

Speaker, Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for a house to every citizen of the country.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for a house to every citizen of the country."

The motion was adopted

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH KOKO
BRAHMBHATT: I introduce the Bill.

15.46 hrs.

YOUTH BILL-CONTD.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Hannan Mollah, on the 26th April, 1990, namely:—

"That the Bill to provide for a comprehensive policy for the development of the youth in the country, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (Motihari): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the earlier debate on the 'youth policy' had remained inconclusive after some discussion related to their education. On that day, I had stated that the youth constitute 1/3rd of the total illiterate population. At the time of Independence, the country had 6 crore literate people and 30 crore illiterate. According to figures available for the last year, their number was 25 crore and 43 crore respectively. According to the Bill, which is under consideration,

the people under 45 years of age, are proposed to be considered as youth. This means that at least 1/3rd of the youth are surely illiterate as their number is 11 crore in the age group of 15-35 years. The existing education system introduced by Macaulay has been a clerk producing system.

It is unfortunate that even after independence we have been treading the same path and during the past five years the youth saw a ray of hope that they would be heading towards prosperity and their aspirations revived with the onset of the new educational policy because the reins of the government of India were in the hands of a youth itself but the result is evident. Now that in the name of the new educational policy a western predominance has emerged and an education totally akin to the Doon-culture seems to be all pervasive. Navodaya Vidyalayas have been opened and crores of rupees spent on them. But what are the results now. How far have our rural youth been benefited from them? Navodaya Vidyalayas are today virtually meant for the children of the bureaucrats and the industrialist and the rural youth are the least benefited from them. The figures provided by the previous Government revealed that only 5,37,000 villages out of India's 5,80,000 villages have Primary schools. Thousands of Indian villages do not have the facility of a Primary school even today. The Government conceded last year that 1,72,000 Primary schools do not have the buildings of their own. Leaving other areas of development aside, we could not even provide a Primary School to every Indian villages after so many years of independence. On the other hand, the efforts made in the preceding years in the name of the new educational policy have contributed to make the future of the youth of this country more bleak. The most surprising aspect of it is that it is Sanskrit alone that acquaints us with Indian heritage, culture, traditions and the ideals and glory of our ancestors but Sanskrit can nowhere be traced in the new educational policy. There is no provision for teaching Sanskrit in Navodaya Vidyalayas. Malpractices in the field of education remained a hot news last year. There has been

[Sh Radha Mohan Singh]

large scale bungling involving crore of rupees in the cases of transfers of 185 teachers of the Kendriya Vidyalayas. The press termed it 'mini Boffors' in the field of Kendriya Vidyalayas those days. In this manner, in the preceding years in the name of the new educational policy they have played with the future of the country's youth. A provision of imparting free education has been made in this Bill. I would suggest that a provision for imparting free education upto degree level and also upto diploma level in case of technical education should be incorporated in the Bill. This is because there are many intelligent youth in India who cannot afford to continue their studies due to poverty. I feel that no poor student can afford to acquire education upto M A level but I think that such poor students should at least get education upto graduate level in this country. It is therefore very important that there should be a provision for free education upto degree level. In a similar manner if an intelligent youth cannot become an engineer due to his poverty, he should be able to acquire free education atleast upto diploma level so as to become at least an overseer. In view of this, it is necessary to impart free technical education upto diploma level. I wish both these provisions be incorporated in this Bill.

So far as adult education is concerned, this programme was launched with the sole objective of educating the rural youth in the country but I dare say that it is very regretful that a mockery of the rural youth has been made in the preceding years in the name of adult education. Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, you may send for the list of the students of adult education centre of any locality and you will find names of the educated high school and college youth of the villages registered therein in place of illiterate rural folk. Their names have been shown in the list of these availing adult education. Just, now one of our colleagues was speaking in the context of employment. I do not want to go deep into that but I would like to say this much that for the past few years two crore and thirty-three lakh educated unemployed

youth were registered in different Employment Exchanges in India upto 1984 but the figures upto the last year i.e. four and half years reveal that the number of unemployed people has risen to three crore and fifty lakh. This means an increase of one crore and fifteen lakh unemployed youth in just four and a half years. There is an apparent reason for this. Due to the unrestricted advent of foreign companies in this country lesser employment opportunities were generated and as a result thereof there was constant increase in unemployment. I do not want to elaborate more on this issue but would like to say that the number of youth is on constant increase in the country. According to the latest figures, there were 45 crore youth in 1950 in the whole world and their number rose to 51 crore in 1960. In 1986 their number touched 85 crores and it is estimated that until the much talked 21st century there would be 118 crore youth in the whole world.

