

Tuesday, 27th March, 1945

# COUNCIL OF STATE DEBATES

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

VOLUME I, 1945

*(15th February to 14th April, 1945)*

## EIGHTEENTH SESSION

OF THE

# FOURTH COUNCIL OF STATE, 1945



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## COUNCIL OF STATE

*Tuesday, the 27th March, 1945*

The Council met in the Council Chamber of the Council House at Eleven of the Clock, the Honourable the President in the Chair.

### MEMBER SWORN

The Honourable Mr. Douglas Daintry Warren (Nominated Official).

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STATEMENT MADE BY SIR ZAFRULLA KHAN AT THE COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS CONFERENCE

210. THE HONOURABLE MR. M. THIRUMALA ROW : (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the following statement made by Sir Zafrulla Khan, Leader of the Indian Delegation to the British Commonwealth Relations Conference :

" India is on the march. You may help her or you may hinder her, but none can stop her " ?

(b) Is the Commonwealth Relations Conference convened at the instance of H. M.'s Government ? Are its resolutions binding on the countries represented at the Conference ?

THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN : (a) Yes.

(b) The Commonwealth Relations Conference was convened at the instance of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, London, not by His Majesty's Government, and is of an entirely unofficial character.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Has it got the moral support of His Majesty's Government ?

THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN : The Honourable Member may draw any inference he likes.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : What is the information of the Government on the subject ?

(No answer.)

### IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO UNITED KINGDOM, ETC.

211. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Will Government lay on the table a detailed list of the following articles imported from and exported to U.K., U.S.A., Iran, Australia and Egypt in the first half of 1943-44 and of 1944-45 : wines, tea, tobacco, spices, foodstuffs, cotton, cotton goods, woollen goods, sugar ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. N. R. PILLAI : A statement furnishing such information as is available is laid on the table.

[27TH MAR. 1945

NUMBER OF REGISTERED CONTRACTORS IN THE C. P. W. D.

212. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Will Government state the number of Muslim and non-Muslim registered contractors in each class on 31st December 1939 and 31st December 1944 in C. P. W. Department ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. C. PRIOR : The number of Muslim and non-Muslim registered contractors in each class on 31st December, 1939 and 31st December, 1944 is as under :—

	No. of contractors			No. of contractors		
	class-wise on			class-wise on		
	31-12-39			31-12-44		
	I	II	III	I	II	III
Non-Muslims	106	167	310	362	459	663
Muslims	19	26	113	61	101	212

NUMBER OF CANDIDATES ADMITTED TO THE RAILWAY TRAINING SCHOOL, JAMALPUR

213. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : (a) Will Government lay on the table a statement of the number of Muslims, Caste Hindus, Scheduled Castes, Sikhs, Indian Christians and Anglo-Indians admitted to the Railway Training School at Jamalpur in the last five years ? (b) Are candidates called for interview irrespective of the marks secured ? (c) Will Government place in the Library a copy of the report of the admission examination by the authorities in the last five years ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. D. D. WARREN : I have called for the information which will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

NUMBER OF LOCOMOTIVES AND WAGONS SENT OVERSEAS

214. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Will Government state the total number of B. G. and M. G. locomotives and wagons sent abroad on Defence account up to 31st December 1944, the number received back, the total price received by the Railways and the total price paid by them ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. D. D. WARREN : I lay on the table a statement of locomotives and wagons sent overseas up to 31st December, 1944 and received back; up to 1st March, 1945. As regards the last part of the question, the debits and credits to be adjusted in connection with these transfers have not yet been finalised.

Statement

Locomotives and wagons sent overseas up to 31st December 1944.

B. G. locos.	Nil.	B. G. Wagons	1418
M. G. locos.	206	M. G. Wagons	7856

Locomotives and wagons received back up to 1st March 1945.

B. G. locos.	Nil.	B. G. wagons	2
M. G. locos.	42	M. G. wagons	1026

COMPOSITION OF THE COAL ADVISORY BOARD

215. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Will Government state the composition of Coal Advisory Board and the interests which are represented on it ?

THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN (on behalf of Supply Department) : The Honourable Member is perhaps referring to the Coal Advisory Committee which has recently been constituted. I place on the table of the House, a copy of the orders which describe its constitution.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : As regard the last part of the question, Sir, which are the interests represented on the Committee ?

THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN : The Honourable Member may see the orders which I have placed on the table.

[27TH MAR. 1945]

NO. COAL 127 (15)  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY  
(MAIN SECRETARIAT)  
New Delhi, the 8th March 1945

To

The Secretary,

- (1) Indian Mining Association, 2 Clive Street, Royal Exchange, Calcutta.
  - (2) Indian Mining Federation, 15, Clive Street, Calcutta.
  - (3) Indian Colliery Owners' Association, Jharia.
- SUBJECT.—*Coal Advisory Committee.*

Sir,

I am directed to refer to

- (1) your letter No. 265/359/R of 29th January 1944 to Labour Department.
- (2) your letter No. 88 of 22nd January 1944 to Labour Department.
- (3) Labour Department's letter No. Coal 6/5 of 17th January 1944

on the above subject and to say that as the Calcutta Coal Committee has been rendered superfluous by the concentration of coal control under the Department of Supply and by the location in Calcutta of a Coal Commissioner's organisation with a Branch Secretariat, Government have decided formally to abolish the Committee with effect from 1st August 1944.

2. As, however, with the extension of Government control over the production and distribution of coal it becomes increasingly necessary to arrange for the officers of Government responsible for initiating and carrying out action under the general scheme of control to be able to call on the accumulated experience and expert advice of the coal trade when necessary at short notice, it has been decided to proceed on the lines indicated in the correspondence referred to above, and to set up a Coal Advisory Committee in Calcutta.

3. The Committee, which will be strictly advisory will consist of officials and non-officials meeting regularly, for informal discussion, at least once a week. It will discuss, with the Chairman's approval, cases which the coal trade wish to put forward as well as cases brought to it by official members.

4. The official members will be—

1. Deputy Coal Commissioner (Production)—(Chairman)
2. Deputy Coal Commissioner (Distribution).
3. Chief Inspector of Mines.
4. Joint Financial Adviser (Munitions Production).
5. Deputy Secretary, Branch Secretariat (Secretary).
6. Director of Unskilled Labour Supply.

} or their representatives.

The Industry will be represented by three members, one to be nominated by each of the three Associations, viz., the Indian Mining Association, the Indian Mining Federation, and the Indian Colliery Owners' Association. I am to request you to send as soon as possible the name of the representative you desire nominated to the Deputy Secretary, Branch Secretariat (Coal), for the approval of Government.

5. As cases may arise where it will be necessary to obtain detailed expert advice, members of the Committee will be at liberty to have in attendance such other experts as they may desire to assist the Committee in its consideration of a particular case.

6. So far as relations with the Coal Control Board are concerned, the Committee will be free to recommend that a particular case or matter of policy be placed before the next meeting of the Coal Control Board. The Committee will also receive from such Technical Committee of Mining Engineers as may be subsequently set up in the coalfields any case which that Committee wishes to be discussed by the Advisory Committee.

7. The Committee will meet in Room No. 24 of the Coal Commissioner's office at 1, Council House Street, and it is proposed to fix Friday in each week at 10-30 A.M. as the time for the meeting. I am to request you to say whether this time will suit the convenience of your representative.

I have, etc.,

M. IKRAMULLAH,

Joint Secretary to the Government of India.

COST OF DEPUTATIONS SENT EX-INDIA

216 THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM: Will Government state the total cost incurred by each Department in the year 1943-44 and first nine months of 1944-45 in sending official, non-official and mixed deputations outside India, and the purpose for which they were sent?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. CONRAN-SMITH: The information is being collected and will be placed on the table when available.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM: Will the Honourable Member give also the names of the personnel of these deputations?

(No answer.)



DISSATISFACTION AMONG BRITISH OFFICERS IN THE INDIAN ARMY

217. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH : (a) Are Government aware of any "dissatisfaction among British officers in the Indian Army particularly Emergency Commissioned Officers", who are said to have had no increase in pay since the war began? If so, what steps have been taken by Government which may involve any financial obligation on the Indian Exchequer and to what extent?

(b) What steps, if any, have been taken by Government to improve the conditions of pay of Indian officers in the Indian Army; and to what extent have such improvements cost the Indian tax-payer?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : (a) The answer to the first part is in the negative, though I would add that the Honourable Member is not correct in saying that there have been no increases in the pay of British officers of the Indian Army since the war began.

(b) I lay a statement on the table. Figures for the actual additional cost are not available, and I regret I am unable to undertake their compilation, as this would involve an expenditure of time and labour not justified in war-time.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Could His Excellency give some indication of the approximate cost?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : I have nothing to add to the information I have given.

Statement

The pay of Indian officers was increased in 1942. The rates of pay admissible in 1939 and at the present day respectively are as follows:—

		1939		1939	
		Single or married		Single or married	
		Rupees per		Rupees per	
		mensem		mensem	
2nd Lieutenant		300		Captain (4)	550
Lieutenant		350		Captain (6)	600
Lieutenant (3½)		400		Captain (8)	650
Captain		450		Major	800
Captain (2)		500		Lieutenant-Colonel	1,000

  

		1944		1944	
		Single	Married	Single	Married
		Rs. per	Rs. per	Rs. per	Rs. per
		mensem	mensem	mensem	mensem
2nd Lieutenant		405	450	Captain (8)	500
Lieutenant		430	490	Captain (11)	530
Lieutenant (3)		440	520	Captain (14)	620
Lieutenant (6)		460	520	Major	765
Captain		500	610	Major (22)	865
				Lieutenant-Colonel	1,090
					1,145

Indian officers have also been rendered eligible for corps, charge, and additional pay at the same rates as British officers. Staff rates of pay were also fixed for Indian officers.

COMPOSITION OF THE CLAIMS COMMISSION

218. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH : Will Government state who are the members of the Claims Commission constituted under the War Department, which came into operation on the 1st January; and what are the functions and the duties of this Commission?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : Sir, I lay a statement on the table giving the information required by the Honourable Member.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Is this Commission under the War Department or under the Legislative Department?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : Under the War Department.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Will Government consider the advisability of placing it under the Legislative Department as other Commissions have been placed?

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:** The information is contained in the statement which I have laid on the table.

*Statements*

**The Claims Commission (India) consists of the following members :—**

**President.**—Major General W. M. Hayes, C.B.E.

**Members.**—A representative of the War Department.

A representative of the Principal Administrative Officer (India).

A representative of the Flag Officer Commanding, Royal Indian Navy.

A representative of the Air Officer Commanding, India.

A representative of the Military Finance Department.

A representative of the Legislative Department.

Deputy Director of Claims.

The duties and functions of the Claims Commission (India) are to deal with claims in India made by or against the Armed Forces (British, Indian, Dominion and Allied), or the personnel thereof or the Central Government, arising out of traffic accidents, training or manoeuvres, and occurrences in the nature of civil wrongs whether or not having their origin in training or manoeuvres, whereby personal injury or loss of life or property, or damage of land or crops or other property has resulted, in circumstances for which the Armed Forces, or the Central Government on their behalf, allege or accept responsibility.

The Commission will not, however, deal with :—

(i) claims arising from requisitions, hirings, purchases or other contracts ;

(ii) claims by members of the Armed Forces, and civilian employees of those Forces, which fall to be considered under Royal Warrants or Departmental Regulations ;

(iii) inter-departmental claims ;

(iv) claims for the disposal of which any other authority is prescribed by law.

