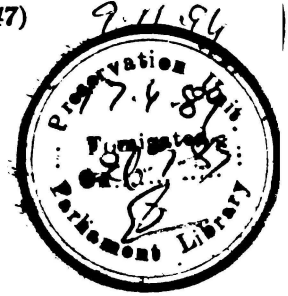


3rd February, 1947

THE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES  
Official Report

Volume 1, 1947

(3rd February, 1947 to 18th February, 1947)



THIRD SESSION  
OF THE  
SIXTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
1947

Chamber Designated 18.7.73.



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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The Honourable Mr. G. V. MAVALANKAR.

## *Deputy President :*

Khan MOHAMMAD YAMIN KHAN, M.L.A.

## *Panel of Chairmen :*

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

Sardar MANGAL SINGH, M.L.A.

Shrimati AMMU SWAMINADHAN, M.L.A.

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Mr. HASAN MOHAMMAD KHAN.

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

## *Committee on Petitions :*

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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.

# CONTENTS

Volume I—3rd February, 1947 to 18th February, 1947

## MONDAY, 3RD FEBRUARY, 1947

Members Sworn . . . . .	1
Starred Questions and Answers . . . . .	1—30
Unstarred Questions and Answers . . . . .	31—39
Statements laid on the table . . . . .	39—54
Motions for Adjournment <i>re</i> —	
Attack by tribesmen on citizens of Hazara District—Disallowed . . . . .	54—57
Searches and arrests of members of Communist Party, Kisan Sabhas and Trade Unions all over India—Disallowed . . . . .	57—59
Strike by School Teachers in Delhi—Not moved . . . . .	59
Restrictions imposed by the Press (Special Powers) Ordinance—Disallowed . . . . .	59—60
Discrimination against Muslim League News by All-India Radio—Ruled out of order . . . . .	60—61
Lending of Troops to the Panjab Government—Disallowed . . . . .	61—62
Interference by the Panjab Government with the Privileges of the Assembly by Detaining Members and preventing them from attending the session—Ruled out of order . . . . .	62
Massacre of Muslim Apprentices in the Jamalpur Workshop of East Indian Railway—Ruled out of order . . . . .	63—64
Statement of Business . . . . .	64
Governor General's Assent to Bills . . . . .	64
Papers Laid on the Table . . . . .	64—65
Industrial Disputes Bill—Presentation of the Report of Select Committee . . . . .	65
Foreign Exchange Regulation Bill—Presentation of the Report of Select Committee . . . . .	65
Indian Navy (Discipline) (Amendment) Bill—Presentation of the Report of Select Committee . . . . .	65
Motor Vehicles (Second Amendment) Bill—Presentation of Report of Select Committee . . . . .	65
Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill—Presentation of the Report of Select Committee . . . . .	65
Rubber (Production and Marketing) Bill—Discussion on the motions to consider and to refer to Select Committee—not concluded . . . . .	66, 92—94
Railways (Transport of Goods) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	66
Negotiable Instruments (Amendments) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	66
Explosives (Temporary Provisions) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	66
Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara Rent Control Bill—Introduced . . . . .	66
Sugar (Temporary Excise Duty) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	67
Prevention of Corruption Bill—Passed as amended . . . . .	67—91
Indian Extradition (Amendment) Bill—Passed as amended . . . . .	91—92

## WEDNESDAY, 5TH FEBRUARY, 1947 --

Starred Questions and Answers . . . . .	95—122
Unstarred Questions and Answers . . . . .	122—23
Motion for Adjournment <i>re</i> —	
Imposition of Punitive Fine and taking of Hostages from Nandihar Tribes—Negotiated . . . . .	123—24
Negotiated . . . . .	153—68
Nomination of the Panel of Chairmen . . . . .	124
Committees on Petitions . . . . .	124
Press Special Powers Bill—Introduced . . . . .	124
Rubber (Production and Marketing) Bill—Referred to Select Committee . . . . .	125—38
Coffee Market Expansion (Amendment) Bill—Passed as amended . . . . .	138—44
Factories (Second Amendment) Bill—Passed as amended . . . . .	144—51
Indian Railways (Amendment) Bill—Discussion on the Motion to consider—not concluded . . . . .	151—52

## THURSDAY, 6TH FEBRUARY, 1947,—

Starred Questions and Answers . . . . .	169—98
Unstarred Questions and Answers . . . . .	198—208
Special Marriage (Amendment) Bill—Referred to Select Committee . . . . .	208—28
Delhi Sikh Gurdwaras and Religious Endowments Bill—Motion to refer to Joint Committee—Adopted . . . . .	228
Hindu Inter-Caste Marriage Regulating and Validating Bill—Circulated . . . . .	228—39

Indian Companies (Amendment) Bill—Amendment of Section 86-F—Referred to Select Committee . . . . .	239—40
Delhi Muslim Wakfs (Amendment) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	240
Criminal Tribes (Repeal) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	240
Indian Evidence (Amendment) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	240
Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill—Amendment of Sections 161 and 162—Introduced . . . . .	241
Indian Bar Councils and the Legal Practitioners (Amendment) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	241
Criminal Tribes (Amendment) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	241
Indian Companies (Amendment) Bill—Amendment of Sections 25, 31 32, etc.—Introduced . . . . .	241
Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill—Amendment of Sections 250, etc.—Introduced . . . . .	242

## FRIDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY, 1947,—

Starred Questions and Answers . . . . .	243—84
Unstarred Questions and Answers . . . . .	285—91
House Committee . . . . .	291
Point of Order <i>re</i> Resolution <i>re</i> Release of Indian National Army Men and Political Prisoners . . . . .	291—95,326
Resolution <i>re</i> Control of Industry by Aliens—Withdrawn . . . . .	295—317
Resolution <i>re</i> Programme of Crop Insurance—Withdrawn . . . . .	317—26
Statement of Business . . . . .	326

## MONDAY, 10TH FEBRUARY, 1947,—

Member Sworn . . . . .	327
Starred Questions and Answers . . . . .	327—51
Unstarred Questions and Answers . . . . .	351—52
Election of a Member to the Court of Delhi University . . . . .	352—54
Indian Legislature (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	354
Imports and Exports (Control) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	354
Indian Railways (Amendment) Bill—Passed as amended . . . . .	354—55
Railways (Transport of Goods) Bill—Referred to Select Committee . . . . .	355—63
Foreign Exchange Regulation Bill—Passed as amended . . . . .	363—73
Indian Navy (Discipline) (Amendment) Bill—Passed as amended . . . . .	373—75
Sugar (Temporary Excise Duty) Bill—Passed as amended . . . . .	375—78
Industrial Disputes Bill—Discussion on the motion to consider —not concluded . . . . .	378—89

## TUESDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY, 1947,—

Member Sworn . . . . .	391
Starred Questions and Answers . . . . .	391—417
Short Notice Questions and Answers . . . . .	417—20
Papers Laid on the Table . . . . .	420
Industrial Disputes Bill—Consideration of Clauses—not Concluded . . . . .	421—55

## WEDNESDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY, 1947,—

Starred Questions and Answers . . . . .	457—90
Unstarred Questions and Answers . . . . .	490—94
Short Notice Question and Answer . . . . .	494—95
Appointment of the Honourable Dr. John Matthai to perform Functions of the Finance Member at Railway Budget—General Discussion . . . . .	495
Declaration Directing Certain Budget Heads of Expenditure open to Discussion by the Legislative Assembly . . . . .	495
Industrial Disputes Bill—Consideration of Clauses—not concluded . . . . .	495—528

## THURSDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY, 1947,—

Starred Questions and Answers . . . . .	529—56
Unstarred Questions and Answers . . . . .	557
Election of Member to the Court of Delhi University . . . . .	557
Report on the Conditions of Labour in Coal Mining Industry in India—laid on the table . . . . .	558
Armed Forces (Emergency Duties) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	558
Industrial Disputes Bill—Consideration of Clauses—not concluded . . . . .	558—91

## FRIDAY, 14TH FEBRUARY, 1947,—

Starred Questions and Answers . . . . .	593—619
Short Notice Question and Answer . . . . .	619
Indian Arms (Amendment) Bill—Motion to circulate—Negatived . . . . .	619—24
Criminal Tribes (Amendment) Bill—Passed . . . . .	624—25
Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill—Amendment of Sections 161 and 162—Motion to consider—not moved . . . . .	625
Indian Bar Councils and the Legal Practitioner's (Amendment) Bill—Motion to consider—not moved . . . . .	626
Delhi Muslim Wakfs (Amendment) Bill—Passed as amended . . . . .	626—27
Expunging from the Proceedings of the Assembly certain remarks by Dr. G. V. Deshmukh and Sjt. N. V. Gadgil . . . . .	628
Ruling <i>re</i> Entry into the Division Lobby during Division of the members of the Executive Council not being members of the Assembly . . . . .	628—29
Indian Evidence (Amendment) Bill—Referred to Select Committee . . . . .	631—32
Indian Companies (Amendment) Bill—Amendment of Sections 25, 31, 32, etc.—Circulated . . . . .	632—35
Indian Railways (Amendment) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	635
Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	635
Durgah Khawaja Saheb (Amendment) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	635
Indian Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill —Introduced . . . . .	635—36
Indian Mines (Amendment) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	636
Statement of Business . . . . .	636

## MONDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY, 1947,—

Starred Questions and Answers . . . . .	637—72
Unstarred Questions and Answers . . . . .	672—77
Short Notice Question and Answer . . . . .	678
Difficulty in regard to Printing of Bills due to Strike in the Press . . . . .	679
Presentation of Railway Budget for 1947—48 . . . . .	679—94
Banking Companies Bill—Presentation of the Report of Select Committee . . . . .	694
Railway (Transport of Goods) Bill—Presentation of the Report of Select Committee . . . . .	695
Indian Coinage (Amendment) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	695
Reserve Bank of India (Amendment) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	695
Election to Committee on Public Accounts . . . . .	695
Election to Standing Committee for Labour Department . . . . .	695
Industrial Disputes Bill—Consideration of Clauses —not concluded . . . . .	696—728

## TUESDAY, 18TH FEBRUARY, 1947,—

Starred Questions and Answers . . . . .	729—64
Unstarred Questions and Answers . . . . .	764—65
Short Notice Questions and Answers . . . . .	765—75
Ruling <i>re</i> Pandit Govind Malaviya's Resolution <i>re</i> the Release of Indian National Army Men and Political Prisoners . . . . .	771—74
Resolution <i>re</i> Committee for Correlation of Government Development Plans and for the Reduction of Personnel on Financial Grounds—not moved . . . . .	774
Resolution <i>re</i> Conversion of Reserve Bank of India into a State Bank—Withdrawn . . . . .	774—88
Resolution <i>re</i> Release of Indian National Army Prisoners—Discussion not concluded . . . . .	788—807

THE  
**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES**  
(OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE THIRD SESSION OF THE SIXTH LEGISLATIVE  
ASSEMBLY

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VOLUME I—1947

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**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

*Monday, 3rd February, 1947*

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House in New Delhi, at Eleven of the Clock, being the First Day of the Third Session of the Sixth Legislative Assembly, pursuant to Section 63-D (2) of the Government of India Act, as set out in the Ninth Schedule to the Government of India Act, 1935.

MEMBERS SWORN :

- The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (Member for Education and Arts);  
Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra, M.L.A. (Calcutta: Non-Muhammadan Urban);  
Sir Pheroze Merwan Kharegat, C.I.E., M.L.A. (Government of India; Nominated official);  
Mr. Kevalram Lalchand Panjabi, M.L.A. (Government of India: Nominated Official);  
Mr. Shavax Ardeshir Lal, C.I.E., M.L.A. (Government of India: Nominated Official); and  
Mr. William Milles Martin, M.L.A. (Bombay: European).

**STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**(A) ORAL ANSWERS.**

**TOP HEAVY RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION**

1. \*Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal: Will the Honourable the Railway Member be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to remove the top-heaviness of the Railway Administration; and

(b) the number of Railway officials drawing rupees two thousand and more per month and the total amount spent on their pay per annum?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** (a) Having regard to the proportion of expenditure on gazetted officers, Government do not regard the Administration of Railways as "top-heavy". As the Honourable Member is aware, Government appointed a Central Pay Commission last year to examine, *inter alia*, the Scales of pay and the standards of remuneration of Central Government servants. Further, at the instance of the Railway Standing Finance Committee, Government have set up the "Indian Railway Enquiry Committee, 1947" to go into the question of improving net earnings by economies in all branches of Railway Administration or by any other means. Any recommendations made as a result of these investigations will receive Government's careful consideration.

(b) The number of railway officers drawing Rs. 2,000 and more is 120 and the total pay drawn by such officers per annum is Rs. 36,16,164. The latter figure represents 13 per cent of the total expenditure on account of gazetted officers, and only 0.9 per cent of the total bill for railway establishments.

**Seth Govind Das:** With reference to part (b) of the question, may I know how many out of the 120 officers who are getting Rs. 2,000 and above are Europeans and how many Indians?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** I should like to have notice of that question.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** Will the Honourable Member examine the question whether the expensive Selection Boards, attached to each Railway system, with officers drawing heavy salaries are quite necessary?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** That is a matter which would necessarily come within the purview of the Inquiry Committee over which my Honourable friend Mr. Neogy is presiding.

**Sardar Mangal Singh:** The Honourable Member said that in the view of Government the railway administration is not top-heavy. Will he give facts to support his statement?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** I do not know how top-heaviness is to be precisely measured. Supposing it is measured with reference to the total number of gazetted officers as compared with the rest of the staff, then the figures show that the expenditure on gazetted officers is under seven per cent. of the total railway expenditure on establishments. If, on the other hand, top-heaviness is to be measured with reference to the people who are drawing salaries above the limit of Rs. 2,000, which my Honourable friend has suggested, then the expenditure on these officers is less than one per cent. of the total expenditure on railway establishments. I suggest that on these figures it is not possible to maintain the charge of top-heaviness.

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** With reference to answer to part (b) of the question, will the Honourable Member be pleased to state how many of these 120 officers possess technical qualifications?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** I want notice of that question.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** Is the Honourable Member in a position to reveal today what salary did the Pay Commission recommend for these officers?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** I can explain the position more clearly after examining the recommendations of the Pay Commission.

**Pandit Balkrishna Sharma:** May I know if the Government have made a comparative study of the scales of pay in higher salaries in this country and abroad? If so, how do they compare?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** I will examine the question.

#### SAFE CUSTODY AND HANDLING OF GOODS AT RAILWAY STATIONS

2. \***Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal:** Will the Honourable the Railway Member be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to ensure the safe custody and safe handling of goods at the railway stations; and

(b) the approximate amount of loss suffered by the country every year due to (i) pilfering of goods, (ii) breaking of articles due to careless handling, and (iii) the payment in kind to the railways station staff?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** (a) Government have adopted various measures to ensure safety of goods at railway stations and during transit. The following are some of the more important steps taken by railway administrations in this connection:

(i) Appointment of additional staff at stations for the handling, marking and labelling of packages.

(ii) Appointment of additional supervisory staff.

(iii) Insistence on strict adherence to standing instructions regarding careful loading of goods.

(iv) Reorganisation and strengthening of staff responsible for vigilance arrangements inside railway premises, and on running trains.

(v) Carrying on propaganda amongst railway staff for more careful handling and safe custody of goods.

(b), (i) and (ii) Information on the amount of loss sustained by the country due to pilferage of goods and breakage of articles due to careless handling is not available. In the year 1945-46, an amount of Rs. 103 lacs was paid by all Class I Railways on account of claims arising from non-delivery of goods, including loss and theft. In the same year the amount of claims paid on account of damages caused by breakage was about Rs. 68,300; the proportion of this total attributable to careless handling cannot, however, be separated.

(iii) This question presumably relates to the loss sustained by railways in providing their staff with grain and other commodities at concession rates. For the year 1945-46 this amounts to Rs. 14,20,91,000. This relates to railway staff as a whole; figures for station staff separately are not available.

**Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** In view of the fact that a cut motion was brought forward last session by Mr. Lawson on the subject, may I ask what action has been taken ever since then to improve matters? Or do the Government welcome a similar cut motion this year also?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** This matter is constantly under examination and is receiving anxious consideration at our hands.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Is it a fact that railway administrations take no responsibility for loss of goods entrusted to their charge and that they repudiate all claims for compensation when such goods are destroyed?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** No, Sir.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Will the Honourable Member kindly enquire into the case of two boxes of books sent by Dr. Bhagavan Das from Benares to Madras, which after persistent correspondence, were discovered to have been lost by fire for which the railway concerned takes no responsibility and is the Honourable Member aware that the Railway Board is actually supporting the administration in its deprivations?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** If the Honourable Member would give me more details, I should like to go into this very interesting case.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** It may be only an interesting case to the Honourable Member, but the person who lost his books values them much more than his own property. . . .

**Mr. President:** Order, order, what is the question?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Will the Honourable Member kindly look into his files where he will find a sheaf of letters from me bearing on the subject?

**Pandit Balkrishna Sharma:** Is it a fact that goods in transit are handled by labour supplied by private contractors and that the railway administration as such have no responsibility?



**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** This question of contract labour as distinct from departmental labour is a matter which has received a good deal of attention at the hands of the Railway Department. It will be considered further at a meeting which we are shortly having with the General Managers, Railways.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Is it not the duty of the railway administration to inform persons concerned when there is loss of goods of the sort I have mentioned in my supplementary question? If so, why was not proper information sent to the person concerned in this case? Why did the railway administration wait for a long correspondence before they gave any information on the subject?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** I have already said that I am looking forward to studying this case.

**Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal:** May I know if pilfering and breakage has decreased as a result of steps taken by Government?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** I think the position is improving.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** What is the general position? Is it not the duty of the railway administration to inform persons concerned about loss of their goods?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** That is a difficult matter.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Will the Honourable Member consider the desirability of imposing collective fines on all persons who handle goods inasmuch as . . . . .

**Mr. President:** Order, Order, the Honourable Member is making a suggestion.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Will the Honourable Member consider the desirability of imposing collective fines as one of the measures to be taken with a view to avoid this increasing loss of goods in transit?

**Mr. President:** Order, order. In substance it is a suggestion, though in form it is a question.

#### DETERIORATION OF EFFICIENCY OF POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

3. **\*Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal:** Will the Secretary of the Communications Department please state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the efficiency of the posts, telegraph and telephone services has deteriorated; and

(b) whether Government are aware that letters not only do not reach their destination at times, but are delivered days and weeks after their despatch?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) Government admit with regret that the efficiency of the Posts and Telegraphs Department is not as high as they would like it to be.

(b) Instances do occasionally occur of individual letters going astray or taking unduly long in transmission. When such cases are brought to notice, steps are taken to prevent their recurrence and to fix responsibility for the defect in service.

**Shri D. P. Karmarkar:** Is it not a fact that sometimes a letter posted by air mail from Bombay reaches Delhi later than ordinary rail post?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** I have already admitted that the efficiency of postal administration is not such as we would like it to be. There have been cases in which letters coming by air mail have arrived after letters sent by the rail route. When we receive complaints they are always investigated and steps are being taken to remove those defects.

**Miss Maniben Kara:** Will the Honourable Member inform the House if the delay in receipt of letters is not due to censorship of letters?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** I think, no, Sir.

**Pandit Balkrishna Sharma:** Is it a fact that sometimes we have to wait for ten hours and more to get a trunk telephone call?

**Mr. President:** That does not arise out of this question.

**Lala Deshbandhu Gupta:** Is it a fact that unauthorised censorship is still going on in the post offices and that the Government of India have been paying heavy rewards to postal employees ever since 1942?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** No, Sir.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Will the Honourable Member enquire how it is that the letters I post in Post Box No. 202 at the crossing of Curzon road and Keeling Road often get lost?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** As always, in regard to my Honourable friend Shri Sri Prakasa's complaints, I should be very happy to make the closest investigation.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** If the Honourable Member would look into the files of his predecessor, Sir Gurunath Bewoor, he will find a sheaf of letters from me on the subject.

#### PROVISION OF TELEPRINTER LINES

4. **\*Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal:** Will the Secretary of the Communications Department please state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many daily newspapers in important towns are not provided with teleprinters, although they have been applying for the same, for about a year; and

(b) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to get the lines already existing released or to provide new lines in order to remove this handicap?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) Yes.

(b) The whole question is under the active consideration of Government.

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will the Honourable Member please direct his attention to the question which I put at the last session namely how matters stand in respect of the United Press agency and will he tell the House how the matter stands at present?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** I have already said that the matter is under active consideration of the Government. That applies also to the ancillary matter of application made by the United Press.

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Has there been any change ever since the question was put on the last occasion?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** There have been changes, and one of these changes is multiplication in the number of applications for teleprinters lines, another is that we hope that within a comparatively short time, we will be in a position to put some of these lines at the disposal of the applicants.

**Seth Govind Das:** Does the Honourable Member remember that when I put a question in this respect at the last session, he told us that as far as Nagpur and Jubbulpore, which are two most important cities in C. P. are concerned, they will be able to get teleprinter lines by March next?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** I recall that on that occasion I answered so and I still have hopes that we may be able to do something. But I am unable to commit the Government at this stage because as already stated the matter is under active consideration and more than one department is concerned.

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** May I know if this question of grant of teleprinter line connections to several news agencies has come up before the Standing Committee of the Department of Communications?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** As yet no, Sir.

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will the Honourable Member enlighten the House whether this matter will be placed before the Standing Committee of this House?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** I should be very glad to give that suggestion the consideration of the Government.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** May I know if Reuters have any voice in the grant of teleprinters to newspapers?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** No, Sir.

#### REDUCTION OF HIGH AIR MAIL LETTER RATE FROM INDIA TO U. S. A.

5. **\*Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** Will the Secretary of the Communications Department be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of an airmail letter (weighing  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz.) from India to New York and the rate from New York to India;

(b) if it is a fact that the rate charged by the Government of India is much higher than what is charged by the Government of U. S. A., if so, the reasons for charging such heavy rate; and

(c) if Government will consider the question of reducing the airmail letter charges and bring it in uniformity with the rates charged by the Government of U. S. A. from there to India?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) The air mail fee for a letter from India to New York weighing half an ounce is Rs. 1-10-6 inclusive of ordinary postage. The corresponding rate from New York to India is 25 cents, which is equivalent approximately to 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  as.

(b) No reciprocity is prescribed in the matter of air mail rates which, in the case of India, are based on the payments required to be made to transport agencies for the conveyance of air mails.

(c) The air mail rate from India to U. S. A. has already been reduced by six annas with effect from the 1st January, 1947. Government are considering the possibility of a further reduction.

**Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** In view of the transport charges being higher in America than in India and also in view of the fact that the Government in America charges 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  annas for sending a letter from America to India, what is the justification for this Government charging such an excessive rate for a letter to be sent from India to New York? Is it not profiteering?

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

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** I may explain to the Honourable Member that as the charges now stand the Government of India are making two annas per air mail letter just to cover our charges within India itself. I am unaware whether the statement made by the Honourable Member about transport charges in America being higher than elsewhere is correct; but, if it is correct, the answer would be that the U.S.A. are working the service at a loss at present.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Will the Honourable Member refuse to accept air mail letters in India unless the American Government raise their rates?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** No, Sir.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Why not?

(No answer was given).

**Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** On what basis was this reduction of six annas made with effect from 1st January last?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** It was calculated on a basis (1) of the fact that the charges from America to India had been reduced, (2) that the charges between the United Kingdom and America had been slightly reduced, and (3) on a calculation of the transit charges which we had to meet. I have already informed the Honourable Member that we are trying to effect further reductions, and I hope that fairly shortly it will be possible to do something in that matter.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** Is it not a fact that the same company brings letters from New York to India and *vice versa* and charges different rates?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** I shall require notice of that question because there are various air lines affected.

**AIR MAIL RATES BETWEEN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.**

**6. \*Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** (a) Will the Secretary of the Communications Department be pleased to state the rates charged for airmail letters (weighing  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz.) from India to England, South Africa, East Africa, West Africa, South America, Burma, Japan, China, France, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Persia and Iraq?

(b) What are the rates charged by the Governments of these countries for similar letters despatched from there to India?

(c) Is it a fact that the rates charged by the Government of India are much higher than those charged by those countries, if so, what are the reasons?

(d) Do Government propose to consider the desirability of reducing the rates of airmail letters to all those countries and bring it in uniformity with the rates charged by those countries?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the table of the House giving the information required in part (a) of the question and as much information for part (b) as is immediately available.

(c) No. The rates charged by the Government of India are in some cases higher and in some cases lower than those charged by other countries, while in some cases they are equal to those charged by other countries. The differences are generally due to variations in the cost of the service to each administration, the chief item in which is the air transport charge.

(d) The question of reducing air mail rates from India to foreign countries is receiving the active consideration of Government.

*Statement showing airmail charges on letters from India to England, South Africa etc. and from those countries to India.*

Name of country	Rate from India per half Oz.	Rates from foreign country to India	
		Actual rate	Equivalent of the charge shown in col. (3) for a $\frac{1}{2}$ Oz. letter in Indian currency
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
1. England . . . . .	0 14 0*	1sh. per $\frac{1}{2}$ Oz.	0 11 0
2. South Africa . . . . .	0 14 0*	1sh. 3 d.* per half Oz.	0 13 6

\*Inclusive of postage

Name of country	Rate from India per half Oz.	Rates from foreign country to India	
		Actual rate	Equivalent of the charge shown in col. (3) for a $\frac{1}{2}$ Oz. letter in Indian currency.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
3. Kenya, Uganda and Tanganika (East Africa)	0 14 0*	1sh. 30 cents* per $\frac{1}{2}$ Oz.	0 14 0
4. Nigeria (West Africa)	0 14 0*	1sh 3d* to Karachi and 1sh 8d. to other places in India.	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ annas and Re. 1 2 0 respectively.
5. Portuguese East and West Africa	1 2 0	Not available	
6. South America			
(a) British Guiana, Dutch Guiana, French Guiana, Panama Republic and Panama Canal Zone.	1 13 0	Do.	
(b) Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador Peru, and Venezuela.	1 15 0	Do.	
(c) Argentine, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay.	1 9 0	Do.	
7. Burma.		1 $\frac{1}{2}$ annas per tola	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ annas per tola
8. Japan . . . . .		(There is no airmail service to Japan)	
9. China . . . . .	1 7 0	300 Chinese dollars per 5 gms.	0 14 0
10. France.	1 4 0		
11. Italy . . . . .	1 2 0	25 liras per 5 gms.	1 2 0
12. Switzerland . . . . .	1 4 0	80 centimes for 5 gms.	1 12 0
13. Spain . . . . .	1 4 0	Not available	
14. Portugal . . . . .	1 4 0	Do.	
15. Persia . . . . .	1 2 0	Do.	
16. Iraq. . . . .	1 0 0	30 fils per 5 gms.	1 3 0

\* Inclusive of postage.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Is there no international convention that the postage should be equal in the various countries?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** No, Sir, not for air mails.

#### INCOME FROM SALE OF COMMEMORATION STAMPS

7. \***Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** Will the Secretary of the Communications Department be pleased to state:

(a) the number of occasions when commemoration stamps were issued during the last five years by the Government of India;

(b) the dates on which they were issued and the dates when they were discontinued;

(c) the amounts collected by Government by sale of these stamps giving details of amounts received for every issue;

(d) if it is a fact that new stamps issued by the Government of India are greatly in demand by philatelists all the world over; and

(e) whether Government propose to issue new stamps frequently and thus increase the revenue?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) Commemorative stamps were issued on two occasions only during the past five years (1) the AL BU SAID stamps issued in connection with the bi-centenary celebration of the AL BU SAID in Muscat, and (2) the victory stamps.

(b) The AL BU SAID stamps were issued on the 20th November 1944 and withdrawn on the 31st December 1944. The victory stamps were issued in four denomination, two on the 2nd January 1946 and the other two on the 3rd February 1946. Their sale was discontinued with effect from the 31st January 1947.

(c) A sum of Rs. 392, 916-3-3 was realized by the sale of AL BU SAID stamps. As regards Victory stamps, the information is not yet available.

(d) Yes.

(e) It is not the policy of Government to issue commemorative stamps in order merely to raise revenue. Such stamps have been issued and will be issued to celebrate occasions of special importance.

**Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** Why were commemorative stamps not issued to mark the taking over of the administration by the Interim Government?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** Will the Honourable Member kindly repeat his question?

**Mr. President:** Order, order; no repetition is necessary.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** In view of the Honourable Member's statement that the sale of the so-called victory stamps has been discontinued, why is it that they are still sold in Benares?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** I said that their sale was discontinued with effect from 31st January last. I am not aware whether my Honourable friend left Benares today by air, but there has not been time for him to judge whether they have been discontinued or not.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** I regret I heard January 1. May I know if those who has the misfortune to buy these stamps before 31st January last will be permitted to use them on envelopes after that date?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** Of course, Sir.

#### RESERVATION OF NATIONAL TRAFFIC TO INDIA'S INTERNAL AIR-LINES

†8. **\*Maharajkumar Dr. Sir Vijaya Ananda:** Will the Honourable Member for Communications be pleased to state the steps, if any, that Government have taken to reserve the national traffic to India's own internal air-lines?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** The principle of reservation of cabotage traffic, that is, traffic generating and terminating within one country to the nationals of that country has been internationally recognised and re-affirmed at the International Civil Aviation Conference held at Chicago in 1944. The Government of India have also reserved such traffic for their own internal air lines.

#### REDUCTION OF COST OF AIR MAIL ENVELOPE TO U. S. A.

9. **\*Seth Govind Das:** Will the Secretary of the Communications Department be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that an ordinary air-mail envelope from India to the United States of America costs Rs. 2-0-6 while the same letter to Canada costs only Annas 6, and that an air-mail envelope from the United States of America to India costs 25 cents; and

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

(b) whether Government are aware that it is causing much expense to Indian business-men and relatives of so many students in the United States of America; if so, whether Government propose to take steps to reduce the cost of an air-mail envelope to the United States of America?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) and (b). The Honourable member has confused the ordinary air mail postage rates with the special rate for the light air letter service available for Canada and certain other countries of the British Commonwealth. The two services are entirely distinct. With effect from 1st January 1947, the air mail postage for letters to the United States of America has been reduced to Rs. 1-10-6 per half ounce. The question of further reduction is under examination.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Do students in America cost their parents the same as in India? If not, why cannot they pay an additional postage?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** If that is a question for me to answer, I should say that it must cost the parents considerably more in America than in India.

#### RUNNING OF OVERSEAS COMMUNICATION SERVICE INDEPENDENTLY OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

10. \***Seth Govind Das:** (a) Will the Secretary of the Communications Department be pleased to state the estimated cost of the purchase of the Overseas Communication Service from Cable Communication Ltd.?

(b) What are the reasons for running this service independent of Post and Telegraph Department by the Government of India?

(c) How much more money is estimated to be spent on this service for its independent existence?

(d) Is it a fact that the employees of that service decided not to agree to the transfer of the Company to the Government unless their demands were conceded?

(e) If so, what does the Government of India propose to do in this matter?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) The valuation has not yet been completed and Government are therefore unable to give any figures.

(b) and (c). The final form in which the Service will be run is yet to be decided and the whole question is under examination.

(d) The employees have decided to accept service under Government.

(e) Does not arise.

**Seth Govind Das:** By what time do Government expect to make a decision in this matter?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** I am afraid, Sir, I cannot commit Government in this matter. The valuation has to be completed which will take some little while; in the meantime the service is being satisfactorily run as a separate Government department, pending a decision as to its future running.

#### ORDERS FOR TEXTILE MACHINERY

11. \***Seth Govind Das:** Will the Honourable Member for Industries and Supplies be pleased to state:

(a) whether orders for textile machinery have been placed by all those to whom licences to establish textile mills were recently granted;

(b) the number of fine count and course count looms and spindles for which orders have already been placed;

(c) the number of such orders that have been placed in the United Kingdom and the number of orders in other countries with the names of such countries; and

(d) whether adequate facilities to collect necessary information were given and are being given to the licencees regarding the availability of textile machinery in all countries which manufacture such machinery?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** (a), (b) and (c). Provincial Governments were requested on the 5th of September to supply us with information in regard to these matters. We have had only two replies so far, both of which are incomplete.

(d) All facilities are given by the Government of India to licencees to collect relevant information. The Government of India receive periodical appreciations from England and America of the supply possibilities of textile machinery, which they pass on to industrialists in India. As regards countries other than England and America, the Government of India have not yet made arrangements for collecting such information and disseminating it in India.