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, the rate of growth in the population of youth is different in different countries. It is less in the developed countries and more in the developing ones. The problems of Indian youth can be divided into two categories because there are two categories of youth in India. The youth belonging to the first category belong to affluent class and prosperous families of the cities and metropolises. These youth do not have any basic problem but they are their own creation. Their subservience to the western cultural awakening that lies in sharp contradiction to the Indian cultural tradition constitutes their pastime. They treat their own civilization as orthodox and conventional and it is unfortunate that this class of youth is called the real youth of India and claims to lead the youth of India today.

The other class of youth has been struggling and facing hardships of the low and middle class families of villages, towns, cities and metropolitan cities. You can find this class alone struggling in every field. Education is the means of livelihood for this category. Government or private employment is the main objective and ultimately the subser-

viencence to the affluent and elitist class is its fate.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Radha Mohan, you are not here to read out but to deliver your speech.

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Both the aspects are crystal clear. There is a marked difference between the standards of living and thinking of the aforesaid two categories of youth in India. I would, therefore, insist on having a uniform and comprehensive policy for Indian youth. With these words, I support this Bill for your with the request for an amendment to include the words 'comprehensive and uniform youth policy' in place of comprehensive youth policy alone. With these words, I support the Bill.

[English]

SHRISONTOSH MOHANDEV (Tripura West): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the very outset I congratulate the Member who has introduced this Bill. It is a well-thought, nicely drafted and well-intended Bill. The youths of the country whether it is India or anywhere in the world should be asset and not liability. Unfortunately youths have become a liability in our country today. We have seen the proof of this in this House. Whenever the previous Government and the present Government tried to solve and counter the problem of terrorists in Punjab, Kashmir or Assam, they have identified the unemployed youth as one of the causes. They say that the unemployed youth are being carried away by certain sections of the people who believe in terrorism. They are drifted in that way because of our present education system. After the education, the avenues of living a good life for the youth today are so much restricted that it becomes impossible for a young person to get a fruitful work for him for which he has been educated. Now, here in this Bill, the author has identified the areas which are our main areas of problem and he has tried to enlighten this House and through this House this Government about the basic problems which the youths are facing today. A boy who has got the merit to go upto higher

education may not be in a position to go because he does not have the means to continue his studies. As against that, a person whose IQ is less and who cannot pass after a certain stage is getting the chance because he is coming from a family which can afford to send him for higher studies. The author of this Bill has stated that upto a certain level, compulsory education should be there. After that, people should be given scope to get chance according to their merit.

16.00 hrs.

Now, I visited recently U.S.S.R. for 15 days. They have a camp called Pioneer Camp in which all the children are taken and tested in such a manner that after the test, the Camp authorities will give a card to the parents to the effect that, this particular boy can be a good pilot, can be a good engineer, can be a good naval man, can be a good teacher, can be a good sportsman. He identifies the boy where he should go. If a person does not have the IQ for higher level of education, there is no point in sending him. By the method of testing the boy in the camp, they identify in what actual line the boy should go. But in India, we do not encourage. Though our population is 80 crores, we do not get a single gold medal in Olympics or in Asian Games. Asian Games is a limited competition but there also our success is poor. It is because a sportsman who is in Delhi, Bombay or Calcutta has got more exposure to get chance than the boy hailing from the rural areas. A good player who may be in a remote village, will not get the chance because we do not get them at the young age and coach them properly.

The previous speaker has criticised about Navodaya Vidyalaya. What is the idea of Navodaya Vidyalaya. It is free for all to those who can compete and get themselves qualified to get into the Navodaya Vidyalaya. Now it is true that certain sections of the society are sending their wards to Doon School, public schools like St. Stephen, St. Xavier College and other convent schools where they can afford to send. At the same time, there are students in the remote areas

[Sh. Sontosh Mohan Dev]

of Tripura, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh whose parents cannot afford to send them to a good school, not to speak of Doon school. They cannot send to any Central School. In Navodaya Vidyalaya, after testing the students in a competition, you pick up the best boys. I have visited schools in Arunachal Pradesh and I have seen 90 percent of the boys and girls are very brilliant. The best of them have come out. Now the poor family cannot afford to put its wards in public schools. But their children are getting good education in Government schools, Navodaya Vidyalaya. Most of the boys are from the poor and downtrodden families.