The Commission is also responsible for advising His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, India, regarding regulations designed to minimise accidents and damage.

**FORMATION OF AN INDIAN PARACHUTE REGIMENT**

**219. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH :** Will Government give the main details of the formation of the Indian Parachute Regiment, the creation of which has recently been approved by H. M. the King Emperor.

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:** The Indian Parachute Regiment consists of soldiers drawn from other units of the Indian Army. British and Indian officers are serving with the Regiment. All members of the Regiment are volunteer parachutists and they do a basic course of instruction in parachuting before being taken on the strength of the Regiment. Extra pay is admissible for men who qualify and then join the Regiment. There is also an extra messing allowance admissible for Indian other ranks. Only men of the highest medical standard are acceptable. Units of this Regiment distinguished themselves in action against the Japanese during the Imphal battle last year though on that occasion they were used in an ordinary infantry task.

**INDIAN TROOPS IN GREECE**

**220. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Will Government lay on the table the following information about Indian Troops in Greece :—(a) The number employed in 1944, (b) the casualties caused by the Axis and by the local peoples and (c) the work they are doing now ?

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:** (a) I am unable in the interests of security to state the exact number of Indian troops employed in Greece.

(b) The casualties were as follows :—

Killed.—2 officers, 1 Viceroy's Commissioned Officer and 25 Indian Other Ranks.

Wounded.—3 Officers, 1 Viceroy's Commissioned Officer and 190 Other Ranks.

(c) Indian troops in Greece are now believed to be engaged on relief work and garrison duties.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A COLONY FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF INDIAN SOLDIERS**

**221. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH :** Do Government propose to consider the possibility of establishing a colony for the settlement of Indian soldiers returning from the war, on one of the islands to be liberated from Japanese occupation ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN :** (on behalf of Defence Department) : Government have no such scheme under consideration.

**NOTE :—**Questions against the Hon. Mr. Thirumala Row and the Hon. Raja Yuveraj Dutta Singh were put by the Hon. Mr. G. S. Motilal.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Have they ever considered such a scheme ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN :** That does not arise.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. G. S. MOTILAL :** Are they prepared to consider it even now ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN :** I have nothing to add to what I have said, Sir.

#### NUMBER OF INDIAN TROOPS ON VARIOUS FRONTS

**222. THE HONOURABLE MR. NARAYANDAS GIRDHARDAS :** Will Government state the total number of Indian soldiers employed in European and other theatres of war outside India and whether the entire expenditure on soldiers so employed, such as pay, allowance, travelling, etc., is borne by the British Government or whether any portion of the same is being charged to the Government of India ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR CYRIL JONES :** The total number of Indian soldiers serving outside India including officers is approximately 4,30,000.

The entire expenditure on Indian soldiers employed outside India is borne by His Majesty's Government in accordance with the principles of the Financial Settlement.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Is the cost of pension also borne by His Majesty's Government ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR CYRIL JONES :** When I said that " the entire expenditure on Indian soldiers employed outside India is borne by His Majesty's Government ", I was referring to effective expenditure. The non-effective expenditure is governed by the " Non-effective " Agreement which was explained in the Budget Speech.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** I ask about the past. This is the new agreement, made in 1944. What was the condition in 1943 when no agreement existed ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR CYRIL JONES :** I would again refer the Honourable Member to the explanation of this " Non-effective " Agreement, which, if he will read it, he will see goes right back to the 1st April, 1939.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. G. S. MOTILAL :** Are these agreements placed in the Library ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR CYRIL JONES :** No, Sir.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Will the Honourable Member place them in the Library, if they are not secret documents ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR CYRIL JONES :** I cannot undertake to do so. But the agreement has been explained in the Budget Speech.

#### DISABILITY PENSIONS PAYABLE TO WIDOWS AND DEPENDANTS OF INDIAN SOLDIERS

**223. THE HONOURABLE MR. NARAYANDAS GIRDHARDAS :** Will Government state whether allowances, pensions and other compensation payable to the widows or families of the Indian soldiers employed and killed in European and other theatres of war outside India or its borders are being borne by the British Government or whether the Government of India is required to contribute any portion to such expenditure ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR CYRIL JONES :** I would refer the Honourable Member to the Honourable the Finance Member's Budget Speech.

#### NUMBER OF OFFICERS RECRUITED IN INDIA.

**224. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Will Government state the number of Officers recruited in India each year from 1940 to 1944 to each of the Defence services giving the communal composition ?

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF :** Statistics regarding the communal composition of officers are available only for the Royal Indian Navy and the Royal Indian Air Force. I regret that I am unable to give actual numbers in the interests of security, but I lay a statement on the table giving the percentages by communities of the officers recruited to the above two services each year since 1940.

*Statement giving the percentage of officers recruited in the Royal Indian Navy and the Royal Indian Air Force since 1940, by communities.*

**I.—ROYAL INDIAN NAVY**

Year	European	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Anglo-Indian and Christian.	Parsees	Jew	Total
1940	75.0	7.5	2.5	3.0	4.0	7.7	1.3	100.0
1941	71.0	12.6	5.5	1.0	7.5	1.0	0.4	100.0
1942	63.5	16.5	7.0	2.1	16.0	4.1	0.8	100.0
1943	66.5	12.5	7.5	2.0	18.5	2.9	0.1	100.0
1944	17.0	33.5	10.5	2.7	30.0	5.5	0.8	100.0

**II.—ROYAL INDIAN AIR FORCE**

Year	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Christian	Parsee	Jew	Total
1940	48.0	18.5	13.5	10.7	9.3		100.0
1941	45.0	16.7	14.5	13.9	8.9	1.0	100.0
1942	42.8	19.8	12.3	19.5	5.4	0.2	100.0
1943	47.0	16.9	10.8	20.0	4.7		100.0
1944	39.4	14.5	6.8	35.1	2.2		100.0

**NUMBER OF PERSONS SELECTED FOR COMMISSIONS BY THE PROVINCIAL SELECTION BOARD**

225. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAEN IMAM: Will Government state the number of persons of each community recommended and selected from each area by Selection Boards, and the number communitywise selected by the Central Board?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: I must explain that the system of selection by a Central Board was superseded some years ago by the present system which is as follows:—

Preliminary selection for Commissions in the three services is made by Provincial Selection Boards and by touring recruiting officers who recommend suitable candidates for final tests by the Services Selection Boards of which there are 6, located throughout India.

I regret that in the interests of security, I am unable to disclose the actual numbers of candidates who appear before and are selected by the Services Selection Boards, but I lay on the table a statement showing the percentages of candidates from various communities, who appeared before and were accepted by these Boards during the period from the 1st of September, 1943 to the 31st of December, 1944.

*Statement showing the percentages of candidates from various communities, who appeared before and were accepted by the Services Selection Boards from 1-9-43 to 31-12-44*

Community.	Per cent of total applicants.	Per cent of total of accepted candidates.	Pass rate for Community.
	%	%	%
Hindus	48.0	39.7	16.1
Muslims	22.9	19.5	15.9
Sikhs	10.8	13.1	22.5
Indian Christians	8.2	9.0	20.5
Anglo-Indians	5.9	10.6	33.8
Indian Jews	0.2	0.4	30.8
Domiciled Europeans	2.0	2.7	24.3
Parsees	1.7	2.6	27.0
Others	2.3	2.4	19.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

**NUMBER OF EUROPEANS AND ANGLO-INDIANS SELECTED FOR COMMISSIONS IN 1944**

226. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM: Will Government state the number of Officers, Europeans and Anglo-Indians, appointed in 1944 to all the Defence services by (i) competition, (ii) nomination, and (iii) promotion?

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:** With the exception of two Europeans recruited by examination in the U. K. and four Indians recruited by examination in India for permanent commissions in the R. I. N., all other commissioned officers for the three Indian Defence Services were appointed either by selection or by promotion. I regret that I am unable to give actual numbers in the interests of security, but I lay on the table statement showing the percentage of (a) Europeans (b) Anglo-Indians of the candidates commissioned in 1944.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM:** Could His Excellency give us some idea of the promotions as well as of the selections?

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:** Certain officers are appointed by promotion from the lower ranks. That is the difference. The others come in from civil life, and are appointed directly by selection.

*Statement showing percentages of Europeans and Anglo-Indians among officers commissioned into the Indian Defence Services in 1944 by selection.*

	Royal Indian Navy		Indian Army.		Indian Air Force	
	Com- mis- sioned direct	Com- mis- sioned from ranks	Com- mis- sioned direct	Com- mis- sioned from ranks	Com- mis- sioned direct	Com- mis- sioned from ranks
Europeans	*20%	Nil	42%	4%	Nil	Nil
Anglo-Indians	14%	Nil	†	†	13%	1%

\*Includes recruitment in the United Kingdom.

†In the Indian Army separate statistics are not maintained for Anglo-Indians, who are statutory Indians and are included among the latter.

#### COMPOSITION OF THE MILITARY ENGINEERING SERVICES

**227. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM:** Will Government give the communal composition of Gazetted officers and superior ministerial staff of M. E. S.?

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:** I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply given by me to his question No. 169 on the 15th March 1944.

I would add that in recruitment to the M. E. S. every effort is made to preserve the communal proportions so far as is consistent with the importance of meeting, without delay urgent war requirements.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM:** Will His Excellency call for some returns and see that the communal proportions are being maintained? We have information that they are not being maintained.

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:** I have nothing to add to what I have said already.

#### PAYMENT OF WAR GRATUITY TO PERSONNEL OF THE INDIAN SERVICES

**228. THE HONOURABLE MR. NARAYANDAS GIRDHARDAS:** Has the attention of Government been drawn to the announcement made by the British Chancellor of Exchequer about the allotment of 500 millions pounds in the British Budget for payment of gratuity to the fighting forces? Will the Government of India make suitable representations to the British Government for inclusion of Indian soldiers who have fought in the theatres of war outside India including Burma for payment of suitable gratuity and not to make any distinction between Indian and British Forces?

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:** The answer to the first part is in the affirmative. The allotment is however 200 million pounds, and not 500 millions. As regards the second part, the matter has been under the active consideration of the Government of India for some time and a scheme for the payment of a war gratuity to personnel of the Indian Services is being worked out.

#### DETENUS IN THE CENTRAL JAIL, VELLORE

**229. THE HONOURABLE MR. M. THIRUMALA ROW:** (a) Are there any non-Congress detenues kept in the Vellore Central Jail in Madras Province?

(b) If so, what is the number?

(c) To what category do they belong?

(d) Are there any military detenus among them?

(e) What is the kind of treatment they are getting, i.e., what category of treatment, among A, B and C classes, is given to them?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 15.

(c) Persons who for military security reasons have been detained.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) One in class I which approximates to a class between "A" and "B"; the remainder in class II which involves "C" class treatment.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM: May I know whether the Vellore Jail is under the Home Department or under the War Department? I think the reply should have been given by the Home Department and not by the War Department.

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. CONRAN-SMITH: I think not. The reply was correctly given by His Excellency the War Member.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM: Is this jail under the War Department?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. CONRAN-SMITH: The jail is not under the War Department. It is a provincial jail.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM: Then how is it that the War Department are concerned with it?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. CONRAN-SMITH: Because they are, Sir.

#### DUMBARTON OAKES CONFERENCE.

230. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH: (a) Are Government aware that the Dumbarton Oakes Conference has resolved to establish an international organisation under the title of "The United Nations", to maintain international peace and security, and develop friendly relations among nations?

