today in the villages than that the controls should go. You may say that the people are suffering from a suicidal mania; it may be so; but their sufferings from these controls have been so much and so uncontrollable that they prefer to live for some time anyhow, as a sort of experiment, without these controls to living with these controls. There is one ray of hope in this gloomy atmosphere, and that is the advent of my Honourable friend Mr. Rajagopalachari into this department. I felt very unhappy indeed when recently he went over from this department to some other department; and I began to wonder what would happen to these poor folk. Now he has come back again to this department; I welcome him there because while I was away in the country I read that he was himself not so very keen on these controls. Now, Sir, with this determination of his to try to put an end to as many of these unnecessary and injurious controls as possible, I trust that it will be possible for him to give his most serious consideration to this particular point of view that is held by not only myself but several of us; and I sincerely trust that when we meet in our next session he will be able to come to this House and tell us how many controls he has been able to get rid of.

One more fact is this. After the war was over a number of controls, it is true, have been relaxed. These are controls in which rich people, influential people, and educated people are interested. Controls over some medicines have gone; that means that it is the educated people, the doctors, who had been able to make representations. Controls over steel products and various other things have gone, because big industrialists are interested. Over exports some of the controls have been withdrawn, where our businessmen and industrialists are interested. Somehow or other they have been able to get the services of economic experts, industrial experts and also some lawyers to go and plead with the department, and they have been able to get some sort of relief. It is only controls that affect the poor people that have not yet been relaxed, and more and more controls are coming in. Recently there was this control over groundnut, oil cake and so on; and people are suffering like anything. I could give any number of details but I do not want to go into all that. There is this latest one about coconuts. These coconuts are produced in Malabar and the prices have gone up like a rocket. Coconut is not available, oil is not available; and where it is available it is only at famine prices. Is that the way in which ordinary folk are to be treated? So I want Government firstly to stop controlling any more commodities, and secondly, to try and drop these controls as soon as possible or as many commodities as possible; thirdly, to appoint a sort of expert committee or to convene a sort of special conference and ask for their expert assistance in better administering those few controls which they think they ought to continue for some time. Lastly, they should put some sort of time limit beyond which they will not be prepared to institute or maintain these controls on any commodity, even including food. Sir, I move.

**Mr. Deputy President:** Cut motion moved:

“That the demand under the head ‘Department of Industries and Supplies’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

**Dr. J. C. Chatterjee** (Nominated Non-Official): Mr. Deputy President, I rise to support what my Honourable friend, Prof. Ranga has said, and I do not wish to repeat the points which he has put forward. I would like to lay stress on one particular aspect of the trouble and worry which arises out of these many controls and that is the harassment and the loss of time caused to poor people and to the average man and woman. Prof. Ranga has spoken of his experiences in far off Madras and in the Andhra district. I am told people are very mild there and they are long-suffering—he certainly is not—but at any rate in my part of the country people are supposed to stand on their rights more and they are militant.

**Shri Sri Prakasa**: But Madras has upset its ministry. What are you doing here?

**Dr. J. C. Chatterjee**: You yourself come from this part of the country and you must be aware how difficult it is for a poor man to get what he wants. In the first place think of the time that is wasted.

I will deal with two important commodities. First I will take food. I have seen again and again in Delhi that it is one of the most difficult things for a man to get his ration card made. He has to go and stand outside the ration office for hours together and when his turn comes he is asked to produce somebody to identify him. When that identification is made, they tell him to come back after three or four days and when he comes after three or four days they say that their Inspector's enquiry has not been completed. Sir, I have seen that happen times out of number to my own servants and people whom I have known. I had to take them personally to the ration office and with some difficulty I could manage to get their ration cards. What happens next. These people have to keep on waiting outside ration shops or places where they are supposed to get their food, and it take them hours to get their rations. Very often there is a hartal, or there is some kind of trouble on account of the political movement—it is either anti-Pakistan day, or pro-Pakistan day. All this causes great difficulty to the poor people.