**Seth Govind Das:** Is it a fact that the Madras Government have decided not to have any textile mills? Are the Government of India forcing them to retain the licenses of persons who have already got licenses for textile mills in that province?

**The Honourable Mr. C. Rajagopalachari:** There is no question of forcing, but the Government of India have decided that they will not cancel permits already issued.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Were these permits given over the heads of the provincial Governments or were they given in consultation with the new provincial Governments?

**The Honourable Mr. C. Rajagopalachari:** Permits were given on the recommendations of the provincial Governments who were then functioning.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** May I know if in pursuance of these permits the licencees have already progressed in the matter of construction of buildings?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** That is the complaint which the licencees are making with reference to the Provincial Government's attitude, and that is also the reason why the Government of India on account of the commitments involved have refused to cancel licences already issued.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Has the Government of Madras accepted the decision of the Government of India that these licencees should be given freedom to exercise their so called rights obtained from the licencees?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** There is no question of acceptance. The fact that the Central Government says that it will not cancel the licences already issued must be enough. There is no question of acceptance involved.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Is it not a fact that the Government of Madras has written to the Government of India that it does not recognize any of these claims that are being made by these various businessmen?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** No communication on the subject as far as I know has been received after the decision of the Government of India not to revoke the licences already issued.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** But after these licences were issued and since the advent of this new Government has any effort been made by the new Government to see what effect these licences that have been given are likely to have upon the cottage industry, *i.e.*, the handloom weaving industry, in our country?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** We can gather something from what appears in the press, but no communication has been received from the Provincial Government on the subject.



**Seth Govind Das:** How many licences have been given to Madras people?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** If accurate information is wanted, notice is required.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Sir, my question has been misunderstood a little. Has this new Government made any effort to ascertain or to assess the possible effects of giving these licences to these various businessmen upon the cottage industry in our country, *i.e.*, handloom weaving industry?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** When you say 'new Government' I take it you mean the Provincial Government of Madras.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** No, the Interim Government here.

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** It is an argument, Sir.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** I am only asking for information—whether any effort has been made by the Interim Government to assess the possible effects of the granting of these licences upon the cottage industry in our country, *i.e.*, the handloom weaving industry?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** In Madras to which the question relates mainly the bulk of the handloom industry depends upon the supply of yarn from the mills, that is to say from the textile industry which we are discussing.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** But is it or is it not a fact that licences have been issued. . . . .

**Mr. President:** The Honourable Member is now entering into an argument.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** It is only for the sake of information. Is it or is it not a fact that fresh licences have been issued for the installation of new power looms in this country?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** The spindlage that has been sanctioned, as the Honourable Member is aware, is mostly with reference to spindles.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** I am talking about looms.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** How many licences for spinning factories have been given by the Government of India?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** If figures are wanted notice must be given.

#### STRIKE IN THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIES AND SUPPLIES, CALCUTTA.

12. \***Seth Govind Das:** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Industries and Supplies be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the strike by the employees of the office of the Director of Industries and Supplies, Calcutta?

(b) If so, what are the causes that led to the strike and what are the demands of the strikers?

(c) What action do the Government of India propose to take to stop recurrences of such strikes in their Departments?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** (a) Yes. The strike lasted from 16th December 1946 to 13th January 1947.

(b) The strikers' demands have varied from time to time. Their main demands have been that there should be no retrenchment unless Government is able to provide alternative employment for those retrenched and that the approval of the Employees' Unions should be obtained before any retrenchment is carried out by Government.

(c) Every endeavour has been and will be made to find alternative employment for the staff to be retrenched. But retrenchment and demotions of war-expanded departments are inevitable.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** What was the nature of the work of these employees who went on strike and what was the nature of the harm that the public suffered from their going on strike, and in view of the fact that there are too many offices, would not Government welcome such strikes?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** The strikes on the part of people who are paid for their employment cannot be welcome by the Government.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** But what is the nature of the work; is it clerical work or is it manual work?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** In this particular case it is mostly clerical.

**PRIORITY FOR THE SUPPLY OF SCIENTIFIC AND MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND MACHINE TOOLS TO UNIVERSITY LABORATORIES.**

**13. \*Seth Govind Das:** Will the Honourable Member for Industries and Supplies be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate care was taken and is now being taken to give priority to scientific, technical and medical laboratories in the disposal of surplus scientific and medical equipment and machine tools especially in view of the fact that these laboratories have been starved of such things for many years;

(b) whether Government are aware that majority of university laboratories in India are poor in their scientific equipment and suffer from absence of proper workshop facilities and tools; and

(c) whether any scientific and medical equipment has been supplied to university laboratories; if so, the names of the universities and the value of the equipment supplied?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** (a) Yes, Sir. Educational Institutions have been placed in priority No. 3 (i.e. after Central Government and Provincial and State Governments, but before the general public) for purposes of making bids for surplus stores. If in any particular case the Education Department of the Government of India consider it necessary to obtain any particular stores for educational institutions, that Department can sponsor the demand which will then be accorded first priority.

(b) Yes, Sir. The position cannot be said to be satisfactory.

(c) Scientific and medical equipment has been supplied to several educational institutions and a statement giving the required details is placed on the table.

*Statement showing names of educational institutions and the value of equipment supplied to them from surplus stores.*

Name of Institution	Approximate value in Rupees
University of Travancore . . . . .	39,155
Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore . . . . .	4,975
Annamalai University, . . . . .	62,851
Hindu University, Benares . . . . .	24
Indian School of Mines . . . . .	1,578
Andhra University . . . . .	2,768
Muslim University . . . . .	11,945
Delhi Polytechnic. . . . .	10,387
Other institutions. . . . .	1,053
	Rs. 1,35,136

**Seth Govind Das:** With reference to part (b) of the question, the Honourable Member has admitted that the position is not satisfactory. What steps Government are taking immediately to make the position more satisfactory than it is at present?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** Every step is taken, but I believe the question is with reference to supply of surplus stores, and I said I am placing the required details on the table so that the time of the House may not be taken up in reading the whole list.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** Is it not a fact that the present Disposals Directorate is charging about twice and even three times the price of the American goods at which the Americans themselves sold to the educational institutions?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** I cannot accept the charge.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** I sent a note to this effect, and I would like to know whether the Honourable Member has seen the note?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** I cannot remember to have seen it, but it will be looked into if the Honourable Member will give me the particulars of the note.

**Lala Deshbandhu Gupta:** May I know if instances have come to the notice of the Honourable Member that priority No. 2 given to Indian States is being abused in many cases and the goods sold to the States are actually sold in British India through their agents at a higher rate?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** It is possible, but I venture to submit that it does not arise on this question.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** May I tell the Honourable Member that you give priority to educational institutions but charge prices which they cannot afford to pay, and therefore this priority has got no value.

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** No complaints about the price have so far been received to my knowledge, but if the Honourable Member has anything to say with reference to them the matter will be looked into.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** I sent a notice to the Honourable Member's predecessor.

**Shri Mohan Lal Saksena:** May I suggest that the educational institutions and Universities should be placed before the State Governments in priority?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** That is a suggestion which I think cannot be easily disposed of, because the State priority refers to very many essential services also.

#### PROGRESS IN THE SCHEME FOR MANUFACTURE OF LOCOMOTIVES IN INDIA

14. **\*Mr. Manu Subedar:** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Railways please state the progress made in the scheme for the manufacture of locomotives in this country?

(b) Has the machinery arrived?

(c) If not, when is it arriving?

(d) When will it be possible to choose the personnel for the manufacture?

(e) When do Government propose to manufacture locomotive boilers in India and how many?

(f) By which date are different constituents of the locomotive expected to be made in this country?

(g) Is it proposed to import some parts in the meanwhile?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** (a) Government have recently sanctioned with the concurrence of the Standing Finance Committee for Railways the provision of an entirely new locomotive manufacturing workshop at Kanchrapara

(North) at an estimated cost of Rs. 11·40 crores. The cost is made up of Rs. 2·69 crores for Workshops and ancillary equipment; Rs. 3·10 crores for plant and machinery and Rs. 5·61 crores for the colony for housing staff. The proposed workshops is planned to manufacture annually 120 locos and 50 spare boilers on single shift and 150 locos and 50 spare boilers by double shift working. Indents for the machinery and plant are being placed on the Industries and Supplies Department and negotiations are in progress for the construction of the Workshops, ancillary plant and services.

Government have also sold their Singhbhum Workshops at Tatanagar to the Tata Locomotive and Engineering Company for development as a locomotive and boiler manufacturing shops. In accordance with the terms of the agreement entered into between the Government and Messrs. Tata Sons Ltd., the Company have recently submitted their final scheme for the manufacture of locomotives at Singhbhum Shops for the approval of Government, and this is at present under examination.

(b) and (c). Fourteen heavy machines were ordered *ex* U. K. for the Kanchrapara project in March 1945, out of which ten have been received. An indent for the remaining machinery and plant required for the Kanchrapara project is being placed on the Industries and Supplies Department. The bulk of the machinery required will probably take not less than 24 months to be delivered.

(d) Certain grades of staff can be engaged as the plant and machinery is installed but the major portion of the personnel will have to be trained as there is a scarcity of trained staff capable of manning the industry efficiently at the outset.

(e) Tata Locomotive and Engineering Company is at present engaged on the first order for the manufacture of 100 locomotive boilers. When fully developed, this Company will be manufacturing 50 locomotive boilers annually, in addition to those for 50 locomotives. The building of the new Kanchrapara Workshops and colony and the installation of machinery and plant is expected to be completed by August/September 1949. Thereafter manufacture could begin but the production of complete locomotives and boilers is not expected to commence in any appreciable numbers until 15 months from September 1949, *i.e.*, by December 1950.

(f) and (g). When Kanchrapara and Singhbhum shops commence building locomotives, the majority of the assemblies required will be manufactured, but it may be found necessary when difficulties are met during the early stages of development to purchase a few items to maintain a balance of outturn, and certain proprietary fittings.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** In view of the fact that a British newspaper had said that orders had been placed with a particular firm—the North British Locomotive Company I believe—which would last for 12 years, may I know from which date the Government expect that the locomotive requirements of this country will be met by local production, and after which date no foreign imports will take place?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** The answer to that question would really depend on an examination of our requirements and of the possibilities of local manufacture. I am not in a position to give a final reply to my Honourable friend, but the relevant figures would be something like this, I have already mentioned that the capacity of the Kanchrapara workshops when they are completed would be 150 locomotives and 50 spare boilers on double shift working. The Tata Workshops, when they are completed, would be in a position to turn out 50 locomotives and 50 spare boilers. As against that, our requirements would amount to about 250 locomotives per year up to about 1960 for purely replacement purposes. After 1960 for replacement

purposes our requirements would be about 150 locomotives. So that to a large extent you might say that the local productive capacity would more or less match replacement requirements. But if there were any further requirements in connection with our expansion projects, then the matter would have to be examined.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** May I know whether Government have examined that excessive orders for very late deliveries have not been placed—and that the prices which I have heard about £20,000,—which are very heavy compared to the pre-war prices—for late deliveries later than 1950 at these prices which are not likely to last?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** We have placed orders for 400 locomotives and our expectation is that the deliveries will be completed by the end of 1950.

**Mr. Tamizuddin Khan:** Have all the orders for the machinery been placed with the United Kingdom?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** The majority of the orders have been placed in the United Kingdom but a certain number have been placed in the United States of America.

**Mr. Tamizuddin Khan:** How do the prices in the two countries compare?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** If the Honourable Member desires I could furnish the information.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** Have Government examined whether the equipment and machinery of the Ordnance Factories could be diverted and used for this purpose and if so, will they cancel the orders if it is found that this can be done?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** I do not think the Ordnance factories are in a position to handle locomotive manufacture. As the Honourable Member is aware, we are making the very best use of the equipment available in Ordnance Factories for other purposes.

**Dr. J. C. Chatterjee:** Is it a fact that complete locomotives were manufactured in the Ajmere Workshops, and if that is correct, is it the intention of Government to develop the Ajmere Workshops for the manufacture of locomotives in India?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** The Ajmere Workshops have been manufacturing locomotives, but our examination has led us to the conclusion that on account of the congested lay-out of the Ajmere Workshops, it is not possible to develop them further.

**Hafiz M. Ghazanfarulla:** Is it a fact that orders have been placed without any further tenders being called for?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** I want notice of that question. As a matter of general principle, I would say this, that as regards highly specialized equipment it is much better to get into consultation with manufacturing firms who have the necessary equipment and who have a reputation instead of calling for tenders.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** Is it a fact that the Ajmere Workshops are fitted to manufacture only metre-gauge engines and not broad gauge engines which should be prepared somewhere else?

(At this stage Lala Deshbandhu rose in his seat).

**Mr. President:** Order, order. This question has not yet been answered. Is it a fact that the Ajmere Workshops manufacture only metre gauge engines?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** Yes, Sir: only metre gauge locos.

**Lala Deshbandhu Gupta:** Did Government make enquiries before placing the orders in the United Kingdom that the prices were in no way higher than those offered by the United States of America or other countries. Quality for quality?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** Design and quality being the same, that is generally the position.

**Mr. President:** Order, order. I am calling the next question. Mr. Subedar.

**SUPPLY OF TIMBER PRODUCED IN ANDAMANS AND GIVEN TO SWEDISH MATCH COMPANY.**

**15. \*Mr. Manu Subedar:** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Industries and Supplies please state the quantity of timber that has been produced in Andamans?

(b) How much of this timber has been brought to India?

(c) Through which agency and in what manner has the timber brought to India been sold to the consuming public?

(d) Has any licence, monopoly, or lease, or exclusive quota, been given to the Swedish Match Company?

(e) If so, what are the terms of such lease?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** (a) Total timber produced from the date of reoccupation of Andamans upto 31st December 1946 amounted to 18,625 tons.

(b) 10,086 tons.

(c) Timber has been sold through numerous firms in Calcutta and Madras by direct negotiations between the Chief Forest Officer, Andamans and purchasers in India.

(d) No licence, monopoly, lease or exclusive quota has been given to the Swedish Match Company.

(e) Does not arise.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** Will the Honourable Member say what steps Government are taking in order to produce timber of a quality suitable for housing purposes in the Andamans and what steps have been taken in order to have the timber brought to this country as early as possible?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** Sir, the main concern of the Chief Forest Officer, Andamans, is to produce the maximum financial return from the forests and the Railway Board has recently appealed to the Home Department, which administers the Andamans, to consider the desirability of the Andamans producing the maximum number of creosoted sleepers. No special steps have been taken with reference to the building industry, as the Directorate General of Industries and Supplies have no control over either allocation or other matters.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** Will the Honourable Member assure this House that this timber which can be used in this country will not be permitted to be exported from the Andamans to the United Kingdom or any other country?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** The Information I have given must be enough to satisfy the Honourable Member that there is no question of export to foreign countries.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** How much of this timber was sold to the Swedish Match Company?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** I have already answered the question. There has been no monopoly lease or exclusive profits to the Swedish

Match Manufacturing Company and the rest of the information also I have given. As to sales, if particulars as to particular parties to whom sales have been made are wanted, I must ask for notice.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** In view of the very high price of timber of all sorts now prevailing in this country and in view of the fact that this seriously interferes with the progress of the building trade in this country, which the Government of India have announced is their policy to encourage, may I know whether special efforts could not be made to produce more timber in the Andamans and brought here as early as possible?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** Without conceding that the building industry should be given the first priority, I may say to the Honourable Member that steps will be taken for development in any direction that is considered desirable.

**Mr. Tamizuddin Khan:** What are the varieties of timber produced in the Andamans?

**Mr. President:** That does not arise out of this question. The Honourable Member can get the information by other means.

#### SHORTAGE OF MATCHES AND PROFITEERING BY VENDORS AND MIDDLEMEN

16. \***Mr. Manu Subedar:** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Industries and Supplies please state if Government are aware of the shortage of matches in many parts of the country and of the profiteering indulged in by petty vendors and middlemen?

(b) What steps are Government taking to prevent the recurrence of this phenomenon?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** (a) Yes, Sir. But it is believed that the position is improving.

(b) Control over distribution and prices of matches is the concern of Provincial Governments. So far as the Central Government are concerned, they have no statutory control over the distribution and prices of this commodity. Government have removed all restrictions on the importation of matches and have included this item in the Open General Licence No. VIII published with the Commerce Department Notification No. 19-I.T.C./1946 so that matches may be freely imported from all sources without individual licences.

**Mr. Manu Subedar:** Government have recently lowered the price of matches after the last Budget and has it come to their notice that the quality of matches has considerably deteriorated and broken match sticks or sticks which have no chemical ingredients stuck on them are being put into the boxes and that the public is being penalised in the matter of quality of the matches?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** It is very likely but steps have to be taken in numerous ways to prevent it.

**Khan Abdul Ghani Khan:** Have Government considered the desirability of manufacturing cheap utility lighters in view of the shortage of timber and the difficulty of securing matches?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** It is an interesting question not arising out of this question.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** In view of the shortage of matches in this country—matches manufactured by mills or machines—may I know whether any help will be given by Government to the production of matches as a cottage industry?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** I would like a scheme to be furnished by the Honourable Member, to which due consideration will be given, to make it a cottage industry.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** May I submit to the Honourable Member that before such restrictions as have been imposed matches were being manufactured in this country as a cottage industry in villages after villages and on account of the restrictions . . . .

**Mr. President:** The Honourable Member is arguing.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Then I shall put a question, Sir. Is not the Honourable Member aware that before restrictions were placed on the number of matches a box should contain and other things, the match industry was a flourishing cottage industry in this country and on account of these restrictions the industry disappeared and will the Honourable Member take steps to revive this cottage industry?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** That will be considered.

**Shri D. P. Karmarkar:** The shortage of matches at the present moment is not so much due to shortage of supply as to blackmarketing. Is the Honourable Member prepared to advise the Provincial Governments to tighten up the organisation for the distribution and sale of matches?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** Malpractices on the part of the trade are one of the causes but there is also a certain amount of difficulty arising on account of movement. Advice to the Provincial Government will be given as desired but I do not know how effective it will be.

**Lala Deshbandhu Gupta:** So far as Delhi is concerned, it is directly under the Government of India, may I know what steps the Government propose to take to safeguard the interests of the consumer against the profiteering on matches that is going on in Delhi?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** As I have said already the shortage of matches in Delhi was due to several causes one of which is malpractices on the part of the trade but I think every attention is being given to removing these difficulties and at present I may say that since the transport difficulties have been met and certain export has been banned, the situation has eased.

**Mr. Vadilal Lallubhai:** Have the Government of India not given any instructions to the Provincial Governments regarding the control and sale of matches?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** We have but I think it is hardly right to call the advice 'instructions'.

**Seth Govind Das:** Are the Government aware that the *bidi* merchants take matches directly from the manufacturers and they sell them only if *bilies* are purchased from them and that is also one of the reason of shortage of matches in the country?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** It may be a possible reason but I think if the Honourable Member will give me more information the matter can be inquired into.

#### PAYMENT OF SALARIES TO POSTAL EMPLOYEES FOR THE PERIOD OF THE LAST GENERAL POSTAL STRIKE.

17. **\*Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will the Secretary of the Communications Department be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the salaries of postal employees who joined in the last general postal strike have been withheld in respect of the period of strike; if so, have Government decided not to pay those salaries, or is the question of payment under examination?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** Government have decided that the postal employees who joined the last Posts and Telegraphs strike should be treated as being absent on leave without pay. The strikers are, therefore, not entitled to any salary for the period of absence but they have been allowed to draw grain



compensation and other allowances under the rules applicable to employees on leave without pay.

**UNION OF POSTAL, TELEGRAPH AND RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES.**

18. \***Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will the Secretary of the Communications Department please state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union of Postal, Telegraph and Railway Mail Service employees which is registered within the meaning of the Trade Union Act is not recognised by Government; if so the reasons thereof;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above is in the negative, whether Government are aware that in many cases, at least in Bengal, the secretaries of such unions have not been allowed interviews and discussions with departmental heads in the matter of grievances of the employees served by such unions; and

(c) the policy of Government in regard to this matter?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) No such Union as "the Union of Postal, Telegraph and Railway Mail Service employees" is recognised by Government. The All India Postal & R. M. S. Union, which is a recognised Union had communicated to Government a wish to change its designation to "Union of Posts, Telegraphs & R. M. S. (India)", by which name it has, according to its statement, been registered under the Trade Union Act. This change would enable it to enlist employees of the Telegraph, Telephone and Wireless branches of the Department as its members. The Government of India have refused to recognise the change of designation as it would involve an encroachment upon the rights and privileges of other recognised Unions, of which such classes of employees are members.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government's policy is not to allow the existing Unions to throw open their membership to additional classes of officials for whom other Unions or Associations exist.

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** What are the rights and privileges of the other recognised Unions which would be encroached upon if this particular union was recognised by the Government?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** I should perhaps explain the point to the Honourable Member and the best way I can explain it is by reading one of the rules about the recognition of Unions by Government. The rule which is relevant says that "an association must ordinarily consist of a distinct class of Government employees and all Government employees of the same class must be eligible for membership of the association." We already have an Indian Telegraph Association, an All India Telegraphs Union and an All India Posts and Telegraphs Union, all of whom include in their membership employees of the telegraph, telephone and wireless branches of the Posts and Telegraphs services. If the original recognition given to the All India Postal and R. M. S. Union were changed in its terms, these other Unions would have a distinct grievance in that, members might be taken away from them.

(b) WRITTEN ANSWERS

**INDUSTRIAL ALLIANCES BETWEEN INDIANS AND FOREIGNERS.**

19. \***Mr. Vadlal Lalubhai:** Will the Honourable Member for Industries and Supplies please state:

(a) the steps that Government have taken to check the growth of foreign interests in the form of alliances between Indians and foreigners;

(b) whether Government have received any representations and protests from Indian business and commercial community expressing their concern over this issue in the method of India's industrialisation;

(c) if so, what have they done to allay these fears in the minds of Indian business community;

(d) the policy of Government in this respect if they have any;

(e) whether Government propose to enunciate a long term policy in this respect and publish it for the benefit of Indian business community and the public in general; and

(f) whether Government propose to assure the Indian business community that no such alliances between Indian and foreign capital will be allowed to be entered into hereafter and that Indian Industrialisation will be achieved on the basis of development and expansion of industries owned, controlled and managed by Indians?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** (a) The terms on which foreign interests should be permitted to associate with Indian enterprise for the development of Indian industries is a question which was considered by the Government of India in 1945. Certain proposals were discussed by Sir Ardeshir Dalal, during his visit to the United Kingdom that year, with His Majesty's Government. No final decisions could be arrived at pending constitutional changes. The question is now under the consideration of Government.

(b) The Government have seen discussions on this subject in the Press, but have received in the recent past only one representation on the question, objecting to the participation of British capital in a company about to be floated for the manufacture of textile machinery.

(c), (d), (e) and (f). These questions will come up for consideration in connection with the report of the Advisory Planning Board which has been recently represented to Government.

#### REGISTRATION OF NEW FIRMS IN INDIA IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FOREIGN INTERESTS AFTER CONTROL OF CAPITAL ISSUES

**20. \*Mr. Vadilal Lallubhai:** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Industries and Supplies please state how many new firms have been registered in India after Capital Issues were controlled?

(b) How many and which of them have been registered in partnerships with foreign interests?

(c) Is it a fact that some of these partnerships have a share in capital, control and management?

(d) If so, what are the names of such concerns?

(e) Is it a fact that arrangements are being negotiated or are completed for starting Textile machinery manufacturing undertaking in this country on the basis of foreign partnership in capital and management?

(f) If so, what are the reasons for allowing foreign vested interests to be created in the new sphere of manufacture of textile machinery?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** (a) to (d). The Honourable Member was advised by the Honourable the Finance Member on 16th November 1946 in reply to his question that questions regarding firms registered under the Indian Partnership Act should be addressed to Honourable the Law Member and as regards firms registered under the Indian Companies Act, the Honourable the Commerce Member should be asked to furnish the required information.

(e) It is a fact that certain industrialists have entered into an agreement with some British industrialists for starting the manufacture of textile machinery in India and the agreement provides that, while the majority of the shares and the controlling interest will be held by Indians, the British industrialists will have a minor financial interest in the company and will be represented on the Board in that proportion.

(f) The Indian industrialists entered into this agreement in order to obtain necessary assistance in the shape of patent rights, technical knowledge, etc.

#### WAGES AND SALARIES OF EMPLOYEES IN COMPANY RAILWAYS AND STATE RAILWAYS

21. \*Miss Maniben Kara: (a) Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to state if it is a fact that the employees in Company Railways doing work comparable with those in the State Railways are given much lower salaries and other benefits?

(b) If so, do Government propose to bring the wages and other benefits given to Company Railways' employees at par with those in the State Railways?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** (a) Presumably the Honourable Member is referring to railways owned and worked by companies. If so, Government have no information regarding the salaries and other benefits received by the employees of those companies.

(b) No. In the matter of scales of pay and conditions of service of their employees, these companies exercise full discretion and are not subject to the control of Government.

#### INTERIM RELIEF TO RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.

22. \*Miss Maniben Kara: (a) Will the Honourable Member for Railways please state whether it is a fact that an assurance was given to railway employees at the time of the threatened strike in June last for grant of interim relief?

(b) If so, is it a fact that the relief has been given only to the State Railways employees?

(c) If so, are Government aware that a substantial section of railwaymen employed by Company Railways, who were also parties to the dispute, have not been given such relief?

(d) If so, do Government propose to move in the matter so as to ensure employees working in the Company Railways of an equivalent benefit?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** (a) and (b). The reply is in the affirmative, though the assurance only concerned employees of Indian Government Railways, whose pay and other conditions of service are controlled by Government and the expenditure on whom is directly chargeable to Railway revenues.

(c) and (d). Government have no details regarding the extent to which Company Railways have, on the lines of the action taken by Government, granted their employees any cash relief, nor can Government interfere in matters of detailed administration of these railways. In this connection, I would invite the Honourable Member's attention to my reply to part (b) of the preceding question.

#### ABOLITION OF CONCESSION AND THE RAILWAY FOOD DEPARTMENT

23. \*Seth Sukhdev: Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to state whether in view of the proposed revision of railwaymen's scales of pay with effect from 1st January 1947, and consolidation of dearness allowance and grain concessions in the wages Government propose to abolish the railway Food department? If not, do Government propose to make a statement on the policy to be pursued in regard to continuance of food concessions to railwaymen and for how long?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** As the Honourable Member is aware, the Central Pay Commission are at present examining the future structure of the scales of pay and standards of remuneration for Central Government

servants, and Government are not in a position to anticipate what the recommendations of the Commission are likely to be and also the decision of Government on those recommendations. Government have recently examined the question of the continuance of Railway Grain Shops and, in view of the fact that the food position is likely to be difficult throughout 1947, it has been decided to continue the organisation for the present, the question being further examined on receipt of the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission.

#### DEMANDS OF THE ALL INDIA ORDNANCE EMPLOYEES FEDERATION

24. \*Sjt. Seth Damodar Swroop: (a) Will the Honourable Member for Industries and Supplies please state if a memorandum from the All India Ordnance Employees Federation was received by Government some time back. If so, what action, if any, has been taken by Government to meet the demands of the Association?

(b) Is it a fact that during the year 1945-46 garments worth Rs. 4,00,000 in labour value were made up in the Clothing factory, Shahjehanpur for the United Provinces Police alone. If so do Government propose to approach the other provincial governments also to have the Police and Jail Uniforms made up in the Clothing factory at Shahjehanpur and Madras as also in the Parachute factory at Cawnpore, thus enabling the employees of the Ordnance department to easily have a load of more than 40 Lacs units or 2,15,00,000 man-hours per year for Ordnance Clothing factories alone?

(c) Is it a fact that the Government of India are at present getting most of the uniforms of postal officials and Railway-men made by private contractors who swallow most of the cost of labour, and not in their own Ordnance factories which are running at the cost of the Defence Department?

(d) Is it a fact that India is required to supply cloth to the neighbouring countries as a measure of reciprocal-aid in return for food-grains. If so, will Government please consider the desirability of supplying half of the Cloth quota in the form of the ready-made garments to keep the Ordnance clothing labour employed?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** (a) Yes, Sir. The Memorandum is under consideration.

(b) Garments worth Rs. 5,190 only were made in 1945-46 in the Clothing Factory, Shahjahanpur, for the U P. Police. The question of production of civil items of clothing required by Central Government Departments and Provincial Governments has already been discussed in detail by the Technical Sub-Committee appointed by Government, and their recommendations are under consideration. The Central Government will certainly invite Provincial Governments to have their employees' clothing made in the Ordnance Factories.

(c) Annual contracts for fabrication of garments required by the State Railways, with the exception of those who have their own clothing factories, are placed by the Textile Directorate of the Directorate-General of Industries and Supplies. It is the policy of Government to get such garments made in Ordnance Factories as far as possible.

The Posts and Telegraph Department at present get their uniforms made by private contractors from material supplied through the Directorate-General of Industries and Supplies. The question of getting these uniforms made in Ordnance Factories is also being considered.

(d) Yes, India supplies cloth to countries such as Nepal, Siam, Burma, Australia, New Zealand, Iraq but not solely in return for food-grains. Export quotas for these countries are fixed partly as a measure of reciprocity for supply of food-grains, but there are other important considerations also. With regard to the latter part of the question, the practice has so far been to supply textiles in the form of cloth. The possibility of pressing any country to accept garments instead of cloth will be explored.

## DIRTY CONDITIONS ON THE OUDH AND TIRHUT RAILWAY

**25. \*Sjt. Seth Damodar Swroop:** Will the Honourable Member for Railways please state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the dirty conditions prevailing on the Oudh and Tirhut Railway;

(b) whether Government are aware that cattle are generally seen on the platforms, and that human beings are packed like pigs in sites on this Railway; and

(c) whether Government are aware that coaches in a large number of trains are dirty, mattresses in the upper class are torn, and doors and windows need repairs. If so, what are the causes and what steps if any are Government taking to remove such complaints on this Railway?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** (a) Government are aware that, due to war conditions, deterioration has taken place in the standard of cleanliness of coaching stock and station premises, but efforts are constantly being made to improve matters. A drive to restore coaching stock to its pre-war standard of cleanliness is in operation as also a scheme for encouraging the staff to keep station premises clean. Under this scheme prizes are to be awarded to the staff of the best kept stations.

(b) Government have seen reports to this effect and are enquiring into the matter. Meanwhile they are instructing the Oudh Tirhut Railway Administration to carry out more strictly the provision regarding impounding of cattle straying on to the railway premises.

Regarding overcrowding in passenger trains, the O. T. Railway, due to an acute shortage of rolling stock, are unable to meet in full the greatly increased public demand for passenger accommodation. The most recent statistics reveal an increase of over 70 per cent. in passenger traffic compared with 1938-39. The Railway is, however, utilising to their fullest, all available resources, and had re-introduced or extended a total of 86 trains up to 1st October 1946. The present passenger train mileage amounts to 86 per cent. of the pre-war. Every effort is being made to obtain more coaching stock, and as this becomes available, passenger services will be progressively increased. Some relief is also expected in the near future from the Provincial Government's scheme for co-ordinated rail-road services.

(c) A considerable number of coaches are in a bad state of repair as a result of maintenance difficulties during the war. These are being withdrawn gradually from traffic for extensive overhaul. Much upholstery in upper and inter-class carriages has suffered by wanton destruction or theft. A spirit of destruction is unfortunately still prevalent and wanton damage and loss of equipment continues in spite of the adoption of preventive measures. This, together with depleted stocks of canvas and leather, adds to the difficulties of replacement, but improvement is gradually being effected as supplies become available. A programme for reconditioning has been drawn up and is being worked to as closely as possible.

## RAILWAY RUNNING TIME BETWEEN PILIBHIT AND TANAKPUR ON O. T. RAILWAY

**26. \*Sjt. Seth Damodar Swroop:** Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the distance between Pilibhit and Tanakpur on the Oudh and Tirhut Railway is only 38 miles and that it takes the Railway train 6 hours or more to cover this distance. If so, the reason thereof, and what action Government propose to take to relieve the travelling public of the waste of their valuable time; and

(b) whether Government are aware that Tanakpur is a big trading centre where thousands of people gather for trade purpose and that there is no waiting room or waiting shed on this Railway Station. If so, do Government propose to consider the desirability of constructing a shed immediately?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** (a) The Pilibhit-Tanakpur Branch on the O. T. Railway is a short branch line 38½ miles in length. It is laid with light rails and the track is unballasted. The maximum permissible speed of trains on this Branch is 20 miles per hour and the Passenger traffic being comparatively light, it is served by two mixed trains daily in each direction, the speeds of which are booked at 15 miles per hour. These trains carry both passenger and goods vehicles and shunting is performed at stations *en route*.