(b) What part, if any, India has been assigned in this organisation? If not, why have Government not pressed for the recognition of India's place in this organisation?

THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No specific parts have yet been assigned to particular nations. The details of this organisation are to be considered at the forthcoming conference at San Francisco at which, as I have informed the Honourable Member in reply to other questions, India will be represented. The last part of the question does not arise.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM: Is the Honourable the Leader of the House sure that India will not be misrepresented?

THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN: I do not think that I should even take notice of that question.

THE HONOURABLE MR. G. S. MOTILAL: Has any literature on the subject of the purpose and organisation of this Conference been made available to the Government of India, and will the Government make that available to the members of the Legislature?

THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN: I must ask for notice, Sir.

#### CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS AT SAN FRANCISCO

231. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH: Are Government aware that a Conference of United Nations is to be called to meet at San Francisco in the U. S. A. on the 25th April, 1945 to prepare a charter of an organisation to deal with conditions arising out of Germany's defeat? If so, will India be allowed a seat on this Conference and so Government propose to press the claims of India for recognition of her position in this Conference?

THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN: The answer to the first part of the question is 'Yes'; and to the second, that India will be represented at the Conference. The fact that she will be so represented shows that her position is already recognised.

**LIBERATION OF INDIAN PRISONERS OF WAR FROM CAMPS IN POLAND**

**232. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH :** With reference to the reply of the War Minister Sir James Grigg, in the House of Commons, on or about the 20th February, 1945, that "1,400 British prisoners of war had been liberated from camps in Poland", will Government state whether Indian prisoners are also included in the term "British prisoners"? If so, are Indians also fighting on the Polish front and how many Indian prisoners have been liberated?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN** (on behalf of Defence Department): I do not know to which reply the Honourable Member is referring. But the term "British prisoners" does not appear in the reply given by Sir James Grigg in the House of Commons on the 20th February, 1945 to a question relating to prisoners of war asked by Mr. Davies.

As regards the second part of the question, no Indian Army personnel is fighting on the Polish front. Twenty-five Indians are so far known to have been liberated on the Russian front from Camps in Poland.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Could the Honourable Member enlighten the House as to what was the reply given by Sir James Grigg?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN :** I cannot answer that in a supplementary question.

**RELAXATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE PAPER CONTROL (ECONOMY) ORDER, 1944.**

**233. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH :** Have Government relaxed the provisions of the Paper Control (Economy) Order, 1944 to facilitate the printing and publication of the main religious books of the Hindus, Muslims, and Christians, such as "*Bhagwat Gita*", "*Bamayana*", "*Quran*", "*Bible*", etc.? If not, what modifications or exceptions, if any, have been made, and to what extent?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** The Honourable Member's attention is invited to the answer given to his question No. 96 on the 16th November, 1944. Important publishers of the main religious books have been allowed to consume paper for printing such books up to 70 per cent. of the quantity of paper consumed for that purpose in 1943. In addition, they have been allowed for printing cheap editions of such publications, news-print quota equal to 10 per cent. of the quantity of paper used by them for publishing such books in 1943.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** May I ask the Honourable Member if, now that the position has eased, he would be in a position to increase that quota?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** It is very likely, Sir.

**HIS HIGHNESS THE AGA KHAN'S MISSION**

**234. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH :** Will Government state whether H. H. the Aga Khan has been charged by them with an important political mission to India? If so, what is the nature of this mission?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN :** The reply to the first part of the question is in the negative. The second part does not arise.

**COMPOSITION OF CIVILIAN GAZETTED OFFICERS.**

**235. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Will Government state the communal composition of C. G. Os. in service on 31-12-1943, the numbers by communities appointed in 1944 and the method of selection?

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF :** I lay a statement on the table showing the communal composition of the Civilian Gazetted Officers in the M. G. O. services on the 31st of December, 1943 and the number appointed in 1944 by communities.

Apart from departmental promotion, the selection of Civilian Gazetted Officers in most cases is done by the Federal Public Service Commission. A few specialized appointments and posts requiring high technical qualifications, are, however, filled without reference to the Public Service Commission.

*Communal composition of Civilian Gazetted Officers in M. G. O. 'Services on the 31st December 1943,*

Hindus	Muslims	Sikhs	Anglo-Indians	Indian Christians	Parsees and Jews	Europeans
548	139	51	17	20	12	49
<i>Number of Civilian Gazetted Officers by communities in M. G. O. Services appointed in 1944.</i>						
Hindus	Muslims	Sikhs	Anglo-Indians	Indian Christians	Parsees and Jews	Europeans
200	61	28	20	28		7

#### NUMBER OF EUROPEANS AND INDIANS ACTING AS MAJORS AND CAPTAINS IN THE I. A. M. C.

236. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM: Will Government state the number and European officers acting as Majors with 7 years' seniority, and Captain with 7 years' or more seniority in the I.M.C. (old I.M.S.)?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The information is as follows:—

Indian Major with 7 or more years' seniority	190
European Majors with 7 or more years' seniority	86
Indian Captains with 7 or more years' seniority	437
European Captains with 7 or more years' seniority	26

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM: Does that indicate the proportion of Indians and Europeans in the service—their *pro rata* number or are there more Indians in the service?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: The figures given include prisoners of war and the reason for the disproportionate figures of more Indians is that the number of Indians in the Indian Army Medical Corps as a whole is very much greater than the number of Europeans and this is because the bulk of the Indian Army Medical Corps Officers hold Emergency Commissions and comparatively few Europeans have joined the I. A. M. C. since the war. Of the 437 Indian Captains, very few of them have more than two or three years' actual military service. They get their seniority by an ante-date which brings them up to seven years for experience in civil practice and very few Europeans are similarly placed. The promotions are, of course, by selection based on confidential reports which are submitted on a definite procedure, and in this selection there is no discrimination between Europeans and Indians except for special appointments some-times, some of which can only be filled by Europeans and some can only be filled by Indians. That is the situation.

#### AWARDS FOR CAPTURE OF ENEMY AGENTS

237. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH: (a) Have Government decided to increase the amounts of immediate awards for the capture and, information leading to the capture of enemy agents in India?

(b) With a view to facilitate the capture of enemy agents, have they published their names and such other particulars of awards and other information, which will help the public to effect their arrest?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While it may occasionally be possible to reinforce the appeal to the public by publishing particulars of known enemy agents at large, the intention behind the appeal is to stimulate public interest and co-operation in the apprehension of agents whose presence and activities may not be known to Government.

#### UNAUTHORISED ENTRY INTO PRIVATE DWELLINGS BY MILITARY PERSONNEL IN CALCUTTA

238. THE HONOURABLE KUMAR N. N. SINHA: Will Government state how many cases of unauthorised entry into private dwelling houses by military personnel in Calcutta, have taken place in recent months? Will Government state the facts and circumstances of each case? What steps have been taken by them to punish the offenders and to prevent a recurrence of such incidents?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: I lay a statement on the table.



*Statement.*

Five cases of unauthorised entry into private dwelling houses and premises by military personnel in Calcutta have been reported to General Headquarters since September 1944.

The following are the facts of each case.

(i) On the 24/25th September 1944 Ptes. Blackburn and Pavey broke into the office of the General Controller of Stores, B. & A. Rly., No. 3 Koilaghat Station and stole some valuables (gold watches and jewellery) the property of Mr. Hands, Controller General. The accused, who were arrested by the Civil Police, were, at the time, soldiers under sentence who had escaped from the British Military Hospital, Lucknow and had made their way to Calcutta. They were tried by Court Martial and were each sentenced to 2 years imprisonment with hard labour.

(ii) On the night of the 30th October 1944, Sgt. Hamilton of No. 2 Gold Coast Regt., entered the house of Mr. Mohammed Rahman, 4/1 Nayat Khan Lane. It is alleged that he was drunk and became violent. The Military Police were called and he was arrested. He has been returned to his Unit (at present serving under South East Asia Command) for trial.

(iii) It was reported that on the 18th November 1944, Sapper Haruna Mundi and Pte. Mohaman Goa of H. Q. 82 (West African) Division entered a house at No. 102, Umadas Lane, All relevant documents were passed to the Division Headquarters (at present serving under South East Asia Command) for disposal of the case.

(iv) On the 24th December 1944 Action/Bombardier Donaldson broke into the house of Mr. Valentine at 170/2 Lower Circular Road. At the request of the householder no charge was preferred against Donaldson. At the time of the offence, however, Donaldson was absent from the Detention Ward at Serampore Hospital and he was punished for breaking out and remaining absent without leave.

(v) On the night of the 26th December 1944, Sgt. Phillip, Embarkation Headquarters entered a house at No. 7, Clyde Row and disturbed the owner, who accosted him, and enquired what he was doing there. The owner was not completely satisfied with the explanation given by the soldier and communicated with the unit who investigated the case. These investigations revealed that Phillip went to visit a friend whom he mistakenly thought resided at No. 7 Clyde Row. It was accepted that this was a genuine mistake and no disciplinary action was taken in the case.

Strict orders are already in force whereby incidents involving military personnel and civilians are required to be reported and investigated with a minimum of delay by the military formation concerned, who take necessary disciplinary action.

**AIR SERVICE TO AUSTRALIA**

239. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH : Will Government give the main particulars of the regular Round Trip Air Service from India to Australia, which has been set up by the U. S. A. A. F. Air Transport Command and its financial commitments, if any, on India ?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : I regret that for security reasons I am unable to give any details beyond those published in the Press. The Government of India have not accepted any financial responsibility in respect of this service.

**VISIT OF SIR CYRIL NORWOOD AND SIR WALTER MOBERLY**

240. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH : (a) Will Government state whether Sir Cyril Norwood and Sir Walter Moberly have come out to India on an invitation of Government to study the educational problems of this country ? If so, will they state the scope of the mission, indicating the specific nature of the problems which they have to cope with ?

(b) Is not education a Provincial subject, apart from the Centrally administered areas ; and did Provincial Governments ask for such a mission to study educational problems ?

(c) Will the report be published for public information, before action is taken thereon ?

THE HONOURABLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH : (a) Sir Walter Moberly and Sir Cyril Norwood have come out to India at the invitation of the Central Government. The object of their visit is to make contacts and discuss educational questions with universities and other authorities concerned with education and strengthen the cultural link between India and the United Kingdom, with a view to facilitate development in certain branches of higher education in this country. This visit by educationists eminent on the Arts side is complementary to the visit by Professor A. V. Hill a distinguished scientist.

(b) (i) Yes, but the Central Government have accepted the responsibility of advising Provincial authorities through the Central Advisory Board of Education in regard to developments of education which may be of special value to the country as a whole.

(ii) No.

(c) It is not intended to publish any report. Action will be taken by authorities concerned in the light of their discussions with the visitors.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU :** Was the Central Advisory Board of Education consulted before an invitation was issued to Sir Cyril Norwood and Sir Walter Meberly to visit this country ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH :** Not officially ; but I happen to be the Chairman of that Board and can act on its behalf.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. G. S. MOTILAL :** Who bears the expenses of this mission ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH :** The Government of India.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU :** Is there any intention of sending a mission of Indian educationists on the Arts side to Britain or to any other country ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH :** I am trying to arrange, if possible, an exchange of professors and teachers.

#### INCREASE OF BROTHELS AND PROSTITUTES IN DELHI

241. **THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH :** (a) Will Government state whether there has been an increase in the number of brothels and prostitutes in Delhi ; if so, what is the cause of it ?