Then, Sir, we come to cloth. These poor people, who have no stock of cloth like you and me might have to go from one shop to another to be told that the month's quota has not arrived. When the quota arrives then they say 'your last number is 4, and today is the 5th, and therefore you cannot get it today'. He asks when he can get it again, and the poor man is told 'you will get it in the next quota'. I know a particular instance of a place—I will not mention its name; it was a very small station—where whenever the poor people went to a ration shop, the door was closed. Once I went with my servant and the door was closed as usual. When I made a certain amount of agitation and tried to tell them that I had a certain amount of importance, I was allowed to go in, and I found that there was a certain gentleman who had been looking and selecting from all the cloth which was there for hours. I asked why the shopkeeper had let him in from the back-door. He said 'dont you know this man has got 21 first class permits because he is a very rich man and pays heavy income-tax'. On the pretext of some marriage in the family, he had got these permits, and he purchased practically everything that was included in the quota for that small station. I remember an old gentleman there who told me that it was the sixth time that' he had come but he had not been able to get even a yard of cloth. He said that if only he had been a little younger he would have shown to the control man how he could deal with him. I was also told that in that station, that as soon as any cloth arrived, the Chief Magistrate and the big Government officials had their choice. They did not go to the shop but things were very kindly taken over to their places and they made their selection first. These instances show the harassment that the poor man has to go through. To these poor men an hour or two means 5 or 4 annas in wages. They are losing wages and they are getting desperate.

If they want kerosene, there is no kerosene available in the bazaar. Last year the Honourable the Finance Member out of his great consideration for the poor reduced the price of matches to two pice. What happened, and what is happening even now: The rich are able to get matches at 2, 3 or 4 annas per box, but the poor man does not get his matches and he goes from pillar to post in search of them. I find that a box of matches is everyday stolen from my pocket, and I realize that my servants need the matches and they cannot get it anywhere. Sir, a member of the European group last year spoke about the glorious army of controllers, and I think that that army is getting more and more glorious as years go on; its number is swelling. It is high time that some control should be exercised on their number. I am not one of those who will say that all controls are useless, but I would like the Honourable Member to look into the way in which these controls are administered. He is an acknowledged champion of the poor. I would like him to save the poor from the harassment and provide them with what they cannot get.

My Honourable friend, Prof. Ranga, was perfectly correct when he said that the rich can get what they want. I remember only a short while ago when I was travelling with a magnate from Bombay he said 'I am a very honest man I have never tried to break any controls'. I said, 'you look it, but what about petrol?' He said, 'Yes, I would confess that petrol I have always got whenever I wanted it'. Sir, I cannot understand why petrol should continue to be rationed. The rich can always get petrol; it is the poor man, an average man like myself who cannot get petrol. I asked the Honourable the Communication Member last session what was happening to these millions of gallons of aviation spirit which the Army had collected but which they do not now need. I do not know whether my question was understood because it was a supplementary question, but he said the Army still needed it. I suppose they do need it, but have you ever passed by Mathra? If you have, you must have seen that there are enormous dumps of aviation spirit lying there as at other places and all this is surplus, and yet that petrol is not being released. I am sure, Sir, you have never suffered from lack of petrol, but have you ever known anybody who is willing to pay not being able to get petrol? There was a time when rubber was supposed to be very precious and nobody could get a tyre without permit. I can vouch for it—I did not get one myself—that if you were prepared to pay Rs. 50 you could get a motor tyre without any trouble whatsoever. Then suddenly it was found that there was so much rubber in the country and there were so many tyres that they were perishing, and the control was removed. I do not understand why the control on petrol should continue? That is only one commodity, but there are a number of others on which control is not necessary. I would not for a moment ask my Honourable friend opposite—who is not listening to me and is talking to his colleague,—to remove all controls; I am not going to suggest that there is likely to be a revolution in the country, though my Honourable friend, Prof. Ranga, said that people are continually shouting slogans in his part of the country against controls. I only ask if there is not need at present to have a minute examination of these controls. So many committees are being appointed; this Government like its predecessor is no less expert in appointing committees. Why cannot they appoint another committee for examination of these controls. One day I got up in the morning and read in the Newspaper that something like 154 controls had been lifted. I thought a happy day had dawned. I scanned the paper and had a look at the list of the controls removed. I could not understand what they were, because they seemed to me to refer to some kind of strange machinery with which I was not at all familiar, some kind of intricacies of imports and exports which only the rich and specialist could know. My Honourable friend mentioned that the control over medicine had been lifted. How has it benefited the poor people? Medicines could then be got at a reasonable rate and now if you lift the control the chemists who are famous or infamous