According to the Time Table at present in force the trains are scheduled to complete the journey between Pilibhit and Tanakpur in periods varying from 3 hours 14 minutes to 4 hours 5 minutes.

(b) No Waiting Room is provided at Tanakpur at present but provision has been made in the Post-war programme for the construction of a Third Class Waiting Shed and a combined Upper and Inter Class Waiting Room.

#### DELAYS IN AIR MAIL LETTERS FROM DELHI TO LUCKNOW.

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

(a) if he has seen the Editorial of the 'Pioneer' dated the 27th December 1946 under the caption 'Postal Delays'; and

(b) if it is a fact that an Air Mail letter which left Delhi on 20th December 1946 reached Lucknow on 25th December while Delhi to Lucknow is only 12 hours run by rail? If so, why?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) Yes.

(b) Attempts were made to obtain the cover of the letter in question with a view to tracing the cause of delay, but unfortunately it had not been preserved. Letters occasionally go astray due to mis-sorting and steps have been and are being, taken to prevent this.

#### INEFFICIENCY OF THE TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

**28. \*Sjt. Seth Damodar Swroop:** Will the Secretary of the Communications Department please state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is general complaint that not only letters, including air mail letters are delivered late but telegrams are also delivered, much after time and sometimes later than letters; and

(b) whether Government are aware that in case of an urgent trunk call one might consider oneself lucky in getting it between 24 to 48 hours after booking, while for a local call, one has first to wake up the operator and then to humour him or her to get the right number. If so, what is the reason for this state of affairs and what steps are Government taking to increase the efficiency?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) A number of complaints regarding delays to letters including air mail letters and to telegrams have been brought to the notice of Government, but these complaints cannot be described as of a general nature.

(b) Government are aware that delays to trunk calls do frequently occur but not to the extent suggested by the Honourable Member. The present regrettable state of affairs is due to increase in traffic and to the accumulated difficulties of the war years arising from shortage of equipment, lack of trained staff and the disorganisation produced by abnormal conditions. Energetic steps.

are being taken to correct the present deficiencies and improve the standard of service. They include:—

- (i) establishment of telephone operators' training classes at suitable centres;
- (ii) the addition of approximately 400 trunk circuits to the P. & T. system;
- (iii) opening of new trunk exchanges at a number of stations;
- (iv) provision of direct trunk outlets between the principal cities of India;
- (v) installation of additional switchboards in local exchanges;
- (vi) provision of automatic equipment to replace manual exchanges as early as possible.

#### AMALGAMATION OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENTS.

29. \*Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will the Secretary of the Food Department be pleased to state:

(a) if there is any proposal to amalgamate the Food and the Agricultural Departments;

(b) whether Government are aware that when there was no separate Department for Agriculture and agriculture was cared for by the former Department of Education, Health, and Lands, agriculture, its research and development suffered very much;

(c) whether Government are also aware of the fact that in England too, the former Agriculture and Food Department has been split into two independent departments of Food and Agriculture;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Food Department generally pays special attention to the interests of consumers, and the Agriculture Department pays attention particularly to the interests of agriculturists; and

(e) whether Government propose to give an assurance to the House that the Department of Agriculture, as a separate entity will not be abolished?

Mr. K. L. Panjabi: (a) to (e) Under the orders of the Honourable Member in charge of the Food and Agriculture Departments, an Inter Departmental Committee has been appointed to examine the present working of the Departments of Food and Agriculture, and to make recommendations for their re-organisation, keeping in view considerations of economy and efficiency in relation to the functions which the Departments now perform, and are expected to perform in the near future. The considerations put forward by the Honourable Member in his question will be borne in mind when decisions come to be taken on the Committee's Report.

#### ANALYSIS OF PROPERTIES OF HYDROGENATED OIL AND FRESH OIL.

30. \*Shri D. P. Karmarkar: Will the Secretary of the Food Department be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any laboratory analysis in regard to the properties of hydrogenated oil as compared with fresh oil; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to place a copy of such analysis on the table of the House?

Mr. K. L. Panjabi: (a) Yes sir.

(b) A copy of the analysis report is placed on the table of the House.

#### *Characteristics of fresh and hydrogenated groundnut oils*

Characteristics	Hydrogenated ground nut oil melting point 37.2° C.	Groundnut oil
Saponification value . . . . .	191	190-196
Iodine value . . . . .	68.0	83-100
Acid value . . . . .	0.21	19-50
B. R. Index at 40° C. . . . .	50.6	57.5

## HYDROGENATED OIL FACTORIES IN INDIA AND ITS IMPORT AND EXPORT.

31. \***Shri D. P. Karmarkar**: Will the Secretary of the Food Department be pleased to state:

(a) the names, location, production capacity, the dates of establishment, of hydrogenated oil factories in India;

(b) the total quantity of hydrogenated oil produced at these factories for each year since 1939 to 31st December 1946;

(c) the quantity of hydrogenated oil imported into India and exported out of India during each of the years after 1939; and

(d) the quantity of hydrogenated oil purchased by Government during and after the war for purpose of supply to the Army?

**Mr. K. L. Panjabi**: (a) to (d) Statements containing the required information are laid on the table of the House.

*'A'—List of Vanaspati Factories in production in India.*

Name of Factory	Location	Date of commencing production.	Capacity
			Tons
1. Hindustan Vanaspati Mfg. Company Limited.	Bombay	August, 1932	55,000
2. Indian Veg. Products . . .	Do.	July, 1930	9,600
3. Swastik Oil Mills Ltd. . . .	Do.	September, 1939	10,200
4. Amrit Banaspati Co. . . .	Do.	August, 1943	5,000
5. Veg. Vitamin Foods Co. Ltd.	Do.	April, 1942	6,600
6. Amrut Oil Mills Ltd. . . .	Do.	January, 1945	2,000
7. Bharat Vanaspati Products . . .	Pachora	February, 1941	9,000
8. Ganesh Flour Mills Co. Ltd.	Layallpur	July, 1930	5,000
9. Ganesh Flour Mills Co. Ltd.	Cawnpore	December, 1935	10,000
10. Ganesh Flour Mills Co. Ltd.	Delhi	October, 1939	5,000
11. Snow White Food Products Co.	Calcutta	October, 1940	8,000
12. Rohtas Industries Ltd.	Dalmianagar	September, 1944	3,000
13. Amrit Banaspati Co. . . .	Ghaziabad	August 1941	8,000
14. Mettur Chemical & Industries Corporation Limited . . .	Mettur Dam	September 1943	3,400
15. Mysore Veg. Oil Products Co.	Madras	March, 1944	1,500
16. Mysore Veg. Oil Products Co.	Bangalore	June, 1939	1,800
17. Tata Oil Mills Co. Ltd. Cochin	Tatapuram (Ernakulam)	March, 1932	1,200
18. Modi Vanaspati Mfg. Co.	Begamabad	June, 1939	12,000
19. Jagdish Industries . . . .	Porbunder	September, 1945	6,000
20. Aswin Industries . . . .	Baroda		6,000
21. Lily Oil Industries . . . .	Baroda	November, 1945	6,000
22. Vanaspati Industries . . . .	Ghaziabad	December, 1945	7,500



'B'—Total quantity of Vegetable Oil Products (Hydrogenated) produced at the factories in India.

1939-1946

Year	Quantity
<i>January-December</i>	
1939	Tons 52,251
1940	62,163
1941	85,346
1942	77,306
1943	1,05,073
1944	1,17,244
1945	1,32,392
1946	1,45,000 (Approx.)

'C'—Quantity of Hydrogenated Oil imported in India and exported out of India.

1939—1946

Year	Imports	Exports	Remarks
1938-39	less than 1000 tons	Not available	
1939-40	No imports	Do.	
1940-41	Do.	Do.	
1941-42	Do.	Do.	
1942-43	Do.	Do.	
1943-44	Do.	Do.	
1944-45	Do.	290 tons	
1945-46	Do.	233 Tons	

'D'—Quantities of Hydrogenated Oil products purchased by Government for Defence services.

VEGETABLE OIL PRODUCTS  
(Hydrogenated)

	Tons
1939-40	Nil
1940-41	15
1941-42	170
1942-43	3,780
1943-44	8,848
1944-45	31,505
1945-46	26,498
1946-47	11,666

RECONSIDERATION OF THE ALIGNMENT OF THE PROPOSED PATNA-GAYA-SHERGHATE RANCHI RAILWAY LINE SO AS TO INCLUDE CHATRA.

32. \*Babu Ram Narayan Singh: Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that before constructing new Railway lines local needs of the people are consulted; and if so, through what agency or agencies;

(b) whether it is a fact that the survey of the proposed Patna-Gaya-Sherghati-Ranchi line is complete and that the alignment is finally approved;

(c) whether it is a fact that the proposed Patna-Gaya-Sherghati-Ranchi line is not going to touch the historic town of Chatra and whether the people of Chatra have protested against it and if so, with what result; and

(d) whether Government propose to reconsider the position and alter the alignment as to include Chatra as one of the stations on this railway line?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** (a) Yes Sir, Standing instructions to the Officers in charge of survey operations provide that they should visit all trade centres in the area, consult the Local Civil Authorities and prominent citizens freely, as regards trade and industry, and give due weight to their opinion in determining the most suitable route to be followed.

(b) Presumably, Gaya-Sherghati-Ranchi project is meant, since Patna-Gaya is an existing section of the East Indian Railway. It is not a fact that the survey of this proposed line is complete or that the alignment has been finally approved.

(c) It is not, at the moment, possible to say if the final alignment will pass through Chatra or not, as no decision has yet been taken on the question of the final alignment, but among the four alternative alignments under reconnaissance survey, Gaya-Sherghati-Chatra-Ranchi route is one. A public representation requesting that the proposed line should pass through Chatra was received. Government cannot, however, at this stage, bind itself to the adoption of this alignment; but must wait for the final reports on the alternative routes and also take into consideration the considered views of the Provincial Government in the matter.

(d) In view of the replies given to parts (b) and (c) the question of reconsideration does not arise at this stage.

#### FOOD SITUATION IN INDIA.

**33. \*Babu Ram Narayan Singh:** Will the Secretary of the Food Department be pleased to state:

- (a) the present food situation in the country;
- (b) the situation as affected by the last paddy harvest;
- (c) the prospect of the next Rabi Crop;
- (d) the change, if any, in the food policy of Government; and
- (e) the prospect of supply of imported food grain?

**Mr. K. L. Panjabi:** (a) to (e) The Honourable Member is referred to the Memorandum on Food Position and policy of Government which has been circulated to the Members of the House.

#### GROW MORE FOOD CAMPAIGN.

**34. \*Babu Ram Narayan Singh:** Will the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture be pleased to state in detail the steps proposed to be taken by Government in the immediate future towards "Grow more food campaign"?

**Sir Pheroze Kharegat:** The Grow More Food Campaign has to be carried out by the Provinces. The Centre only gives help and guidance. The Government of India have decided to continue financial assistance for grow more food schemes on the existing basis for five years from 1947-48 to 1951-52; the amount of such expenditure will however affect the amount available for central development grants to Provinces. The main items of the campaign are (1) Increasing the acreage under foodgrains, partly by bringing fresh land under cultivation and

partly by diversion from non-food to food crops, (2) The construction of tube wells, surface wells, tanks and channels, pumping installations, dams minor irrigation and drainage works, and the carrying out of land reclamation, anti-erosion and land development works, (3) The supply of manures and fertilisers, (4) The multiplication and distribution of improved seed, (5) The supply of machinery and implements, (6) The protection of crops from pests and diseases, (7) Increasing the production of fruits and vegetables, (8) Increasing milk production, (9) Developing the fish resources, and (10) Imparting training to the staff for carrying out the programme. Provinces are being helped to fix targets for increased production as also targets for works and supplies. Steps are being taken to make available the materials required for the construction of the necessary works such as coal for bricks, iron and steel, cement, pumps, etc. Suitable organisations are also being set up by provinces for carrying out the Grow More Food Campaign in closer collaboration with the Agriculturists.

#### PADDY LEVY ORDER

**35. \*Babu Ram Narayan Singh:** (a) Will the Secretary of the Food Department be pleased to state whether principles of Paddy levy Order have been decided upon by the Central or by the different Provincial Governments, and if so what are those principles?

(b) In making the Levy Order, are the local officials required to consider the cultivator's necessities for seeds for the next year, wages to labourers purchase of cattle and implements, payment of rent and the maintenance of his family for the year?

**Mr. K. L. Panjabi:** (a) Levy Orders, whether for paddy or for other food-grains, are issued by Provincial Governments in consultation with the Government of India. At present paddy Levy Orders are in force in the provinces of Bihar and Bombay only. In Bihar levy is imposed on cultivators who hold individually or jointly more than 25 acres of land or have a gross income of more than 200 maunds of paddy. The scale of levy is a moderate one and sufficient grain is allowed to be retained by the cultivator. In Bombay the amount of levy to be delivered by each holder is graded according to the average land assessment on the holding and the estimated gross yield.

(b) To determine the extent upto which the producer should be allowed to retain grain grown by him, our policy is that the following requirements should be taken into consideration:

- (i) Seed.
- (ii) The consumption needs of the producer and his dependents.
- (iii) Payment of rent in kind.
- (iv) Payment of agricultural wages in kind.
- (v) Repayment of loans and payment of interest in kind.
- (vi) Payment in kind against services rendered.
- (vii) Purposes of barter in village shops.

#### EXTENSION OF THE PUSA COLLEGE, DELHI, AREA.

**36. \*Babu Ram Narayan Singh:** Will the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture be pleased to state whether the area of the Pusa College, Delhi, is to be further extended, and if so, whether people of 25 neighbouring villages have been asked to quit those villages intended to be included in the said area?

**Sir Pheroze Kharegat:** There is a proposal to acquire more land for the Agricultural Research Institute. There is also a proposal to establish an Agricultural College, an Animal Husbandry College and a Dairy Institute for which a large area of land is likely to be required. So far none have been asked to quit their villages.

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### GOOD CONDUCT ALLOWANCE TO THE CLERKS OF THE GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPHS WORKSHOP, JUBBULPORE

1. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Secretary of the Communications Department, please state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Good Conduct Allowance was granted by Government in all sections of the Posts and Telegraphs Department;

(b) whether it is a fact that this allowance was paid to the clerks of the Government Telegraph Workshops, Jubbulpore from the 1st January, 1945, and that the same was paid to the workers from the 1st March, 1946, i.e., after fifteen months; and

(c) whether Government now propose to take steps to pay the Good Conduct Allowance to these workers from 1st January, 1945, to 1st March, 1946, if not why not?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) No. Good Conduct Pay as originally sanctioned was admissible only to whole-time Government servants of the P. & T. Department and to members of the work-charged establishment in the P. & T. Department paid on a monthly basis. The daily-rated labour of the Government Telegraph Workshops, Jubbulpore, were not entitled to it. Later, in March 1946, the daily-rated labour were also admitted to the concession with effect from the first of that month.

### PROVISION OF A DISPENSARY NEAR THE WORKERS COLONY OF THE GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPHS WORKSHOP, JUBBULPORE

2. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Secretary of the Communications Department, please state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of workers live in the workers' colony near the Government Telegraph Workshops at Jubbulpore;

(b) whether Government are aware that in these workshops several accidents occur every day causing slight as well as greivous injuries to the workers;

(c) whether Government are aware that there is neither any dispensary nor any qualified doctor in this colony to attend to these persons;

(d) whether Government are aware that the local Victoria Hospital of the Provincial Government at Jubbulpore is not in a position to provide medical help to these workers in view of a very large increase in the population of Jubbulpore town; and

(e) whether Government propose to take steps to appoint a qualified doctor and attach a fully equipped dispensary to the said colony of workers as has been done by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway for its employees?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) Yes, there are about 234 workers who reside in the colony.

(b) and (c) The number of accidents occurring in the workshops is very small and there is a departmental dispensary under a qualified compounder to attend to them.

(d) First aid is provided in the departmental dispensary and serious cases are sent to the Victoria Hospital; so far as is known, there has been no occasion on which the Hospital was unable to give the necessary treatment when it was needed.

(e) A proposal is already under consideration of Government to expand and equip the dispensary further and to place it under the charge of a qualified doctor.

## RETRENCHMENT IN TELEGRAPHS WORKSHOPS

**3. Seth Govind Das:** Will the Secretary of the Communications Department, please state:

(a) the policy that Government are following as regards the retrenchment in various telegraph workshops; and

(b) whether Government will consider the possibility of manufacturing in these workshops the articles required for telegraphic and telephonic use in the country which are not being manufactured in these workshops hitherto?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) The policy being followed is contained in "Rules for discharge of workers in Central Undertakings surplus to requirements" issued under Department of Labour U.O. No. LR-11(15), dated the 2nd February, 1946 (as amended up to June 1946), a copy of which is placed on the table of the House.

(b) Possibilities in this direction are being explored.

*Rules for discharge of workers in Central Undertakings surplus to requirements*

The following rules should be observed in discharging workers in the Central Undertakings who are surplus to requirements:—

1. In the first instance the following steps should be taken wherever possible to minimise reduction of personnel:—

- (1) Overtime should be avoided and extra staff employed *in lieu*, provided this does not involve increased overall expenditure.
- (2) Facilities should be provided to enable workers to enjoy leave due to them.
- (3) Workers who are at or above the age of superannuation should be made to retire and those nearing such age should be encouraged to retire.

2. As a rule, discharge of personnel who are still surplus to requirements should be in accordance with the principle of short service, i.e. last man engaged should be the first man to be discharged. Due notice, or wages *in lieu* thereof, should be given.

NOTE.—(1) In the case of a job requiring high skill, a highly skilled worker with shorter service may be retained in preference to a less skilled worker with longer service.

(2) In cases where the key nature of a man's employment warrants his retention, he may be retained in preference to a man of longer service.

(2-A) Discharge on grounds of inefficiency and irregularity is already permissible under the normal rules. But the application of such criteria in times of block retrenchment calls for strict justice and moderation and should be subject to Rule 2. Proper safeguards should be instituted towards achieving this end.

3. A committee should be set up in each undertaking, wherever possible, to prepare orders for discharge in accordance with these principles. The Committee should consist of not less than three members from among the officers of the undertaking. It will be desirable to nominate in addition a representative of the workers on the Committee, preferably from the recognised union, if any, of the workers concerned.

4. Each workman affected shall have a right of appeal to the Committee and Committee's decision thereon shall be final.

5. Each individual proposed to be discharged should be served with due notice in writing. In the notice of discharge, the name of the Employment Exchange nearest to his house or place of residence should be given and he should be advised to seek the assistance of that Exchange for finding alternative employment.

6. A list of discharged workers should be maintained and in filling future vacancies preference should be given to the discharged personnel, the selection being made by the local authorities with due regard to the local conditions.

**ORDER OF PRIORITY OF TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS GIVEN SINCE 27TH APRIL, 1946, IN CENTRAL PROVINCES**

**4. Seth Govind Das:** Will the Secretary of the Communications Department, please state:

(a) the order of priority on the basis of which telephone connections have been given since the 27th April, 1946, and are being given at present, particularly in the Central Provinces;

(b) whether it is a fact that telephone connections have not been given to certain members of the Central Provinces and Berar Legislative Assembly in spite of their applications made through the said Assembly Department;

(c) the number and names of the members of the Central Provinces Legislative Assembly to whom connections have been granted or refused; and

(d) whether Government propose, to give priority to the applications of the Provincial M.L.A.'s for telephone connections in view of the responsible nature of their work requiring their urgent attention?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) The order of priority followed by all Heads of Circles in giving new telephone connections is as follows:

- (i) Restoration of telephones disconnected to provide essential telephones during the war.
- (ii) Important Government connections.
- (iii) Doctors and Nurses.
- (iv) Banks.
- (v) Important public institutions such as Hospitals, Schools, Colleges, Political organisations.
- (vi) Accredited Press Correspondents.

(b) Yes.

(c) Telephones were installed for Messrs Abdulla Bhai Taherali, M.L.A. and Bhagat Laxmi Narayan, M.L.A. but unfortunately could not be provided for Mr. Narayandas Gupta, M.L.A. and Captain K. D. Paranjpe, M.L.A.

(d) Instructions have since been issued to all Heads of Circles to give priority to requests made by Members of the Provincial Legislature for telephone connections for the period of the session of the Legislature.

#### SURVEY OF THE SAINTHIA-BHERAMARA RAILWAY PROJECT

**5. Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to state with reference to the answer to unstarred question No. 39, dated the 6th November, 1946:

(a) what progress has been made in the survey of the Sainthia-Bheramara Railway project since the aforesaid question was answered;

(b) what are the alternative routes that are before the Survey authorities and what are the local authorities and prominent citizens, referred to in answer to part (d) of the above question, that have been consulted and are proposed to be consulted; and

(c) whether Government propose to consult the local members of the provincial and central legislatures?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** (a) The Traffic survey of the project Sainthia-Bheramara Railway, which was commenced on 15th October, 1946, is expected to be completed by the middle of April 1947. The Engineering Survey of this project will be taken in hand if the Traffic report reveals that the project is likely to prove commercially remunerative.

(b) The following alternative routes are being considered:

- (i) Sainthia-Kandi-Berhampore Court-Bhagirathpur-Jamsherpur Pragpur-Taragonia-Bheramara.
- (ii) Sainthia-Kandi-Berhampur Court-Bhagirathpur-Dhoradah-Jamsherpur-Shikarpur-Kulberia-Amla Sadarpur-Halsa.
- (iii) Sainthia-Kandi-Berhampore Court-Amtala-Patkabari-Meherpur Hat Boalia-Halsa.

Local authorities and prominent citizens already consulted include District Magistrates of Nadia, Murshidabad and Birbhum, District Engineers, Chairmen of District Boards, Municipal Committees and Union Boards, Irrigation Engineers, Proprietor, Chudanga-Meherpur Bus Service; Chairman, Merchant Association, Meherpur; General Manager, Midnapore Zamindari Co. Ltd., and a large number of zamindars and businessmen. Field work is still proceeding and all the remaining interests will be duly consulted.

(c) Yes Sir. Standing rules already provide that the Survey Officer-in-Charge should consult local authorities and prominent citizens both as regards trade and industry in determining the most suitable route for the projected railway; Local members of the Provincial and Central Legislatures by virtue of their being elected to represent their areas come under the category of prominent citizens who are to be consulted.

#### MANUFACTURE OF CIGARETTES IN INDIA

**6. Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will the Honourable Member for Industries and Supplies, be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have taken steps for increasing and improving the manufacture of cigarettes in this country;

(b) the quantity of foreign cigarettes consumed in India, and its value during the years 1945, and 1946; and

(c) whether Government have taken into consideration the question of improving the manufacture of *biris* in the matter of their quality, and hygienic conditions for manufacture?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** (a) Proposals for the establishment of new factories or for expansion of the capacity of existing factories have been examined, and the issue of capital and the import of machinery have been sanctioned in a number of cases. Government are also collecting technical literature on the subject of cigarette manufacture. The question of setting up an organisation to bring to the notice of the Directorate General difficulties, technical or otherwise, which the industry might be experiencing and also to keep it generally in touch with developments and problems within the industry, is also engaging Government's attention.

(b) Imports of cigarettes during the financial years 1944-45 and 1945-46 for which figures are available were—

	1944-45	1945-46
(1) Quantity—		
(a) Weight . . . . .	7,657 lb.	1,15,239 lb.
(b) Numbers . . . . .	31,68,733	4,49,49,930
(2) Value . . . . .	Rs. 1,35,384	Rs. 8,96,794

(c) The question of improving the manufacture of *Bidis* in the matter of quality and hygienic conditions of manufacture is covered by the functions of the Central Tobacco Committee. The Committee expects to take up this question shortly when suitable Technical Officers become available.

#### FAIR PRICE OF SILK

**7. Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will the Honourable Member for Industries and Supplies be pleased to state, with reference to the answer to starred question No. 10 of the 28th October, 1946.

(a) how far Government have collected data for ascertaining the fair price of silk as mentioned in answer to part (b) of the said question;

(b) how far action referred to in answer to part (d) of the said question has been taken towards co-ordination between provinces and States in the matter of grading of silk and standardisation of quality and price;

(c) how the proposal for the setting up of a Central Advisory Planning Board stands;

(d) whether Government are aware that the price of silk has gone down during the last six months; if so, the reasons thereof, and the steps that Government are taking to counteract this fall in price; and

(e) the quantity of foreign silk, if any, which has come to this country during the last six months, and the steps taken by Government for controlling price of such silk with a view to protecting Indian silk from competitive price?

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** (a) Madras, Bengal, Mysore and Kashmir, which are the producing areas, were asked to furnish their costs of production. They furnished some figures which the Government of India did not consider satisfactory, and they have been approached again.

(b) Preliminary steps have been taken in this direction. A Raw Silk Warehouse Bill and a Silk-worm Diseases Control Bill have been drafted and circulated to various Provincial and State Governments for their opinion.

(c) The Central Advisory Planning Board has been formed and has transacted business.

(d) When control was removed the Bengal and Mysore prices shot up to about Rs. 80 or even Rs. 90 a pound. They have now come down to about Rs. 45 per pound which *prima facie* is a good price. The ceiling price before control was removed was Rs. 41 per pound. There is therefore no need for concern or any necessity to take any steps such as are suggested by the Honourable Member.

(e) A total quantity of 4½ lakhs pounds has been imported under licences during the last six months. India's annual requirements are about 45 lakh pounds as against an annual production of about 20 lakh pounds. There seems to be no necessity for taking action in the direction suggested by the Honourable Member. If and when there is a larger import to make up for the total requirements, the questions of restricting imports and the fixing of selling price for both indigenous and imported silk will be taken up.

#### RESTORATION OF TRAIN SERVICE BETWEEN CALCUTTA AND BERHAMPUR

**8. Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that till the latter part of the war period a pair of up and down trains used to serve the Ranaghat-Laigola line upto Krishnapur in Murshidabad covering on the way the headquarters and other important places of the district of Murshidabad and some important places of the district of Nadia;

(b) whether Government are aware that the down train used to leave Berhampur (the headquarters of Murshidabad) early in the morning before or about daybreak and used to reach Calcutta at the office time, and similarly the up train used to leave Calcutta after office hours reaching Berhampur about ten in the night;

(c) whether Government have considered the question of restoration of these trains in view of the continued demand of the travelling public for such restoration; and

(d) whether as an alternative to restoration of such trains Government have considered the extension of a pair (Up and Down) of Krishnagar local trains upto Krishnapur, making such trains as fast trains stopping at and serving comparatively important stations between Calcutta and Krishnapur?



**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** (a) **Yes.** The trains concerned, namely Krishnapur local trains were cancelled between Krishnagar City and Krishnapur as a war emergency measure from the 1st April, 1942.

(b) **Yes.** The Up local train used to leave Calcutta at 16-56 hrs. and arrive at Krishnapur at 22-55 hrs. The Down local train used to leave Krishnapur at 03-23 hrs. and arrive at Calcutta at 09-25 hrs.

(c) and (d). The Bengal Assam Railway administration have considered both these proposals, but to adopt them would involve the use of additional coaching stock and engines which unfortunately are not available at present.

**DEMAND OF POSTAL STRIKERS AT THE LAST POSTAL STRIKE re THE DISMISSED.**

**I. N. A. MEN**

**9. Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal:** (a) Will the Secretary of the Communications Department please state the demands that were put forward by the postal strikers at the last general postal strike?

(b) Which of the demands have been referred to the Central Pay Commission, and what is the attitude of Government with regard to the other demands?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the demands set forth included a demand for the restoration to service of the Indian National Army men and of the postal employees (now popularly known as the Dimapore staff) who were dismissed for having refused to proceed to the war zones on the ground that adequate protection was not provided; if so, how have Government dealt with those demands?

**Sir Harold Shoobert:** (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the table of the House.

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

*Statement.*

The demands contained in the Notice of strike served by the All-India Postmen and Lower Grade (including R.M.S.) Staff Union before it called the strike.

[*Overing reply to part (a)*]

1. The scales of pay of all the officials, in the P. & T. Department below the clerical cadre should be revised as shown below:—

	Rs.
I. Clerks promoted from postmen . . . . .	100—5—200
II. Overseers, Readers, Sorting postmen and mail guards . . . . .	93—5—130
III. Postmen and Linemen . . . . .	40—2—80
IV. RMS and Hall Jamadars . . . . .	45—2—55
V. Packers, Porters and Van peons and Telegraph messengers, and runners . . . . .	30—1—45
VI. Boy peons . . . . .	20—1—25
VII. Mail drivers . . . . .	100—10—15
VIII. Telegraph Sub-Inspectors . . . . .	85—5—140
IX. Telegraph Line Inspectors . . . . .	150—10—200

2. The existing leave rules for the postmen and lower grade staff should be abolished and substituted by those in existence prior to 1931.

3. All distinction in the matter of leave and pension rules between the superior and inferior servants of the P. & T. Department should be abolished and the term (Inferior) servants should be abolished.

4. Officials of the P. & T. Department, who have acted in higher grades satisfactorily for a year or more should be confirmed in those higher grades without any examination.

5. The percentage of posts in the clerical cadre reserved for candidates from postmen obtaining qualifying marks in the test should be raised from 20 per cent. to 50 per cent. as before, and the posts be reserved for the departmental candidates in the same way as for the minority candidates.

6. There should be no retrenchment of any employee and those who have already been retrenched should be reinstated on the same terms.

7. The number of holidays in the P. & T. Department should be the same as in the other Departments of the Central Government.

8. All work done on Sundays and Postal Holidays should be compensated by the grant of overtime allowance.

9. A Gratuity calculated at the rate of one month's pay for one year of service, should be granted to the family of an employee who dies before earning pension.

10. All the distinction in the matter of pay, leave, dearness and other allowances and privileges between A, B & C areas should be abolished and all areas should be treated as A areas.

11. The practice recently introduced of compelling employees in permanent service of many years' standing to undergo medical examination at the time of their confirmation in the higher grades in which they have been officiating be immediately stopped, and all those who have suffered on account of this requirement should be confirmed without this examination.

12. Adequate leave reserved should be provided so as to ensure that departmental candidates who have served satisfactorily for one year or more should be confirmed and their temporary service should be counted towards pension.

[Covering reply to part (b)]

Demands 1, 2, 3 (as far as it concerns leave rules), 7, 9, and 10 are within the purview of the Central Pay Commission. With regard to the other demands the attitude of the Government is as shown below :

*Demand 3.*—The distinction in the matter of pensions has been removed. Government have also agreed that the term 'Inferior Servants' shall be abolished.

*Demand 4.*—Orders have issued that postmen, etc., who have acted in the clerical grades for 12 months consecutively and have earned fully satisfactory reports may be confirmed in those grades, and that packers, etc., who have acted in the cadre of postmen or in similar cadres satisfactorily for a period of three years consecutively may be confirmed.

*Demand 5.*—Orders have issued that 50 per cent. vacant posts may be filled in any one year by candidates from among postmen and lower grade staff who qualify in the prescribed test. Posts within this 50 per cent. reservation, for which sufficient Postmen, etc., do not qualify in any year, will be filled permanently by outside candidates; vacancies will not be carried over to the next year.

*Demand 6.*—If any fully qualified temporary employee recruited before the 15th September, 1945, is displaced for any reason such as reduction of the number of posts, return of a permanent incumbent from field service or deputation, etc., he shall be offered an appointment in any unit of recruitment in the same Circle in which there are vacancies.

*Demand 8.*—Any postmen or packer who is required to work on Sunday, or postal holiday without being allowed a compensatory holiday shall be paid an additional Re. 1 for that day.

*Demand 11.*—Government are willing to cancel such orders, if any actually exist.

*Demand 12.*—Leave reserves for postmen and for lower grade staff has been sanctioned.

#### ACREAGE OF LONG STAPLE AND SHORT STAPLE COTTON IN INDIA

10. **Mr. Vadilal Lalubhai:** Will the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture please state:

(a) the acreage under different varieties of cotton both long staple and short staple in India since 1939 onwards;

(b) the respective yield per acre of these varieties since 1939 onward;

(c) the use of these varieties in cotton textile factories since 1939 onwards; and

(d) the total stocks of each variety at the end of each season?