(b) What steps have been taken, or are proposed to be taken to reduce their number in the interest of public morality and health ?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. E. CONRAN-SMITH :** (a) There has been some increase as a result of war-time conditions.

(b) The powers available are those provided by sections 152 and 153 of the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911; the Bengal Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1933 ; and in cantonment areas, sections 235, 236 and 237 of the Cantonments Act, 1924. The Chief Commissioner has recently been asked to take all possible steps to combat this evil.

#### NUMBER OF INDIAN PRISONERS OF WAR FREED BY AMERICAN TROOPS IN LUZON

242. **THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH :** Will Government state how many Indian prisoners are among the 5,050 Allied prisoners rescued by the American troops from the Japanese internment camps at Cabanatuan (Luzon) on or about the 5th February ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN** (on behalf of Defence Department) : None.

#### HOSPITALITY TO BRITISH TROOPS BY INDIANS

243. **THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH :** (a) Is it a fact as stated by Mr. Amery, the Secretary of State for India, in the House of Commons on or about the 22nd February, that :—

“ the Government of India had taken steps to encourage Indians, who could do so, to offer hospitality to British troops in India ” ?

(b) If so, what steps have been taken, or encouragement proposed by Government.

(c) Will they lay on the table a copy of the instructions or requests, embodying such encouragement ?

(d) Have similar steps been taken in favour of Americans, Chinese or Dominion troops in India ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN** (on behalf of Defence Department) :

(a) Yes.

(b) The desirability of offering hospitality is brought to the notice of the persons who are considered to be in a position to do so.

(c) No instructions have been issued and no requests made officially.

(d) The Government of India would indeed be glad if hospitality could be offered to all troops, whether American, Chinese or belonging to any of the Dominions.

#### IMPORT OF MOTOR CARS FROM BRITAIN

244. **THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH :** (a) Is it a fact that Government have issued permits for the import of about 2,000 British cars for use in India ? If so, whether they are intended for the use of officials or non-officials.

(b) Will Government make a statement indicating their attitude towards the growth of Indian automobile industry, and the steps taken to implement the same ?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** (a) The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given by the Secretary, War Transport Department, on 7th March, 1945 to question No. 99 by the Honourable Mr. G. S. Motilal. The importation of these cars is not expected to have any adverse effect on the indigenous automobile industry, because that industry is not expected to come into active production for some time yet.

(b) A panel on "Automobiles and Tractors" is being set up by the Planning and Development Department to consider in detail and report on the development of the automobile industry in India.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Could the Honourable Member indicate the time when he expects this consignment?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. G. S. MOTILAL :** Have Government any information as to when these cars are expected?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** No, Sir.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Is there any intention of allotting cars to the members of the Legislature?

(No answer.)

#### SCARCITY OF CLOTH IN PROVINCES

245. **THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH :** (a) Are Government aware that there is a cloth famine in most of the Provinces in India as the allocation of quotas is most inadequate to cover the bare needs of the people?

(b) What steps have they taken, or propose to take, to increase substantially the quotas of cloth for the different Provinces, to meet the level of requirements of the peoples?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** (a) There is certainly not a cloth famine in most of the Provinces as alleged by the Honourable Member though I admit that there is a general shortage of cloth which is specially acute in certain Provinces, particularly Bihar.

(b) Government is making every effort to increase the amount of cloth available by increasing production. Coal allotments to the industry are being increased and we are trying to get more mill stores and machinery. We are also trying to import a limited quantity of fine cloth and yarn.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. G. S. MOTILAL :** Is one of the measures for meeting production reduction of various qualities?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** Yes, Sir. That is under consideration.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. G. S. MOTILAL :** How many qualities have so far been reduced?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** I said that the question of reducing the varieties is now under active examination.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. SUSIL KUMAR ROY CHOWDHURY :** Is it according to the Honourable Member that there is no cloth famine or according to his vocabulary shortage of cloth in Bengal?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** In my reply I pointed out that there is a general shortage of cloth which is specially acute in certain Provinces.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. SUSIL KUMAR ROY CHOWDHURY :** But you mentioned only Bihar?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** I said particularly Bihar.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU :** What is the distinction that the Honourable Member draws between shortage of cloth and cloth famine? What is the criterion?

(No answer.)

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Is there any intention on the part of the Central Government that every Province should take measures on the lines on which Bengal is taking action at the present moment?

(No answer.)

**THE HONOURABLE MR. G. S. MOTILAL :** Is this acute shortage only in some parts of Bihar or throughout Bihar?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** I have no information.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. SUSIL KUMAR ROY CHOWDHURY :** Has the Honourable Member seen the report in the *Statesman* and the statement made by the Right Honourable Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru about acute cloth shortage in Bengal ?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** Yes, Sir.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Has the Government read the report of a great number of bales being unearthed by Mr. Griffith and his colleagues ?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** Yes, I have seen that report.

#### REPLACEMENT OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS BY A STRONGER ORGANISATION

**246. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH :** (a) With reference to the financial contribution which India annually makes to the League of Nations, has the attention of the Government been drawn to the following statement of Mr. Churchill, the Premier of England, in the House of Commons, on or about the 27th February, on the Yalta Conference debate : "The former League of Nations will be replaced by a far stronger body in which the U. S. A. will play a vitally important part. Taught by bitter experience, we hope now to make the world conscious of the strength of the new instrument, and of the protection which it would be able to afford all who wish to dwell in peace ?

(b) Have Government ascertained, or do they propose to ascertain the details of the formation of the new body which would replace the League of Nations ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Honourable Member's attention is invited to the provisional plan embodied in the Dumbarton Oaks proposals which have been largely publicised. No doubt the question of the winding up of the League and the transfer of the functions of existing organisations under the League will form one of the items for discussion at the forthcoming San Francisco Conference which is being convened to carry further the plans laid at Dumbarton Oaks for a world Security Organisation. At that time the contributions to be made to the new organisation by member States (including India) will fall for consideration.

#### NAME OF PRINCIPAL INFORMATION OFFICER

**247. THE HONOURABLE KUMAR N. N. SINHA :** Will Government state :—

(a) Who is the present Principal Information Officer to the Government of India and what are his academic qualifications ?

(b) When was the said officer appointed and what are his present terms of employment ?

(c) Is it a fact that he was a sub-editor or assistant editor of a newspaper prior to his appointment to this post ?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN :** (a) Mr. J. Natarajan. He is B. A. (Hons.) of the Bombay University.

(b) He was first appointed as Deputy Principal Information Officer in 1938 after a written test and interview by the Federal Public Service Commission. He is in receipt of a fixed salary of Rs. 2,000 p. m. since 1941 when he was appointed Principal Information Officer.

(c) No. Mr. Natarajan has had 13 years' experience in Journalism. He was a sub-editor on the staff of the *Times of India*, Bombay, from 1925 to 1928. He then joined the *Pioneer*, Lucknow, as chief sub-editor and was appointed Chief Assistant Editor in 1934. He officiated as Editor of the *Pioneer* on several occasions.

#### SCARCITY OF CLOTH IN BENGAL

**248. THE HONOURABLE KUMAR N. N. SINHA :** (a) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Assembly of the 22nd February, in which Mr. H. S. Suhrawardy, Minister for Civil Supplies admitted that "there was a cloth famine in the Province, but was very largely due to inadequate supply. The quota allotted to Bengal was very low: he had vigorously protested against that, and if justice was not done to Bengal the Province was in for a very bad time indeed..... The position taken up by the Central Government regarding allocation of cloth to Bengal was indefensible" ?

(b) What steps have Government taken, or propose to take in the immediate future to augment the quota of supply of cloth to Bengal ?

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** (a) Government have not seen the proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Assembly referred to by the Honourable Member but I am prepared to accept his statement that the remarks in question were made by the Honourable Mr. Suhrawardy.

(b) The question of refixing the quota of each deficit area is being examined.

### STATEMENTS, ETC., LAID ON THE TABLE

**THE HONOURABLE MR. D. D. WARREN** (War Transport Secretary): Sir I lay on the table copies of Notification issue by the Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, No. F./22-3 III (CC), dated the 2nd January, 1945, amending the Ajmer-Merwara Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940.

#### NOTIFICATION

*Ajmer, the 2nd January, 1945*

No. F/22-3-III (CC).—The Chief Commissioner is pleased to make the following amendment to rule 61 of the Ajmer-Merwara Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, published with this Administration Notification No. 1141/34-W/38-III, dated the 12th June 1940, the amendment having been previously published in this Administration Notification No. F/22-3-III (CC), dated the 14th September 1944:—

"In rules 6-1 (a) of Chapter VI—Control of Traffic—for the figure and word "5 tons" in line 4 substitute the words "eight tons in the case of a six-wheeled vehicle and six tons in the case of a four-wheeled vehicle" and for the figure and word "3 tons" in lines 5 and 6 substitute the words "five tons in the case of a six-wheeled vehicle and four tons in the case of a four-wheeled vehicle."

**THE HONOURABLE MR. D. D. WARREN** (War Transport Secretary): Sir, I lay on the table copies of Notification issued by the Chief Commissioner of British Baluchistan, No. 185/21-44/PTC, dated the 15th February, 1945 amending the British Baluchistan Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940.

#### NOTIFICATION

*Quetta, the 15th February, 1945*

No. 185/21-44/PTC.—In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 70 (1) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 (VI of 1939), the Chief Commissioner of British Baluchistan is pleased to direct that the following amendment shall be made to the British Baluchistan Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940 published in Notification No. 347/M. V., dated the 1st April, 1940, printed at pages 841 to 982 of the *Gazette of India*, Part II-A, dated the 27th April, 1940:—

For rule 5-44 substitute the following:—

The body of every public service vehicle shall be so constructed and so fastened to the frame of the vehicle as to comply with such directions as may be issued by the Provincial Transport Authority from time to time.

### INFORMATION PROMISED IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS LAID ON THE TABLE

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF :** Sir, I lay on the table the information promised in reply to question No. 132 asked on the 13th March, 1944 by the Honourable Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru.

#### DECISION TO GRANT THE RANK OF MAJOR TO RIFLE COMPANY COMMANDERS IN ACTIVE BATTALIONS

Number of Indian Captains commanding Rifle Companies before the decision to grant the rank of Major to officers holding that appointment was given effect to	77
Number of above Indian Captains who have remained Rifle Company Commanders and have been promoted to the rank of Major	57

### STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE FOOD DEPARTMENT

**THE HONOURABLE MR. B. R. SEN** (Nominated Official): Sir, I beg to move:—

"That this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct, five non-official members to serve on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects in the Department of Food during the financial year 1945-46."

**THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU** : (United Provinces Southern : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I just want to ask one question. Would the Honourable Mr. Sen be pleased to give us some indication of the work done by the Standing Committee during the year ? How many times did it meet during the year ?

**—THE HONOURABLE MR. B. R. SEN** : So far as I am aware, the Committee met three times during the year. Various questions of policy, as well as of detail, were referred to them and their advice sought.

The Motion was adopted.

#### DEFENCE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF** : Sir, I move :—

“That this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct, four non-official members to serve on the Defence Consultative Committee for the financial year 1945-46.”

The Motion was adopted.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE INDUSTRIES AND CIVIL SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL** (Industries and Civil Supplies Secretary) : Sir, I move :—

“That this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct, four non-official members to serve on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects in the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies.”