[Dr. J. C. Chatterjee] for selling their goods at ten and fifteen times their price, will be able to charge even higher prices. I beseech my Honourable friend to turn his great mind and his heart, which is even greater, to the sufferings of the people in this town, in Andhra Desh, in Bengal or wherever they may be, and think of the ways in which they suffer from the maladministration of these controls. I am particularly worried about Delhi, where I see the poor people among whom one lives, the way they have to waste time, how their women folk have to go and stand hour after hour in front of food shops and outside cloth shops. I could bring to the Honourable Member's notice many instances, where when they do get their cloth, they get something which is entirely useless. It may be two yards of muslin with which they cannot make either a *dupata* or a *pugree*, while the rich have the pick of available cloth. I have never yet known a rich man not having enough food for himself and his guests. He gets his oil, his *ghee* and his sugar, because he gets his servants to give their cards to him. I want my Honourable friend to look into this thing. The way these controls are administered is sometimes disgraceful. I will not say anything more. I hope that these words will not be of no avail on a great mind and head like those of the Honourable Member in Charge of this Department.

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** Just a word of explanation, Sir. I think the Honourable Member was saying that I was engaged in conversation when he was speaking. I am sorry to tell him that he is wrong, for I was discussing with my colleague the very point which he was making.

**Mr. Tamizuddin Khan (Dacca cum Mymensingh: Muhammadan Rural):** Sir, we are living in days of disunity, quarrel and strife but there is one question on which there is perfect unanimity, not only in the country but also in this House, and that is that the controls should go as early as possible and if possible here and now. On that question there is perfect unanimity in the whole country.

The other day during the general discussion on the budget I said that nothing was more galling to the public than these controls. A year hence, in fact in June 1948, Indians will be a happy people, because they will be freed from foreign domination but their happiness will not be complete unless they are freed from the domination of these controls. Therefore I hope now that the Honourable Mr. Rajagopalachari is in control of this department, he will see that the happiness of the Indian people on gaining their freedom after many long years, is not marred by the presence of these controls in June 1948.

Sir, I agree with Prof. Ranga, as to 99 per cent. of what he said. Government also, I think, is following the policy of abolishing these controls gradually. After all that must be their policy. The controls, as has been often said, are a necessary evil. If we can get rid of them today, no one would be happier than the Honourable Member in charge. But unfortunately the conditions prevailing in the country make these controls necessary. The other day it was said that the controls must remain for sometime more, because production has been and will continue to be retarded on the account of the shortage of coal. If production is going to be retarded, then of course it would be difficult to lift the controls from any of the commodities for the production of which coal is necessary, but there I hold a different opinion. I do not think that the shortage of coal, even if it is still there, will continue to remain. The greatest impediment in the production of coal was till recently shortage of wagons. So far as that is concerned the Honourable the Railway Member gave us an assurance the other day that he is doing his very best to remove this shortage and I do not know why he will be unsuccessful. Therefore I do not believe that there is going to be a shortage in the production of coal. There is enough coal underneath the earth in India and there is also no dearth of labour. So the plea that production will be retarded on account of the shortage of coal cannot stand scrutiny.

For these reasons I do not think that it will be difficult for the Honourable Member in charge to lift the controls quickly.