We have said about the free schooling. The Mover of the Bill has said about the educational facilities to be given to the students and free scholarships to be given. There should be an Act to this effect. Now that we have got the Ministry for Youth Welfare, they should think about it seriously. But they are doing everything on *ad hoc* basis so far. No Act has been passed by this Government or by the previous Government.

I appreciate the aims and objects mentioned in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this Bill. The Government should come forward to accept some of the objects. At least, they should give an assurance on the floor of the House that in future they are going to introduce a Bill wherein so many of the ideas which have been given here like compulsory and free educational facilities to youths upto secondary school level, free supply of materials like books, note-books, stationery should be incorporated. I originally come from the State of Assam. In Assam, recently one ex-Minister has gone on hunger strike along with some students. An assurance was given that text-books would be supplied by the Textbook Printing Association of Assam, which is a Government organisation. But 80 per cent of the school boys and girls have not got their textbooks so far. They are supposed to go according to the syllabus. But unfortunately,

text-books are not available. Unless the students get the text-books, what is the use of education and how they will get education? There should be some method by which the Government should arrange the textbooks either through voluntary organisations or Government organisation.

There are as many as thousands of schools in village areas where they do not have the *pucca* rooms. Many times the tents are blown out in cyclone or storm. They do not have money to repair it. The Government should start giving money under NREP to schools, at least at the primary level. I have also noticed that at some places, the money which was given for primary school education had been utilised properly, but at some other places, it had not been utilised. The money which is given is not sufficient. There are schools where it is not possible for the students to read.

In Bangladesh, they have done one very good thing. They do not allow any more new schools to be established. The schools have morning and evening shifts. Government is making free electricity supply to all schools. They provide teachers for the morning and evening shifts. Classes are staggered in the morning and afternoon. So, the schools which are already there are being well-looked after.

We are trying to establish as many schools as we can. It is good that some teachers are getting appointments. But, have you made any evaluation? Are these schools in a position to give real education to our children? No.

What are our children learning from TV? In Jaintia and Garo hills, children see Bangladesh TV and, therefore, they know that Mr. Ershad is the President of Bangladesh. They know it because they are seeing every day Bangladesh TV, not India TV. Indiann TV does not reach there.

This is how we are creating a situation whereby the future of our youth is not being built in the proper manner.

In view of this, I fully agree with the idea of this Bill which is sponsored. It is a well-thought out Bill. I do not want to go into the details of this Bill. But, at the end when the hon. Minister replies, he should not merely ask the Member to withdraw it. I think from the Government side, they should come forward because the Prime Minister himself has said that new education policy is going to be enunciated by this Government. Well, if you think that previous Government policy was wrong, you are allowed to change it because you have got the mandate with the support of the Left and the BJP. But do not forget that too many changes in the education policy also make the students confused, 10+2, 11+2, one after another. The volume of books one has to purchase and the volume of answers to be given is very high. The other day I learnt that in Calcutta a question was asked by a teacher to a student about arithmetic for admission in KG Class and the Chief Minister has very rightly said "Let the teacher answer first. Let him come and the students will ask and the students will learn." Children going to schools are burdened with books.

In view of this, there should be a pragmatic approach to education. Youth can be monitored properly. I fully support this Bill and again appreciate the draft of this Bill and I hope that his efforts will not go in vain.

Government should come with specific assurances so that we can see something coming in the next Session of the House.

Thank you for allowing me to participate.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The time allotted for this Bill was two hours. By now, one hour and 15 minutes have been consumed. The time remaining is very short, may be we may extend the time, when the time comes to extend it. But I would like to request the Members not to repeat the points which have been made. Everybody is speaking on education while speaking on the policy relating to the youth. Education is only one part of it. Employment, character build-

ing, vision of the future and many other things are there. May I request the Members not to repeat the points which have been made and if Members are making the points, I may be allowed to remind them that they are repeating the points. Shri Nakul Nayak will not speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NAKUL NAYAK (Phulbani): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, The Youth Bill has been brought forward in this House by the Hon'ble Member Shri Hanan Mollah. I rise to speak a few words in support of the Bill. Sir, the youths comprises the majority of the total population in the country. The problems of the youths are many. We are not able to resolve their problems. They are the future of the nation. So, there is a need to take all possible steps for the development of youths. But it is regrettable that we do not have any comprehensive policy for the development of youths in the country. I am glad that the Hon'ble Member Shri Hanan Mollah has introduced a Bill of similar nature. So I welcome this timely Bill.