The Motion was adopted.

#### CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE TUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

**THE HONOURABLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH** (Education, Health and Lands Member) : Sir, I move :—

“That this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as may be approved by the Honourable the President, one person from among their number to sit on the Central Committee of the Tuberculosis Association of India.”

The Motion was adopted.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN** (Leader of the House) : Sir, I move :—

“That this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct four non-official members to serve on the Standing Committee to advise the External Affairs Department on subjects pertaining to British Baluchistan and the tribal areas for the financial year 1945-46.”

**THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU** (United Provinces Southern : Non-Muhammadan) : Before you put the question I will just say one word. I welcome the formation of this Committee but I should like to point out one thing in connection with it. The External Affairs Department deals not only with British Baluchistan and the tribal areas but also with the question of migration and immigration of Indians into non-Empire countries and I should like to see the scope of this Committee to be extended to cope with questions of immigration and migration of Indians in non-Empire countries. The Commonwealth Relations Department deals with the question of Indian immigration into Empire countries but this deals with the question of migration of Indians into non-Empire countries and, as you know, the question of immigration of Indians to non-Empire countries is becoming an important one. We know what has happened just now in the United States in regard to the entry of Indians as immigrants. Sir, I would like the scope of this Committee to be further extended.

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN** : All that is stated in the Legislative Department notification dated the 5th March, 1945, is that “the Committee to be constituted for this Department will advise on such subjects only as appertain to British Baluchistan and the tribal areas”. These rules were made in consultation

with a Committee of the Legislative Assembly. I am therefore unable to say anything in regard to what the Honourable Member has said.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU :** You may bear my suggestion in mind.

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN :** The suggestion will be on record. The Motion was adopted.

### LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT NOTIFICATION

*New Delhi, the 5th March, 1945*

No. F. 179/44-C. & G.—In supersession of the Notification of the Government of India in the Home Department No. F. 49-Pub., dated the 22nd August, 1922 and of all notifications amending the same, the following Rules to regulate the constitution and procedure of Standing Committees of the Central Legislature are published for general information :—

#### RULES

1. Standing Committees of the Central Legislature to advise on subjects handled in a particular Department of the Government of India are constituted as the result of the adoption by each Chamber of a motion for the election to such Committee for the next following financial year of specified number of non-official members of the Chamber concerned.

2. Subject to rule 3, such motions will hereafter be moved annually in the course of the Budget Session in the case of the following Departments, namely :—

- The Commerce Department,
- The Labour Department,
- The Supply Department,
- The Food Department,
- The Department of Posts and Air,
- The Department of Information and Broadcasting,
- The Department of Industries and Civil Supplies,
- The Defence Department,
- \*The War Transport Department,
- The Home Department,
- The Legislative Department,
- The Department of Planning and Development,
- The Department of Education, Health and Lands,
- †The External Affairs Department.

3. If a Department named in rule 2 proposes to discontinue the Standing Committee attached to the Department appropriate steps will be taken to bring this intention to the notice of each Chamber in advance of the date on which the motion for the election of members for the next following year would normally be made.

4. Any Department named in rule 2 may at its option moved for the election of members to two or more Committees to advise on different categories of subjects handled in the Department :

Provided that where two or more Committees are constituted for a Department the subject-matters assigned to the Committee shall substantially embrace in the aggregate all the subjects handled in the Department.

5. A member of a Committee who ceases to be a member of the Chamber which elected him to the Committee shall cease to be a member of the Committee and if a vacancy occurs in a Committee for this or any other reason during the course of the year for which the Committee was constituted a motion shall be made as soon as may be in the Chamber concerned for the election of a member to fill the vacancy.

6. The Chairman of each Committee will be the Member of the Governor-General's Executive Council in charge of the Department to which the Committee is attached or any officer deputed by him to act as Chairman on his behalf, and an officer in the Department concerned will be Secretary to the Committee.

7. The following subjects will be laid before the Standing Committees :—

(i) All Bills introduced or proposed to be introduced by non-official members of the Legislature, and legislative proposals which the Department concerned intends to undertake and on which the Member in charge of the Department desires the advice of the Committee.

(ii) Reports of Committees and Commissions (not including unpublished reports of departmental committees) on which the Indian Legislature is not adequately represented.

(iii) Major questions of general policy on which the Member in charge of the Department desires the advice of the Committee.

(iv) Annual Reports.

(v) With the approval of the Member in charge of the Department, any topic of public importance within the field of the Committee which a member of the Committee may propose for discussion :—

Provided that :—

(i) in cases of urgency a reference to the Committee may be dispensed with by the Department concerned ;

\*The Committee to be constituted for this Department will advise on the subjects handled in the Department other than subjects within the jurisdiction of the Standing Committee for Roads.

†The Committee to be constituted for this Department will advise on such subjects only as appertain to British Baluchistan and the Tribal Areas.

(ii) the following cases shall be excluded from the purview of the Committee :—

(a) cases concerning appointments ;

(b) all cases which the Member in charge of the Department concerned considers cannot be placed before the Committee consistently with the public interest.

8. The functions of Standing Committees will be purely advisory and their proceedings will be strictly confidential. No press representatives will be allowed to attend any meeting of a Committee. Brief reports of the activities of each Committee mentioning the subjects discussed and the conclusions reached by the Committee but not the tenor of the discussions will be circulated to all members of the Central Legislature.

9. Meetings of the Standing Committees will be summoned by the Secretary not less than twice a year at such times as may be decided by the Member in charge of the Department. The agenda of the meeting will be drawn up and circulated by the Secretary, together with a Memorandum explaining the nature of each item of business and copies of such papers as the Member in charge of the Department directs to be furnished to the Committee. Such papers will be returned by members to the Secretary at the close of each meeting. The proceedings of the Committee will be confined to items of business entered in the agenda, and any requests for further information will be dealt with under the orders of the Member in charge.

10. At a meeting of a Standing Committee the Secretary may be requested by the Member to explain each item of business. The Chairman will then invite a discussion and the Secretary will note on the departmental file the general opinion of the Committee.

11. The Committees established under these rules will be in addition to the Defence Consultative Committee, the Standing Committee for Roads, the Standing Finance Committee, the Standing Committee for Emigration, the Standing Committee on Pilgrimage to the Hejaz, the Standing Finance Committee for Railways and the Central Advisory Council for Railways which have been established under other rules, and the procedure of which will continue to be governed by the rules under which they were constituted.

G. H. SPENCE, Secy.

## STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL (Industries and Civil Supplies Secretary):

Sir, I beg to move :—

"That this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as may be approved by the Honourable the President, five non-official members to serve on a Standing Committee for the Planning and Development Department for the year commencing from 1st April, 1945."

The Motion was adopted.

## STANDING COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION

THE HONOURABLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH (Education, Health and Lands Member): Sir, I move :—

"That this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct, five non-official members to serve during the year 1945-46, on a Standing Committee to advise on 'Education' a subject dealt with in the Department of Education, Health and Lands."

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU (United Provinces Southern : Non-Muhammadan): Sir, I welcome the formation of a Standing Committee on Education but I should like the Honourable Member to tell us what exactly the relationship of this Standing Committee will be to the Central Advisory Board of Education. As the House knows, there is a Central Advisory Board of Education already in existence and one of our members is our representative on that Board and what I would like to know is whether it is intended to scrap the Central Advisory Board of Education and to substitute this Standing Committee for the Board or whether this Standing Committee will be in addition to the Central Board of Education.

THE HONOURABLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH: The Central Board of Education will remain as its functions are quite apart from the Standing Committee which is going to advise the Legislature. In matters relating to Education, which are likely to come before the Legislature, the Standing Committee will be consulted.

The Motion was adopted.

## STANDING COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FORESTS

THE HONOURABLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH (Education, Health and Lands Member): Sir, I move :—

"That this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct, five non-official members to serve during the year 1945-46, on a Standing Committee to advise on the subjects Agriculture and Forests dealt with in the Department of Education, Health and Lands."

The Motion was adopted.



## STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND LANDS

**THE HONOURABLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH** (Education, Health and Lands Member): Sir, I move :—

"That this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct, five non-official members to serve during the year 1945-46, on a Standing Committee to advise on subjects dealt with in the Department of Education, Health and Lands other than those covered by the Standing Committees for Agriculture and Forests and for Education".

**THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU** (United Provinces Southern : Non-Muhammadian): May I say one word in connection with this? Sir, subjects other than those covered by the Standing Committees for Agriculture, Forests and for Education would mean, I take it, Health. Health would be about the most important subject which would come within the purview of this Standing Committee. Am I right in assuming that? If the idea is to have a Standing Committee on Health then, I think, Sir, that the importance of the subject required that it should have been specifically stated as Health and I regret that the description of Health should be "other than Education, Lands and Agriculture".

**THE HONOURABLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH**: I quite appreciate the remarks of the Honourable Member, Health is an important subject and should have a department of its own. He is quite right in thinking that the Standing Committee will be concerned with Medical and Health, quinine and quinine substitutes, Local Self Government, etc.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM**: What about Lands? In which Department will Lands come?

**THE HONOURABLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH**: Agriculture.

The Motion was adopted.

## STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

**THE HONOURABLE MR. N. R. PILLAI** (Commerce Secretary): Sir, I move :—

"That this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct, three non-official members to serve on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects with which the Commerce Department is concerned".

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM**: May I just draw the Honourable Member's attention to the fact that perhaps the number of members have been increased in the other House.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. N. R. PILLAI**: Not to my knowledge, Sir.  
The Motion was adopted.

## STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN** (Leader of the House): Sir, I move :—

"That this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct, three non-official members to serve on the standing Committee to advise on the subjects with which the Department of supply is concerned, during the financial year 1945-46".

The Motion was adopted.

## STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE WAR TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

**THE HONOURABLE MR. D. D. WARREN** (War Transport Secretary): Sir, I move :—

"That in supersession of the Motion adopted by this Council at its meeting held on the 21st March, 1945, this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct, four non-official members to serve on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects with which the Department of War Transport is concerned, other than those within the purview of the Standing Committee for Roads, during the year 1945-46".

Sir, with your permission, I will make a brief explanation. On the 21st March, this Council accepted a Motion to the effect that the Council should elect three non-official members to serve on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects in the War

Transport Department other than those within the purview of the Standing Committee for Roads. Two days later, on the 23rd March, the Legislative Assembly decided that they should elect eight nominees to this Committee instead of six as had been suggested in the Motion moved in that House. In the circumstances I think that this Council should be given an opportunity of increasing their representation from three to four. I therefore move this Motion in supersession of the Motion adopted by this House on the 21st March.

The Motion was adopted.

\*THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM (Bihar and Orissa : Muhammadan) : May I request the Honourable the Secretary concerned that he should ascertain whether the number of members to be elected to the Advisory Committee from the other House has been increased, and if it has been increased, that he should move a similar Motion in this House for increasing the number to be elected from this House ? For instance, in the case of the Home Department, the number has been increased in the Legislative Assembly, but a Motion for increasing the number of members to be elected from this House has not been brought. I therefore request the Secretary concerned to keep in touch with the Assembly and make the necessary corrections in the number of members of the Committee to be elected from this House.

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. CONRAN-SMITH (Home Secretary) : I doubled the number of members : that is to say, I made it four instead of two as in the original Motion, owing to the increase made in the Assembly.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : But there are other Departments in respect of which the numbers have been increased, just as in the case of the Committee referred to by the Honourable Mr. Warren. There are other instances of a similar nature.

THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN (Leader of the House) : The Secretary will examine it.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : With reference to the Motions which have just been adopted by the Council, I have to announce that nominations to the Committees will be received by the Secretary up to 11 A.M. on Thursday, the 29th March, 1945, and the date of election, if necessary, will be announced later.

## RESOLUTION *RE* FURTHER AMENDMENTS TO THE RESOLUTION ON ROAD DEVELOPMENT

THE HONOURABLE MR. D. D. WARREN (Nominated Official) : Sir, I move :—

"That this Council recommends to the Governor General in Council that the following further amendments be made in sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 9 of the Resolution on road development adopted by the Council of State on the 5th March, 1937, namely :—

In clause (c) for the word 'three' the word 'four' and in clause (d) for the word "six" the word 'eight' shall be substituted".

Sir, the reason for the proposed amendment is as follows. In the Legislative Assembly a desire was expressed for a larger number of members from the Legislature to serve on the Standing Committee for Roads, especially in view of the fact that questions of future road and road transport policy would be referred to the committee. The Assembly suggested that their representation should be increased from six to eight but neither House is able to proceed to election until the Resolution adopted in 1937 recommending the reconstitution of the Committee is amended. This Committee has been constituted by special Resolutions adopted from time to time since the year 1929. It having been suggested in the Assembly and accepted by Government that the number of their members on the committee should be raised to eight, I think that it would be proper for the representation of this House to be likewise increased from three to four. I therefore move the amendment to the Resolution which stands in my name.

The Motion was adopted.

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\* Not corrected by the Honourable Member.

## STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ROADS 1945-46

**THE HONOURABLE MR. D. D. WARREN :** Sir, I move :—

"That this Council do proceed to elect in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct, four members to serve on the Standing Committee for Roads which will be constituted to advise the Governor General in Council in the administration of the Central Road Fund and such other questions relating to roads and road traffic as may be referred to it during the financial year, 1945-46."

The Motion was adopted.

**THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT :** With reference to the Motion which has just been adopted by the Council, I have to announce that nominations to the Committee will be received by the Secretary up to 11 A.M. on Thursday, the 29th March, 1945 and the date of election, if necessary, will be announced later.

## INDIAN TEA CONTROL (AMENDMENT) BILL

**THE HONOURABLE MR. N. R. PILLAI (Commerce Secretary) :** Sir, I beg to move :—

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Tea Control Act, 1938, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration."

This, Sir, is a simple and non-controversial Bill, and its purpose is fully explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. Briefly, what the Bill seeks to do is to rectify the imperfect wording of the Schedule to the Act which experience has shown to have resulted in certain tea estates, many of them Indian-owned, I believe, being precluded from claiming certain concessions admissible under the Act.

Sir, I move.

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and Preamble were added to the Bill.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. N. R. PILLAI :** Sir, I move :—

"That the Bill, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be passed."

The Motion was adopted.

## RESOLUTION RE COTTAGE INDUSTRY OF DYEING AND PRINTING (COTTON CLOTH)—*contd.*

**\*THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM (Bihar and Orissa : Muhammadan)**  
**Mr. President, I rise to move :—**

"That this Council recommends to the Governor General in Council to take steps to help the cottage industry of Dyeing and Printing (cotton cloth) and save it from unfair competition."

**Mr. President,** when I move this Resolution it should not be taken that I am asking

Government to initiate a new policy at variance from their past action. What it really means is that sufficient atten-

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tion is not being paid by the Government to these people and therefore I wish to invite the attention of the Government and the general public to the plight of these people so that their grievances may be removed. The Resolution, Sir, is not very specific. What it again indicates is that it is a subject on which a great deal needs to be done but those actions are not such as can be conveniently discussed in a big House. Rather it should be settled by Government on the merits when they receive representations from public organisations. This Resolution really brings to the fore a question of very great importance in the development of this country, viz., whether big scale industry alone should be eligible for the support of the Government or whether the small scale man has also the right to live and be saved from the competition of big monied Barons. The particular case of this industry is that the textile mills were making enormous profits, as is indicated by the index of prices of textile shares given in the Financial Memorandum of the Government of India. That shows how great was the profit made and how there has been a reduction in the prices indicating thereby the deflation of the extraordinary profits. Another contributory factor which brings out this fact is the reduction in cloth prices which has been stressed by Honourable Members in their Speeches. The Department of Industries and Civil Supplies.

\*Not corrected by the Honourable Member.

[Mr. Hossain Imam]

takes—and I think rightly—credit for a reduction of cloth prices by 4 annas in the rupee, i.e., by 25 per cent. during the control period. That has been a voluntary reduction. Another thing has been quoted by the Government to bring down the prices. The Industries Committee of the Textile Board has of its own motion consented to reduce the price by one anna and sometimes  $1\frac{1}{2}$  annas in the rupee. That simply establishes the fact that these industries were making enormous profits. Even now, Sir, textile shares are being quoted at not less than 3 to 4 times their price in the pre-war period. There are certain advantages which have been given to organised big scale industry. For instance, there is the Priorities Committee of the Textile Board which meets weekly and considers the applications of the industry for providing mill stores required for keeping up production. It also gets dyes at controlled price through the good offices of the Textile Control Board and the officers attached to it. The difficulty of this small scale industry is that they are not eligible to apply to the Textile Control Board for any stores which they require. They cannot get the dyes at controlled prices. You have fixed a certain rate for dyeing and printing. No producer, whether on mill scale or on small scale, can charge an amount larger than that fixed by the Government. One is supplied with all the requirements through the agency of the Government and the other is denied all those privileges. I quite understand, Sir, that it will be impossible for any Governmental authority to deal with 10,000 producers who exist in the cottage industry. In order to obviate the difficulty, these industries have organised themselves into different bodies. They have got associations; for instance, there is the Ahmedabad Chhipa Hand-Printing and Dyeing Association, the Chhint Printing Association of Ahmedabad, the Bombay Co-operative Societies and a large number of other organisations, which are at the moment working. Therefore, it was not very difficult for the Textile Control Board and its officers, if they had a will to help these industries, to come to their rescue. You place them in unfair competition. Just as you have provided tariff protection for industries in order to obviate the unfair competition of dumping, there is need to help these people also. You deprive a producer of the privileges which you give to one class. You are really discriminating against those who deserve help and you are supporting those whose shoulders are broad enough to take up the additional burden. This, Sir, I suggest, is an unfair and unconscionable action of the Government to undertake. They try to help the strong to get stronger and they leave the weak to die of hunger.

Mr. President, this is not a new plan which I have suggested. I have before me a small summary of facts relating to the Chhinta Printing Association, submitted to the Secretary of the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies as long ago as the 21st November, 1944. In that, Sir, they gave a very small list of their requirements and help from Government. The matter was being considered. They could not get cloth from the market. The Government rightly helped them to remove that difficulty, although it was very late. It was only in January that orders were passed for the allotment of a certain number of bales, although these were insufficient. Only 2,000 bales were permitted to the four organisations of Ahmedabad. All the Ahmedabad printers and dyers, who give employment to more than 5,000 families, were allowed only 2,000 bales.

THE HONOURABLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH : Is there a Co-operative Society of Dyers in Ahmedabad? Have they formed a Co-operative Society?

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : This is not a Co-operative Society. They have all combined together and formed an Association which gets supplies from the Government and distributes them equitably on their capacity to the different members.

Sir, I had given notice of this Resolution at the beginning of February in order to ask for something more. Unfortunately, it could not be moved in the middle of February and when it has been fixed for being moved now, we were surprised to find that while Government was formerly only starving the cottage industry, they have now decided to give it a fatal dose of poison. By their notification No. 64- TB. 45, dated the 6th March, from New Delhi published in the *Gazette Extraordinary* of that date they have absolutely prohibited all machine printers from printing any cloth. There is again unfair competition. Those who were producers of cloth, even though

they may be printers, they are not prevented from printing. You again make a discrimination against a deserving class of people engaged in cottage industry and allow full latitude to the mill industry. There is no prohibition on machine printers who are themselves producers. The only restriction has been applied to those of the producers, I mean mills, who were getting things printed from outside by this very cottage industry. The cottage industry had two sources of supply to it. One was to purchase cloth direct, print it and then sell it; and the other was to get supplies from the mills as their agents, print it and then hand it back to the mills. Now, one supply has been dried up completely. The machine printers among the cottage industry cannot produce any cloth and then sell it. But even the small supply which they were getting from the mills as agents has been restricted to 5 or 7 per cent. of the production of the mills. The injustice had been intensified by a double blow. First is the prohibition and the second is the restriction. I would have understood it if the Government had decided to stop printing of cloth by the mills as well. But the mills have not been prohibited. The situation was so bad that the Honourable Member will remember that the Textile Control Board at its last meeting at the end of January, 1945 again voluntarily decided that the mills will abstain from printing cloth for 2 months. There was so much glut of printed cloth. If there is a glut, all must be stopped completely; and even when you stop all, you should give some subsistence to those whose only source of income was dyeing and printing. Cottage industries should have been given a preferential treatment. Instead of that, they have not even received equality of treatment with the organised big industry. They have been specially selected and for no reason. Machine printers even now are subject to price control. Another great injustice which the Department of the Honourable Member has done to hand printers is that they have fixed no charges, with the result that these people will be at the mercy of the mills. The mills can bring down their charges for printing to any level which they like, because there will be nobody to protect their interests. Mills will add to the cost the printing charges. They will put up the prices in the books of account. The amount given as printing charge will be written as 100, whereas the real charge paid will be Rs. 50, because as has been shown already and will be shown again when the Income-tax Bill is before the House, there is a double set of accounts. One is kept for private use, the other is for the partner's use and the third for submission to the Income-tax Department. Similarly the account kept for showing to the Textile Control Board will be a different set of account from what will be the actual payment, or there might be agents appointed to get the printing done. There is no prohibition that agents will not be employed in the printing by the producer, the mills. They appoint him as the agent to get cloth printed. I get some Rs. 100 and pay Rs. 50 to the actual printer. That measure can be legal without falsification of the accounts. I therefore ask the Government to take their own time to consult their executive body, the Textile Control Authority, and remove the injustice, if injustice there is and I have every hope that the Government will not fail the cottage industry at least in this one instance. Sir, I move.

THE HONOURABLE SIR JOGENDRA SINGH (Education, Health and Lands Member): Sir, I am in charge of the Co-operative Department and in the matter of cottage industries there is a great field and a lot can be done by co-operation. When I was a Minister in the Punjab I was greatly interested in dyeing and designing and started a school to train people in the use of dyeing and designing and that school was very successful. People who got training there were able to earn a living and in a matter like this it may be difficult for each individual to receive the attention that he deserves, but if the dyers will form into co-operative societies I think they will be in a position to get very favourable terms. In the matter of all cottage industries, such as hand-spinning and handloom-weaving, there is a wide scope for co-operation and I would ask the Honourable Member to approach the Co-operative Department in his province to promote the formation of these societies of dyers and as a corporate body they will be able to secure their requirements.