My Honourable friend Prof. Ranga said that the control should be lifted from cloth now. I shall be happy if that can be done but in this particular case I have my apprehensions. If the control on cloth is removed just now in the midst of the shortage, what will happen is that the rich will get their cloth all right but it will be extremely difficult for the poor to get their cloth. During the worst days of cloth shortage that is what happened. The rich were not deprived of their requirements but the poor did not get them and the House will remember that there were cases of suicide by women on account of the shortage of cloth. Therefore, I apprehend that if the control on cloth is removed now, that situation may be repeated. Now the production position is better than what it was in those days but unfortunately it is not the shortage of production so much as the character of some of our people that makes these controls necessary. You know how shamefully some of our middlemen behaved during the worst days that India passed through. It was largely on account of their conduct that there was that nasty famine in Bengal. It was largely due to their conduct that the poor went without their cloth during the worst days. Therefore as long as that mentality lasts and none can deny that that mentality is still there, it will certainly be difficult for the Honourable Member in charge to remove the control on cloth here and now. Otherwise from the position of production I think the removal of control from cloth would not have been impossible. It is that mentality, that profiteering tendency that subsists in the country that will stand in the way of removing the control on cloth just now. This is a matter which has to be examined by Government very carefully. I think as the Honourable Member himself is personally of the opinion that there should not be any of these controls, he will certainly deal with this matter more sympathetically than any other person in his position would have done. Therefore we can confidently hope that he will closely examine this question and try to remove as many controls as possible within as short a time as possible. We are confident of that. I will in this respect venture a suggestion. My Honourable friend spoke about removing the control from cloth just now but I would like to suggest that the control from another commodity may perhaps be removed without any great risk: I mean the control over sugar. There is certainly shortage of sugar in the country. There is no doubt about that. But what is the cause of the shortage? There may be other causes, coal shortage, for instance. I do not believe it. I have already dealt with it. The main cause for the shortage of sugar is I think the shortage in cane production. And what is the reason for the shortage in cane production? I think the only reason is that we are not giving proper prices to cane growers. Unless we can create conditions under which the cane growers can get proper price for their cane I do not think that in spite of the best efforts that may be made in other directions, production of sugar in the country is going to rise. I therefore suggest that the question should be very carefully examined whether control from sugar can be removed just now. If that is done there will be hardship here and there, but the results will not be as catastrophic as in the case of cloth for example. There will be hardship. The poor people will be affected. But the poor people can depend on *gur* rather than on sugar. So far as the rich people are concerned they could purchase their sugar for their tea at a far higher price than they are paying at present. Therefore, even if the worst happens I think the danger will not be so great as it can be in the case of foodgrains or in the case of cloth. This question should therefore be seriously examined.

I think, Sir, unless we try our best to throw these things under the play of the economic forces in the country, normal conditions will never return. Economic forces will adjust themselves and will bring about normality. Therefore, if by lifting the control from sugar we raise the price of sugar, that may be unpalatable. But if you raise the price of sugar that will raise the price of



[Mr. Tamisuddin Khan]

cane also and that will increase the production of cane, and consequently of sugar. Therefore these economic forces by acting and reacting on one another will ultimately bring about normal conditions. This is nothing new that I am saying. Everyone knows it. I only hope that the question will be seriously examined and such play of these economic forces should be induced as is possible under the circumstances prevailing in the country.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Mr. Deputy President, Sir, it gives me much sombre satisfaction to support the cut that has been so ably moved by my Honourable friend Professor Ranga. This morning, Sir, in the course of the debate on another cut, I ventured to ask the Honourable the Supply Member if he could possibly advance any reason for the sudden shortage of everything in the world. And he was at pains to tell me that if only I kept my eye open I could see the reason. The misfortune is, Sir, that I look at the world through white glasses and he through dark one. Therefore, though both of us behind our glasses try to keep our eyes open, the fact is that we see the same thing of the world in different colours. The reason that he advanced was something very different to the reason that I can advance for this sudden catastrophe with which we are faced.

Forty years or more ago I read the then famous books by Dadabhai Naroji on "Poverty and the British Rule in India," by Digby on "Prosperous British India," by R. C. Dutt and others. Since then I have been told times without number that a major portion of the population of our country does not know what it is to have two square meals a day, and many not even what it is to have a full stomach, and that most of the people in the land are half naked—which half we need not worry about. When we had, all these difficulties from the very start, how is it that suddenly the whole problem comes like a crash before the Government and everybody wakes up to see what can be done.

I will tell him the reason. It is this. Because of the peculiar situation created by the war, because of the voracious appetite of the army people to have everything of the best for themselves, because of that, it suddenly happened that the well-to-do also began to suffer from difficulties which had faced only the poor before. So they looked about and tried to find out ways and means of meeting their personal difficulties. Therefore they established these controls, and began to pretend that there was a shortage of cloth, of food, of everything that was necessary for man and that the poor must be saved. The poor remain where they were; the powerful and the influential have certainly been saved. My only sorrow is that Professor Ranga has not included food also in the list of articles from which controls are asked to be removed. I am for the removal of control over everything. I may tell the Government this and it can accept my statement on the strength of its own experience. As soon as a control of any sort is removed, heaps of things come up from underground. As soon as all the warrants on so-called absconders were removed, a large number of patriots appeared overground.