**Sir Pheroze Kharegat:** A statement showing the available information based on the figures given in the Statistical leaflets published by the Indian Central Cotton Committee is laid on the table.

Years	Acreege (Thousand acres)			Yield per acre (lbs.)		
	7/8" and above	Below 7/8"	Total	7/8" and above	Below 7/8"	Total
1939-40	6,805	14,775	21,580	109	83	91
1940-41	7,374	15,937	23,311	122	96	104
1941-42	8,957	15,194	24,151	127	89	103
1942-43	10,704	8,499	19,203	108	86	98½
1943-44	11,531	9,555	21,086	115	81	100
1944-45	8,754	6,089	14,843	109	79	96
1945-46	Not avail able		14,478	Not available		95

*Consumption and stocks of Indian Cotton*

(Thousand bales of net weight of 392 lbs. each)

Year ending 31st August	Consumption of Indian Cotton in Indian Mills			Stocks of Indian Cotton held in India by the Mills and the trade		
	7/8" and above	Below 7/8"	Total	7/8" and above	Below 7/8"	Total
1939-40	1,711	1,401	3,112	854	1,117	1,97½
1940-41	2,027	1,664	3,691	1,063	1,638	2,701
1941-42	2,280	1,827	4,107	1,359	1,891	3,250
1942-43	2,895	1,499	4,394	1,859	1,849	3,708
1943-44	2,862	1,341	4,203	2,612	2,099	4,711
1944-45	3,083	1,161	4,244	2,668	2,128	4,796
1945-46	Not available		3,950	Not Available		

**SURVEY ESTIMATES re THE PROPOSED ALNAVAR-HALIYAL-YELLAPUR-KARWAR LINE ON THE M. & S. M. RAILWAY**

11. **Shri D. P. Karmarkar:** Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in respect of the proposed Alnavar-Haliyal-Yellapur-Karwar line on the M. & S. M. Railway; and

(b) whether survey estimates have been sanctioned for the said project and if not, the probable date by which they will be sanctioned?

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** (a) The survey investigations of the Alnavar-Haliyal-Yellapur-Karwar project have been postponed for the present, since preliminary investigations reveal that. (i) the passenger traffic over the line, if constructed, is expected to be negligible. and (ii) the prospects of goods traffic, which depend entirely on traffic from forest industries, are not expected to be very bright, since the Forest Department schemes are unlikely to develop for another five or ten years.

(b) No survey estimates have been sanctioned for the said project in view of the reasons given in part (a) above.

## CONSTITUTION OF OILSEEDS COMMITTEE

12. **Prof. N. G. Ranga:** (a) Will the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture be pleased to state if the Oilseeds Committee, to be appointed in accordance with the provision contained in the Oilseeds Act of 1946 has been constituted?

(b) If so, when is it going to meet?

(c) In view of the new controls over the prices of oil-seeds, cake and oil, do Government propose to convene a meeting of the Committee at an early date to discuss these controls?

**Sir Pheroze Kharegat:** (a) The Committee will be constituted as soon as the representatives thereon of the Legislative Assembly and the Council of State have been elected.

(b) It will meet soon after it is constituted.

(c) The item will be included in the agenda of the first meeting of the Committee.

## STATEMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE.

[INFORMATION PROMISED IN REPLY TO CERTAIN QUESTIONS DURING THE PREVIOUS SESSIONS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY—LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE TO-DAY].

*Mr. Manu Subedar's Starred Question No. 102 (d) of 8th February, 1946.*

## PREFERENCE FOR GOODS MADE IN INDIA

*Statement of orders placed outside India by the Industries and Supplies Department, since 1st January, 1945, for the requirements of (1) Railways (ii) War Department, (iii) Other Departments of the Government of India and (iv) Provincial Governments, etc., and which relate to materials and products which were secured in India during the period of the War.*

Store	Approximate value	Indentor	Remarks
Paper Toilet Tissue . . .	Rs. 1,48,525 .	Other Departments of the Government of India, clause (iii) above.	Although this variety of paper is manufactured in India, the supplies available in India were short of the total demand. The import therefore, represents the gap between the demand and availability from indigenous sources

*Shri Mohan Lal Saksena's Unstarred Question No. 34 of 12th February, 1946*

## EXPENDITURE ON PUBLICITY FILMS

Part (i) —			
Provincial Year	No. of films	produced Cost	Remarks
		Rs,	
1942-43 . . .	28	4,80,000	} Figures in these years include Indian News Parade started in September, 1943; These figures include Cartoon Film Unit as well as Indian News Parade.
1943-44 . . .	62	5,25,000	
1944-45 . . .	97	10,64,000	
1945-46 . . .	92	13,21,320	
	279	33,90,320	

*Part (ii).*—During the period to which the question relates external publicity was conducted through the media of Films, Press, Magazines and Radio. The table below shows the expenditure incurred on external publicity during the last four years—

Financial year	Amount	
	Rs.	
1942-43 . . . . .	9,65,382	
1943-44 . . . . .	13,05,631	
1944-45 . . . . .	19,30,588	
1945-46 . . . . .	30,05,817	
<b>Total</b>	<b>72,07,418</b>	<b>Appx.</b>

These figures do not include expenditure on copies of 'Indian Information' (three editions), photographs, press release, etc. supplied to foreign centres. These items are produced primarily for consumption in India and it is difficult to apportion the cost between the copies distributed in India and those sent abroad. Nor do the above figures include the expenditure on 'News From India' (distributed to foreign centres) which has not been printed so far, copies being cyclostyled in the Press Information Bureau on paper supplied free by the Controller of Printing & Stationery. Postage charges are also not included in the above figures as no separate account has been maintained in respect of external services. Similarly it is not possible to calculate the expenditure on the staff engaged on external services as before December, 1945 a No. of Sections and Officers were engaged part time on external services.

*Part (iii)*—

Financial year	Amount	
	Rs.	
1942-43 . . . . .	6,09,828	5 0
1943-44 . . . . .	10,03,288	5 0
1944-45 . . . . .	7,57,362	3 0
1945-46 . . . . .	12,57,499	8 0
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,27,978</b>	<b>5 0 or</b>
		<b>36,27,978</b>

The remaining information is not readily available and the time and labour involved in its collection should be incommensurate with the value of the results.

*Sri V. Gangaraju's Starred Question No. 750 (a) of 6th March, 1946*

#### REFUSAL OF FACILITIES TO DETAINED INDIANS IN BURMA TO RETURN TO INDIA

There were no Indian convicts serving sentences in any way connected with the war at the end of February, 1946.

*Mr. Manu Subedar's Starred Question No. 769 (a) of 6th March, 1946*

#### RELEASE OF PERSONNEL FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

Statement showing the total No. of men, temporary and permanent who are to be released in 1946 from (i) the Defence Department, including Army, Navy and Air Force, (ii) Railways and (iii) other Departments of the Government.

Departments, etc.	Number due to be released
(i) Defence Department including Army, Navy and Air Force.	10,31,020
(ii) Railways (excluding Indian State Railways).	3,540
(iii) Other Department of Government	30,447
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,65,007</b>

*Supplementaries to Babu Ram Narayan Singh's Starred Question No. 1596 of 5th April, 1947.*

#### GOVERNMENT MONOPOLY OF PURCHASE AND SALE OF LAC

*Mr. Manu Subedar's supplementaries*

(i) Prices of Shellac at Calcutta, the Chief marketing place for shellac, during the pre-war period ranged between Rs. 13 to 17-2-0 per maund as indicated below:—

Year	End of June	End of December
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1938 . . . . .	13 12 0	17 8 0
1939 . . . . .	13 0 0	38 0 0

Price of shellac were brought under Government control in 1942, and ranged between Rs. 51 and 64 per maund according to the kind and quality of lac. These prices were revised in 1943, and ranged similarly between Rs. 53 to 71 per maund. The 1943 price were in force till May, 1946, when the control was withdrawn. A copy of the late Industries and Civil Supplies Department Notification No. CS-62/43, dated the 23rd July, 1943, containing the schedule of maximum prices is attached. (Statement I.)

(ii) Yes. Prices of shellac (T.N.) from August, 1939, increased much more than the general price level of other manufactured articles. After the revision of prices of Shellac in the end of July, 1943, the Shellac price index stood at 507 against 251.8 for manufactured articles in August, 1943. Thereafter the shellac price Index continued at 507 while that for manufactured articles did not rise beyond 252.4. After cancellation of the Control Order in May, 1946, the price index for Shellac shot up to 1,074 in July 1946, while that for manufactured articles went down to 250.5 in that month. A statement of Index numbers of wholesale prices in India since August, 1939, compiled by the Economic Adviser is attached. (Statement II).

*Babu Ram Narayan Singh's supplementary.*

The Control over Shellac was withdrawn in May, 1946.

*Mr. Manu Subedar's supplementary.*

Does not arise.

*Sreejut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri's supplementary.*

Shellac is not collected but manufactured from Lac. No monopoly right for collecting lac has ever been sold by His Excellency the Governor of Assam in the excluded areas of Assam.

STATEMENT I

(Gazette of India Extraordinary)

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES & CIVIL SUPPLIES.

NOTIFICATION.

PRICES AND SUPPLIES

New Delhi, the 23rd July, 1943.

No. C. S. 62/43.—In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (b) of sub-rule (2) of Rule 81 of the Defence of India Rules, the Central Government is pleased to direct that the following further amendment shall be made in the notification of the Government of India in the Department of Commerce No. P. & S. C. 230/42, dated the 14th July 1942, as amended by their Notification No. P. & S. C. 230/42, dated the 17th December 1942, namely:—

For the Table annexed to the said notification, the following Table shall be substituted, namely:—

TABLE

Serial No.	Kind and quality of lac	Place	Maximum price per maund of 82 2/7 lbs.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	Shellac T. N.	Calcutta	Rs. 71.
2	Shellac T. N.	Any other place	Such price as the Provincial Government may determine having regard to the normal relation between the prices at such place and at Calcutta.
3	Any quality of button lac, garnet lac or Shellac other than Shellac T. N.	Calcutta and any other place.	Such prices as the Provincial Government may determine having regard to the normal relation between the prices of such kind or quality of lac and Shellac T. N.

Serial No	Kind and quality of lac	Place	Maximum price per maund of 82 2/7 lbs
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
4	Genuine Kusmi Seedlac 3% No. 1 Quality.	Calcutta	Rs. 66.
5	Genuine Kusmi Seedlac 3% No. 2 Quality.	Calcutta	Rs. 64.
6	Fine Baisakhi Seedlac 3/4%	Calcutta	Rs. 58.
7	Good Baisakhi Seedlac under 5%	Calcutta	Rs. 55.
8	Ordinary Baisakhi Seedlac 5/7%	Calcutta	Rs. 53.
9	Any of the kinds of qualities specified in Serial Nos. 4 to 8.	Any place other than Calcutta.	Such price as the Provincial Government may determine, having regard to the normal relation between the prices of the kind or quality of Seedlac concerned at such place and at Calcutta.

M. S. A. HYDARI,

Secretary to the Government of India.

#### STATEMENT II

Statement showing Economic Adviser's Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in India.  
(Base : 19th August 1939=100.)

Months	Shellac T. N.	Manufactured articles
August, 1939	100	100.0
September	134	110.4
October	134	119.1
November	170	136.0
December.	241	144.5
January, 1940	230	140.4
February	180	136.6
March	198	133.9
April	185	132.1
May	179	130.2
June	161	120.0
July	145	114.6
August	169	112.4
September	157	111.6
October	160	112.4
November	194	117.4
December.	218	119.7
January, 1941	210	121.4
February	176	121.0
March	197	127.2
April	217	132.3
May	210	135.4
June	290	142.9
July	414	151.8
August	412	160.1
September	406	166.3
October	432	164.1
November	446	165.1
December.	404	157.8

Months	Shellac T. N.	Manufactured articles.
January, 1942 . . . . .	485	161.4
February . . . . .	482	162.3
March . . . . .	457	162.5
April . . . . .	461	162.5
May . . . . .	356	160.0
June . . . . .	412	166.5
July . . . . .	442	172.7
August . . . . .	457	174.6
September . . . . .	457	179.2
October . . . . .	457	188.5
November . . . . .	457	203.6
December . . . . .	457	221.5
January 1943 . . . . .	457	224.1
February . . . . .	457	225.5
March . . . . .	457	227.0
April . . . . .	457	235.6
May . . . . .	457	246.8
June . . . . .	457	257.5
July . . . . .	457	250.5
August . . . . .	507	251.8
September . . . . .	507	251.3
October . . . . .	507	255.8
November . . . . .	507	256.9
December . . . . .	507	251.8
January, 1944 . . . . .	507	251.2
February . . . . .	507	251.0
March . . . . .	507	252.3
April . . . . .	507	261.2
May . . . . .	507	262.5
June . . . . .	507	259.3
July . . . . .	507	260.7
August . . . . .	507	262.4
September . . . . .	507	259.0
October . . . . .	507	255.8
November . . . . .	507	255.7
December . . . . .	507	256.8
January, 1945 . . . . .	507	257.1
February . . . . .	507	255.7
March . . . . .	507	253.7
April . . . . .	507	239.6
May . . . . .	507	239.0
June . . . . .	507	240.7
July . . . . .	507	242.5
August . . . . .	507	243.9
September . . . . .	507	242.9
October . . . . .	507	242.8
November . . . . .	507	236.0
December . . . . .	507	235.8
January, 1946 . . . . .	507	237.3
February . . . . .	507	239.2
March . . . . .	507	242.8
April . . . . .	507	240.6
May . . . . .	507	239.2
June . . . . .	929	240.0
July . . . . .	1074	250.5

*Seth Govind Das's Starred Question No. 42 (c) of 28th October, 1946.*

PROMOTIONS IN BENGAL NAGPUR RAILWAY.

Outsiders are not appointed direct to the posts of Claims Inspectors and there are no posts of Labour Inspectors under the administrative control of the General Manager, Bengal



Nagpur Railway. The Honourable Member is presumably referring to posts of Labour Inspectors under the Labour Department, appointment to which is not an avenue of promotion for railway employees. Government understand that, in 1941, when the B. N. Railway was under company management, a scheme was introduced in order to meet difficulties which the Railway Administration were experiencing in finding suitable persons to fill the posts of Assistant Yard Masters, and Yard Masters, which consisted in recruiting apprentices up to a maximum of six at a time from outside the Railway and giving them a training to fit them for filling Assistant Yard Masters and Yard Masters' posts. These apprentices were given no guarantee of employment on completion of their apprenticeship. Due consideration was also given to suitable Yard Foremen and Assistant Yard Masters, who had reached their respective ranks by promotion from lower grades, for promotion as Assistant Yard Masters and Yard Masters respectively. Direct recruitment to intermediate grades, such as those of Yard Master and Assistant Yard Master on Indian Government Railways is governed by the provisions of rule 1 (a) of Appendix II to the State Railway Establishment Code, Volume I, a copy of which is in the Library of the House, and by the instructions of the Railway Board to the effect that such recruitment should be resorted to up to a limit of 20 per cent. of the vacancies occurring in any particular year in certain specified categories. The B. N. Railway, which is now a Government Railway, is required to conform to these instructions and the question whether its practice involves a departure from the provisions of the instructions is being examined in consultation with the Railway Administration.

*Supplementaries to Seth Yusuf Abdoola Haroon's and Sardar Mangal Singh's Starred Question No. 51 of 29th October, 1946.*

**RESTRICTIONS ON THE ENTRY OF INDIANS INTO BURMA.**

Indians do not require passports for entry into Burma and the External Affairs Department is not therefore concerned. The only form of control exercised in the matter of passages is that shipping companies are under instructions to issue tickets for Burma only to (a) evacuees holding identity certificates issued by the prescribed local authority (who is normally the District Magistrate) and (b) persons holding sponsoring certificates issued by the Commonwealth Relations Department.

Indian businessmen are under no special disability as compared with British businessmen because those who make out a case can readily get a sponsoring certificate. In present circumstances, however, the Burma Government are reluctant to admit businessmen having no previous connexion with that country.

*Seth Sukhdeo's Starred Question No. 112 (c) of 31st October, 1946*

**HOLIDAYS TO ADMINISTRATION CLERKS IN THE SIND AREA OF N. W. RAILWAY.**

Government are now informed that the number of holidays shown against the Karachi Division of the North Western Railway in the reply to part (b) of the question was exclusive of two holidays which fell on Sundays, whereas these two holidays, though falling on Sundays, were included in the total number of holidays enjoyed on the other Divisions. The total number of holidays shown against Karachi Division should, therefore, be 25 against 27 allowed on other Divisions. Further, the 10th January 1946, which was Guru Gobind Singh Birthday, was declared as a holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act in the Punjab, whereas it was treated as a sectional holiday by the Sind Government and also by the Divisional Superintendent, Karachi. The small difference between the total number of holidays in 1946, granted on the Karachi Division and those allowed on other Divisions of the North Western Railway is due to the difference in local conditions obtaining in the respective areas.

*Seth Yusuf Abdoola Haroon's Starred Question No. 367 (b) of 11th November 1946.*

**TEA ROOMS AT TANDO ADAM STATION ON N. W. RAILWAY.**

Further information received from the Railway Administration reveals that the contract was transferred following a census of passengers taken at Tando Adam which showed that Hindus predominated in the traffic passing through the station. The present contract is due to expire on the 13th July 1947, but it can be terminated by the Railway Administration at any time by giving one month's notice. It is considered advisable, however, having regard to the assurance given by the General Manager, North Western Railway, as quoted in my reply to part (c) of the question, to allow the present contract to run its course.

*Captain Syed Abid Hussain's Starred Questions Nos. 396 and 397 of 11th November, 1946.*

SHORTAGE OF THIRD CLASS TICKETS ON MALAKWAL-SHORKOT ROAD LINE ON  
N. W. RAILWAY

No. 396.—(a) Yes. There was shortage of printed third class card tickets at a few stations on the Malakwal-Shorkot Road section of the North Western Railway.

(b) In some instances third class paper tickets are reported to have been issued to batches of passengers and it is possible that this caused some inconvenience to the travelling public. No complaints, have, however, been received by the North Western Railway Administration.

(c) Yes. In actual practice, however, if at the destination station the holder of a paper ticket is not traceable, the ticket checking staff, in levying fares and penalty, would take into account the evidence of fellow passengers, especially when it is known that a shortage of printed tickets exists.

(d) The staff have been warned that they must strictly comply with the standing orders that indents for tickets are to be placed sufficiently in advance. Printed tickets are being supplied to stations who have run short thereof.

RIVAZ BRIDGE ON N. W. RAILWAY.

No. 397.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes, but the road is kutcha.

(c) Information about an alternative road crossing in a radius of 30 miles is not available, but it is probably true that there is none. The amount of road traffic passing over the bridge has not been ascertained by taking a census.

(d) Yes, the bridge is closed from sunset to sunrise. It is open during the following hours of day light—

Summer—6 A.M. to 12 NOON & 2 P.M. to 7 P.M.

Winter—7 A.M. to 6 P.M.

(e) The question of throwing open the bridge to road traffic at night has not so far arisen, but if the Punjab Government agree to accept the additional recurring and initial expenditure on account of extra staff, quarters and lighting, the proposal would be considered.

*Pandit Shri Krishna Dutt Paliwal's Unstarred Question No. 58 of 11th November, 1946.*

ACTION OF GOODS INSPECTOR, BELANGANJ STATION AGRA, IN THE MATTER OF SHORT  
SUPPLY OF FUEL AND COAL.

(a) No. Restrictions were placed on the booking of goods traffic to Belanganj on the following occasions—

(i) from 19th August, 1946, for four days,

(ii) from 27th September, 1946, to 23rd October, 1946.

The restriction imposed in August, was due to a sudden increase in the traffic received at Belanganj, especially of timber from the Central Provinces, and to the difficulty experienced by merchants in arranging for labour and carts for removing the goods already received. The restrictions in September, and October, 1946, were due to communal disturbances in Agra and were imposed on the advice of the Civil authorities. At present the position is normal and traffic can be booked freely to Belanganj.

(b) There is normally no shortage of space at Belanganj. In August, 1946, difficulty was experienced for four days in regard to accommodation on account of goods lying under-livered in the depot, which included 44 wagons of timber; these have been removed and the position is now normal.

(c) No further action is necessary.

*Mr. Manu Subedar's Starred Question No. 471 (d) of 13th November, 1946.*

EMPLOYMENT IN PRIVATE FIRMS OF HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICERS

As far as Government are aware, 21 officers of the status of Deputy Secretary and above have, during the last five years, left Government service, or retired, and have taken up employment with private firms. Their names are given in attached statement.

Statement showing the number of officers of the Government of India of the status of Deputy Secretary and above, who have during the last five years left Government service or retired and taken up employment with private firms.

Department of the Government of India in which employed.	Number and names of officers.	
Political Department	1	Lt. Col. Sir Geoffrey Betham, C.I.E., M.C.
Finance Department	3	Mr. V. S. Sundaram, Mr. S. P. Verma, C.I.E. Mr. P. C. Shaudhury, C.I.E.
Railway Department	13	Mr. L. N. Flatt. Sir L. P. Misra. Mr. R. Boner. Mr. R. Lean. Mr. V. N. Rowsell. Mr. H. Hinton Cooper. Mr. W. A. Anderson. Mr. W. R. Oaten. Mr. W. R. Maunder. R. B. N. K. Mitra. Mr. H. J. Mulleneux. Mr. P. S. Clarke. Mr. P. D. Low.
Communications Department	3	Sir Gurunath V. Bewoor, K.C.I.E. Mr. J. H. Owens, C.I.E., M.B.E. Col. Diwan Bahadur G. N. Naidu, O.B.E.
Transport Department and Industries and Supplies Department.	1	Sir S. N. Roy, C.I.E., I.C.S.
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>

Lala Deshbandhu Gupta's, Starred Question No. 486, [parts (a) and (b)] of 13th November, 1946

#### CANCELLATION OF FIRE ARMS LICENCES IN DELHI PROVINCE

Statement I.—List of cancelled licenses from 9th August, 1942 upto 7th December, 1945.

Serial No.	Name of the licenses.	Date of cancellation	Reason for cancellation.
1	L. Maha Shanker Dayal, House No. 5700, Daryaganj, Delhi:	30-9-42	Surrendered the license at his own accord.
2	G. S. Pereira, Area Rationing Authority, Delhi.	29-10-42	Weapon sold to Pioneer Arms, Co
3	2/Lt. D. A. Fox C/o Messrs. Mantone.	17-11-42	Weapon sold.
4	Col. A. A. Phillips 2, Rajpur Road, Delhi.	3-12-42	Weapon sold.
5	Dr. Dawarka Pershad . . . .	22-12-42	Weapon sold and license surrendered.
6	J. N. Ghosh Esquire . . . .	18-11-42	Weapon sold.
7	B. Ganga Bishan . . . .	1-2-43	Licensee died.
8	Dr. Charan Dass H. M. B. 111, Baird Road, New Delhi.	1-2-43	This license was for the first time submitted for renewal at Delhi in November, 1942 prior to which it was renewed from Simla year after year. A reference to the D. M. Simla was made who suggested the cancellation of the license saying that Dr. Dass does not seem well qualified for the possession of an arms license.
9	Capt. P. A. K. Wardroper, C/o Messrs. Mantons.	29-1-43	Weapon sold.
10	Major H. P. E. Waters, G. H. Q., New Delhi	18-1-43	Do.
11	Lt. Col. J. F. R. Forman, Hotel Cecil, Delhi	13-1-43	Do.
12	W. R. Fennant, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.	10-2-43	Weapon sold to his nephew.
13	S/Ldr. P. M. Wigg, C/o Mantons	19-2-43	Weapon sold.
14	Mr. Henery Richards Darya Ganj, Delhi	22-2-43	Do.

Serial No.	Name of the licensee	Date of cancellation.	Reason for cancellation
15	Mr. J. S. Hardman, I.C.S., Chairman D. I. T., New Delhi.	3-3-43	The S. D. O. Patna issued a fresh license.
16	Supati Nath Mittar . . . . .	19-4-43	Weapon sold license surrendered.
17	Mr. Mehta Pershad C/o Mantons . . . . .	10-5-43	Weapon sold.
18	Mr. W. Wittakar, I.A.S., The Fort, Delhi	9-5-43	Do.
19	Jatendra Lall, Connaught Circus, New Delhi	3-7-43	Do.
20	Mr. H. C. Beclston . . . . .	25-9-43	Do.
21	Lt. Col. H. E. C. Smith, 2, Hastings Road, New Delhi.	3-7-43	Do.
22	Capt. Kifayat Ali R.A. (a) G. H. Q., New Delhi.	17-8-43	Do.
23	Molvi Said Ahmed, Kucha Pandit, Delhi . . . . .	9-5-43	The licensee submitted the license in November, 1942 for renewal for the first time. A report whether there was any objection to the renewal was called for from the last renewing authority (i.e., the D. M. Simla). He informed that he does not think it proper to let the license continue in the name of Molvi Sahib.
24	Sher Khan, Dea Nagar, Qarol Bagh, Delhi . . . . .	20-5-43	Gun lost license cancelled.
25	K. S. S. Dabir Ali 2145 Chiruwalan Street, Delhi.	14-10-43	Licensee died.
26	Hav. Dayal Singh, Sanitary Patrol, N.C.A..	24-9-43	Gun lost.
27	D. D. Sabiris 221, Rouse Avenue, New Delhi	4-1-44	Weapon sold.
28	Capt. I. Rawland, R.A., Lytton Road, New Delhi.	4-1-44	Do.
29	Harish Chand Mittal, Esq., Sub-Judge, Delhi.	10-1-44	Do.
30	S. K. Kirpalani, Esq., C/o M/s. Mantons . . . . .	31-3-44	Do.
31	S. Jaswant Singh 17, Rohtak Road, Delhi . . . . .	21-4-44	He was granted a revolver license in his capacity as Manager of a bank which appointment he resigned later on. The licensee then became a contractor and the license was withdrawn on the suggestion of the S. S. P.
32	Lt. Col. S. S. Gibbs, 80/1, The Mall, Delhi . . . . .	1-5-44	Weapon sold.
33	Chail Behari Lall Mathur, 1283 Chailpuri Street, Delhi.	9-5-44	Gun sold license surrendered.
34	Mr. H. F. Marrington, 65, Pandara Road, New Delhi.	8-5-44	Weapon sold.
35	L. Mith Lall 877 Naiwara, Delhi . . . . .	18-5-44	D. M. Refused renewal as the licensee was involved in a case.
36	Col. C. L. Bilderback, I.M.S., Civil Hotel, Delhi.	11-5-44	Weapon sold.
37	Mrs. W. M. Smith, 32, Feroz Shah Road, New Delhi.	19-2-44	Do.
38	Miss M. A. Briant . . . . .	7-3-44	A new license issued by the Resident in Mysore.
39	Lt. Col. A. H. Crowther, C/o Mantons . . . . .	17-2-44	Weapon sold.
40	Abdul Gafur Khan . . . . .	17-3-44	Licensee died.
41	Col. J. F. Fea, c/o Mantons . . . . .	9-2-44	Weapon sold.
42	M. N. A. Hashmie, Esq. . . . .	19-2-44	A new license issued in Mysore state.
43	Dr. W. M. Smith, 32, Ferozeshah Road, New Delhi.	23-3-44	Do.
44	Mr. L. V. Kusy, Connaught Place, New Delhi.	23-3-44	Weapon sold.
45	Lt. J. A. White Head, C/o Mantons Co. . . . .	10-6-44	Do.
46	Mr. S. N. Bose, Gurdwara Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi.	14-6-44	Licensee died.
47	N. V. H. Symons, Esq., I.C.S. . . . .	20-6-44	Weapon sold.
48	Capt. H. E. Gettey . . . . .	27-6-44	Do.
49	Major A. W. Pringle C/o Mantons . . . . .	27-6-44	Do.

Serial No.	Name of the licensee.	Date of cancellation.	Reason for cancellation.
50	Capt. F. M. Gilbertson, 17, Tuglak Road, New Delhi.	22-9-44	Weapon sold.
51	Malvi Ashaq Ali, C/o Elahee Bux & Co.	14-10-44	Licensee died.
52	Major E. J. Wakefield	20-10-44	Licensee died.
53	Mrs. Twigg, 27 Narindra Place, New Delhi.	3-7-44	Weapon sold.
54	S. Ahmed Said, 5/71 W. E. A. Karol Bagh, Delhi.	15-8-44	Do.
55	Mr. Lorell Itadson, C/o Mantons	27-7-44	Do.
56	Mr. A. N. Anja	7-9-44	Licensee died.
57	Capt. F. M. Gilbertson 17, Tuglak Road, New Delhi.	22-9-44	Weapon sold.
58	Bhola Pershad, Subzimandi, Delhi	21-9-44	Licensee did not purchase a gun within the time allowed.
59	Capt. C. H. Water	22-11-44	Weapon sold.
60	Capt. W. C. Robert, 24, Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi.	22-7-44	Do.
61	Lt. Col. I. Revans	24-8-44	Do.
62	H. C. Prior, Esq., I.C.S., C/o Mantons	15-12-44	Do.
63	Mr. J. C. W. Raid	8-12-44	Do.
64	Mr. W. Gobbett	16-12-44	Do.
65	Mrs. S. Smith	4-12-44	Do.
66	Capt. M. L. Gujra	14-12-44	Do.
67	Hrishikesh Sur, Esq.	13-12-44	Do.
68	Mr. A. D. Shamshi, 8, Talkatora Road, New Delhi.	12-1-45	Licensee died.
69	H. C. Pennick, 7, Sri Ram Road, Delhi.	19-2-45	Weapon sold.
70	K. Ubaid Ullah, New Delhi	27-1-45	Do.
71	Dr. R. S. Bemmi, Subzimandi, Delhi.	25-4-45	The licensee did not renew his license for three years.
72	Col. J. R. James	20-2-45	Weapon sold.
73	S. Mohd. Hussain Sahib	29-2-45	Do.
74	Dr. R. B. Saxena	5-3-45	Do.
75	Major W. M. N. Haslam	29-3-45	Do.
76	Dr. Zuaillaha Quereshi	17-5-45	Do.
77	W. Whiltakar	19-5-45	Do.
78	M.M.H. Noah	2-6-45	Licensee died.
79	Major D. B. Ronald	23-6-45	Weapon sold.
80	H. J. Jennings	23-6-45	Do.
81	Mr. S. A. Nizami	23-6-45	did not purchase a gun within the time allowed.
82	Capt. S. H. Gay	23-6-45	weapon sold.
83	Mr. G. Ahmed	27-6-45	weapon sold.
84	H. Ahmed Esq.	27-6-45	weapon sold.
85	Lt. Col. C. J. Fox	10-6-45	Licensee died.
86	Pt. Mool Chand	11-7-45	late submission for renewal ever after warning.
87	Capt. W. K. Williams	17-7-45	weapon sold.
88	S. Sunder Singh	31-7-45	Licensee died.
89	Abdul Majid Khan	31-7-45	Licensee died.
90	Lt. Col. R. H. S. England.	3-8-45	weapon sold.
91	Lt. Col. G. C. Richards	3-8-45	weapon sold.
92	Brig. J. E. Chuttar Buck	14-8-45	weapon sold.
93	Mohinder Singh	24-8-45	Gun sold.
94	The Manager-Punjab National Bank, New Delhi.	25-8-45	did not purchase the weapon.
95	Mr. V. Vasugar	29-8-45	Weapon sold.
96	S./Ltd. J. J. G. Simpler	29-8-45	Weapon sold.
97	Mr. D. L. Webb	28-8-45	Weapon sold.
98	M. M. Ahmed, 34 Prem House, Connaught Place, New Delhi.	3-8-45	He left the Gun to his brother Mustaq Ahmed a local agitator during his absence from Delhi.
99	Mr. Sis Ram, V. Singola	15-8-45	Could not get a gun.
100	Mr. W. H. Ranlauds	29-8-45	weapon sold.
101	Shni Khur-hid Begum	22-8-45	Licensee died.
102	Mrs. C. H. M. Rose	4-9-45	weapon sold.
103	Ch. Yad Ram Zaidar, V. Bajidpur Shakaran	27-9-45	weapon sold.
104	Major Chand N. Dass	13-9-45	Weapon sold.