THE HONOURABLE MR. N. K. DAS (Orissa : Non-Muhammadan): Sir, I fully endorse the views expressed by the Honourable Mr. Hossain Imam. In fact, my province used to depend upon other provinces, such as Bengal and Madras, for dyeing, and for supply of Dyed Yarn, etc. In my province there are neither any weaving nor any spinning mills. Some time back some of the indigenous dyers had formed

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themselves into a combine and had started a dyeing factory. But it seems that they have found it extremely difficult to get either dyes or chemicals or yarn from outside. The quota of yarn allotted to my province is about 3,000 bales, but that too falls very short of the actual requirements of the province. All these 3,000 bales happen to be grey yarn, and none of it is dyed yarn. I think it is not possible for Government to arrange dyed yarn for my province due to complete dearth of this commodity. But as it is, about 25 per cent. of the actual requirements in yarn is composed of dyed yarn and unless any province gets the full share of dyes and chemicals and also a separate quota of yarn for Dyeing factories, it will be impossible to carry on. There are a large number of handloom-weavers in my country and unless dyes, chemicals and a separate quota of yarn are provided for them, it will be impossible for the province to carry on or cater to the needs of the poor classes of people. I should, therefore, request the Government to see that an adequate quantity of dyes and chemicals and also an adequate quantity of grey yarn is allotted to this factory in Orissa so that they could manufacture their dyed yarn and supply it to the handloomweavers who would otherwise be starved.

\*THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU (United Provinces Southern : Non-Muhammadan) : Mr. President, I desire to give this Resolution my wholehearted support. I think it is not only big business that deserves support ; it is also small business that must be supported and the grievance that Mr. Hossain Imam has voiced is that this industry is not being supported to the extent that it should. We on this side of the House fully share the views to which he has given expression and we hope that adequate support will be given by Government to this industry.

\*THE HONOURABLE SAIYED MOHAMED PADSHAH SAHIB BAHADUR (Madras : Muhammadan) : I rise to support this Resolution which has been so ably moved by my Honourable friend, Mr. Hossain Imami. He has been able to make a very strong case for help being given to the cottage industry. He has stated that the steps taken by the Government not only did not help this cottage industry but even went further and made matters worse. The Government have recently issued a Communiqué, the effect of which was to encourage the big mill industries at the expense of this small cottage industrialists. It is only fair, Sir, when the Government is doing so much to encourage big industries in the country that they should also have some consideration for those people who are engaged in industry on a small scale and who are not in a position to command the resources which big industries have. We wish all success to the big and heavy industries in the country, Sir, but we cannot lose sight of the need of giving lead to the people who carry on cottage industries. As the Honourable Member for Education, Health and Lands has just stated, it is the duty of the Government to try and help these industries and I am glad to note that the Honourable Sir Jogendra Singh, when Minister in the Punjab, did his best to help these small cottage industries and to put them on a sound footing and also arranged for the necessary training so that most of these people who might otherwise have to go unemployed got the necessary training. With these few words, I support the Resolution.

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL (Industries and Civil Supplies Secretary) : I welcome the Honourable Member having moved this Resolution as it gives me an opportunity to explain what Government has been doing to help the hand-printer and the hand-dyer and also to protect him from unfair competition. Before I come to that Sir, I would like to correct one statement which the Honourable Member made and that is that during the period of control the price reduction was only of the order of 25 per cent. That statement, Sir, surprises me, coming as it does from the Honourable Member, who is a very active member of the Textile Control Board.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Price reduction by the industry.

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL : The actual reduction of price during the period of control comes to something like 70 per cent. Sir, over the peak price before the control.

In the administration of the Cotton Cloth and Yarn Control Order, we have right from the outset recognised that the cottage industry of dyeing and printing cotton cloth, generally known as hand-dyeing and hand-printing, should be treated in a different way from organised factories. It is quite understandably more difficult for them to comply with complicated regulations or to fit into an all-India scheme of distribution and price control. A considerable number of concessions were therefore shown to the hand-printers and hand-dyers. The first important concession we made was to exempt them from the necessity of Texmarking. Instead we permitted them to form themselves into an Association and these Associations were allotted separate Texmarks. The next important concession which was made to them was to exempt them from the all-India scheme of price fixation; hand-printed cloth, and cloth dyed by a hand-dyer employing less than 10 persons and not using power was exempted from the price marking provisions of the Cotton Cloth and Yarn Control Order. We exempted again the hand-printed and hand-dyed cloth from the provisions which required that cloth cotton goods should be disposed of within certain time-limits. All these concessions, Sir, were extremely valuable. The last one was a particularly valuable concession as it meant that those who were in possession of stocks of such cloth were not compelled to liquidate them at uneconomic prices, should they not find it possible to conform with the time-limits. Unfortunately, all these concessions were extensively abused. Thus, it was not long before dealers and others found out that time-barred cotton goods could be given an unlimited lease of life for the purpose of hoarding and profiteering by the simple expedient of getting them hand-printed or hand-dyed. Government were, therefore, compelled to withdraw this exemption, first, in respect of hand-printed cloth and later in respect of hand-dyed cloth. In the same manner, some mills and a much larger number of dealers took advantage of the exemption from the price fixation. A very large quantity of cloth, especially in the finer varieties such as voiles and mulls, was dyed or printed irrespective of the demand for the dyed or the printed cloth. Indeed, those were practices such as these that resulted in creating an artificial shortage of certain types of plain white bleached cloth which was very much more in demand. To put a stop to such malpractices, Government were compelled to take the decision to whittle away this exemption also. But even so, we did not lose sight of the necessity for affording protection to hand-printers and hand-dyers and, therefore, the power to fix prices for hand-printed and hand-dyed cloth was delegated to the Provincial control authorities, so that they may be able, in fixing these prices, to take account of the local conditions peculiar to the hand-dyers and hand-printers in their respective areas.

The concessions, Sir, which I have so far referred to, constitute, of course, a purely negative form of assistance. Government have recognised that in the very difficult conditions brought about by the war, it is necessary to afford positive help as well. We have, Sir, in fact afforded, and always afforded, to the hand-printers and hand-dyers very definite assistance in regard to the various raw materials, such as chemicals and dyes. In the last year, the hand-dyers and hand-printers were assisted by special releases of dyes and chemicals.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : From the trade or direct?

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL : I am coming to that.

During the last year we earmarked definite quantities monthly for release to hand-printers and hand-dyers. Thus, 100 tons of caustic soda, 50 tons of bleaching powder and 20 tons of sulphuric acid were released monthly, and similarly 20 tons of hydrosulphite were also released, together with the necessary vat dyes which are required, amounting to something like seven tons a month. It is true that owing to the poor organisation of the hand-printers and hand-dyers it was not possible for the office of the Textile Commissioner to make these releases direct to the hand-printers and hand-dyers. There is another difficulty too in making direct releases, and that is, that hand-printers and dyers make purchases of these dyes literally in packets worth an anna or two. It was therefore decided to make these releases through the established dealers. Wherever co-operative societies or associations came forward to undertake the distribution, their assistance was readily accepted. In fact, we would welcome nothing more than that such associations should be formed.

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and should take over the responsibility of distributing among the printers and dyers such releases as can be made.

Then, again, reference was made to the difficulties that the printers and dyers have been experiencing in obtaining their supplies of cloth. Here too, very definite assistance has been given to the printers and dyers by releases, sometimes specially made by the Textile Commissioner but more often now by the Provincial Textile Controller's office. But the real reason why it became difficult for the printers and dyers to obtain their supplies of grey cloth or other cloth was the fact that a great many people went in for printing and dyeing—a great many people who were not previously in the business of printing and dyeing. That was, as I mentioned a little while ago, what led to over-production of printed and dyed cloth. Apart from the difficulties of hand-printers and dyers in the existing state of shortage of cloth, we could not very well afford to let the printing industry produce unwanted cloth for which there is no market at all. It was therefore decided to appoint a small Committee of the Textile Control Board which could examine the problem in all its aspects and consider how we can control the industry of printing and dyeing so that the cloth which is printed and dyed does not exceed the demand for it, relative, of course, to what is available. It was in accordance with their recommendations that Government decided to bring in the Order to which the Honourable Member referred just now.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Who were the members of that Committee ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL : I am unable to say definitely, but I think they were all millowners, and members of the Board.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Millowners !

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL : When I have explained, I think the Honourable Member will agree that actually their recommendations were entirely in the interest of the hand-printers and hand-dyers. The first recommendation of the Committee was that it is necessary to reduce the production of printed and dyed cloth. But their proposals were so devised that the greater percentage of the reduction should fall, not on the hand-printer and the hand-dyer, but on the machine-printer. Now, I may mention that the machine-printer includes the mills also. It means, where power is used ; and the hand-printer is the one who does not use power. The Order, as you will have doubtless seen, debar the machine-printer altogether from certain types of production. He may not print, for instance, super-fine cloth. He may not print in non-fast colours. He may print only in chrome colours, and that too with the permission of the Textile Commissioner. He must also not print cloth less than 40 inches in width. And so on. A very large field in this way has been reserved exclusively for the benefit of the hand-printer and hand-dyer, and there can be very little doubt that this ear marking of certain fields for him will be of the greatest value to him. But this is not all. The machine-printer is prohibited from purchasing any new machines save with the permission of the Textile Commissioner. He is told that he must not work his machine for more than 11 hours or more than one shift. Thus, everywhere the Order seeks to restrict the machine-printer from continuing to print and dye such cloth which he found it profitable to do since the control was brought in, owing to the special concessions which, as I mentioned earlier, had been given to the printing and dyeing section of the industry. Another very important restriction on the machine-printer was that he was not to print more cloth than he may have printed during the basic period 1941-1942-1943. This compels even the mills to go back to the printing and dyeing which they used to undertake before the control and before this enormous expansion took place.

As against this, the hand-printer has been left more or less untouched. The only way in which this Order affects him is through the fact that manufacturers of cloth are debarred from having printed more than a certain percentage of cloth during any period. That restriction, as I have already explained, was necessary because there was a glut, and there is a glut at the present moment, of printed and dyed cloth. That restriction, however, so far as we can calculate, should not reduce the quantity



of cloth that will be available to the hand-printer; he should be able still to have for his processing at least as much cloth as he used to have for the purpose before the control was introduced.

I hope, Sir, that in view of what I have said the Honourable Member will agree that he has somewhat misread this new Order in the effects which it will have. So far as we can see—and that was our object—it should help the hand-printer as against the machine-printer. It protects the hand-printer against any unfair competition of the mills and of the machine-printers.

I do not claim that that Order has solved all his difficulties, but I do maintain that the Order is to the advantage ultimately of the hand-printer and the hand-dyer. He will be able more easily to get the cloth that he requires for his processing, and he will be saved, because of the various prohibitions inflicted, from unfair competition or from any form of unreasonable competition at the hands of the machine-printers and the mills. I do maintain, Sir, that we have in fact done all that we can possibly do in the circumstances to help this cottage industry of printing and dyeing, and we will continue to do so. That is our policy, and that will also continue to be our policy.

I would therefore appeal to my Honourable friend to withdraw his Resolution, and give this new Order a chance of showing whether in actual practice it will work, as we anticipate, it will, to the advantage of the hand-printer.

**\*THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** I will just ask one question, Sir. Will the Honourable Member point out where he has restricted the mills from producing not more than what they were producing in the basic period? It is nowhere provided in this order.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** If you will see the letter addressed to all Mills by the Textile Commissioner on the 10th August, 1944, there he refers to this. Explanation (2) says :—

“An artificer's quota of cloth shall bear to the value of the total deliveries of cloth made to all dealers and artificers during the quarter by the manufacturer concerned in the same proportion as the value of the deliveries of cloth made to that artificer during the years 1940-41 and 42 bore to the value of the deliveries of cloth made to all dealers and artificers during the same years by the same manufacturers and an artificer's quota of yarn shall be similarly determined.”