If control from food, from cloth and from everything was removed, all those things will appear on the surface in large masses to meet the requirements of everybody. I am only a lay man and I have a horror for experts. For I think a layman, an ordinary man is the biggest expert of all the things that really matter in life. As a layman, an ordinary man, a man in the street, as a common man, I can say this, that as long as inflation exists, as long as the Reserve Bank goes on printing artificial money endlessly, so long the price which is condemned as black market price will remain the economic price of the article concerned; and not all your efforts can prevent the prices being less. All that you can do is this! To those whom you like, those who are your officers and servants, those who, in their turn, are favourites of these, you can force people

to part with goods, food, cloth and everything—at the price that you fix. But for the rest of us the price will be the black market price and nothing less.

These controls have always spelt disaster in every field of human endeavour. There used to be celibate sects in the East and West alike. They were required to exercise the utmost control over all the urges of ordinary human nature. I can say this—and history will bear me out—that the largest number of children were born to the celibate people. Sir, just as there was corruption and attendant difficulties because of which the reforming sects sprang up in different parts of the world to abolish this nonsense of celibacy and to permit the usual instincts of human nature to have play, so I say that if these controls are abolished on various things in our country, everything will find its level and competition will also go. Of course there will be disturbance for three or four weeks. Any change brings about that. But things will soon quiet down.

I have been a bit of a socialist myself in days gone-by. But when I saw it at work during this war, with all these controls, I found that socialism was only another name for bureaucratisation. We have heaps of officers, small and big, functioning in all sorts of places and interfering with human liberty and human necessity. I hope, Sir, that this process will now stop. We can bear, though with a pang, the expansion of the Executive Council from six to fourteen. But we cannot bear the eternal expansion of all departments of Government. They try to justify their existence under one pretence or another and they must go. My friend Mr. Karmarkar has already given us examples of how different departments of the State have been expanding enormously to the detriment of the welfare of the people.

What is happening is this. And as I come from a town where I have had personal experience of the working of controls, I can say that what is really happening is that Government servants have the first pick. My friend Lt.-Col. Chatterjee—I do not know why he is called Lt.-Col.—has given us some illustrations of how things go on. Sir, Government servants have the first pick. As soon as things arrive, they are supplied first of all. It would indeed be difficult for me to imagine—I mean no harm—that in the eleven yards of cloth that are allowed to the average citizen in my province, the Finance Member could have even the number of ties that he seems to need. And then the whole trade has been deflected from those in whose hands it was and who managed it well to the hands of those who do not know the business at all but who are just the favourites of the men in authority. In Benares, lincses of various shops have been given to persons who in the dark days of 1942-45 were favourites of Government and the local officials, and who knew nothing of the trade. The old traders have just been ruined and these new men have got the trade and all its profits.

The result is that in their shops they pretend to be high officers of State themselves. If an ordinary shopkeeper behaved in the way that these gentlemen behave with the imprimatur of Government, we would give them a few slaps and make them behave better; but as we can not do that—they being Government men—they mix up a lot of dust, lot of stones and pebbles in the wheat and *ata*. We have no relief; and if we complain, we find that the Inspectors always give good certificate to their own men and we are told that there is nothing wrong with the stuff but that there must be something wrong with our own stomachs and tongues because of which we cannot digest them or we cannot feel the taste of them. With these favourites at work, with this new army of officials at work, the people have been simply laid low.

I was hoping that with the advent of the present Government all these controls will be removed and that all the stuff that is lying underground will be available. My Honourable friend said we are managing somehow. We are all better clothed than we were before. Well, that may be so, but why: because those persons who want to clothe themselves properly have to go to the black market and they get everything they want in the black market. There must be plenty of things available underground for the needs of all seem to be met.