Serial No.	Name of the licensee.	Date of cancellation.	Reason for cancellation
105	Major F. Farris	12-9-45	Weapon sold.
106	Dr. Sukh Dayal	25-9-45	Licensee died.
107	Mohd. Ali	27-9-45	Weapon sold.
108	Daulat Ram	24-9-45	Weapon lost.
109	Mr. H. Cornaris	27-9-45	Licensee cancelled gun sold.
110	Sh. Sham ul Haq	17-9-45	Licensee died.
111	Manager Bharat Bank Ltd.	25-9-45	Could not get a gun.
112	B. N. Banerjee	2-10-45	Weapon sold.
113	Mr. H. R. E. Ashiq	29-10-45	Weapon sold.
114	Lt. Nasir Ullah Khan	29-10-45	Weapon sold.
115	Satya Pal Varma	9-10-45	Weapon sold.
116	Mr. Rup Lal	2-10-45	Surrendered.
117	Mr. N. W. Innes	4-10-45	Surrendered.
118	S./L. J. J. G. Simpler	27-10-45	Gun sold.
119	Condr. E. H. Lawson	27-10-45	Gun sold.
120	G. C. Mukerjee	27-10-45	Gun sold.
121	S. Harnam Singh	13-10-45	Period for acquiring the weapon expired.
122	L. N. Hallin Ghirst	27-10-45	Surrendered.
123	H. C. Dey Esq.	27-10-45	Gun Sold.
124	David Willian Esq.	7-11-45	Surrendered.
125	L. Jai Shakner	7-11-45	Licensee died.
126	Dr. Mazhar Ullah	22-11-45	Licensee died.
127	Mr. S. K. Bose	27-11-45	Gun sold.
128	Abdul Aziz Khan	12-11-45	Gun sold.
129	M. M. Farookhi	7-11-45	Left for America.
130	J. R. T. Booth Esq.	7-11-45	Gun sold.
131	Mr. Lekshmi Narain	1-11-45	Licensee died.

*Statement II.—List of licenses cancelled during the period from 8th December, 1945 to 15th October 1946 due to no purchase of ammunition.*

Serial No.	Name of the licensee.	Address.
1	Mr. Mool Chand	10 Central Lane, Baber Raod, New Delhi.
2	L. Atma Ram Jain	Kothi Shora Subzimandi, Delhi.
3	Mr. Des Raj Dogra	29 Taylor Square, New Delhi.
4	Mr. Raghbir Singh	C/o Pearey Lal and Sons, New Delhi.
5	Mr. Khushi Ram Sharma	Naya Bans, Delhi.
6	Pt. Ram Sarup	Ramjas College Darya Ganj, Delhi.
7	S. Bijai Singh	Sanitary Inspt., of Health Office, New Delhi.
8	S. Sohan Singh	17 Beadonpura Karolbagh, Delhi.
9	Mr. Shamsunder	25 Raja Kidar Nath Lane, Ghorī Bazar, Delhi.
10	Mr. Mir Khan	Iqbal Manzil Qarolbagh, Delhi.
11	S. Rejinder Singh	2 Curzon Road, New Delhi.
12	S. Kera Singh	47 Darya Ganj, Delhi.
13	Mr. Marghub Ahmad	C/o B. Rafiq Ahmad Gali Rohan, Delhi.
14	M. Iqrammullah	Gali Suewalan, Morigate, Delhi.
15	L. Banwari Dass	Cloth Merchant Nai Sarak, Delhi.
16	Mr. Karam Ali	No. 36 Raja Bazar Square, New Delhi.
17	S. M. Madud Ali.	Delhi Shahdara.
18	B. Ram Singh	2 B Rouse Lane, New Delhi.
19	Ramchander Sharma	Ch: m n lal Bld., Connaught Circus, New Delhi.
20	L. Janki Dass	Gali Darogta Kanihya Lal, Nai Sarak, Delhi.
21	L. Sagar Chand	Kothi Shora Subzimundi, Delhi.
22	Abdul Ghani	C/o M/s. Pearey Lal & Sons, Ajmeri Gate, Delhi.
23	L. Lachmi Narsin Dass	C/o R. S. Gopal Dass IP.
24	Shaghur Ahmad Jan	Commercial College, Delhi.
25	Mr. Madan Lal	90 Indian Jewellery Trading Co., Delhi.
26	L. Rattan Lal	Teliwara, Gali Panhiarain, Delhi.

Serial No.	Name of the Licensee.	Address.
27	L. Munshi Lal	Kashmeri Gate, Delhi.
28	L. Reghbir Singh Banker	Kashmeri Gate, Delhi.
29	Raghbur Dayal	Delhi Shahdara.
30	S. Maula Bux	Skin Merchant, Subzimundi, Delhi.
31	Mr. P. P. Gupta	157 Cloth Merchant, Delhi.
32	L. Sham Ki han Kaiker	Gandi Gali, Delhi.
33	Mr. Abdul Ghani	Lace Merchant, Ch. Chowk, Delhi.
34	S. Ali Raza Khan	Farash Khana, Gali Nawab Shah, Delhi.
35	Mr. Sham Shuddin	Cap Merchants, Ch. Ch. Delhi.
36	Mr. Abdul Wahid	Gali Chandiwalan, Delhi.
37	Mr. Abdul Razaq	S. Barakhamba Road, New Delhi.
38	Dr. B. C. Gpta	Sadar Bazar, Delhi.
39	Pt. Ra-n Ki-han Jaitley	Katra Nil, Delhi.
40	J. Hira Lal	Naya Bans, Khari Baoli, Delhi.
41	Mr. Shahabuddin	H. No. 9988 Naya Mohalla, Pulbungash, Delhi.
42	Abdul Hafiz Khan	Prop. Univer-al Automobile Engrs. Daryaganj, Delhi.
43	Mr. Hari Ki-han	Bazar Sita Ram, Delhi.
44	S. Mohd. Ghous	Darawaza Chowri Bazar, Delhi.
45	M. Z. Akhmal	Delhi Tobacco & Co., Serai Rohilla, Delhi.
46	Mr. Om Parkah	Goela House, Morigate, Delhi.
47	Sh. Sultan Ahmad	Japanwala Coronation Hotel, Fatehpuri, Delhi.
48	Abdul Aziz Khan	C/o Sultan Ahmad Khan Assist. Controller, N.W.R., New Delhi.
49	L. Amar Math	Jhani.
50	L. Shamsunder	C/o The Globe Radio and Eng. Co., New Delhi.
51	Ghulam Mohiduddin	H. C. No. 1294 Parliament St. New Delhi.
52	Iqbal Ahmad Qureshi	19 Church Road, Kashmiri Gate, Delhi.
53	Mohd. Ishaq	S/o Haji Abdul Aziz.
54	Mr. S. P. Sawhney	C/o Coltex India Ltd., Delhi.
55	Allah Diya	Lambigali Subzimandi, Delhi.
56	Abdul Gani Qureshi	66 Johnson Rd. Qarolbagh, Delhi.
57	Pt. Mehar Chand	C/o S. Bachuttar Singh L.O., Delhi.
58	Mr. Gokal Prasad	Prop. Delhi Tyre Service Co., Delhi Shahdara.
59	Mohd. Shafi Barry	Katra Phatak Habush Khan, Delhi.
60	Mr. Onkar Perhad	C/o Mr. K. L. Bhatnagar, New Delhi.
61	Hamiduddin	27 Tughlak Road, New Delhi.
62	Mr. N. Kanti	Jutogh View Simbar Delhi.
63	B. Raja Ram	C/o Dr. N. C. Joshi Karol Bagh, Delhi.
64	Mr. Tawawar Hussain	H. N. 652 Gali Qasim Jan, Ballimarin, Delhi.
65	B. Brahamsarup	4 Darya Gunj, Delhi.
66	Mr. Mohd. Saddiq	Chandi Chowk, P. O. Box, 7 Delhi.
67	L. Partap Singh	L. Partap singh Dariba Kalan, Delhi.
68	A. S. Curedo	M. Block Cannought Circus, New Delhi.
69	K. Hussain Ahmad	C/o Mr. Abbas Hussain, Civil Court, Delhi.
70	M. B. Dababar	19 Church Road, Kashmir Gate, Delhi.
71	Mohd. Bashir Khan	Shidipura Qarol Bagh, Delhi.
72	Mr. Mohd. Usman	4 Talkatora Park, New Delhi.
73	Mr. Fahimuddin	C/o Modern Jewellery House, Dariba Kalan, Delhi.
74	Mr Achal Bihari Lal	Advocate, Delhi
75	L. Sohan Lal	Legislative Assembly Notice Office, New Delhi.
76	B. Chand Behadur	Sexena & Co., Ch. Ch., Delhi.
77	Mohd. Ahmad	Gali Hanga Beg Phatak, Habush Khan, Delhi.
78	R. L. Malhotra	Manager Krishan Lal & Bros. Ltd., Delhi.
79	S. Kahan Singh	No. 3 Sant Nagar Karolbagh, Delhi.
80	Mr. Ali Akhtar	C/o S. M. Yaqub Kabai Bazar, Delhi.
81	Mr. Shabuddin	Similawala, Delhi.
82	M. Abdul Karimi	Bara Tooti Sadar Bazar, Delhi.
83	Mr. Jagatpal Singh	8 Hailey Road, New Delhi.
84	Din Dayal	Shidipura Nai Basti, Qarol Bagh, Delhi.

Serial No.	Name of the Licensee	Address
85	Mr. Ghulam Mustafa	Prop. Asiatic Carpet Store Kashmeri Gate, Delhi.
86	Bawa Arjan Singh	381 E. Govt. Quarters, Karol Bagh, Delhi.
87	Mr. H. P. Chatterji	Behind Imperial Bank, Delhi.
88	Mr. N. D. Mehra	Imperial Bank of India, Delhi.
89	Mr. Faqir Chand	1630 Dassan St., Delhi.
90	L. Vahari Lal Gupta	Prem Nagar, Subzimindi, Delhi.
91	Mr. Jagdambe Sahai	101d Thana Faiz Bazar, Delhi.
92	Mr. Ram Kishan Dass	H. No. 445 & 447 Katra Nil, Delhi.
93	S. Mohiduddin	Mohalla Kishanganj, Delhi.
94	M. Asharf Khan	Sharif Manzil, Mohalla Rodgran, Delhi.
95	Mr. Mehar Elahee.	Phatak Habash Khan, Rang Mehal, Delhi.
96	M. Madho Pd.	Quarter No. 88, Tagore Road, New Delhi.
97	Mr. Ghulam Mohiddun	Fatema Manzal, Karol bagh, Delhi.
98	Mr. Kerrar Hussain	Dargha Sabri Daryaganj, Delhi.
99	L. Jagat Perkash	60 Thompson Road, New Delhi.
100	Mr. Brij Behari Lal	43 Darya Ganj, Delhi.
101	L. Kahan Chand	C/o R. S. Bhola Ram & Sons Ltd., Con- nought Place, New Delhi.
102	S. Abdul Hassan	David St. Darya Gunj, Delhi.
103	S. Manohar Sing	41 Hanuman Road, New Delhi.
104	Khawaja Ghulam Jilani	C/o M/s. Malik & Qureshi Milty. Contractor, Idgah, Delhi.
105	Mr. Manohar Lal	Bara Dariba Gali Kunj Ram, Delhi.
106	Mr. Kishan Gopal.	15 Allenby Road, New Delhi.
107	Pt. Man Mohan Nath	C/o Pt. Ravi Dutt, E.I., Delhi.
108	Mian Hafizur Rahman	Punjabi Islamia School, Sadar Bazar Delhi.
109	Gopalji H. Koya	25 Ram Nagar, Delhi.
110	Mohd. Badurul Hassan	Arabic School Lane, Faizgunj, Delhi.
111	Mr. Abdul Ghani	Turakmangate, Delhi.
112	S. J. S. Bhagwan Singh.	Bundala Amir Son.
113	Attar Khan Sepoy	G.H.Q. Army Police, New Delhi.
114	L. Gurdiatta Ram Tailor	Paharganj, Delhi.
115	S. A. Rahim	Rahim Manzal, Roshanara Road, Delhi.
116	Inayatullah	Eastern Fur Carpet Co., New Delhi.
117	L. Darma Chand	C/o Instalment Supply Co., Kashmirigate, Delhi.
118	Mr. Amar Nath	Manager, Sun Light of India, Delhi.
119	L. Nandkishore	Nai Sarak, Delhi.
120	Rev. P. K. Sincar.	Ludlow Castle, Road, Delhi.
121	Mr. Marghoob Ahmad	Phatak Habush Khan, Delhi.
122	B. Tirlokchand	Faizbazar, Delhi.
123	B. Balkishan Dass	C/o M/s. Bhanamul Gulzarimul, Delhi.
124	Mr. N. R. Sahney	3 Aggarwal Buildings, Connaught Lines, Delhi.
125	Mirza Nuruddin	104 Ansari Road, Delhi.
126	Mr. Parshotam Dass	1 Chelmsford Road, New Delhi.
127	Mr. K. K. Bose	9-A Rajpur Road, Delhi.
128	Mr. Abdul Subhan Khan	Near P. S. Subzimandi, Delhi.
129	Mr. Kailash Nath	M/s. Hari Chand Kapoor & Sons, Army Contractor, New Delhi.
130	Mr. Ramnath Anand	17 Baber Road, New Delhi.
131	Mr. Jai Dayal	Overseer D-C Mills, Delhi.
132	Hashim Hussain	Kucha Rehman Clock Tower, Delhi.
133	Mr. Mohd. Jaffery	Kucha Cheelan, Delhi.
134	Mr. Charles B. Singha	C/o M/s. Kemp & Co., New Delhi.
135	Rev. Samud Bernard	Baptist Mission Church, Chandni Chowk, Delhi.
136	L. Sant Ram	G.H.Q., Signale Talkatora Road, New Delhi.
137	Mr. Harbans Singh	98 Sham Bhawan Faizbazar, Delhi.
138	Mr. Ram Rattan	7 Santi Niwas Queens Lane, Delhi (New).
139	L. Hansraj	15 Bara Khanba Road, New Delhi.
140	S. Balwant Singh	1 Queensway, New Delhi.
141	L. Radhe Shiam	99 Phatak Habash Khan, Delhi.
142	S. Bhawan Singh	Inspt. Provincial Ass. Co., Nayabans, Delhi



Serial No.	Name of the Licensee	Address.
143	Sayed Nasar Abas	57 Aram Bagh Place, New Delhi.
144	Mr. Diwan Chand	Cannought Place, New Delhi.
145	H. Nizam Uddin	C/o S. Mohd. Yamin, Advocate, Delhi.
146	Karam Chand	18/19 Cannought Circus, New Delhi.
147	Mr. Hamid Ali	Katra Mehar Parwar, Kucha Chelan, Delhi.
148	S. Bela Singh	Contractor Karolbagh, Delhi.
149	Mr. Shamsuddin	Katra Nizamulmulik Jama Masjid, Delhi.
150	Mr. Abdul Rahim	Ex. S.D.O., M.I.E., 1458 Turakman Gate, Delhi.
151	Mr. Amir Chand Khanna	17 Alipur Road, Delhi.
152	Mr. Hamid Ali	Katra Mehar Perwar, Delhi.

*Sreejuti Rohini Kumar Chaudhri's Starred Questions Nos. 518 (a) and 520 (a) of 13th November 1946.*

**OFFICERS OF THE PROVINCIAL CIVIL SERVICE OR ON THE LIST POSTS SERVING IN GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.**

*No. 518 (a).*—Statement showing the names and particulars of Provincial Civil Service officers or listed post holders employed as Assistant Secretaries in the Government of India Secretariat.

Names of officers	Provinces to which they belong.	Appointments held.
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*Nil.*

The following addition should be made in the statement placed on the table of the House in reply to starred question No. 518 on the 13th November 1946.

12 Mr. Iqbal Hussain	United Provinces	Pensions Officer and <i>ex-officio</i> Deputy Secretary in the Pensions Branch of the Defence Department.
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**EXCISE DUTY IN BETELNUTS**

*No. 520 (a). Betelnut's.*—Statement of revenue collections in the Provinces from April to September 1946.

Province	Revenue Collection (In thousands of Rupees)
Bombay	3,42
Madras	8,20
Coorg	2
Bengal	20,16
Assam	3,01
All other provinces	Nil.

*Mr. Manu Subedar's Starred Question No. 535 (b) of 14th November, 1946.*

**FACTORIES FOR RADIOS, FILMS, REFRIGERATORS AND TYPEWRITERS IN INDIA**

Import licence has been issued to Messrs. Mysore Airmecs Ltd., from the U. K. The question of grant of dollar facilities does not arise in this cases.

*Maulvi Abdul Hamid Shah's Starred Question No. 572 of 14th November, 1946.*

**MUHAMMADAN APPLICANT FOR STALL IN MAHIMGANJ RAILWAY STATION ON BENGAL ASSAM RAILWAY**

(a) Yes.

(b) and (c) No application was received from the public for a Muslim stall at Mahimganj. An application was received from the prospective vendor for the opening of a Muslim stall but it was not recommended by the Station Master.

(d) Sanction to open the stall was refused as there was no demand from the public for such a stall.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to (d) above.

*Pandit Mukut Behari Lal Bhargava's Starred Questions Nos. 573 and 574 (c) of 14th November, 1946.*

**WORKING HOURS FOR CLERKS IN STORES DEPARTMENT OF B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY AJMER**

No.573.—(a) Government understand that the clerks in the Stores Department of the B., B. & C. I. Railway (Metre Gauge), Ajmer, do not work 10 to 12 hours daily, their normal hours per week being 39 to 42. Under the Hours of Employment Regulations which govern the working hours of this staff, no overtime is payable unless their working hours exceed 60 hours a week. When, at times, they are called upon to work beyond the scheduled office hours in the interest of work, the statutory weekly limit is never exceeded. As there is nothing irregular in the existing practice, the question of stopping it does not arise.

(b) The questions do not arise in view of the reply to part (a).

(c) The procedure in force in the Department referred to is that promotion from grade I to grade II in the old scales and corresponding grades in the revised scales is made strictly according to seniority unless the employee is definitely declared unsuitable. Promotion from grade II in the old scale of pay to the grade of Rs. 120—160 and their corresponding new scales, is made by selection. Failure to achieve promotion beyond the maximum of a grade is due either to unsuitability or non-selection, as the case may be. The number of clerks of the Stores Department, Ajmer, who have received no increment on this account for 15 years or over is as follows :—

Grade Rs.	Number
40—80	6
80—120	6
120—160	Nil
160—200	1
200—250	Nil

The prescribed rules for promotion by selection and by seniority will be found in Appendix II-A, to the State Railway Establishment Code, Volume I, as amended by Correction Slip No. N.-566, a copy of which is in the Library of the House. As the promotion of clerks in the cadre referred to by the Honourable Member is in accordance with the rules mentioned above, Government do not propose to make an enquiry into the cases where promotion has been withheld or to grant increments otherwise than in accordance with the rules. The Honourable Member is, however, reminded that the whole structure of pay scales for railway staff is under examination by the Central Pay Commission and their recommendations, which may affect the present system of distribution of grades, are awaited.

## UNCOVERED PLATFORMS AT BEAWAR AND INDORE

No. 574 (c).—The existing arrangements for supply of water to the travelling public are as follows :—

*Indore Station.*—Four watermen have been provided to serve water to passengers from water huts. There are also three water taps, one at each end of the passenger platform and one in the rear of the passenger shed.

*Beawar Station.*—Potable well water is not available nor is the station connected with the city water supply. Water is brought from Ajmer Junction and Sendra in two water tanks provided for the purpose, and is supplied to the travelling public by three men detailed for this duty at the station. There are also two water huts from which water can be obtained by passengers. Since March 1946, when an extra waterman was appointed to serve water to the travelling public, no complaints have been received regarding the water supply at this station.

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*Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Puliwal's Starred Question No. 583 [parts (a) to (e), (g) and (h) ] of 14th November, 1946.*

## STRIKE IN THE POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

- (a) 50,551.
- (b) Mostly lower grade staff, but some non-gazetted officials of the superior service were also involved.
- (c) Rs. 16,90,338.
- (d) 21,338.
- (e) to follow.
- (g) Rs. 3,17,108.
- (h) Yes, in most cases.

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*Srijut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri's Starred Question No. 624-B of 15th November 1946.*

## PERMISSION TO MEMBERS OF CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY TO MOVE IN THE EXCLUDED AND TRIBAL AREAS OF ASSAM MANIPUR, KHASI AND JAINTIA HILL STATES.

No permit is required to enter the Khasi States or parts thereof. The permission of the Political Agent is normally required to enter any part of the Manipur State, but it has been decided to waive the requirement of permission in the case of Members of the Constituent Assembly provided that they give notice of their intention to visit Manipur.

## MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT

## ATTACK BY TRIBESMEN ON CITIZENS OF HAZARA DISTRICT

**Mr. President:** I will now take up the adjournment motions of which notice Numbers 1-5 stand in the name of Mr. Sanyal.  
12 NOON has been received up to 11 A.M. today. They are nineteen in all.

**Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal** (Presidency Division: Non-Muhammadan Rural): All my motions may be considered as not pressed.

**Mr. President:** Very good. I won't read them. This disposes of Nos. 1-5. Nos. 6 and 7 are from Sardar Mangal Singh. What is the position about these?

**Shri Sri Prakasa** (Benares and Gorakhpur Divisions: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Could we know what they are about?

**Mr. President:** My idea was to save time as there is a large number of them. Both the motions, Nos. 6 and 7, practically raise the same subject and I believe there is one more, No. 15, from Mr. Siddiq Ali Khan which, though not identical, raises the same subject.

Motion No. 6 is:

"That the business of the House be adjourned for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance namely the failure of the Government of India to take timely action to stop preparations made by the tribesmen in Tribal areas to attack the peaceful citizens of the Hazara district resulting in great loss of life and property."

The other is.....

**Sardar Mangal Singh** (East Punjab: Sikh): The second may be ignored.

**Mr. President:** Then I need not read it. Mr. Siddiq Ali Khan's motion reads as follows:

"To discuss an urgent matter of public importance, namely, the punitive fine and the barbarous and mediaeval practice of taking hostages imposed on Nandihar tribes in January, 1947."

Of course, the objects of the two are different, but they relate to the same topic. With reference to these motions I have to inform the House that His Excellency the Governor General in Council has been pleased to accord sanction to Sardar Mangal Singh's adjournment motion.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru** (Member for External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations): Sir, the occurrences that took place in Hazara district last month were very unfortunate and I am sure the whole House will deplore these occurrences. The motions for adjournment read out, look upon the affair from two different angles. One seeks to condemn the Government for not taking action; the other seeks to condemn the Government for taking too much action. As a matter of fact, I think this particular incident, deplorable as it is, shows the extreme efficiency of Government in this particular matter, and the extreme leniency of Government also in this particular matter. It is very difficult for Government, for me, to say much about preventing such things happening, because all these things are due to many causes, and it is not an easy matter unless some long distance policy is aimed at. Unfortunately such things do take place. Unfortunately even now people are kidnapped; raids take place on some scale and this House must accept the position that this sort of thing must be stopped. In the present instance, what happened has already been publicly stated in a number of communiques issued by the Government. We have tried to take the public fully into our confidence right from the beginning. There was unfortunately, due to certain agitation largely conducted by people coming from outside the Tribal areas and the Frontier Province.....

**Sardar Mangal Singh:** On a point of order, Sir. Is the Honourable Member making a speech on the motion or is the Government of India prepared to discuss the matter on the floor of the House?

**Mr. President:** I asked the Honourable Member to give a short statement of the facts to enable me to judge about the urgency of the matter. The matter is no doubt of public importance. That is all I think for the present. I want to know as to how it is urgent. I therefore wanted to have a short statement of facts.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Sir, I wanted to tell the House exactly where matters stand. I want to oppose the motion, because there is no urgency about it. There is no question of anything happening—something happened a month ago. I should like to take the House into my confidence if you will permit me. Otherwise, I merely oppose the motion.

**Diwan Chaman Lall** (West Punjab: Non-Muhammadan): Sir, the Leader of the House may be asked to give us the facts. Many of us are very anxious to know the facts. Suppose we want to raise a point of order regarding the urgency or the admissibility of this particular motion, it will be very difficult for us to make our points unless we know the facts which the Leader of the House is prepared to tell us. It is extraordinary that he should be interrupted.

**Sardar Mangal Singh:** The only way is for Government to welcome this motion and then all the facts may be placed before the House. I have not been able to understand why the Honourable the Leader of the House opposes the discussion of such a motion. These unfortunate happenings have not taken place all of a sudden. There were series of incidents which happened in the Tribal areas of which the Government of India ought to have taken notice. After the communal riots at Calcutta there were repercussions on the Frontier.

**Mr. President:** May I interrupt the Honourable Member? Will he just tell me as to how the matter is one of urgency now? If there is nothing now, and if the trouble is chronic, as I understand from the Honourable the Leader of the House, it requires a long time remedy. Where is the special urgency of this motion being taken up today? The House will have ample opportunities during the session of criticising the administration of Government, when the Finance Bill comes up and on various other occasions. The point to be gone into is not whether it is important or not but whether this subject should be taken today, outside the normal business of the House.

**Sardar Mangal Singh:** The matter is important in this way.

**Mr. President:** I am not disputing its importance. I am applying myself to the urgency of the discussion to day.

**Sardar Mangal Singh:** The matter is urgent in this sense that the previous raids to which the Leader of the House referred were of a different character. This time the happenings were on a large scale and were entirely of a different character. The previous raids were more or less by looting parties. They were economic in character, but this time there was a regular plan behind it, and it was on a very large scale. I am very anxious that such happenings should be stopped. The Government of India should take some action so that these things may not occur again. There are three or four incidents which took place in the Frontier of which the Government of India should have taken notice. Above all, the most important was the visit of the Honourable the Leader of the House himself. He had sufficient notice of the temper of the Frontier people and about two months before the incidents, the Hindus of Battal and Oghi villages took a deputation to the Assistant Commissioner, Manshera and they asked him to take some action to protect them. No action was taken and they left their villages and went to Kashmir. After the Bihar incidents, several public meetings were held in the Tribal areas. They were addressed, I am told, I cannot vouchsafe for it, by some speakers from Bihar and some students of the Aligarh University. In those meetings, leaves of the *Quran Sharif* and photos of wounded babies were exhibited and exciting speeches were made and reports of these meetings were sent to the Political Officers. The Government of India should have known these things but obviously they did not take any action. After that, the Hindus of Battal and Oghi again took a deputation to the Deputy Commissioner, Abbottabad.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** What will the Honourable Member speak about in the afternoon, if he finishes his speech now?

**Sardar Mangal Singh:** The Honourable the President wanted to know about the urgency of this motion at this time. I think this seriously concerns the lives and property of the non-Muslim people living in the Frontier districts and therefore it should be taken up today and discussed. The Government of India should be told definitely that they must take serious action to stop these things in the future.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Many of the facts that the Honourable Member has stated are perfectly correct but I should like the Honourable Member to bear in mind that this kind of thing is not new, although certain new factors came in. It is a very difficult matter to deal with these situations, more especially because a certain policy has been followed and it is not easy to change that policy completely and suddenly. I do not think it is correct to say that the various incidents to which the Honourable Member has

referred necessarily indicated that there would be a raid. Such incidents are continually happening. There was this raid. It was not on a very big scale but it had disastrous consequences undoubtedly, in that it resulted in killing, looting and burning of property. It lasted for a fairly short time. I cannot exactly state the period. May be the whole thing was over in 'two or three days' time. Immediately steps were taken. I do not think it is possible to say that the steps subsequently taken were either delayed or inefficient. It may be that if a different policy, a long term policy, had been acted upon, such things might not have happened but this might equally be said about many other things happening in India. We are the inheritors of past policies, of past legacies and some of them are of such a nature that we cannot change them suddenly. That is why we want independence for this country, so that we may be able to change them quickly and completely.

**Sardar Mangal Singh:** Did you take any action at all?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** We had a choice in this matter as to whether we should immediately bomb these territories from the air or not. After very grave consideration, naturally we were entirely opposed to bombing and we decided that we should not take this step. Our decision was justified by subsequent events because in effect the other steps we took had the immediate effect of stopping the trouble. We sent armed forces there and various terms were announced. When the armed forces collected there, the tribes submitted to the terms imposed upon them. The terms were more or less lenient, although one of the adjournment motions refers to them as barbarous terms. The terms were a cash fine of Rs. 75,000, a fine of 75 rifles and the surrender of 40 hostages. Now this business of taking hostages and keeping them is certainly not a very desirable one. (*An Honourable Member:* It is barbarous). I may, however, draw the attention of the House to what is happening in the Tribal areas in regard to these raids. That is also extremely barbarous and mediaeval and we have to meet that barbarousness somehow and it is for this House to decide. No Government can tolerate raids, murder, kidnapping and the like. We ought, no doubt, to root out the cause of these things but if such things occur, they have to be met with the greatest force necessary for the occasion. It is for the House to decide whether it is better to meet them by air bombing or by armed force...

**Sardar Mangal Singh:** Don't oppose the motion. Let the House decide. Don't shut out discussion.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I am perfectly prepared to discuss it if the subject comes up in the form of a Resolution or otherwise. I do not see how it arises on a motion for adjournment. Nothing is happening at the moment and nothing has happened in the last month.

**Mr. President:** I do not think I can allow any further speeches on this motion. I only wanted to know the facts, to decide the question of urgency. From what has been stated by Sardar Mangal Singh and the Honourable the Leader of the House, I do not think any discussion is called for at the moment. I do not give my consent to this motion.

**Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth** (West Coast and Nilgiris: Muhammadan): There is a second motion on this. That is different.

**Mr. President:** I will come to that. Has the Honourable Member received the Governor General's sanction? (*An Honourable Member:* No). The consideration will stand over. That disposes of No. 7.

#### SEARCHES AND ARRESTS OF MEMBERS OF COMMUNIST PARTY, KISAN SABHAS AND TRADE UNIONS ALL OVER INDIA.

**Mr. President:** We now come to No. 8. There are three motions on this subject. One is from Sardar Mangal Singh and two from Mr. Joshi, one of which refers to all India and the other is restricted to the Delhi province, with

[Mr. President].

a view to fix the Government of India's responsibility in the Centrally administered area. They are practically the same. They might be taken into consideration together.

Sardar Mangal Singh's motion wants to discuss:

"the police raids and searches (accompanied by arrests) of the offices of the Communist Party, the Kisan Sabhas, Trade Unions and the residences of individual Communist Leaders conducted simultaneously all over India."

Mr. Joshi's motion wants to discuss:

"the simultaneous searches all over the country of the offices of the Communist Party and its branches, of the residences of many individual communists, of the offices of several Trade Unions and Kisan Sabhas, accompanied by some arrests and taking away of some documents."

There are the two motions. *Prima facie* they appear to be very important matters and I should like to know the position.

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** (Member for Home and Information and Broadcasting): Sir, this is a matter which involves a complaint filed before the Presidency Magistrate in the Bombay Presidency. Certain documents containing the top secrets of the Defence Department appear to have been stolen between the months of April and August and correspondence passed between the Government of Bombay and the Central Government about this matter. Subsequently, it was suggested by us that if the Bombay Government was advised by its legal advisers that there was a proper case for prosecution under the Officials Secrets Act, they may take proper action. The Bombay Government took legal advice and were advised that it is open to them to file a complaint and that they were entitled to do so under the Act. Then, the Government of Bombay issued an order on the 18th December empowering the Commissioner of Police under section 13 of the Indian Officials Secrets Act to lodge a complaint against the editor in respect of 8 articles that had appeared in the issues of the *People's Age* dated variously between the 4th April 1946 and the 4th August 1946. On the 23rd December they issued a similar authority in respect of complaints against the author, printer and publisher of the pamphlet *Operation Assylum*, published sometime in September or October 1946. In connection with these cases the Bombay police had to make searches and they filed a complaint in the Chief Presidency Magistrate's Court on the 13th. As these documents and several other secrets were alleged to have been stolen and other materials of a secret nature from other Departments of the Government were being pilfered, the police thought that if the searches were not made simultaneously, the materials and the persons concerned would go underground. They proceeded under S. 165 of the Criminal Procedure Code. They were entitled to ask for the assistance of the Central Intelligence Bureau, and, in order to co-ordinate searches, steps were taken by the Bombay Government in co-operation with the Intelligence Department for simultaneous searches. The Central Intelligence Department has done nothing more than assisting the Bombay police in the normal discharge of their lawful duties in the matter of investigation.