Sir, it is regrettable that the youths in our country are being misguided and also being exploited by the vested interests. Even the students also following wrong paths. They are following evil practices. This will lead the nation to anarchy if we do not make a deep study on their problems and work for their prospects. Unless we work for around progress of the youths, they will join hands with the anti social elements and will create a problem for the society. Take the example of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. Thousands of youths had crossed over to Pakistan and came back after taking training to create terror in India. Crossing over and infiltration are still going on. Why the youths crossing over the border? Why they are leaving their motherland and why are they hatching conspiracy against their own country? It is because a lot of attention were not being paid to study their problems. Enough job opportunities were not created for them. They were not being properly utilised in the society by our leaders. The Govt. could not

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make a systematic arrangement to provide them engagement. So they fell the victim of foreign power. Now we do not have any way to control the situation within a specific time. We are not able to negotiate with these misguided youths who are creating terror in the society. Everyday the T.V. carries the news of the killing of some innocent people in some parts of the country or the other. Sir, we could not study their psychology. When they could not get job they followed this wrong path. Adopting the principle of something is better than nothing. They join hands with foreign power. Sir, the youths in different parts of the country are frustrated. The present education system is defective. After coming out of schools and colleges they are not getting job. They are not able to earn their daily bread. They do not want to be the burden on their parents. Thus they are getting frustrated. So, before the situation goes out of hand, the Govt. must pay proper attention to resolve their problems. In this contact I would like to give a few suggestions and request the Government to examine these suggestions. As I stated earlier the present education system is defective. The British system of education is still being imparted to the students. It is only creating unemployment, in the country. So, firstly we have to give fresh look on the present system of education. The courses of studies which are being introduced in the Schools and Colleges should be changed immediately. Vocational Courses of studies should be introduced in the educational institutions. After passing the school and college education the students will be able to get some engagement or the other if they are imparted such type of education.

Secondly, the youths are always immature when they are students. They follow different evil practices at that stage. So, Government should set up a machinery which will monitor their activities carefully, what the students are actually doing, whether they are being exploited by the undesired elements.

Thirdly Sir, the media plays a prominent role in making many changes in the society. It should be utilised to preach morality among the students. Literacy should be spread among the rural youths through media. A lot of money is being spent on the Nehru Yuva Kendras. But they have not played any significant role for the development of the youths. So they should be revamped and Govt. should see that the money spent on these Yuva Kendras should not go waste. The Yuva Kendras should produce some results right from the village level to the District level. The students living in the towns and cities are now only able to get coaching facilities for different games and sports. They are able to participate in the State and National events. But the rural youths are deprived of such facilities. So coaching centre should also be set up in the rural areas. The talents available with the rural youths must be identified and they must be given proper training. The youths should be provided with the facilities to lead the country in every sphere.

Sir, take the case of Sri Lanka. Recently a Bill has been introduced in their Parliament seeking to provide 30% of reservation to the youths in the matter of employment and also in their Parliament. So, 30% of the youths in that country will get an opportunity to represent their nation. They will lead the country. In India, we are providing reservation facilities to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, we are going to provide 30% reservation to the women. Why not we provide 40 to 50% reservation to the youths in our country. So, I would like to request to the Govt. to implement these few suggestions and with these words I thank you very much and conclude my speech.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer):
Hon. Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I whole-heartedly support the Youth Bill presented by the hon. Member. The intentions with which this Bill has been brought forward can prove to be of immense value to youth in this country. However, the age-group of 15-45 years would be an injustice to the younger generation. Although it is true that

"Zindagi zindadili ka naam hai,
Murdadil kya khak jiya karte hain"

but still it would be better if the upper age limit is reduced marginally. Today's young generation can be classified into three categories. In the first category is the discontented and angry youth. Anti-national elements urge this type of youth to vent their anger and frustration through terrorism which the latter does without hesitation. In the second category is the youth which is deeply disillusioned and dejected in life. Youngsters in this category take to drugs and are morose towards self-destruction. In the third category is the youth which has developed a bad taste for fashion and frolic. Their sole objective is to

[English]

Eat, drink and be merry.