[Shri Sri Prakasa]

Otherwise how is it that we all get our cloth and we all get our food. We get all the things we need and even Mr. Chatterjee is able to get his petrol.

Now, Sir, I am not a very straight laced person and I do not want to profess as my friend Mr. Chatterjee has done, that he has never taken petrol from the black market. I have done it in dire need, and I can tell Government that I am going to do it, because necessity knows no law; and if the Honourable Member is going to make bad laws, those laws are going to be broken. He has broken many bad laws himself in his lifetime and I am going to break some more if he persists in making them.

My Honourable friend the Supply Member has asked me this morning—or was it yesterday morning, in the course of his answers to supplementaries—to bring forward a Resolution for the removal of control, if I was so keen about it. I ask him to regard this a Resolution on the removal of control. Let him not get up at the end and tell the House that he would very much like the Resolution to be withdrawn after he has given his—what he calls—assurances. Let us divide. Let him accept a hundred rupees cut. This small cut from his salary will not be very hard for him. Let him accept it. Let him relieve the burden on the taxpayers if only by Rs. 100; and let us get the verdict of this House and let him accept the verdict. He will then know what our real feelings are. He will know that we all want this control to be removed. I heartily support this cut and I hope Government will accept it.

**Seth Sukhdev** (Sind Non-Muhammadan Rural): I rise to support the cut motion of my friend Acharya Ranga. Control and corruption go together and as soon as a thing is put under control the stuff goes into the black market and if you are prepared to pay high prices you can receive any quantity there. This control was necessitated by the war. The British Government purchased huge quantities of articles and these were sent to the frontiers and when they retreated, in order, these were either destroyed or were taken over by the enemies and therefore they required another huge set of articles. Now that the war is over since two years, we do not see why these controls should go on. I say that the control of cloth, sugar, kerosene oil, iron and steel should be abolished at once. For example, take cloth. Our Government is giving about a dozen yards per person and I can assure them that the people do not get even six yards. I have got my personal experience in Sind. I have gone from village to village but even in Delhi in Ferozeshah Road, where I live, I asked the poor people living 14, Ferozeshah Road and they told me that they cannot get even six yards. At least every person should get two dhoties and two shirts. In pre-war days, they were sufficient, because the cloth was durable and strong but now thanks to our capitalist mill owners they have deteriorated cloth in quality. Even my friend Mr. Vadilal Lallubhai will admit that the quality is only 1/4th of the pre-war quality. How can the poor men get on with two dhoties and two shirts? But even these are not obtainable. They told me that they are getting extra cloth from the black market where it is obtainable in huge quantities. Whatever figures are given by the mill owners, of their cloth production to the Textile Department are all incorrect. They have got huge quantities of cloth which they sell in the black market. I know the mill owners very well. They are my friends. I know merchants as well and therefore I am in a position to tell you that they have huge stocks of cloth and the moment control of cloth is removed, there will be no scarcity at all. I am going to give you an example about silk and woollen cloth. Everybody thought that when controls over them were to be removed, their price would go up. The price of silk has gone down by 40 per cent. Only a few days back I went to Chandni Chowk and the silken saree that was obtainable for Rs. 100 before, was being eagerly offered for Rs. 60. Then, I went to the Khadi Bhandhar, where I was shown

fine cotton saree which was being quoted at Rs. 46, whereas the ordinary silken saree in the Bazar can be had for Rs. 36. So, if you remove the control on cotton cloth, nothing will happen. The same was in the case of silk and wool. The moment the control was lifted from these commodities, the cupboards of all the shops were full of silk and woollen cloths within a few days. It appears as though they had fallen from the sky and now you can have things of your choice and at prices which are much less than the control prices.