I understand from the reports in the press also that an application for bail filed by the editor, printer and publisher has been rejected and the Chief Presidency Magistrate is seized with the case. Therefore, the matter is *sub-judice*. The Central Government has done nothing except giving the Government of Bombay advice to the effect that the Bombay Government if they think that within their province an act has taken place in which they are legally advised that they can proceed lawfully in a court of law, they may do so. It is a proper advice which the Central Government can give to any province. If in any province an offence has taken place, it is for them to take legal advice and act

according to law. I think the Central Government was entitled to do so and it cannot be censured for that and no adjournment motion arises out of such a case. If under section 165 of the Bombay Police Act the Bombay Government wants co-operation under the law, the Police Commissioner is entitled to ask for co-operation; and it is for the Central Government to give such co-operation to co-ordinate searches, so that the object of the prosecution may not be frustrated. Therefore, on this matter which is *sub-judice* and is pending before the Magistrate's court, no adjournment motion could be allowed. That is my case.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi** (Nominated Non-Official): Sir, may I say a word or two about the statement made by the Honourable the Home Member. He first appeared to say or hint that this is a matter which is *sub-judice*. But I think the matter has not yet gone to the court. The searches have been made and arrests have also been made, but the matter has not yet gone to the court. They went to the Magistrate first in order to secure the order for searches. Arrests were made and the matter went to the court only for bail application because the others were bailed and the application has been rejected. But the matter has not yet reached the court at all. I, therefore, feel that there would be no objection on the ground of the matter being *sub-judice*.

**Mr. President:** How were the accused arrested?

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** I think the accused were arrested under the Press Emergency Law.

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** May I submit for the information of the Honourable Member that the complaint had been regularly filed on the 13th and on the next day warrants were issued by the Magistrate on the strength of that complaint. After that, the accused applied for bail and the application was rejected. Certain documents which were not relevant have also been returned.

**Mr. President:** Then, I do not think any further discussion will be necessary on this matter. I must accept the statement of facts as given by the Honourable the Home Member. If the proceedings have been taken in the ordinary course of law and the Magistrate is seized of the proceedings, I do not see how this motion can be permitted in this House. So, both these adjournment motions fall through.

That disposes of Nos. 8, 12 and 13. Nos. 9 and 10 have been withdrawn.

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#### STRIKE BY SCHOOL TEACHERS IN DELHI

**Mr. President:** I now come to adjournment motion No. 11 regarding the strike of school teachers in Delhi.

**Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth:** I understand the strike has been called off. Therefore I do not press my motion.

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#### RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY THE PRESS (SPECIAL POWERS) ORDINANCE

**Mr. President:** I now come to adjournment motion No. 14 standing in the name of Miss Maniben Kara. She wants to adjourn the House to consider a matter of urgent public importance, namely:

"Restriction on freedom of the Press and of expression of opinion imposed on Centrally administered areas by the Press (Special Powers) Ordinance, 1947, and the failure of the Government to consult this House before assuming such extraordinary powers."

As I understand the position, the Ordinance will not be in force for more than six months. If the legislation is to be continued, Government will have to come to this House and the House will get an opportunity of discussing this



[Mr. President.]

matter then. The point of the motion seems to be that the Government failed to consult the House before assuming such powers. The Secretary tells me that he has received notice from Government that they are going to bring in legislation in a few days to turn this Ordinance into an ordinary piece of law.

**Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth:** But the objection still remains because the point is that the Ordinance was issued in the face of the Assembly.

**Mr. President:** I should like to know the facts.

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Sir, the facts of the case are that there is at the present moment considerable communal tension round about Delhi—a centrally administered area—and naturally Delhi also is not free from it. I may also inform the House that there are Ordinances in the surrounding provinces already in force,—two in the Punjab of a much more wide and rigorous character and one in Bengal in full force, which is also of a much more rigorous character and much wider in scope. There was also an Ordinance in the U.P. which, I understand, has now been replaced by legislation passed in the U.P. Assembly. There is also an Ordinance in force in Bihar. It is undesirable for the small province of Delhi to be a pocket disseminating objectionable material and thereby frustrating the good efforts that are being made in other provinces to prevent communal disorder, if not to secure communal harmony. Therefore the situation was such that we had to take action by way of an Ordinance. After full consideration we came to the conclusion that in the present atmosphere an Ordinance should be passed, but that the earliest opportunity should be taken to take the opinion of the House. Therefore I propose to take this House into confidence by placing a proper Bill before it perhaps next week when there will be ample opportunity to consider the matter.

**Miss Maniben Kara (Nominated Non-Official):** Sir, even after listening carefully to the Honourable the Home Member, I am afraid I have not been able to see his point.

**Mr. President:** The point about merits need not be gone into at this stage.

**Miss Maniben Kara:** I am on the point of urgency. This Ordinance was promulgated on the 31st of last month and the Assembly was going to meet on the 3rd of this month. The heavens were not going to fall in these three days and there is no reason why the Members of the Assembly should not have been taken into confidence. I submit that this is a contempt of the Assembly that an Ordinance should have been issued like this.

**Mr. President:** Order, order. The Honourable Member is now making a speech on the merits. The only question is whether this matter is of an urgent nature because there has been an alleged failure on the part of Government. From the facts explained it is clear to me that Government had to act promptly. It is not a question of hours and days; sometimes the evil may not result even if people do not act for months, and sometimes it may result if people do not act within 24 hours. But that is a matter of opinion. I do not think I can give my consent to this motion.

#### DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MUSLIM LEAGUE NEWS BY ALL-INDIA RADIO

**Mr. President:** The next motion of adjournment stands in the name of Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang who wants to discuss "the discrimination practised by the All-India Radio against the Muslim League news and the special consideration shown to Congress news." Here again it is a question of urgency. What is the urgency of this?

**Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang (East Punjab: Muhammadan):** The urgency arises every minute that the misrepresentation is made. This misrepresentation of public news is becoming worse every day and therefore the urgency is

enhanced. Every time you listen to the broadcasts you find it is all one-sided news, and so the urgency is there all the time. Of course when the matter is fully discussed we will give definite instances.

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Sir, I deny the charge, but I oppose the motion because it does not state when the alleged discrimination started and whether it is of any immediate importance. If this kind of discrimination has been going on for one or two months it would do no harm if it goes on for a few days more. That itself shows that it has no urgency or importance. If the Congress as a bigger organisation with wider and bigger activities gets a little more space in the news I cannot admit that there is any discrimination. If at any time there are greater activities on the part of the League, the radio gives more news of the League. If the Hindu Mahasabha holds a session or has any activities to its credit, the radio gives that. Whatever news is received from the press or other agencies is broadcast by the radio. But sometimes some listeners listen to one kind of news and they are not on the radio when their own side of the news is given, they think there is discrimination. But I suggest that there is no urgency in this matter because if it has been going on for some time no harm will be done if it goes on for a few days more.

**Mr. President:** I am not satisfied about the urgency of this matter and I therefore hold the motion out of order.

#### LENDING OF TROOPS TO THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT

**Mr. President:** The next motion stands in the name of Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer who proposes to discuss "the lending of troops by the Government of India to the Punjab Government for suppression of civil liberties of the people of the province of Punjab". This seems to be more or less a provincial matter.

**Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer** (Bombay Southern Division: Muhammadan Rural) No, Sir, it is definitely a matter concerning the Defence Department of the Government of India, and it is definitely a matter of urgent public importance. From the papers that we get every day it is clear that the troops are kept there in readiness in the different cities of the province. It is a matter which concerns the Defence Member who only the other day was a part and parcel of the Unionist Government.

**Mr. President:** Order, order. It is not correct or proper to level charges personally. But the point is whether troops were sent *suo moto* or at the request of the Punjab Government.

**Khan Mohammad Yamin Khan** (Agra Division: Muhammadan Rural): Sir, I may point out that in today's *Dawn* we find an account of British tommies threatening and making scratches on the bodies of schoolboys who were making a peaceful demonstration. And these tommies are under the Government of India and not under the Punjab Government.

**Mr. President:** The behaviour of tommies will be a different subject. The only question now is about the lending of troops.

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja** (Government of India: Nominated Official): Sir, the suppression of civil disturbance is the primary responsibility of the Provincial Governments which they discharge through their civil police. Occasions, however, do arise, when they have to seek military assistance to suppress civil disturbances. But the necessity and the justification for the use of troops are matters within the judgment of the civil power, namely the Provincial Government in this case. I should add, Sir, that in this particular case, no request has been received by the Defence Department for the lending of troops to the Punjab Government. What I understand has happened is that at the request of the Punjab Government, the local military commander stationed

[Mr. G. S. Bhalja.]

troops, as a precautionary measure, at Lahore and at another place in the Punjab. I suggest that it is not the responsibility of the Defence Department to decide whether troops should be called out for suppression of civil disturbances.

**Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** My contention is that the local military commander is under the jurisdiction of the Government of India, Defence Department. These troops have been kept there simply to terrorise the people . . .

**Mr. President:** Order, order, whatever it may be, the question raised would be that of the responsibility of the Punjab Government and it cannot be debated here.

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INTERFERENCE BY THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT WITH THE PRIVILEGES OF THE  
ASSEMBLY BY DETAINING MEMBERS AND PREVENTING THEM FROM ATTENDING  
THE SESSIONS.

**Mr. President:** The next motion for adjournment is from Mr. Tamizuddin Khan. He has given notice:

"That the business of the Assembly be adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious interference by the Punjab Government with the privileges of this House by detaining several of its members and thus preventing them from attending the sessions of this Assembly to which they have been summoned by the Governor General."

Obviously, on the face of it, the motion says it is the responsibility of the Punjab Government. I do not see how this motion can be debated here.

**Mr. Tamizuddin Khan** (Dacca cum Mymensingh: Muhammadan Rural): If the question of privilege of members of this House cannot be debated here, where else can it be done.

**Mr. President:** Assuming it is a privilege, it is not on account of any executive action of the Government of India that the members have been detained.

**Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer:** Our own Members have been detained and their freedom curtailed. Where else can we debate except on an adjournment motion in this House?

**Mr. President:** It cannot be debated on this motion.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad** (United Provinces Southern Divisions: Muhammadan Rural): The material point is whether the local military commander is under the provincial government or under the central government. . . .

**Mr. President:** Order, order. We have now taken up the next adjournment motion. The Honourable Member is raising a point with regard to a motion which has been disposed of.

With regard to this motion, it is the responsibility of the Punjab Government which has been exercised in the ordinary course of law. It is within the province of the provincial government. Therefore the motion is out of order.

The next motion is in the name of Mr. Hafiz M. Ghazanfarulla.

**Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth:** Before you take up the next motion, Sir, I wish to enquire whether there is no means for this House to express its opinion on the detention of members of this House. As has been stated in the motion, the members have been summoned by the Governor General. Some members, though they received the summons of the Governor General to attend this session, have been detained by the Punjab Government. If they are detained after some sort of trial, it is a different matter. If they are detained without trial, surely there must be some way for this House to take notice of that and debate the same.

**Mr. President:** On that matter, I am not in a position to give any advice. That can be done later on at an appropriate moment.

MASSACRE OF MUSLIM APPRENTICES IN THE JAMALPUR WORKSHOP OF THE  
EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

**Mr. President:** The next motion for adjournment is in the name of Hafiz M. Ghazanfarulla. He wants to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of public importance, namely, massacre of Muslim apprentices in the Jamalpur Workshop, East Indian Railway.

On this matter there is also a question put down. But, then, it appears to me *prima facie*, of course subject to what the Honourable Member for Government may have to say, that so far as the protection of life and property is concerned, even if the property is that of the Government of India if it is situated in a province, the responsibility is a provincial one. It is not that wherever the Government of India owns property or factories, it must station its own police and protect its employees. If that is the position, I do not see how this motion can be discussed, even assuming that there was massacre in the Jamalpur workshop of E.I.R. Will the Honourable Mover of the Motion kindly enlighten me on this.

**Hafiz M. Ghazanfarulla** (Rohilkund and Kumaon Divisions: Muhammadan Rural): The Jamalpur workshops are under the control of the Government of India. It is the duty of the Jamalpur workshop authorities or whoever it is to give protection to the apprentices undergoing training there. Some apprentices have left the workshops and up to this time, they have not been taken back. Letters have been sent to them to the effect that if they think that their lives are not safe, they could make their own arrangements.

**Khawaja Nazimuddin** (Burdwan and Presidency Divisions: Muhammadan Rural): The facts of the case seem to be these. The local railway officials were informed beforehand that there was a likelihood of attack on the apprentices, that their lives were in danger, yet the railway officials took no steps to give protection to them or to remove them to places of safety. So it is to condemn the action of the local railway officials for whom the Government of India are responsible that this motion is tabled in this House.

**Khan Mohammad Yamin Khan:** May I submit, Sir, this motion involves a very vital principle. Though it may be the responsibility of the provincial government to maintain law and order, it is for the Government of India who have some factories and whose management is entirely in the hands of the Government of India to give shelter to the people whom they employ and see that their lives are not in danger through any acts of violence. If the provincial government do not enforce law and order, then is the Government of India going to sit idle and say that it would not give protection to its employees and that it is powerless to do anything else. Should not the Government of India take proper precaution to see that their employees are not exposed to any kind of attacks from outside. That is the real question which this House has to decide. I admit it may not be such an easy matter as to be debated on an adjournment motion. But the Government may come to some decision about the future policy to be laid down in regard to giving protection to their employees who are located in provinces on railway workshops and so on. Are the Government of India going to leave their employees to the mercy of the provincial governments without affording them sufficient protection?

**Mr. President:** In the first place the adjournment motion is not very clear. It does not speak of the responsibility or the failure of the workshop management to remove them to some place free from danger and so on. It is vague enough. Of course the other points may be important. But I feel very clear that it will be the responsibility of the provincial government and the subject cannot be taken up here for discussion as an adjournment motion.

[Mr. President.]

That disposes of all adjournment motions, except No. 15 which is held over for the consent or otherwise of the Governor General.

**Sardar Mangal Singh:** If the consent comes before lunch hour today, will it be taken up this evening or will it be taken up tomorrow.

**Mr. President:** It will be taken up for consideration on the next working day. Tomorrow is a holiday.

#### STATEMENT OF BUSINESS.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru** (Leader of the House): Sir, Id-i-Milad was to have been observed subject to the appearance of the Moon on Wednesday, the 5th February. It is now to be observed tomorrow. I therefore request you, Sir, to cancel the meeting fixed for tomorrow and direct the House to sit for the transaction of official business on Wednesday, the 5th. The list of business issued for today and tomorrow will then operate as the list of business of today and Wednesday.

**Mr. President:** I comply with the request made by the Honourable the Leader of the House. The questions for tomorrow will also be transferred to day after tomorrow.

**Sardar Mangal Singh:** Before you take up other business, Sir, may I know Sir, whether you have admitted my adjournment motion subject to the consent of the Governor General.

**Mr. President:** Nothing of the kind. If consent is received, the motion will be considered on its merits as regards admissibility.

#### GOVERNOR GENERAL'S ASSENT TO BILLS

**Secretary of the Assembly:** Sir, I lay on the table a statement showing the Bills which were passed by both Chambers of the Indian Legislature during the Autumn Session 1946, and which have been assented to by His Excellency the Governor General under the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 68 of the Government of India Act, as continued by section 317 of the Government of India Act, 1935:

##### *Statement*

1. The Reserve Bank of India (Amendment) Act, 1946.
2. The Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946.
3. The Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.
4. The Special Tribunals (Supplementary Provisions) Act, 1946
5. The Banking Companies (Restriction of Branches) Act, 1946.
6. The Hindu Marriage Disabilities Removal Act, 1946.
7. The Indian Tea Control (Amendment) Act, 1946.
8. The Registration of Transferred Companies (Amendment) Act, 1946.
9. The Foreigners Act, 1946.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan** (Finance Member): Sir, I lay on the table a copy each of the following papers:

1. Central Government Appropriation Accounts (Civil) 1944-45 and the Audit Report 1946.
2. Commercial Appendix to the Appropriation Accounts (Civil) 1944-45 and the Audit Report 1946.

3. Finance Accounts 1944-45 and the Audit Report 1946.
4. Appropriation Accounts of Railways in India for 1944-45—Parts I & II.
5. Capital Statements, Balance Sheets and Profit and Loss Accounts of Indian Government Railways including the Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Account of Tatanagar Workshops, 1944-45.
6. Balance Sheets of Railway Collieries and statements of all-in cost of coal, etc., for 1944-45.
7. Railway Audit Report 1946.
8. Appropriation Accounts of the Defence Services for the year 1944-45.
9. Commercial Appendix to the Appropriation Accounts of the Defence Services for the year 1944-45 and the Audit Report thereon.
10. Audit Report, Defence Services 1946.
11. Appropriation Accounts (Posts and Telegraphs) 1944-45 and the Audit Report 1945.

### INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES BILL

#### PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE

**The Honourable Shri Jagjivan Ram** (Labour Member): Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to make provision for the investigation and settlement of industrial disputes, and for certain other purposes.

With your permission, Sir, I should like to point out that the motion which this House adopted on the 14th of November 1946 contained instructions to the Select Committee to report by the 1st February 1947. But through circumstances which could not be foreseen at that time this House was not in session on the 1st of February 1947, but I have taken this first opportunity to present the Select Committee's report.

### FOREIGN EXCHANGE REGULATION BILL

#### PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan** (Finance Member): I present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to regulate certain payments, dealings in foreign exchange and securities and the import and export of currency and bullion.

### INDIAN NAVY (DISCIPLINE) (AMENDMENT) BILL

#### PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE

**Mr. G. S. Bhalja** (Government of India: Nominated Official): I present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Indian Navy (Discipline) Act, 1934.

### MOTOR VEHICLES (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL

#### PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai** (Member for Railways and Transport): I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 (Second Amendment).

### MOTOR VEHICLES (AMENDMENT) BILL

#### PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai** (Member for Railways and Transport): Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

## RUBBER (PRODUCTION AND MARKETING) BILL

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari** (Member for Industries and Supplies): Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill to make provision for assistance to the rubber plantation industry by regulating export from and import into British India of rubber and the sale of rubber therein and by other means.

The Bill has been published and the objects have been stated, and I may add to what has been stated in the printed Statement of Objects and Reasons that there is a very urgent importance for this Bill on account of the difference between the prices prevailing in the world market and the prices at which we have to maintain the production of this important raw material in India in order that the rubber plantations may not be affected. I need hardly say that this is very important and we should get through the Bill as quickly as possible.

## RAILWAYS (TRANSPORT OF GOODS) BILL

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai** (Member for Railways and Transport). Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill to confer for a limited period special powers for regulating the transport of goods on railways.

## NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan** (Finance Member): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

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

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881."

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan:** Sir, I introduce the Bill.

## EXPLOSIVES (TEMPORARY PROVISIONS) BILL

**Mr. B. K. Gokhale** (Government of India: Nominated Official): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to continue for a limited period powers to exempt operations affecting ammunition, explosives and inflammable substances from certain restrictions, and to regulate those operations.

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

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to continue for a limited period powers to exempt operations affecting ammunition, explosives and inflammable substances from certain restrictions, and to regulate those operations."

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. B. K. Gokhale:** Sir, I introduce the Bill.

## DELHI AND AJMER-MERWARA RENT CONTROL BILL

**Mr. B. K. Gokhale** (Government of India: Nominated Official): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce Bill to make better provision for the control of rents in certain areas in the Provinces of Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara.

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

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make better provision for the control of rents in certain areas in the Provinces of Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara."

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. B. K. Gokhale:** Sir, I introduce the Bill.

## SUGAR (TEMPORARY EXCISE DUTY) BILL

to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the completion of recovery  
**Mr. K. L. Panjabi** (Government of India: Nominated Official): Sir, I beg  
of the temporary excise duty on sugar.

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

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the completion of recovery  
of the temporary excise duty on sugar.”

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. K. L. Panjabi:** Sir, I introduce the Bill.

## PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION BILL

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** (Home Member): Sir, I move:

“That the Bill for the more effective prevention of bribery and corruption be taken into  
consideration.”

This House has shown considerable consciousness in the past of the existence  
of widespread evil which it is the purpose of this Bill to attempt to check, and  
non-official opinion on this question has almost been unanimous. There has  
been no difference of opinion about the existence of this evil nor in the desire  
to take some effective measures to control this evil. The House will remember  
that in the last session I had the honour to introduce before this House a Bill  
for the special police establishment in the Centrally administered area in the  
Province of Delhi. When the Bill was under discussion a view was expressed  
very strongly that the mere establishment of special police for the investigation  
of this kind of crimes was not enough and that adequate measures should be  
taken for tightening up the existing machinery to deal with offences of this  
kind. If in the past there has been any criticism it has been to the effect that  
there has been laxity, that no rigorous action or measures have been taken to  
eradicate this evil which corrupts the public administration and that the crime  
more often goes unpunished. Therefore this Bill was introduced in the last  
Session and I now move it for the consideration of this House.

It will be remembered that on the last occasion the extent of the evil was  
described by me in this House, but I would like again to remind the House  
of the work done by the Special Police establishment in the matter  
of investigation of these offences, which will give the House some  
better idea, of the extent to which this evil exists.

This establishment has investigated, by the end of last December, nearly  
1,100 cases: to be more accurate 1,084 cases have been enquired into before  
the end of last year; 700 Government officers and servants have been either  
departmentally or judicially dealt with: of whom as many as 30 are gazetted  
officers and 16 are commissioned officers. The total amount involved in cases  
investigated by the Special Police establishment comes to Rs. 5,65,00,000.  
The number of Government servants convicted for offences of bribery is 208.  
Some of the typical instances are as follows:

Conspiring to cheat Government by forging signatures on indents; favouring  
a contractor by accepting bribes; defrauding Government in the disposal of  
stores; criminal breach of trust; acceptance of illegal gratification; conspiracy  
to cheat Government.

From the variety of the type of offences that have been committed and  
from the statistics of the number of offences and convictions in the cases  
investigated and departmentally dealt with, it will be clear to the House that  
there is a real need to take measures such as are contemplated in this Bill.

Now it may be suggested that as the war has ended, probably these kinds  
of offences are, or this evil is, on the decline. I regretfully confess that there  
is no substantial decline in this direction, and that so long as the after-effects  
of war continue and the controls and the licensing system continues there are



[Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel]

many opportunities and temptations which come in the way of weak-minded officers or servants, who get tempted and who corrupt the public administration. Therefore it is necessary for some time to come that some legislation to tighten up the existing machinery should be taken. Therefore, the present measure is proposed for a period of three years, during which time it is hoped that it will be possible for normal conditions to be restored.

**Shri Sri Prakasa** (Benares and Gorakhpur Divisions: Non-Muhammadan Rural): How far has the existing law failed in this matter?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** But for the energetic efforts of the Police Department, specially established for this purpose, these cases would not have come to light. And if the law had not been over-weighted in favour of the accused, many more cases would have come to light. The existing law creates many difficulties in the way of the investigation department. In the first place there is a general prejudice amongst the people who have knowledge of facts to come forward to give information. Apart from the prejudice, there is a general sense of fear of being involved (as naturally he is a weaker party to the case itself), and therefore he is not prepared to come forward. There is another matter which you have to consider. Owing to the necessities of life being controlled in several branches of the industry people want certain things which they cannot otherwise get than by influencing officers. More responsibility, or greater responsibility rests on these officers. Therefore, although it is suggested that the bribe-giver also should not be allowed to go free, if the more responsible culprit is to be tackled, we have to take the assistance of the bribe-giver. We have also to shift the weight of the existing machinery of the Law to a balance—so as not to prejudice the accused, but at the same time to give a little more facility to the investigating officer, in order that the balance may work in such a way that the investigation may be facilitated and at the same time the interests of the accused may not be jeopardised. With that end in view, although in this Bill it is proposed to tighten the machinery, we have provided, that although the offences would be made cognizable, these offences would not be investigated by the subordinate police except through an order obtained from a Magistrate. Otherwise generally the offence will be investigated only by an officer of the grade of a Superintendent or Deputy Superintendent. If any officer below that grade has to investigate this offence, he has to approach the Magistrate and obtain an order. Sufficient protection is thus there, and I therefore hope there will be no hesitation in turning the scale a little more on the side of the investigating officer without doing any injury to the effectiveness of the defence. We have also provided that the presumption that a Government servant who has accepted a gratification as a motive or reward is not conclusive and in trivial cases, or of a small gratification, or where the gratification is not very substantial, the inference need not be against him. It is also provided that the Government servant who is to face his trial can give his own evidence without the risk of any adverse inference being drawn against him if he did not. He can thus convince the court of his *bona fides* by his statement. This benefit is not given to him under the normal law. Ordinarily an accused person is not called upon or is not even allowed to be administered the oath and he is not entitled to go into the witness box. Probably it is a privilege given to him that he should not do it. Here in this case that privilege or restriction, whichever you call it, is relaxed in favour of the accused in order to remedy the presumption that is often drawn against him in the absence of any satisfactory explanation. Therefore he is being allowed to give evidence in his own case, so that he may be able to place before the trial court all the facts of which he has personal knowledge and which it may not be possible for the prosecution to get at. Thus if he convinces the trial court of his *bona fides* by his statement or if his evidence discloses materials which would rebut the presumptions, then no presumption as laid down need be drawn.

We have also prescribed in this Bill a new offence. It covers cases of those who are habitually corrupt or who dishonestly or fraudulently embezzle public property. This new offence is called "criminal misconduct". But in that case also, although he might be a habitual criminal and have committed several offences of this nature, similar protection is given to him in the matter of investigation as in the other cases and an officer below the rank of a Superintendent or Deputy Superintendent of Police will not be authorised to investigate such cases. Therefore he has enough protection so far as any prejudicial effect on his conduct and proceedings is concerned.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** What clause in the Bill exempts the bribe-giver? Could the Honourable Member indicate the clause?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** The bribe-giver is not exempt. This Bill does not exempt him. He is as much liable under the ordinary law as under this Bill. There is no provision in this Bill to exempt him at all. Even under the present law the bribe-giver is rarely prosecuted or is rarely caught, because the bribe-taker does not involve the bribe-giver for fear of his being himself involved in it. If the bribe-giver makes a confession that he has given a bribe, surely this Bill will not prevent in any manner his prosecution. Even if he does not make any confession and there is any evidence from which it can be proved that a certain person has attempted to give a bribe to any public servant or officer and a prosecution can be secured then certainly the bribe-giver will also be prosecuted under the Bill. There is ample provision for that. There is no provision in this Bill to excuse him nor is any attempt made in this Bill even to minimise the moral responsibility of the bribe-giver. It is as reprehensible under this Bill as it is under the old law.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Sometimes he is compelled to give a bribe.

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** And to that extent he is less guilty.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** He should be exempted. For instance he cannot get reservation in a train unless he gives a bribe.

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Has the Honourable Member heard of any bribe-giver being prosecuted? He has suggested the case of railway reservation. Even the necessities of life which ordinarily a man requires are sometimes not obtainable without some gratification being given.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** In that case the bribe-giver should be exempted.

**Mr. President:** Is the Honourable Member likely to take long?

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Yes Sir.

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.

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Sir, it was suggested that the bribe-giver acts under compulsion and therefore he should be excluded from the operations of the penal provision. It has been said that such a provision has been made in the Central Provinces where, in order to facilitate the detection of the crimes of those who corrupt the administration, the bribe-giver is excluded. But on the whole I think it is not wise to legalise a crime. For the off-chance of getting some evidence of a tainted character, where that evidence would not be considered very reliable, it would be unwise to adopt such a provision in a legislation. However, from experience we find that a bribe-giver is hardly prosecuted as in the detection of the crime the police takes the assistance of the bribe-giver in several cases. Apart from that I think a bribe given under compulsion is no bribe. It takes the shape of an extortion if it is compulsory. But, when the bribe-giver also is influenced by other considerations than compulsion; or his motive is mixed, that is, when his motive is also to gain something which he would not otherwise be able to secure, and,

[Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel]

although we have every sympathy for a man who legitimately wishes to acquire a thing, and does not get it but has to give some gratification, even then it would be impolitic and improper to excuse him under the provisions of law. Therefore I would suggest that no such provision should be attempted to be introduced in a legislation of this character.

Now, the extent of the evil has been amply demonstrated. I may say for the information of the House that there is a feeling in some quarters that the provisions of the Bill do not go far enough. In order to secure opinion from all quarters I had circulated the Bill to all the Provinces, and the opinion of the Provinces has also been circulated to all the Members. The balance of Provincial opinion is in favour of the Bill. I am not surprised because the Bill originated at the suggestion of a provincial government where this kind of crimes had taken such a form that they asked the Central Government to move in the matter.

Now, Sir, I do not think that much more argument is needed in favour of acceptance of the consideration of the Bill and I expect that there will be general unanimity. I therefore beg leave to move that the Bill for the more effective prevention of bribery and corruption be taken into consideration.

**Mr. President:** Motion moved:

“That the Bill for the more effective prevention of bribery and corruption be taken into consideration.”

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Mr. President, Sir, the subject matter of this Bill is of vital importance; and it has been exercising the thoughts of people for a very long time. I should therefore like, if I may, to offer my respectful congratulations to our present Home Minister for having officially recognised this evil. I remember that whenever any complaint used to be made in the past, it was always said on behalf of Government that specific instances must be given. Very often it happened that Government, instead of punishing a wrong, actually condoned it, with the result that the evil, as has been admitted, has been growing from day to day; and it is high time that it were now stopped.

But, Sir, there are certain aspects of this question which I should like to bring before the notice of the House. It is no use taking up an attitude of straight laced prudery or of being so self-righteous as almost to appear hypocritical. We have to take human nature as it is into consideration. The fact does remain that when a man has not sufficient to live on but has sufficient power to do evil and has plenty of temptation put before him, ten to one he is like to fall. Therefore, this problem has not only to be tackled at one end but it has to be tackled on all fronts. If you pay a man properly and if you see to it that all his needs are satisfied and that he should reasonably be above temptation, then it would be right and proper to punish him if he does not perform his duty properly. It is from this consideration that I should like to draw the Honourable Member's attention to two or three aspects of the problem.

The most important problem to my mind is that of the bribe-giver. If the existing law has failed, I think it has failed because it has put the bribe-taker and the bribe-giver on the same level. Morally this conception of the existing law is correct, but practically it has resulted in bribe-takers escaping because bribe-givers would not come forward to expose the wrong done. This matter did come up before a committee over which the Honourable Member's predecessor presided; and I brought up this aspect of the question at that time also. Very often—I am sure if Sir John Thorne did not know it, our present Home Member knows it very well—very often it does happen that a person is almost compelled to give what cannot but be called a bribe in order to get what otherwise would be his right to get. The Honourable Member himself has said that

in these days when essential commodities and essential necessities of life are being controlled and rationed, the temptation to go wrong is quadrupled. That is so, and as things are, we have to walk particularly warily.

Very often it happens that you are anxious to catch a train and the train threatens to whistle off without you unless you paid a certain amount of consideration money in order to get a seat. Now at that time and in these circumstances, the bribe-giver is not to blame. He has a right to get into the train and get the berth which happens to have been reserved in a bogus name in the hope that some one will turn up at the last moment and pay some money to the official in charge in order that that berth may be given to this particular man and the bogus name removed. In that case I believe the bribe-giver is not to blame. There may be a death in a family. At the present time you have to get a permit in order to get even a shroud and you may be asked to pay some extra legal money in order to get that shroud. You may find that you are unable to get it unless you pay that money. I think you should be blameless if you paid that money and got that particular piece of cloth. A thousand and one instances of this sort I can quote.

On the very morning I arrived in Delhi to sit on the Home committee. I have mentioned above, I boarded a tonga outside the Delhi Junction Railway Station. I found the tongawalla giving an 8 anna bit to the policeman on duty. I tried to protest but I learnt that the tongawalla would not be allowed within the station precincts unless he paid that money. In a case like that the bribe-giver should be exempted and it is the bribe-taker alone who should be punished. If the bribe-giver for personal profit is corrupting the official concerned, then both are of course, guilty and both are punishable. I could multiply instances by the score but this should suffice to show what happens and I beg the Honourable the Home Minister to see to it that the law that he is framing is so framed that such cases would be eliminated, that bribe-givers in particular circumstances would be exempted. That is one suggestion that I most respectfully make to him and the House.