[Translation]

That is why an Urdu poet, has said that—

"Nikle hain kahin jaene ke liye,
parhunchenge kahan yeh maloom nahin.

In Raah mein bhatakne vaalon ko,
manzil ki disha maloom nahin."

Today our youth has become directionless and aimless because the people whose ideals they are supposed to imbibe have not put forth their ideals before the youth in a proper manner. The youth finds that the very people whom they consider their ideals do not practise what they preach. Today's younger generation is troubled by "such contradictions.

'Mahajanon yen. gatah sa ev partha'—

the path followed by leaders becomes an ideal for the younger generation. The youth participate in rallies and processions at the behest of people whom they consider their leaders. But when these very people exploit the youth and leave them in lurch it leads to frustration and disappointment in them.

Actually youth is the spring of life. It is said that

[English]

Man is the best creation of God.

[Translation]

The Hindi poet Sumitranandan Pant says—

"Sunder hai vihag, sunder suman,
Manav tum sabse sundertam"

A person has a lot of desires during his youth and the sky is the limit for his ambitions. He wants to even challenge the mountains. It must be ensured that the youth does not remain idle.

[English]

Empty mind is devil's workshop.

[Translation]

They must be given something to do. Subhash Chandra Bose, who led the youth, said—

"kadam kadam baraye ja khushi ke
geet gaye ja,
ye zindagi hai kaum ki tu kaum par
lutaye ja.

The Hindi poet Jaishankar Prasad said that—

"Himadi tung shrang se prabudh shudh
bharti.

Swayam prabha samujjvala swantan-
trata pukarti,

Amritya veer putr ho Dridh pratigya
soch lo,

Prashast punya path hai,

Barhe chalo, barhe chalo.

The need of the hour is to encourage youth to think creatively, build their character and imbibe high moral values in them. The youngsters of today are the citizens of tomorrow, the future leaders and administrations of this country. The youth of this country can be

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

successful in every field only if we instill a sense of value in them and mould them in the framework of patriotism. The greatest asset for a country is not the amount of money in its coffers but its youth. Today there is a need to provide employment to the country's youth. Education should be value-based and employment oriented. Moral education should also be emphasized. The youth should be given every opportunity for the all-round development of personality. The aim of education is—

[English]

Education is an all-round, well-balanced and integrated development of the personality of the child

[Translation]

If education does not fulfill this aim then reading of text-books gives the feeling that—

Hum un kul kitabon ko kabile zabti samazhte hain
Jinko parh kar ke bete baap ko khalti samazhte hain

Today's young generation must be provided with good books in order to detract them from obscene literature.

SHRI RAM KRISHAN YADAV (Azamgarh): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, youth is the greatest asset of a country. Children are the future of a country. That is why it has been said that—

[English]

child is the father of the man.

[Translation]

But it is regrettable that our country's youth has become directionless. Looking at the history of the 20th Century we find that the intellect and sacrifice of great souls like Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Jawaharlal Nehru, Subhash Chandra Bose and Dr. Rajendra Prasad gave this country its independence. But I am pained to say that these days such a spirit of sacrifice does not exist anymore among people of this country. I believe that this is due to the non-fulfilment of our goal of equal opportunities in every field for all people.

The children of poor people living in villages do not get an opportunity to study. This is the reason why our education policy has relegated youth to the background. 80% of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe children living in villages do not get an opportunity to study. Right from the age of eight these children work on farms or in homes as servants. If these children are educated then we will have 80% more promising young persons in the country. But all the talent in this country is not getting an opportunity for expression since education remains the privilege of a few people.

Our educational and other programmes are also not conducive to the development of the country's young generation. The significance of religion is taught in our Schools but students are not taught anything about nationalism or how to play a constructive role in society. I know that in my district the R.S.S. and certain people belonging to minority communities are running schools. The education imparted in these schools is based on religion and communalism. Nothing is taught about nationalism. While going through this Bill I have noted that it contains very constructive ideas. The Bill's objectives are also very good. In a large country like ours, nothing is being done towards welfare of youth. We are rarely able to win any gold medals in sporting events. Even smaller nations win 20-25 medals in sports events. This is because we are not tapping the potential of our youth. If education is made compulsory then we can produce many successful scientists and sportsmen. All the children in the country should be provided equal opportunities in education. Children of poor people should be provided hostel facilities when they go for study. When children get an opportunity to stay together and study together they will

develop self-respect. In this way Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes will shed their inferiority complex vis-a-vis the other sections of society. People of all religions should be treated equally. There should be equality in education and equality in living conditions as in socialist countries. I feel that this Bill will contribute in large measure towards development of youth in this country which in turn will lead to the progress of the nation as a whole. But the policy of the Government, be it the Congress Government or the Janata Dal Government, is quite vague in this respect. All these points must be given serious consideration.