So far as sugar, kerosene and steel and iron are concerned, the poor villagers get very insignificant quantities of them. If you remove the control from these, they are not going to lose anything. These people will, then, be able to get all these commodities, though at a little higher price. In connection with cloth, I will draw the attention of the Honourable Member concerned, to an advertisement which appeared in the *Statesman* of 9th March. It is said therein, that the Disposals Department are selling thousands of celonese parachutes and their export is allowed. As we all know, this parachute cloth is very durable and it is this cloth that is being purchased by the poor people who cannot get controlled cloth in the Bazaar. And it is from this cloth that they are having their Shalwars and shirts. It is very difficult to unstich each part of parachute, but the poor people can do it. If you allow its export, it will also go into black market. I shall, therefore, request that these parachutes should not be allowed for export. Then, Japan is producing lot of cloth which is unfinished and we read that the British and American merchants want to purchase that cloth, finish it and then sell it in the world markets. Why should we not get a part of that cloth? I can assure you that it will not affect our industry for many years because a very small quantity of these materials will come from outside. I, therefore, request the Honourable Member concerned that he should relax restrictions on the import of these essential commodities and do away with these licences because they have all produced lot of corruption.

Then, Sir, about the export. We have got lot of cotton in our hands. Only the other day, the Honourable Member for Industries and Supplies told us during the question hour and I would like to read out what he said:

"Seth Sukhdev: Is the Honourable Member aware that even at this low rate mill-owners are not coming into the market to purchase the cotton?"

*The Honourable Sri O. Rajagopalachari:* The floor is fixed and the ceiling is fixed. They considered all matters and it is to be expected that prices may near the floor sometimes and sometimes the ceiling. As to whether millowners have wickedly refused to buy is a matter of very difficult negotiation. My information is that they have enough stocks and we cannot compel people to buy when they have enough stocks."

I would particularly invite the attention of the Honourable Members to the last sentence of the Honourable Member's answer. I do not understand why there should be any restrictions on the export of staple cotton. Do they wish to ruin the agriculturist for the sake of some gain to millowners? The mill-owners have already gained crores and crores; their pillows are full of gold. I would, therefore, request the Honourable Member to at once remove restrictions on export of cotton and allow the agriculturist to get a fair price.

As regards the export of wool, I do not know why there should be any restriction there. In times of war Government required blankets and many other things. But now that the war is over, our mills are interested in Indian wool to a small extent. I wish, therefore, that the wool should be allowed to be exported free.

In the end, I would request the Honourable Member concerned to remove controls from cotton cloth, sugar, iron and steel and other commodities. About iron and steel, I may inform the House that people who wanted it for *bona fide* purposes did not get although they applied for it for over six months. On some technical grounds their applications were held up. Unless they grease the palms of corrupt officials, they are not going to get iron and steel. I have got personal experience of it. In conclusion, I would again request the Government to remove all these controls and gain the blessings of 40 crores of Indian people, except a few thousand capitalists and some corrupt officials.

**Chaudhry Sri Chand** (Nominated Non-Official): (The Honourable Member spoke in Hindustani. For Hindustani text see Appendix to the Debates for the 12th March, 1947. English translation given below.—*Ed. of D.*)

Sir, a friend of mine said that the police was now third on the list and on my asking on which list he replied that formerly they were first in corruption but now first in this respect is the Supply Department, second, Central P. W. D. and third, police. Control and corruption, in my opinion, are one and the same; when at first controls were imposed villagers thought that owing to war Government was in need of money and so they have given the articles on contract. They thought that Government wanted contributions from those contractors. They never believed nor do they believe now that this was done for the poor. I think on the Interim Government's coming into office everybody expected that the controls would be removed. But, now it appears that the same old clerks and officials give advice to the Interim Government that if controls were removed poor people would die. They will not get this, they will not get that. The fact is that if controls are removed poor people would get at least third or fourth class things. Under the controls they want to give them first class things. Have you ever heard of getting a good thing under the control? Regarding cloth which is sent to villages I can say from my own experience that sellers sometimes send bales of handkerchiefs and sometimes of saris. What will the villagers do with handkerchiefs and saris? They never think nor do the Honourable Member understand that villagers want cloth for dhotis and petticoats. They force them to buy their quota of saris. When they say what will they do with sari? They are told to let it be put in their names and then to return it to them. That is how the controls are maintained. In addition, they say that poor people get things cheap under control. I say that the way in which controls are maintained are not at all the right method of control. On this side of the Jumna the rate of gur is Rs. 18 per maund, while on the other side it is Rs. 20 per maund. A person who gets its contract earns two to four lakhs of rupees.

**Mr. Deputy President:** The Honourable Member can continue his speech tomorrow.

The Assembly then adjourned Till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, the 13th March, 1947.