**Maulana Zafar Ali Khan** (East Central Punjab: Muhammadan): You are then torpedoing the Bill by these exemptions.

**Mr. President:** I would ask the Honourable Member not to interrupt.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** I personally honestly think that I am trying to bring out facts as they are in order if possible to improve the Bill not to torpedo it.

Secondly I should also like a gradation in punishment in accordance with the position and the salaries of the officials concerned. If a man who is drawing Rs. 5,000 a month takes a bribe, however heavy that might be—because I understand the larger the person's salary the heavier the amount of the bribe that he condescends to accept—there should be condign punishment; but if a person concerned only draws about Rs. 20 a month and he takes a 8 anna bit then the punishment should not be so heavy. As it happens in this world, the bigwigs escape and the small ones always get it in the neck. In the question hour this morning, our Honourable friend Mr. Subedar suggested that black marketing in matches—I mean not matches in the matrimonial sense but matches in the sense of that instrument that helps us to light a fire—was due to petty vendors and that they alone were to blame. I could not put in a supplementary because you passed on to the other question; but I wanted to ask whether only petty vendors were involved or bigwigs also were to blame. Now, we do not want the bigwigs to escape; and I wish it were possible for the Honourable Member to see to it that the smaller fry were let off lightly but the bigger ones were severely punished. If that took place things would improve considerably.

Then, Sir, what is wanted is that we must get hold of the proper sort of people who would be in charge of a department like this. It is not enough to say that a police officer below a particular rank would not be entrusted with the task. I find it difficult to suggest practical methods of doing things because

[Shri Sri Prakasa.]

I have never been in charge of any Government Department and I think I am lucky in that because it is always easier to be in the opposition than in the Government; but I know from a personal instance in the United Provinces how the Anti-Corruption Department, unable to catch the real culprits, foisted the crime on absolutely innocent men. I should have given details but there have been apologies which I have accepted; and therefore I do not propose to give those details here but it was a most scandalous sort of proceeding, and I am anxious that the Central Government should have proper persons in order that they may feel that they are not there to catch the innocent but the persons that are really guilty. I do not know how such men could be found or manufactured; but if Government has taken upon itself the responsibility of governing the country and governing it well, then it is for them to find such persons if they are there; and if they cannot find such persons, then not only this law but all similar laws would remain mere scraps of paper.

It was claimed by the Commissioners who drafted the Indian Penal Code that they had made it so perfect that if a man were to dip his pen in another man's ink, he could be found guilty. Therefore, they had to add a section by which they said that any act which is so trifling that no reasonable man would take umbrage at it, would not be regarded as crime. The Indian Penal Code is, in a way, a perfect piece of legislation; and all the punishments to which the Honourable Member referred this morning were under the sections of that Code. Still the Government feel that further laws are necessary to check the wrongs that continue to be perpetrated. The wrongs will continue to be perpetrated unless we are able to get proper men in proper places. How that has got to be done, I cannot say. I have my own suggestions; but this is not the place to mention them.

Still I think that that aspect of the problem cannot be neglected, because the people who are appointed to tasks like this might feel that it is their duty to run in someone or other, otherwise they would be regarded as inefficient. I understand that police officers get promotions on the basis of the number of arrests they make and the convictions they can get. If I were in office, I should promote such policemen who kept the law so well that there was no need for anyone to be run in at all. But that has not been the mentality of persons who have been in charge of the country for so long. I do hope that that official mentality will rapidly and increasingly change with the coming in of our present Government.

Then, Sir, there is another thing to which I should like to draw the Honourable Member's attention, and that is in clause 4. There he refers to any gratification "other than legal remuneration". Now, legal remuneration has got to be defined. Where do tips come in? Now, tips are as important for speakers in this House as for persons who function outside. They require all sorts of tips all the time. I do not know whether the Honourable Member himself does it, but I will confess that I do it. I always hand over a certain sum of money to the policeman on the beat in front of my house from time to time on festive occasions. It is not that I am anxious to part with my money; it is not that I am particularly sympathetic with them because they are low paid; it is not that I love them very much. I really do so because I do not want my house to be burgled at night. Therefore, I give them money and I lay the soothing unction to my soul that I give them only tips on Diwali, Dasehra, Id and other festive occasions, and not bribes. But the fact does remain if I looked into the innermost recesses of my heart I would find that I pay because I want my house to be safe. Will that tip be a legal remuneration or will that be punishable? I think that that matter has to be taken into consideration because unless these things are properly defined, it may happen that if some one is in the bad books of some one else, even a small tip may get him into difficulty. These are the few points that occurred to me as I heard the

Honourable the Home Member make his exceedingly lucid and convincing speech this morning. I am sure that if he is able to accept my suggestions and improve the Bill accordingly, we should have on the statute book a law that would bring relief and safety to all those who need them most.

**Sjt. N. V. Gadgil** (Bombay Central Division: Non-Muhammadian Rural): Sir, I wish to support this Bill, but, at the same time, I want to state that it does not go far enough. In fact, it is a very cautious measure. Now, Sir, it is not necessary to prove that corruption in the country has assumed enormous proportions. In the province of Bengal a Committee was appointed especially to make an inquiry with respect to the prevalence of bribery. That Committee made certain recommendations. My only regret is that all the recommendations made by that Committee have not been followed. That Committee was appointed in the year 1944 when the war was on, and the causes of the widespread corruption given by the Committee are even now prevalent although the war has come to an end. The Committee in its report says:

"Not only corruption on the part of the minor officials appears to be endemic in Bengal as it is in most other parts of India, but in recent years the position has greatly deteriorated, especially since the war began, seriously to affect India. The war here, as elsewhere, breeds conditions which makes money making easy."

Although the war is over, things that have come into existence while the war was on still continue to exist, although the war is officially over.

Going through the other causes which are responsible for the widespread prevalence of corruption in this country, one cannot but criticise the economic policy that has been followed by the Government so far. I am not against the policy of control as such, but the way in which it has been operated and continues to be operated is such that instead of making available the articles to everyone in the most equitable manner, it presents an equitable supply with the result that corruption still increases. My Honourable friend Mr. Sri Prakasa referred to the fact that there is the bribe-giver and the bribe-taker. Now, bribery, like mercy, is a bilateral act. It benefits both of them. But I am prepared to make an exception in the case of those who give it not for any advantage for trade or commerce but who are compelled in the circumstances to which a reference was made by my Honourable friend Mr. Sri Prakasa. For example, if one is in a hurry and it is not possible to buy a ticket straightaway, a few annas or even a rupee here and there cannot come under the strict definition of bribery. The point is this. I draw a broad line between the act if it is meant to profit the person who gives the bribe for the purpose of increasing his earnings, and the act of a man who gives the thing for the purpose of meeting some urgent situation such as securing a ticket or a berth in a railway compartment. Now, this Bill, in my opinion, is a cautious measure because it is merely procedural. It does not, as a matter of fact, create any new offence although an offence, namely, criminal misconduct in discharge of official duty is to be seen in clause 5. But it is really an old offence. What is there really contemplated is that if a public servant habitually accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain from any person for himself or for any person some illegal gratification. A single act itself is an offence, but when you lay down a clause for a habitual offender, it really means that it defeats its own purpose. In the opinions that have been circulated by the Government, Justice Cornelius of the Lahore High Court has clearly stated in his comment on clause 5:

"Since a single act of corruption on the part of a public servant is sufficient ground for terminating his tenure of public service, a section which provides for punishment of public servants who *habitually* take bribes is in itself a confession of defeat."

Even a provision of this character will not go far enough. Although I know in the same clause, in sub-clause (3) a rule of evidence has been laid down whereby certain evidence is made relevant. The fact that a man has acquired property for which he has no honest explanation,

[Sjt. N. V. Gadgil.]

can be taken into consideration under sub-clause (3). My humble submission is that a mere procedural change in the law is not enough. Let us see what will be the effective remedy for this. Either you must appeal to the conscience of the man, and we must confess that we have failed there. It is a shame that such a legislation has become a necessity. The great ideal for a public servant is honesty, integrity and anonymity. We have failed there. In fact wherever you go, you hear nothing but reports of corruption, whether it is a rationing office or whether it is a railway office or whether it is the office of some controller of something, either of export or import, we hear nothing but the sorry tale of corruption. There must be something fundamentally wrong in the constitution of society itself. If conscience can provide no appeal, it is really regrettable, but having assumed that conscience does not provide, let us see what will be the effective remedy. Will fear of punishment be effective? Now, Sir, what this legislation really provides is that a man may be punished more than he could have been punished under the ordinary criminal law. But the man who has pocketed thousands of rupees will probably spend a couple of years in any jail, either as 'A' class or 'B' class prisoner and thereafter he will be happy. The man comes back and he will have retained the gains of his bribery. I therefore bring to the attention of the Honourable the Home Member whether forfeiture of property would not be a sufficient remedy. In fact that was the suggestion made by the Bengal Enquiry committee. I am not merely suggesting forfeiture of property merely by way of punishment. Unless a man who gains unlawfully by acting illegally and in a corrupt manner is deprived of the property, there is no use saying that this legislation will be of help. What I am suggesting is the creation of a new offence and it is this. Just as in this legislation it has been provided that if a man has property for which he cannot account, the presumption may be raised that it has been illegally acquired, I am going a step further, I am going to say that if a man has property for which he cannot account, the very possession of that property or property of such character should constitute an offence. If that is done, then I think those who have secured illegally lakhs of rupees in the course of the last six years will be deprived of that. The consequences of bribery are not confined to the bribe-giver or the bribe-taker. The consequences have been social. What has been the consequence of corruption so far as we the common people are concerned? We have had to pay more for everything. In many respects, we have to go without essentials, and yet we see before our eyes, Collectors and Deputy Collectors and Controllers and Deputy Controllers who have purchased properties and invested lakhs of rupees in commercial concerns. If you are not going to deprive them of all this ill-gotten wealth, well in course of time, this will become respectable and openly their own property, and all your efforts, whether you have a few more presumptions, whether you have a few more sections introduced in the Criminal Procedure Code or even if you increase the quantum of punishment will be in vain. The real thing, the social consequences of bribery will still remain. It is open to you to act quickly so that the ill-gotten property is not transferred to *bona fide* purchasers and more difficulties are not created. If the Government acts promptly, I am sure lakhs of rupees will be available to the poor people from whom they were illegally acquired by the corrupt officials. The recommendation of the Bengal enquiry committee is this:

"That a new offence should be created providing that, if a public servant or his dependants are known to have become possessed of a sudden accretion of wealth, the public servant concerned would be deemed guilty of the offence unless he could prove that the accretion of wealth was innocently obtained."

This is of course a wide extension of the provisions of section 9(1) of Ordinance 29 of 1943 which was promulgated while the war was on.

My humble suggestion to the Honourable the Home Member is that if it is not possible to incorporate this in the present legislation, he will give this suggestion his serious consideration so that in the near future he may bring a Bill whereby the possession of property of this character will become an offence.

Now, Sir, I do not want to be irrelevant and refer to black marketeers because they have also earned property to which they have no title. The Honourable the Home Member who is known to be a strong man holds strong views and if I can quote him in one of his public utterances, he said that the black marketeer should be whipped, but I do not go so far as that, I only suggest to him that if he can make a law under which those who have earned by suspicious manners and methods, they should also be held guilty till they are able to prove that the property they have got was honestly earned. In that case only the public who has suffered so long and so much will be getting some justice.

So far as the present legislation is concerned, I do not want to oppose it. I welcome it. The facts that the Honourable the Home Member gave certainly justify such a measure. He has stated that many cases have been initiated and convictions secured. All that is good. But as I said and I again want to emphasise that man does not care so much for the loss of his liberty for a few months or even for a few years as he does for the loss of his property. 'The wounds caused by injury to property' said a great Roman Philosopher 'are deeper than those caused to body'.

By putting the man into prison surely you will have vindicated the majesty of law, surely you will have done justice to state as state. But to do full justice to people something more is required. You must restore the ill-gotten wealth to public treasury. You must deprive the dishonest of his dishonest gains. You cannot restore it to A, B, C, for it is impossible to find out the bribe givers, therefore restore it to the Public Treasury. That will be justice, that will be fair play. Sir, I support the motion.

**Mr. P. J. Griffiths** (Assam: European): Sir, I rise on behalf of this group to offer our unqualified support to the present measure, a measure of which my only criticisms are, firstly, that it has been far too long delayed, and secondly, that it does not go nearly far enough. We in this House and particularly we in this group must always be reluctant to consent to a measure which at first sight may seem to depart from the ordinary principles of criminal law as they are known to us and which may indeed in one sense be said to tip the scales of justice in favour of the prosecution. But be those theoretical objections what they may, the hard practical experience of the last few years has forced upon us the conviction that the powers contained in this Bill are the very minimum with which any Government in this country today can hope to stem the tide of corruption. There is nothing new about corruption, nor is corruption particularly confined to this country. Whenever and wherever human greed and human cupidity prevail there will corruption be found. But it so happens that, thanks to the circumstances of the last few years, in this country what six years ago was a regrettable but petty social evil, has today become a monstrous growth, a growth which if unchecked threatens to choke the life of the whole body politic. And in these circumstances, whatever may be the considerations of theory and whatever our dislike of departures from the principles of criminal law, no considerations of that kind can prevent us from giving Government those powers and that legislative authority which they, and all who are responsible for fighting corruption, know to be the minimum if they are to perform their duty in this matter. I speak, Sir, with a good deal of personal interest and with not a small degree of personal experience of this particular problem. For about one year,—thanks, I suppose, to my sins in a former life,—it fell to my lot to be Director General of Civil Supplies and responsible for the particular work of enforcement, in the province of Bengal; and amongst my duties it fell to me



[Mr. P. J. Griffiths.]

to try to deal with the evil of corruption in regard to civil supply matters. Let me say straightaway, frankly and without reserve, that I failed completely. I caught the small people but, I never caught the big people; and I failed not for lack of trying, not for lack of support; I failed for the simple reason that the ordinary machinery of the law is not sufficient to deal with this particular class of case. Let me particularise. I found three main difficulties which made it practically impossible to bring home these offences of corruption to officials who really mattered. First there was the fact of the time lag in investigation and arrest. Many of the offences concerned are not cognisable. That meant that as soon as reasonable suspicion arose that an offence had been committed, it was not possible for investigation to start without delay, and more important still it was not possible for arrests to be made without delay. What happened again and again was, that provided the person concerned was big enough and rich enough and clever enough, the evidence disappeared. Long before the investigation had gone far enough to yield any tangible result, the evidence had melted away. There is only one way of dealing with that situation, and that is by making this class of offence cognisable and so making certain that, as soon as reasonable suspicion arises practical action can be taken before the powerful and influential officials concerned have time to make away with the evidence.

The second difficulty was rather of a different kind and arose from the practical impossibility of proving motive. If you charge an official with accepting an illegal gratification it is not sufficient to show that he has received a valuable thing; you have in normal circumstances to show that he received that valuable thing for a particular reason or for a particular motive. In practice you cannot do so. Again and again it could have been possible to prove that a particular official had received a valuable thing but it was impossible to produce any evidentiary connection between the receipt of that thing and the motive for which it was given and the motive for which it was received. And so it happened times without number that we knew of people who were committing these offences on a big scale—we knew them and the public knew them—their existence was a public scandal—but they could not be laid by the heels because of the lack of evidentiary connection. The only way of dealing with this is to make it quite clear that, if a person holding an official position received a pecuniary gratification he does so at his own risk and the onus must lie on him to show why he got it and to justify his receipt of it. I am therefore prepared to say without fear of contradiction—at any rate without fear of contradiction from anybody who has had to grapple with this problem—that in the absence of a clause of this kind—a clause which is, I admit, a departure from the general principles of criminal law—you will never lay by the heels the officials who are practising corruption on a big scale.

Then I come to the third difficulty, of a kind not wholly dissimilar. I should like to illustrate this difficulty by a personal experience, which does not relate to the Civil Supplies Department but goes back many years before it. I think I have told this story once before in this House but it is worth telling again. I had in one district serving under me an officer on a pay of Rs. 450 a month. He had no private income or private resources, but he kept six horses and two motor cars. That is not an isolated case; everybody who has practical experience of life in the districts of this country knows only too well that this kind of thing is the rule rather than an exception. Again and again there are officials in this country regarding whom it is public knowledge that they are living far beyond their means. You cannot touch them because in ordinary circumstances the law very wisely provides that a man need not explain where he gets his wealth from.

**An Honourable Member:** He may get it from his mother-in-law!

**Mr. P. J. Griffiths:** There are unlimited apparatuses of evasion with which my Honourable friend and I are equally familiar.

That may be good enough for ordinary times, but faced as we are now with a situation in which corruption has become an unparalleled evil and in which some remedy has to be found for it, we must depart from the ordinary principle of the onus of proof. We must lay down that an accretion of property must be explained by a Government servant, and if he cannot explain that sudden accretion he must be held guilty of some criminal offence. As the law stands today, if I am a petty official on a few hundred rupees a month and if tomorrow I build a vast mansion at the cost of several lakhs of rupees, I get away with it. That must not continue to be the case. And it is because the Honourable Home Member in his wisdom and his knowledge of these things has realised that a change in this matter is essential if we are to fight this growing corruption, that he has brought in a measure which I regard as a courageous measure and a measure for which I believe posterity will bless him. Let me say quite frankly that it has been my experience in Bengal and it has been the experience elsewhere, that under the ordinary law you can touch the small man but you cannot touch the big and influential corrupt official. This Bill seeks to some extent to put things right, but in my view it is somewhat half-hearted. There are at least two directions in which I should have wished to see it very much strengthened. In the first place I agree entirely with my Honourable friend Mr. Gadgil that in all cases where corruption has occurred and where large sums of money or property have been acquired dishonestly, the law should proceed to demand the restitution of those properties or those sums, even if the usual expedient has been followed of passing them on to another member of the guilty man's family. It is a quite well-recognised thing that when a Government official takes money or takes property, he does not keep it in his own name but passes it on to his cousin or brother or somebody else. In our view the Home Member should examine the problem as to whether it is possible in any way to chase up property which has been acquired illegally in this kind of way and which has been passed on to some other person. It is not an easy problem; I do not pretend that I can suggest the formulæ for doing it; I have thought much of this problem and I am still not clear as to how it is to be solved. But I want to say this that if the Honourable Home Member can find a way of doing it, he will have our unstinted support.

And, finally, the other direction in which I wish this Bill had gone further is this. It is all right to lay down punishments, it is all right to prescribe offences; but when these cases come to be tried in the courts in this country—I speak with no disrespect to the courts at all—it very often happens that the sentences are wholly inadequate. And if the Honourable Home Member wants to make this Bill a really useful measure, he will add to it a clause laying down that in certain classes of offences minimum punishments shall be prescribed. It may perhaps be that it would be difficult to do that in this particular Bill, but I suggest to the Home Member that he should consider the possibility of a separate Bill, which for certain classes of offences will prescribe that, unless the court for reasons to be recorded in writing thinks otherwise, the punishment shall not be less than a certain minimum. I make these points not by way of criticism but by way of suggestion, for our view is that by this Bill the Home Member has taken a great step forward, a step for which future generations will have cause to bless him. Sir, we support the Bill.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga** (Guntur *cum* Nellore: Non-Muhammadian Rural): I am also whole heartedly in favour of this Bill and I also think that if it is carried out in its proper spirit it is bound to do a great deal of good to our people. But, Sir, my complaint is that it does not go far enough. My Honourable friend Mr. Griffiths, said that under the present law smaller people can be caught but the bigger people do manage to escape, but my fear is that even under this

[Prof. N. G. Ranga.]

new Bill many of these bigger people are likely to escape because of one or two provisions in this Bill. There is a provision made here for the Governor-General or the Governor alone to give the sanction for prosecution against any officer. If you are to leave it to these Governors-General and Governors, I am rather afraid that these big officials will somehow manage to see that prosecutions are not launched against them at all. As my Honourable friend, Mr. Griffiths, has put it we have our huge ramifications of sons-in-law and mothers-in-law. Somewhere or other the accused will find a big enough man to reach the Governor or the Governor-General, and manage to influence him. And it is Governor-General; it is not even Governor-General-in-Council; it is Governor-General in his own personal and individual judgment. We have come across some Governors and some Governors-General also in the course of our history who could be got at by certain means. Therefore I want sufficient care to be taken by the Government to see that this *lacuna* is made good, and the Governors and Governors-General are not brought into this picture at all, and especially in their individual judgment.

Secondly, the impression is sought to be created that this corruption is something new with us. There was a good old Lord Clive, and there was his ancestors Warren Hastings, and their only justification was that they could have taken very much more, but they were so very self-restrained as to be content with only a few crores of rupees. From that time onwards the tradition has come down to us. Even before the war began there was a widespread grievance by millions of our masses in regard to the P. W. D. in its Irrigation Section, and it reached up to the Central P. W. D. Everybody knows the scandals of corruption in the building up of this New Delhi. And there is a Revenue Department. Our peasants are not able to escape from the compulsory payments they are obliged to make collectively or individually to the Revenue Department and the P. W. D. in its Irrigation Branch. And there is also the Central Excise Department under the benign regime of the Central Board of Revenue. People have had to pay and are paying even today their levies to the officers. What appears to be a sort of tip to my Honourable friend, Mr. Sri Prakasa, will certainly be a sort of compulsory imposition upon an ordinary peasant. Two rupees from an ordinary peasant is a terrible exaction and that is how money has been exacted by these officials, and we have had no safeguard against this corruption. It was only during the war that not only the ordinary postal official but many others and also people holding ministerial appointments pocketed lakhs and lakhs of rupees. They have to be got at. I do not know; my knowledge of law is not so much as to make me feel sure that under the definition of this phrase 'public servants', ministers and parliamentary secretaries would come in. If they do come in, well and good; if they do not, then I would like the Honourable the Home Member to bring forward a Bill in order to rope in these people also.

Then there is the other set of people—the bribe givers. I want a distinction to be made in favour of the ordinary peasants and workers who have no other course open to them than to give bribes. They cannot be prosecuted because the officers are not being prosecuted. It is only when an officer comes to be prosecuted that the State is able to know who are the people who have given bribes. When it comes to know that such and such persons have given bribes, they are also liable to be prosecuted, with the result that even when it is known that such and such persons have given bribes, not one of them would come forward openly lest he should be hauled up before the Court of Law. It is open to my Honourable friend, the Home Member, to say that in justifiable cases the Courts will certainly excuse these people, but ordinary folks do not wish to be dragged to the Courts. They have got no money to spend on such trials. Therefore I want these ordinary folks who have no other way out but to give

the bribe and who are prepared to come forward and give evidence not to be punished. It should be made publicly known to them all that they would not be liable to be punished, so that they would be encouraged to come forward and give their evidence. But on the other hand there is another class of bribe-givers who have made it a profession, and who have been giving bribe after bribe to officer after officer, and these have developed themselves into a sort of public touts and have made millions of rupees. The Civil Supplies Department became notorious as we all know, and various other departments also became notorious. As the Joint Secretary of the Civil Supplies Department has recently admitted not only the Civil Supplies Department but every other department was corrupt. One man gets a licence. Now he has had nothing to do with the sale of cloth or yarn at all, but he becomes a licensee; he has not even seen the sight of yarn; he cannot distinguish between 50 or 100 or 150 counts, but he becomes a licensee. Therefore he simply passes it on to another man and pockets some money. Then it goes on like this five or six times, until it reaches the seventh man who does the job, and like this any number of people have become regular traders in licences in the city of Delhi. That is why many of us feel very unhappy whenever we have to go to the Industries and Supplies Department or to the Secretariat because some people may think that we are also out to fill our pockets. This sort of bribe-givers must also be got at by this law. If this law cannot get at them, then I trust the Honourable the Home Member will come forward with another law. Sir, the Leader of the House, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, had called this new type of people 'dirt', and he rightly said that this dirt must be removed. It is our duty to help this Government not only to destroy this dirt but to remove it entirely from our social life. My Honourable friend, Mr. Gadgil, was wondering whether there was anything wrong in our social life. I do not think so. There is nothing wrong in our social conscience. But what is it, but the product of our social institutions? We have created all these institutions and controls. The result is that these things are being experienced. Remove some of these controls and many other things and these things will be better. But in the present circumstances, I may tell you, Sir, that with the best possible intentions, even people like many of us will not be able to live an honest life. He will have to say to ourselves that somehow or other we are doing a wrong thing in order to get the most essential supplies to carry on our own existence.

Lastly, what are we to do with all the non-official public servants? We are getting hold of these poor people because they have signed a contract that they are going to be the servants of the State. Therefore, we are quite willing to be justifiably harsh on them. But what about all the other people like the black-marketers, ministerial personages and so-called public servants and public workers, who make it also their business to go about these various Government offices and go on making money and using their influence with Honourable Members and Secretaries. Unless we do something about them, our public life is likely to be poisoned and everyone of us is likely to be suspected that we are feathering our own nests. Many of us who have come into public life, must keep our lives like an open book. There must be a law for the police to get at those people who in 10 or 20 years time have amassed, by no ostensible means of livelihood Rs. 20/40 lakhs. These should be got at. They pass as great public servants amongst us: No, no, public workers with titles given by the other *raj*, may be also to be given by the future *raj*. These must be got at, otherwise there will be no honesty in our public life. In America the word "politician" connotes something bad. Are we also to degrade our population to such an extent as to make it impossible for decent people to come into public life and into politics? I want the Honourable the Home Member to keep these points in his mind and try to introduce a suitable legislation at the earliest possible moment in addition to the present Bill.

I whole-heartedly support this Bill.

**Mr. Tamisuddin Khan** (Dacca cum Mymensingh: Muhammadan Rural): Everyone in this House, including even those who are bribe givers for securing railway reservations, is one with the Honourable Member in charge of the Bill to put down bribery and corruption. The war has unbalanced human society and human minds all over the world, and bribery and corruption are rampant everywhere. It is not confined to India alone. If one can believe things that are written in newspapers, I think conditions in France are far worse than what they are in India. But because conditions elsewhere may be worse that is no justification for bribery and corruption predominating in our country. Therefore every effort must be made to put down bribery and corruption.

So far as the provisions of the Bill are concerned, I find some of them are very salutary. I am prone to give my whole-hearted support to them. But as you have seen, there is some difference of opinion in this House. Mr. Sri Prakasa thinks that in certain respects the Bill goes too far, whereas Mr. Gadgil thinks that it does not go far enough and that some more drastic provisions should be put into the Bill. I refer to this only for this reason that I entertain a regret that the Members are not getting a proper opportunity to give their mature consideration to this Bill. I am definitely of opinion that important measures like this should go through Select Committees. Unless such measures go through Select Committees, opportunities are not given for mature consideration of their provisions. So far as this Bill is concerned, I feel that many of the Members have not even got an opportunity to give notice of amendments. It happened that the agenda paper containing the fact that the Bill will come up on the first day was sent by post to certain Honourable Members. They had already left home and did not receive the agenda paper. They come to know that this measure was coming on the first day only after their arrival at Delhi when it was too late to give amendments. Therefore it is regrettable that many Members have not been able to bestow mature consideration to the provisions of the Bill. If the Honourable Member wants that the Members of this House should take responsibility for legislative measures, and if he wants to derive any benefit from the mature consideration of Honourable Members, it is only due to the Members that they should get a proper opportunity to give their consideration to them.

I agree with Mr. Gadgil that efforts ought to be made to make some of the provisions more drastic and to introduce some new provisions so that those guilty of bribery and corruption might be got at more easily. But it must be admitted that in legislating, we must be careful that innocent persons may not be hauled up before courts of law by unscrupulous persons to satisfy a private grudge. Therefore, if it is not very inconvenient for the Government to postpone consideration of the Bill for a few days, it should be done. There are certain Bills of a less important character. Those measures might have been taken up first and this important Bill ought to have been taken up a few days later. Unfortunately, there is no motion in this House for reference of the Bill to a Select Committee. I would then have given my whole-hearted support to such a motion. While I support this Bill, so far as it goes, I have regretfully to remark that the Bill is being rushed through.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad** (United Provinces Southern Divisions: Muhammadan Rural): I welcome the particular Bill as it is a good attempt to suppress corruption about which we have been discussing so much during the last four or five years. I pointed out some three or four years ago that in my early days I had been hearing only of corruption in the Police Department. When I grew older I then discovered there was another Department of Government, namely, the Railway Department, and the corruptions of the Police Department were entirely forgotten. I pointed out to Sir Alan Parsons, when he was Chief Commissioner, that if on retirement, he accepted the post of Station Master of

Chauri Chaura station, one of the stations in my constituency, his income would be Rs. 4,000 a month. But when during the war the Supply Department came into the picture, then we forgot the Railways altogether. I pointed out the other day that every Member in the Supply Department is a *Hakim Nabbo*. The story of *Hakim Nabbo* is that he was at one time a *hakim* in Bareilly who could not write a prescription unless the money was paid in silver in his hand. One day his mother fell ill. He went to her in the morning and gave her four rupees. He asked her to put the money into his hands when he comes again to feel her pulse and write out the prescription. When the *hakim* later came to see his mother, she paid him the Rs. 4 whereupon he wrote out the prescription and the lady was cured. Every person in the Supply Department is a *Hakim Nabbo*. His brain refuses to work unless his hands are greased.

But we soon forgot the Supply Department when the Food Department came into the picture. We then thought that the police were angels and the railway people were honest men and even the corruption in the Supply Department was forgotten when the Food Department came into existence. I was told, and I have pointed this out on the floor of this House that one village alone paid the Food Department officials four crores of rupees in one particular year. In spite of the fact that I said this on the floor of the House and though I was expecting some kind of an enquiry, nothing of the sort was forthcoming. I have no hesitation in saying that we have never had corruption of the magnitude which we have seen during the last five years.

We heard some story from our *ex-magistrate* Mr. Griffiths, and a number of other people who have got experience will say the same thing. We have been talking of the corruption in the P. W. D. (Plunder Without Danger) but this is entirely forgotten when we come to the rationing and the Civil Supplies Departments. Indeed you can consider a Civil Supplies Officer in a district honest if his income is Rs. 3,000 a month on which no income-tax is paid. Those who are very corrupt carry with them bricks of gold and silver at the time of their retirement.

As I pointed out before and as I am pointing out today punishment is not the chief deterrent factor. We have created a situation in which it is impossible even for the angels to remain honest. Even if an officer gets Rs. 1,000 the purchasing power of his salary is only Rs. 300, and he cannot possibly make both ends meet. He has got such enormous resources before him that it is very difficult for him to resist the temptation to make money. On account of bad administration we have created a situation in which as I said even the angels cannot remain honest. They will have to be corrupt on account of the fact that their salary is reduced to one-third in terms of its purchasing power, and on account of the fact that there is a situation before them in which they can take as much money as they like without any danger of being caught. They are defended by the Defence of India Rules and nobody could say a word against them. The protection of the Defence of India Rules gave enormous opportunities to take money and thus a situation is created in which it was impossible for any honest man to remain honest.

We were expecting that when the National Government came into power at least we will not have the same magnitude of corruption about which we had a good deal of knowledge. This measure, although it is a very good attempt to prevent corruption, as my friend Mr. Tamizuddin Khan pointed out, falls short in certain respects. We would have welcomed an opportunity to move amendments. My difficulty is the same as Mr. Tamizuddin Khan's. I did not get this thing in time and I could not study the opinions. I could not dream even for a moment that it would come up for discussion as the first Bill on the first day. I wish this notice had been given some days earlier. Still it is a good step and I would not like to oppose it, though we would have welcomed an opportunity to improve this Bill.

[Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad.]

I would respectfully draw the attention of the Honourable the Home Member and his colleagues to the fact that it is not the punishment or its intensity that will stop corruption. We ought to create a situation or an atmosphere in which corruption will not be possible. In the days of control and rationing it is very difficult to create that situation. No doubt this Bill is a good first step but it is not sufficient.

Again I would say even if you have good laws you require good personnel to enforce the laws and it is very difficult to obtain them. There is one gentleman in the Anti-Corruption Department about whom I have heard a good deal though I have never met him. Mr. Kurban Ali has a great reputation as being most earnest and firm in the matter of enforcing these laws. We may have the best law but we require very good personnel to enforce it, who would not be carried away by communal or other considerations. I would beseech the Honourable the Home Member to allow the discussion to go on till 5 P.M. and then to admit some amendments day after tomorrow. I would like to make one or two amendments and my friends would like to move some minor amendments. At the same time I would request the entire Government to apply their mind and create a situation in which corruption may be impossible. They must give a living wage to their officers: otherwise . . . . .