**\*THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** But there is no restriction on hand printing within the mills.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** It implies that, if you will look at the definitions of “Machine Print” and “Artificer”. Whoever does it—if a mill does it for that purpose,—it is an artificer or a machine printer.

**\*THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Mr. President, may I just say first that the policy of the Government is always to load the dice against the cottage industry and then place before the House a result which could not be otherwise than what it is. You form a committee to decide the nature of the cottage industry and you do not include a single representative of that industry on that committee. You do not include anybody but the mill industry which are manifestly averse to the hand-printers and then you give it the sanction and prestige of a Government Order and then come forward and ask for a chance to be given. Yes, give them a chance to kill people and then watch for the result.

I have received a representation from which I should like to read a few sentences :—

“From the Notification our merchant processors, i.e., our members who used to purchase cloth on their account and used to sell to their dealer customers directly are debarred from this. This system of purchasing cloth on their own account, processing and then selling is prevalent from a century but now our century old merchant processors are stopped from running their business and instead of that this business is handed over to new merchants of Maskati Mahajan, who has up till now never purchased any processed cloth from us. By these Notifications our community as a whole is made labourers and we shall have to live upon the mercy of Maskatis, viz. Maskati Mahajan. Why this injustice to us?”

They are being reduced, Sir, from independent people to slaves, who will have no production drive and who will have no protection of anything. The Honourable Member has not rebutted my charge that the processing charge will not be so distributed that the Commission agent does not pocket all the charges. No charges have

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been fixed by the Government or even by the Provincial authorities to avoid the intermediaries intervening. You have always intermediaries. For instance, the Honourable Member is aware of the fact that between the mills and the wholesalers there is a commission agent who does no business, who never stocks, but simply takes orders.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL :** May I just say a few words on a point of information ? I am sorry I did not refer to that point. It is the intention of Government to fix the processing charges. That power has been delegated to provincial authorities and I believe in certain instances it has been exercised in certain provinces, so that, as the processing charges will have been fixed, I do not think there will be any possibility of middlemen or other intermediaries exploiting any printer.

**\*THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** Again, from the letter of 10th August, 1944, the Honourable Member quoted Explanation (2). Explanation (1) runs :—

"Artificer means a person engaged in Dyeing, Bleaching, Printing, Finishing, Embroidering or Processing cloth or in manufacturing from cloth or yarn articles such as Ropes, Tapes Niwar, Bandages or Canvas but does not include a person engaged in the manufacture of cloth or yarn."

An artificer does not mean the mills. Mr. President, it is the policy of the Government not to realise how competent business men are. Give them charge of a business and they will find out ways and means of liquidating the competitors. This is a very real danger. As I have just shown, the artificer does not include the mills. Therefore, all the restrictions which have been placed against artificers apply only to the hand dyers and printers. The mill gets away scotfree from all these restrictions except the one restriction that they will not buy any machines without the permission of the Textile Board, and that they will not run for more than 11 hours. These restrictions are real, it may be. But you place a man who was taking full quota under the restriction that he shall take only 75 per cent. of what he was taking and the man who was starving is asked to forego in full, because he has always been starving and so he can well afford it. The Honourable Member recounted all that the Department has done in the past, but from the 6th March onwards, the order of hanging which has been passed by the High Court of the Textile Commissioner is not being considered. The Honourable Member told us of 3 or 4 concessions. But he could not extend the period fixed for sale. The hand printers and dyers are not multi-millionnaires, like the great wholesalers. They have no capacity to hold on. The thing passes out of their hand. You have to go to the black marketers and traders who, taking the thing from the process manufacturers, used to stock the goods in their godowns. That was no fault of the producers and the artificers. The second concession which he recounted was that of giving them a joint texmark. That did not very materially help them, because whether I print my individual texmark or a different texmark makes no difference. There is no concession in that. It is only a convenience for you so that you can hold on to the Association and say that this has been produced in your Association. There is no concession at all in that. Then he recounted the large number of chemicals and dyes which he has released. I can give a specific instance to the Honourable Member of associations who have asked the Textile Control Board authorities to allow them to get supplies direct from the wholesalers and this has been refused. Invariably there is perhaps one out of 5 or 6 cases where the Textile Commissioner has permitted it. There is no doubt that there is a great deal of truth in what the Honourable Member says that the purchasers of individual processes are very small. They are not financiers ; they have got no capital behind them in the country ; they have to buy their purchases daily and in small quantities. For all these difficulties we had suggested the organisation of this cottage industry into associations and I have got the names of at least 6 such associations from the Ahmedabad District alone, namely, the Ahmedabad Chhint Printing Association, the Ahmedabad Chhipa Hand-Printing Association, the Ahmedabad Hand-Printing Association, the Ahmedabad Rangati Kapad Mahajan, the Ahmedabad Astodia Chakla Mahajan and the Ahmedabad Hindu Hand-Printers Association. The six organisations from whom I have received representations are in one district alone. This indicates how varied and wide this trade is, but to place their fate in the hands of a committee of the

\*Not corrected by the Honourable Member.

mill industries interests is in my opinion the most unkindest cut of all. If they are afraid of displeasing the industry, the sooner they awake to the realities the better it would be for them. He again recounted to me one of my mistakes that I had given credit for a 25 per cent. reduction; the reduction was 70 per cent. I had purposely based my estimate on the reductions actually made by the Industries Committee. There have been only three slab modifications; one, half-anna, one one-anna, and one-and-a-half anna again. The Honourable Member says that the black market prices prevailing in June 1943 were so much and the control prices today are so much. Credit is being taken for the normal fall of prices consequent on the introduction of control and if he will like I can give facts and figures from his own papers to show that the prices after falling in June 1943 again went up when an announcement was made that the Government did not propose to do certain things which the market was fearing; I took note of the official reductions in prices given by the organisation, by the Industries Committee and that is 25 per cent. and not 70 per cent. as suggested by the Honourable Member.

\* Sir, I feel that I cannot withdraw the Resolution. I hope the Government will accept it, and if they cannot accept they will remain neutral on the subject.

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. PATEL: Sir, there are two points that the Honourable Member referred to. One was that he felt that we left the interests of the hand printers and dyers to the mercies of the millowners, because we appointed a Sub-Committee which was composed entirely of millowners. As I have already explained, the problem that we had to solve was the excessive printing that came about since the control order was brought in. That excessive printing was largely done by mills and by machine printers; and the problem that we had therefore to solve was one which largely concerned, if not almost entirely, the mills and machine printers. It is true that to some extent the hand printers were affected, but that is only because there has been an increase in the number of hand printers also. Their increase was not as great as that of the others, but there was a certain amount of increase, and to that extent they too much affected.

Then, Sir, the Honourable Member again referred to the question of price reduction. I think he perhaps overlooks the fact that the very first reduction which was made when the control was brought in was also recommended by the Industries Committee. When he says, Sir, that the prices fell very heavily when the control was first brought in and that they tended to rise soon afterwards, that is true. But, Sir, that fall was well below the ceiling price fixed by us on the introduction of the control and that first reduction was estimated to be in the neighbourhood of 40 per cent.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM: The price fixation was for how many items out of 2,500? For 15?

(No answer.)

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: Resolution moved:

"This Council, recommends to the Governor General in Council to take steps to help the cottage industry of Dyeing and Printing (cotton cloth) and save it from unfair competition."

Question put and Motion adopted.

#### STATEMENT OF BUSINESS

THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN (Leader of the House): Sir, I suggest that we adjourn to 4-30 P.M. today. We will have to place the Finance Bill on the table. There are very few days left and we have to finish this business before day after to-morrow. The House may meet at 4-30 this afternoon.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: The Bill will be taken up tomorrow?

THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN: Yes.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU (United Provinces Southern: Non-Muhammadan): Some of us may not be coming at 4.30. We must decide what we are going to do.

**THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT :** The Bill will be discussed tomorrow.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU :** Tomorrow will not be a non-official day.

**THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT :** No.

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN :** Tomorrow will be an official day. We shall have the non-official day on the 6th of April ; instead of tomorrow the non-official business will be conducted on Friday, the 6th April.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU :** It is perfectly all right. It is not necessary for all of us to come at 4-30.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. SHAVAX A. LAL (Nominated Official) :** No, 15 members will do.

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN :** If there is no quorum, we will have to lay it on the table tomorrow and start discussion at once.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM :** That can be done, there is no objection.

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN :** I must remind my Honourable friend Mr. Hossain Imam that he owes a duty to this House and he must be present here. As many Honourable Members as possible should come.

**THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT :** I request all Honourable Members as far as possible to be present

The Council then adjourned till Half Past Four of the Clock.

The Council re-assembled at Half Past Four of the Clock, the Honourable the Chairman (The Honourable Mr. M. N. Dalal) in the Chair.

#### MESSAGES FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

**MR. CHAIRMAN** (the Honourable Mr. M. N. Dalal) : I have received two Messages from His Excellency the Governor General. They run as follows :—

"Whereas the Legislative Assembly has by its vote of the 27th March, 1945, refused leave to introduce a Bill entitled a Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the year beginning on the 1st day of April, 1945 ;

Now, therefore, I, John Colville, in pursuance of the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 67B of the Government of India Act, as set out in the Ninth Schedule to the Government of India Act, 1935, do hereby certify that the said Bill is essential for the interests of British India.

NEW DELHI ;

The 27th March, 1945.

JOHN COLVILLE,

Viceroy and Acting Governor General.

In pursuance of the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 67B of the Government of India Act, as set out in the Ninth Schedule to the Government of India Act, 1935, I, John Colville, do recommend to the Council of State that it do pass the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the year beginning on the 1st day of April, 1945, in the form hereto annexed.

NEW DELHI ;

The 27th March, 1945."

JOHN COLVILLE,

Viceroy and Acting Governor General.

#### INDIAN FINANCE BILL, 1945

**SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL :** Sir, in pursuance of the provisions of section 67B of the Government of India Act, as set out in the Ninth Schedule to the Government of India Act, 1935, I lay on the table a copy of the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the year beginning on the first day of April, 1945, leave to introduce which in the form recommended by the Governor General was refused by the Legislative Assembly at its meeting of the 27th March, 1945; the said Bill having been certified under the provisions of the same section by the Governor General as essential for the interests of British India.

## STATEMENT OF BUSINESS

**MR. CHAIRMAN** (the Honourable Mr. M. N. Dalal) : Has the Honourable the Leader of the House any statement to make.

**THE HONOURABLE SIR MAHOMED USMAN** (Leader of the House) : We are not going to have our non-official business transacted tomorrow. That has been postponed to the 6th of April. We shall take up the consideration of this Bill tomorrow and the day after. We have to pass it by day after tomorrow. 30th is a public holiday and so two days, that is, tomorrow and the day after, are left for this Bill.

**MR. CHAIRMAN** (the Honourable Mr. M. N. Dalal) : That has been agreed to, I believe, by the House. Tomorrow and the day after will be given to the consideration of the Finance Bill.

**THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU** (United Provinces Southern : Non-Mohammadan) : I think the Chairman should also waive the usual three days' notice required for laying the Bill on the table.

**MR. CHAIRMAN** (the Honourable Mr. M. N. Dalal) : Since it is the wish of the House that the three days' notice be waived, I will do so. I have also consulted the President and he is agreeable.

The Council then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 28th March, 1945.