**Sjt. N. V. Gadgil:** They are getting more than that!

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** But you will have to take into consideration the purchasing power of the rupee. Increase the purchasing power of the rupee, so that Rs. 1,000 will be worth Rs. 1,000 and not Rs. 300 as at present. At the same time do not give them extraordinary powers which they have at present but give them just sufficient powers. Unless you create a good atmosphere and improve the situation, unless you place your officers in a position so that they will not think of corruption and unless you entrust the enforcement of your laws in some incorruptible persons who will not be swayed by any communal or economical considerations, the situation will not improve. But if you do these things, then there is some chance of improvement in the general corruption that prevails in the country.

**Babu Ram Narayan Singh** (Chota Nagpur Division: Non-Muhammadan): Sir, I whole-heartedly support the measure. I wish this measure had been a little more revolutionary.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** You mean stringent.

**Babu Ram Narayan Singh:** Yes, more stringent. This is a Bill in the passing of which I did not like to cast a silent vote. When people recognise a Government in the country, by that recognition people surrender not only their property and other things to the Government but they surrender their very lives to the Government. Unless the Government and its machinery are pure, justice is not possible and neither life nor property nor honour safe in their custody. I agree with each and every word that has been said about this measure. I feel that corruption has gone on all round. It is difficult to say which Department is more corrupt. In my mind it appears the whole machinery is corrupt from top to bottom, is rather rotten, and I feel that like a dilapidated house the whole machinery has to be demolished and rebuilt. From the bottom of my heart I thank the Honourable the Home Member, our Sardar Saheb, for his attempt to purify the administration, but I feel doubtful whether he will succeed in this.

The machinery is rotten as I have said. The thing is this. The bribe has been taken something like a right. As soon as a man enters government service he thinks he is a master of the public and has acquired a right to loot them in the manner he likes and can. In ordinary talk when friends

meet the question is put: "Where are you serving?" The person says he is serving in such and such a place. The next question is "What is your pay?" He mentions his pay. The third question is "Then what is your *pahiri* (outside income)?" The thing is that nobody feels it to be a sin to take bribe. This place is the seat of the Government and I have seen with my own eyes how things go on on Railway Station. I have seen them several times though I have not taken part in it *viz.*,—I have not given anybody any bribe. I can give several instances. First of all, when the passengers come to the railway station, the coolies will come and say "Today there is a great rush and it will therefore be very difficult for you to take your seat. All right, the train is there and if I take you there you may get your seat". The coolies will realize whatever they can from the passengers and the passengers will get seats in the train. Then the constable will come and ask "Well, why have you come here? Who brought you here?" Then the coolie will come forward and tell the people "Give something to the constable and you will be allowed to stay on here." In this way they will pay something to the constable and they will be allowed to remain there. As regards reservation also, something has been said. Sir, I think you might also have got a personal experience of this—in the courts in the districts we have got a bar library. The bar library is the pick of our society. All learned people collect there. But I think—and everybody here in the House knows—that the Bar Library people are the agents of the people who take bribes. These are the *paishkars* and other people. When such people behave as agents for the bribe takers, where is the chance for purification? However, the measure is good so far as it goes. But as there is a request from all sides of the House—and this is my request also—Sardar Saheb will do well to introduce a very revolutionary measure so that the administration may be wholly purified.

I suggest here one thing. Unless the bribe giver is induced to come forward and depose it is very difficult to catch the bribe taker. As the law stands, to give bribe is also an offence as it is to take it. The measure ought therefore to be in a manner in which, as soon as a charge is laid against anybody that he has taken bribe, it will be his duty to prove that he is innocent. Unless there is some provision like this it is impossible to purify the existing machinery. If a time comes, if the opportunity allows and if there is a revolution in the country when the whole machinery is broken through and a new one is built, there is the only hope. However, an attempt is being made and I congratulate and thank the Home Member for this attempt. But something more has to be done. And I say one thing. I am a Congressman. The Congress people are in the Treasury Benches also. Unless they make all possible attempts and unless they succeed in purifying the administration, I think they will have to admit failure. In order to achieve any success it is our duty to see that the Departments are purified. With these words I again support the measure and again request Sardar Saheb to bring some other measure so that the administration is wholly purified and so that justice is possible. And only in that case will justice be possible.

**Shri D. P. Karmarkar** (Bombay Southern Division: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Sir, I had no intention of participating in this debate but some of the observations of Honourable Members who preceded me induced me to do so. One of the aspects of the question appears to be what should be our attitude towards such Bills. It is always desirable that there should be unanimous support from all sections of the House to such a measure, but in supporting this measure some of us appear to be missing one of the important aspects which surrounds this question. Whenever we consider the question of bribery it looks as if we are viewing the question objectively, just as in a war one of the parties should draw swords and try to destroy his opponent. It looks as if in judging of the principal offenders, such of the offenders as are sought to be brought to



[Shri D. P. Karmarkar.]

book by this very important and necessary piece of legislation, we appear to be forgetting for the moment that the evil which we are really trying to fight-out will be only partially fought out by measures like this. I should respectfully urge that if corruption, at least the worst part of corruption, is to be wiped out from our midst, the first and the most important thing in my humble opinion would be to make it impossible for anyone to thrive on corruption. Just at the moment, considering the fact that whether it is a small case of a reservation or whether it is a big case of getting a licence for thousands of rupees, if there were such a strong public opinion as to prevent both the giver and the taker of bribe from indulging in such acts which are very seriously prejudicial to the State and the public, I think this question of preventing corruption would be very easily solved.

At the moment some of us appear to be getting very angry with the officials, most of whom are born and bred up in India, and appear to be a little lenient towards those people whom we come across every day in our life—may be big businessmen, may be small people—who corrupt the official for a favour to be granted to them.

[At this stage Mr. President vacated the Chair which was then occupied by Mr. Deputy President (Khan Mohammad Yamin Khan).]

I had occasion recently to come across a person whom I could call my friend. He was telling me what was happening round about the Centre at New Delhi in regard to many matters and then I asked him—what on earth prevents you from giving all this information out and getting the guilty persons punished. He made a frank confession and said: "My conscience also pricks me in this matter. If all these persons were to be brought to book then I would also find myself as one of the persons who will be brought to book. These are the hands that have shelled

4 P. M. out lakhs of rupees like that". The remedy is of a two fold character. In the first place you have to make it impossible for any official to receive any illegal gratification. What is more salutary and necessary is that you will have to get into the towns and countryside and carry on propaganda in favour of a pure public life. People should be taught not to stoop to corrupt methods. We should invite our businessmen to consider whether after all they are not damaging the interests of the country as a whole in stooping so low as to give filthy lucre for the favour they may bestow. I respectfully submit that that type of education would be first necessary.

Then so long as the controls are there and discretion is vested in an official or a few officials to do or undo a thing, to help a person or harm him, by being partial to one and not to the other, so long as these controls are necessary and have to be there, then I submit it would be a salutary thing to hedge round a person vested with discretion a small committee or something like that which would act as a wholesome check on bribery and corruption. The province from which I come has taken steps during the last few months to stamp out corruption and those steps have proved partially effective. Corruption on a small scale of the type mentioned by my Honourable friend Mr. Sri Prakasa has not ceased. That type of corruption has a large clientele, a larger clientele than could be judged by the measures taken by the Government. A lawyer goes to a record-keeper, gives a rupee or two and gets a copy of a report. That type of corruption is going on among lawyers and court officials and also the public. The other type of corruption prevails among for instance the sub-registrars who take a fixed percentage. A man may try to cheat the Government by putting down the value of the property but the Sub-Registrar gets his percentage of 3 per cent and therefore he could not allow himself to be cheated of a larger share of income. This measure could be said to be a strong measure in that it throws the burden of proof on the accused person which normally is on the prosecution

but more necessary than this is a provision by which, wherever there is discretion vested in officials, that discretion should be hedged round by some sort of statutory body which would have an opportunity of looking into how things are being done.

Apart from the general aspects of the measure, there are one or two little matters which in my opinion deserve the attention of the Honourable Member who has brought forward this measure. I shall not deal with the details of the various sections but as regards sub-clause (3) of clause 5, I would suggest that there are certain types of cases where the wrong doers take good care to see that their ill gotten gains do not come to light. The practice is for an officer to get a heavy policy in the name of his wife and to go on paying heavy premiums and no law could touch those policies. I am not sure whether the provisions in the Bill would touch those policies. In 1942 and 1943 a large amount of such ill gotten gains, I understand, were disposed of in this way. If the provisions of the Bill do not cover such heavy insurance policies in the name of the wife and other relatives, I suggest that there should be a suitable amendment covering such things also.

One of the Honourable speakers who preceded me said something about the givers of the bribe. It may well be that the givers of the bribe in certain cases may be found and it may be considered advisable by the investigating authorities to turn them into Crown witnesses, because of the great difficulty of getting evidence in cases of bribery. Under section 337 of the Criminal Procedure Code, only certain offences have been demarcated in which pardon could be extended to offenders and they could be brought before the Court as Crown witnesses. This legislation touches sections 161 and 165 of the Indian Penal Code and I suggest that suitable amendments should be made to section 367 of the Criminal Procedure Code by which it would be possible to bring up these bribe givers as Crown witnesses. The task of the Crown would be facilitated in the case of prosecutions like this. Otherwise it would be very difficult to find proof. I therefore suggest that suitable steps may be taken later on to amend section 367, so as to bring sections 161 and 165 also within the purview of that section, as this would greatly facilitate the work of the prosecution. I support the Bill.

**Dr. P. G. Solanki** (Nominated Non-Official): Sir, I welcome this Bill. This was overdue. People in all the provinces have been complaining bitterly against this habit of corruption. In Bombay where I come from, in all the departments, whether it be for the benefit of the poor or suffering humanity or for people who are engaged in petty services in the Government departments, everywhere in all departments, Customs, Excise, hospitals, businesslike departments like the Civil Supplies where the controls come in, the big departments which are responsible for bringing into existence black-marketing, it has been the cry all over the country that if these controls are removed or a bit modified in their rigid execution, the public at large will be able to get certain necessary commodities which they require from the *bazar* and from the shop-keepers. But whenever this question has been brought here and whenever there has been a request that the control should be removed, the reply has been that if the control is removed, the black-marketing would prosper and in this way all the petty dealers will be shut out from the market. I do not believe in that myself. If the control is removed and if people are allowed to buy things from wherever they can get them, they will be able to get the things they require though they may have to pay a little more for them. At present what happens is this. People do not get even after spending their money what they require for their daily necessities of life. Take such articles as sugar, fuel, coal and such other things. Government issued orders that certain articles will not be available and there will be a cut in the sale of those articles. But I find in this city of Delhi parties of thousands of persons given in the Imperial Hotel

[Dr. P. G. Solanki.]

and other places where they entertain the guests to tea only. Now, where do they get this amount of sugar and other materials which are under control? The answer is obvious. They obtain them by foul means. Either they get them from the black-marketeers or they get them because of the position they hold and thus enjoy all the comforts of life.

Sir, the Honourable the Home Member in his wisdom and experience of the world has brought this Bill. Though it is not perfect or complete, I would request him to bring before this House certain other measures by means of which these guilty culprits can be caught. The question has been put by some of the Honourable Members here that the man who takes bribes must be prosecuted and must be brought to book. At the same time, there have been some sympathisers with those people who give bribe and who have been in the habit of giving bribe in order to gain their own object. I will mention one or two instances when I myself had to undergo some inconvenience. There is an order of the Railway Board that the M. L. As. should send in a notice for the reservation of their berths 20 days before they perform their journey. I have been doing that since last year. Whenever I come to Delhi on Government business, I send a letter to the railway authorities to reserve a comfortable berth for me in the railway coach. But what do I find? Even though my letter is there, I find that a person who had not reserved his berth gets a more comfortable berth and I get my berth in the most dilapidated compartment. What else can be the cause of this except that the man on the spot, whose palm is greased by this man, gives him a more comfortable berth? He cannot expect any such money from me. I have never attempted to give them any such temptation, though I have heard that in certain cases even the highest men in this Assembly have failed to get their reservations officially. The reply they generally received is that no berth is available or all the berths have been reserved. The habit that has crept in with these railway servants is this. They prepare a bogus list of passengers who are likely to travel by that train and they are always on the look-out to find a rich man or a merchant or a man who is in need of a berth. They have their agents and through them they approach these passengers. These persons who come to Delhi get big contracts and they do not mind giving Rs. 10, 20 or even 50 to these railway employees as long as they get the best compartment. Passengers who do not give money in this way are shut out. These railway officials who get money from these big corrupt men go scot-free and the low-paid man who may be just helping these people is caught hold of and taken to task. But these big men escape. I have heard from reliable sources that every man in the reservation department, from top to bottom, gets Rs. 100 to Rs. 200 per day simply by fleecing the public. This corruption ought to be stopped. I am glad that this Bill is going to do something to mitigate this evil.

I now come to the Public Works Department here, and the same is the case in Bombay. I find that people who started their life on a pittance of Rs. 30 or 40 a month have somehow by their tact risen to high posts and they are now officers in charge of certain departments. I know of certain cases where they have made lakhs and lakhs of rupees in a city like Delhi and no notice has been taken of that fact. I do urge and request the Honourable the Home Member to take such men to task. They have invested that money in property and they have deposited that money in the banks, but they have earned it by foul means. I would expect that this Bill should get hold of these guilty men and try to find out the source from where they have made that money and hoarded that amount. Even if the property or the money is transferred in the names of the relations, those relations should be held responsible for proving that the money was legitimately earned. If they could not prove that, they should be asked to forfeit their property, the lands and the money. Thus, those persons

who have gained this money by foul means should be reduced to the same position in life as when they joined the service.

Sir, the offenders do escape and there has been a plea from one of the Honourable Members that the bribers should be shown sympathy. There are two sets of bribers. One is a habitual briber and the other is a man who out of the force of circumstances has to give some money in order to attain certain important functions in the family. Such men as are forced to pay should be dealt with mildly. Those who are habitually doing this should be dealt with so strictly as the real culprit will be dealt with. I support this Bill wholeheartedly. At the same time I request the Honourable Minister to bring forward another Bill to bring to book those people who have been in possession of ill gotten wealth and who have been enjoying their wealth like princes. In this city of Delhi there are instances where officials of the highest class got this money and they are enjoying like princes. Nothing is done to them. Such men should be dealt with strictly and severely not only by awarding imprisonment but by taking away their property so that a deterrent example may be set for others. This will open the eyes of others and they will abstain from following such practices. With these words, I do congratulate the Honourable Member for having brought forward such a Bill and I hope it will serve for the time being. In the meantime further stringent measures should be brought forward to bring to book those people who have amassed lakhs of rupees. With these words, I support the Bill.

**Shri Satya Narayan Sinha** (Darbhanga *cum* Saran: Non-Muhammadan):

Sir, I move:

"That the question be put."

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

"That the question be now put."

The motion was adopted.

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

"That the Bill for the more effective prevention of bribery and corruption be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

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

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

**Mr. Deputy President:** Clause 3.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar** (Madras Ceded Districts and Chittoor: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Sir I move:

"That in the proviso to clause 3 of the Bill, for the word 'Magistrate', the words 'Magistrate of the first Class' be substituted."

**Mr. Deputy President:** Amendment moved.

"That in the proviso to clause 3 of the Bill, for the word 'Magistrate', the words 'Magistrate of the first Class' be substituted."

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** I accept the amendment.

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

"That in the proviso to clause 3 of the Bill, for the word 'Magistrate', the words 'Magistrate of the first Class' be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

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

"That clause 3 as amended stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 as amended was added to the Bill.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

**Mr. Deputy President:** Clause 5.

**Pundit Thakur Das Bhargava** (Ambala Division: Non-Muhammadan): Sir, I move:

"That in clause 5 of the Bill, for sub-clause (1) the following sub-clause be substituted, namely:

(1) A public servant is said to commit the offence of criminal misconduct in the discharge of his duty—

(a) if he habitually accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain from any person for himself or for any other person, any gratification (other than legal remuneration) as a motive or reward such as is mentioned in section 161 of the Indian Penal Code, or

(b) if he habitually accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain for himself or for any other person any valuable thing without consideration or for a consideration which he knows to be inadequate, from any person whom he knows to have been, or to be, or to be likely to be, concerned in any proceeding or business transacted or about to be transacted by him, or having any connection with the official functions of himself or of any public servant to whom he is subordinate, or from any person whom he knows to be interested in or related to the person so concerned; or

(c) if he dishonestly or fraudulently misappropriates or otherwise converts for his own use any property entrusted to him or under his control as a public servant or allows any other person so to do, or

(d) if he, by corrupt or illegal means or by otherwise abusing his position as a public servant, obtains for himself or for any other person any valuable thing or pecuniary advantage."

Sir, this definition of criminal misconduct is sought to be enacted anew in this Bill and the provisions of sections 161 and 165 have been repeated in this definition *in extenso* as taken from the Indian Penal Code. The two other parts which are already there have not been touched by me. The only amendment which I seek to move is that the words in section 65 have been added to the present provisions of the Bill. The amendment is quite clear. I am glad that the Honourable Member has kindly agreed to accept the amendment. I have nothing more to say. Sir, I move.

**Mr. Deputy President:** Amendment moved:

"That in clause 5 of the Bill, for sub-clause (1) the following sub-clause be substituted, namely:

(1) A public servant is said to commit the offence of criminal misconduct in the discharge of his duty—

(a) if he habitually accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain from any person for himself or for any other person, any gratification (other than legal remuneration) as a motive or reward such as is mentioned in section 161 of the Indian Penal Code, or

(b) if he habitually accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain for himself or for any other person any valuable thing without consideration or for a consideration which he knows to be inadequate, from any person whom he knows to have been, or to be, or to be likely to be, concerned in any proceeding or business transacted or about to be transacted by him, or having any connection with the official functions of himself or of any public servant to whom he is subordinate, or from any person whom he knows to be interested in or related to the person so concerned; or

(c) if he dishonestly or fraudulently misappropriates or otherwise converts for his own use any property entrusted to him or under his control as a public servant or allows any other person so to do, or

(d) if he, by corrupt or illegal means or by otherwise abusing his position as a public servant, obtains for himself or for any other person any valuable thing or pecuniary advantage."

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** I accept the amendment.

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

"That in clause 5 of the Bill, for sub-clause (1) the following sub-clause be substituted, namely:

(1) A public servant is said to commit the offence of criminal misconduct in the discharge of his duty—

(a) if he habitually accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain from any person for himself or for any other person, any gratification (other than legal remuneration) as a motive or reward such as is mentioned in section 161 of the Indian Penal Code, or

(b) if he habitually accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain for himself or for any other person any valuable thing without consideration or for a consideration which he knows to be inadequate, from any person whom he knows to have been, or to be, or to be likely to be, concerned in any proceeding or business transacted or about to be transacted by him, or having any connection with the official function of himself or of any public servant to whom he is subordinate, or from any person whom he knows to be interested in or related to the person so concerned; or

(c) if he dishonestly or fraudulently misappropriates or otherwise converts for his own use any property entrusted to him or under his control as a public servant or allows any other person so to do, or

(d) if he, by corrupt or illegal means or by otherwise abusing his position as a public servant, obtains for himself or for any other person any valuable thing or pecuniary advantage."

The motion was adopted.

**Sri R. Venkatasubba Reddiar** (South Arcot *cum* Chingleput: Non-Muhamadan Rural): Sir, I move:

"That in sub-clause (4) of clause 5 of the Bill, for the word 'Magistrate', the words 'Magistrate of the first Class' be substituted."

**Mr. Deputy President:** Amendment moved:

"That in sub-clause (4) of clause 5 of the Bill, for the word 'Magistrate', the words 'Magistrate of the first Class' be substituted."

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** I accept the amendment.

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

"That in sub-clause (4) of clause 5 of the Bill, for the word 'Magistrate', the words 'Magistrate of the first Class' be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

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

"That clause 5 as amended stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5 as amended was added to the Bill.

**Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Sir, I move:

"That in clause 6 of the Bill,

(i) in sub-clause (a) for the words 'of the Governor General exercising his individual judgment' the words 'Central Government' be substituted; and

(ii) in sub-clause (b) for the words 'of the Governor of the province exercising his individual judgment' the words 'Provincial Government' be substituted."

**Mr. Deputy President:** Amendment moved:

"That in clause 6 of the Bill,

(i) in sub-clause (a) for the words 'of the Governor General exercising his individual judgment' the words 'Central Government' be substituted; and

(ii) in sub-clause (b) for the words 'of the Governor of the province exercising his individual judgment' the words 'Provincial Government' be substituted."

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Sir, I accept the amendment.

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

"That in clause 6 of the Bill,

(i) in sub-clause (a) for the words 'of the Governor General exercising his individual judgment' the words 'Central Government' be substituted; and

(ii) in sub-clause (b) for the words 'of the Governor of the province exercising his individual judgment' the words 'Provincial Government' be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

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

"That clause 6 as amended stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6 as amended was added to the Bill.

**Pundit Thakur Das Bhargava:** Sir, I move:

"That to part (b) of the proviso to clause 7 of the Bill, the following words be added at the end, namely :—

'or give rise to any presumption against himself, or any person charged together with him at the same trial'."

This Clause is taken from the law in England but there it is the juries who decide questions of fact and so this provision is not necessary there. But here it is the judges who are judges of fact as well as of law and therefore the question of presumption is necessary to be safeguarded against. The amendment is in the interest of the accused and I hope the House will accept it.

**Mr. Deputy President:** Amendment moved :

"That to part (b) of the proviso to clause 7 of the Bill, the following words be added at the end, namely :—

'or give rise to any presumption against himself, or any person charged together with him at the same trial'."

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Sir, I accept the amendment.

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

"That to part (b) of the proviso to clause 7 of the Bill, the following words be added at the end, namely :—

'or give rise to any presumption against himself, or any person charged together with him at the same trial'."

The motion was adopted.

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

"That clause 7 as amended stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7 as amended was added to the Bill.

**Mr. Shavaz A. Lal** (Government of India: Nominated Official): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in sub-clause (1) of clause 1 of the Bill, for the figures '1946' the figures '1947' be substituted."

It is a purely formal amendment.

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

"That in sub-clause (1) of clause 1 of the Bill, for the figures '1946' the figures '1947' be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

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

"That clause 1 as amended stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1 as amended was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Preamble were added to the Bill.

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Sir, I move:

"That the Bill as amended be passed."

I am grateful to the House for the warm support given to this Bill. It was suggested by some that the question of confiscating property should be pursued. That is an important suggestion, but I may point out that the Criminal Law Amendment Ordinance of 1946 contains a provision which meets that point and which runs as follows:

"Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Indian Penal Code or the Code of Criminal Procedure relating to sentences and powers of courts to impose sentences, where any person is found guilty of an offence specified in the Schedule, the court convicting him, whether or not it imposes a sentence of imprisonment, can impose in addition to such sentence of fine, if any as it would otherwise have imposed, a further sentence of fine which shall be equivalent to the amount of money or the value of other property found by the court to have been procured by the convicted person by means of such offence."

Since there is ample provision in the existing law we have not included this in the Bill.

The other suggestions made are that the Bill does not go far enough while some say that it may work as a hardship. I do not think that we can go further at this stage, but the suggestions made by various speakers will be considered at a later stage if in the working of this legislation any defects are found, and if it is found that it can be improved by a further piece of legislation. The almost unanimous support that the Bill has received in the House shows that it was overdue. Government would have been glad to see it passed in the last session, but there was a heavy programme then and it was crowded out. So we have brought it up now at the earliest possible moment. I once more thank the House for the unanimous support given to the Bill. Sir, I move.

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

"That the Bill as amended be passed."

The motion was adopted.

#### INDIAN EXTRADITION (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** (Home Member): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Extradition Act, 1903, be taken into consideration."

The measure is simple and should be non-controversial. Section 8-A of the Act was introduced in 1913 empowering the District and Chief Presidency Magistrates to record the statement of an accused person produced before him in accordance with the provisions of section 7 and report, if he thinks fit, the case to the Central Government. Pending the receipt of the orders on such report, the District Magistrate or the Chief Presidency Magistrate has discretion to detain a person in custody or release him on his executing a bond with sufficient sureties when his attendance is required. At the time, however, no provision was made in the new Section 8-A for the execution of such bonds or with respect to the forfeiture of bonds and the discharge of sureties, similar to those contained in Section 8 of the Act. In the absence of a specific provision applying the terms of Section 514 to the proceedings under Section 8-A of the Act, it would not be competent for the District Magistrate or the Chief Presidency Magistrate to act in accordance with the procedure prescribed in that Section. Chapter XXXIX of the Criminal Procedure Code would not apply to these proceedings either, for the provisions of that Chapter apply only to persons accused of an offence, the latter term being defined as an act of omission made punishable by any law for the time being in force. The reference is obviously to a law in force in British India and that Chapter would, therefore, not apply to an offence which has been committed in an Indian State. Thus a *lacuna* exists in the existing Act and the amendment which we are suggesting removes that *lacuna*. Sir, I move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

**Mr. Deputy President:** Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Extradition Act, 1903, be taken into consideration."

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad** (United Provinces Southern Divisions: Muhammadan Rural): May I know whether it will apply only to foreigners or it will also apply to the people of the Indian States?



**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** For foreigners there is a separate Act. This applies to Indian States only.

**Diwan Chaman Lall** (West Punjab: Non-Muhammadian): But it would also apply to a foreigner in an Indian State.

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Yes.

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

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Extradition Act, 1903, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

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

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

**Mr. Shavax A. Lal** (Government of India: Nominated Official): I beg to move:

"That in clause 1 of the Bill for the figures '1946', the figures '1947', be substituted."

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** I accept the amendment.

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

"That in clause 1 of the Bill for the figures '1946' the figures '1947' be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Preamble were added to the Bill.

**The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill as amended be passed."

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

"That the Bill as amended be passed."

The motion was adopted.

### RUBBER (PRODUCTION AND MARKETING) BILL

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari** (Member for Industries and Supplies): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to make provision for assistance to the rubber plantation industry by regulating export from and import into British India of rubber and the sale of rubber therein and by other means be taken into consideration."

I wish Honourable Members to remember, Sir, that this Bill is the result of the opinion accepted by an overwhelming majority at a conference held of all interests connected with this subject, and I hope that the Bill will be favourably received by the House. Sir, I move.

**Mr. Deputy President:** Motion moved:

"That the Bill to make provision for assistance to the rubber plantation industry by regulating export from and import into British India of rubber and the sale of rubber therein and by other means be taken into consideration."

**Mr. Leslie Gwilt** (Bombay: European): I have a motion for reference to Select Committee.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad** (United Provinces Southern Divisions: Muhammadian Rural): I have already given notice of an amendment and move:

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 15th April 1947."

**The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari:** I am going to accept the motion for a Select Committee and I hope the Honourable Member who moves for circulation will kindly withdraw his motion.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** That is rather premature to express an opinion. We know that we are already a debating society but do not clearly label us as such.

**Mr. Deputy President:** Amendment moved:

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 15th April 1947."

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** As has been the practice, all amendments be moved together and the House could then discuss them.

**Mr. Deputy President:** There are really two amendments—one for circulation and one for reference to Select Committee. If the amendments relate to the same class, they can be taken together. But they do not. If the Honourable Member wants to say something he can do so. But I am afraid he has lost his chance.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** The practice has been that the amendments for circulation and for reference to Select Committee are moved together and then there is a free debate on both. I request that the same practice be followed.

**Mr. Deputy President:** I am afraid the Honourable Member cannot perform the duties of the Chair.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** I asked for the ruling of the Chair.

**Mr. Deputy President:** The Honourable Member, when sitting down after moving the motion, asked the Chair whether the Chair agreed to that procedure. It is not *laid down* as a procedure. It is done by consent. In this case I do not think this will be the proper procedure.

**Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad:** Then what is your ruling? I move my motion and then there will be a debate? I have moved nothing.

**Mr. Deputy President:** If the Honourable Member wants to say something he can say it. The Honourable Member has already moved and the Member of the Government has already asked him to withdraw. The Honourable Member was too hasty. Before I put it to the House, he ought to have waited. Of course there is a suggestion.

**Mr. P. J. Griffiths** (Assam: European): May I suggest that in spite of the hastiness of the Honourable Member, it will save time and enable us to hasten if both these motions are put together. That very often has been done and will save time.

**Diwan Chaman Lall** (West Punjab: Non-Muhammadan): May I ask when this amendment was received? It has not been circulated to this side of the House as far as I know. What was the time of receipt of this particular amendment?

**Mr. Deputy President:** I understand from the Secretary that Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad's amendment was received only today and it has not been circulated.

**Diwan Chaman Lall:** Obviously it is out of order.

**Mr. Deputy President:** Does the Honourable Member object to it being put to the House?

Then the objection prevails.

**Mr. Leslie Gwilt:** Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Honourable Mr. Jogendra Nath Mandal, the Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari, Rao Bahadur N. Siva Raj, Sri A. K. Menon, Shri D. P. Karmarkar, Sri M. K. Jinachandran, Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth, Mr. Muhammad Rahmat-ullah, Mr. P. J. Griffiths and the Mover, with instructions to report by the 1st April, 1947, and that the number of members whose presence shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be five."

Sir, before dealing with the details of the Bill, there are one or two observations upon principle which I wish to make. There is, Sir, in the opinion of the European Group very logical reasons why India should wish to encourage the production of rubber within her boundaries. So on the face of it the Bill

[Mr. Leslie Gwilt.]

is a desirable measure. The main reasons are three. Firstly, strategic: that she should be self-supporting in such an important commodity as rubber, particularly in times of war: Secondly, that she should as far as possible conserve her financial resources and keep her wealth wherever she can within her dominions: Thirdly, for the employment of her people. Moreover, if she can produce rubber at an economic price and export goods made largely or wholly from rubber, she has potentially a valuable source of foreign exchange. But I would like to enquire, Sir, as matters stand at the moment, whether the House is not being asked to bolster a fundamental uneconomic industry. My own view is that it is not and that is the view of the European Group. At any rate, they hope not and if the House will bear with me I will enlarge upon this.

Before the war, if my information is correct, America who is the largest consumer of rubber, imported some 1½ million tons. She now imports two-thirds of that amount, that is one million tons, the short fall being made up by her manufactures, and I understand under Statute, of a proportion of the synthetic product. America will no doubt for strategic reasons, if not for economic reasons, continue to encourage the use of synthetic rubber, and the corollary must surely be a diminution in the use of the natural product which must tend to depress the price of natural rubber in the world markets. Competition then, Sir, will not only become keener in the direction of price, but must also in quality. Malaya with the largest output of rubber in the world produces some 90 per cent. of her manufacture in standard sheets of high quality and the price of her produce in that quality is today something like 15 to 20 per cent. below India's. There is, I understand, a general belief that India is unlikely ever to be in a position to compete against the price of rubber of high quality in the world's markets, for not only is her climate, but also her soil unsuitable for the yields of the Malayan and Dutch East Indies plantations. Yields from Indian plantations are 300 lbs. per acre per annum whereas those of Malaya are more than double that and even with budded rubber she cannot show more than half the yield of the plantations farther East. But I wonder, Mr. Deputy President, whether it is entirely the factors of soil and climate that have restricted the output of rubber in this country, or whether it is due to the absence of the high degree of scientific research that is conducted both at Kuala Lumpur in Malaya and Buitenzorg in Java in the Dutch East Indies. My information is that the scientific production of rubber in Malaya and in the Dutch East Indies is far and away ahead of anything to be found in this country. So that we in this Group urge the establishment of a research station operating with the fullest support of Government and that it be established in this country at the earliest possible moment. Today, Sir, the assistance that the industry is receiving from Government is practically nil and that which it is going to receive in the future is referred to in the most vague terms in clause 8 of the Bill and particularly clause 8(2)(a) which reads: "The Board may supply technical advice for the guidance of rubber growers."

What that means I do not know. What they mean by that I do not know. There will be those, Sir, who will say that India cannot afford such an establishment. We would reply to them that India cannot possibly afford not to have such an establishment.

**Mr. Deputy President:** The Honourable Member can continue his speech on Wednesday, the 5th February.

The Assembly then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 5th February, 1947.