With these words I end my speech.

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Sir, I am really happy to support this Bill brought by our friend Shri Hannan Mollah. I think this is in keeping with the spirit and the attitude of the present leadership of the National Front Government. I hope this comprehensive Bill that has been prepared, will be taken seriously by the Government and they would come with policies and programmes to fulfil these ideals and expectations. Sir, it is also in keeping with the vowed policy and declaration of the National Front Government to provide right to work as a Fundamental Right in the Constitution. We support this right whole-heartedly, because I feel that if the youth of India can be provided opportunities for creative work, that will revolutionize our whole nation. When we say that our country should be self-sufficient, self-reliant in the world context, what does it mean in practical terms? It means that at least its work-worthy citizens should be self-sufficient, self-reliant, creative and productive. In the ultimate analysis, the entire object of planning of any Government, particularly of a nation like ours, must be to create such conditions that would enable every citizen to have opportunities to achieve excellence in the field of his or her choice. That is the ultimate objective. It is not expected of a Government to interfere in every field or do something by itself

through one machinery called the administration or civil service. I think we will have to review seriously; take stock of where we have gone wrong, cutting across party considerations because now the time has come when no single political party can really tackle the stupendous task, facing this country. The task of regeneration, reconstruction, rebuilding this nation, day by day, is becoming even more and more insurmountable in terms of the problems that are arising—problems mainly because of the growing population of the unemployed and employable youth. We know that more than sixty per cent of our voters are falling within the age of 18 to 40. According to the definition given in this Bill, he has described youth as persons between 16 and 40 years of age. Therefore, our main task must be to address all our policies and programmes to the youth. Today, so much of our energy—I feel sometimes very sad—is wasted in mutual bickering, recrimination, just criticising each other. How much of our time do we really spend in this House in thinking constructively on proposals like the one which our friend has brought in this Bill. This is the real crux on which this entire Parliament should be addressing itself. Rather than that, we know how our time is wasted. That is why, I think, this is the most important Bill. Any time given for discussing this matter would be worth. Unfortunately, see the attendance on any side for such a thing. Private Member's Bill is taken for granted that ultimately what is going to happen will be: perhaps the Government will persuade the Member to withdraw giving promises that we will do something about it. And that will be the end of the matter. But please consider if you can make your youth productive, productive in terms of producing goods. If it is education in the larger sense, I believe, education must not be treated only in terms of school education or college education. The better thing would be to give him that education which will make him productive in terms of producing goods because ultimately youth needs goods. Goods, that is, consumer goods, are necessary for his life to improve the quality of his life—consumer goods right in his habitat, right in the rural area itself. We should give

[Sh Vasant Sathe]

him education keeping with the tradition—agro-industries—education that will go well with the agricultural traditions and practices. We can do some such thing. Have you evolved a programme? I will tell you that the youth of this country has a talent, talent in his hands, talent in his fingers. We know how skilful our girls are. I saw that in a watch factory in Sikkim. It is one of the best producing units. The girls there had no other education but the traditional skill—definite fingers. They are producing the best watches. Our people have talent. You can give even modern skills like computers. Electronic industries can go to the rural areas. You will find that our people are skilful. The youth are skilful. We must create those conditions. That will bring pressure. If you pass this Bill, I know, people will say, "Where are the resources? How can we give guaranteed employment? How can we give right to work." This is how we have been hearing about this issue all these years. Sometimes I feel give this right. Then, you will be forced. Then this bureaucracy will be forced, then all these status-quoist people in the Government will be forced, people in the Planning Commission will be forced to sit up. Mr Chimanbhai and myself have been discussing these ideas in workshops and seminars. But nothing much came about it because the Government is basically status-quoist. They do not want change. Even today the administration does not want change unless there is a total political will of all sides. That is why I said, no single party can solve this problem. Bring pressure on this system; change this system. Make this system result-oriented. Unless that is done, this problem of providing work to the youth will not be tackled. This problem has to be addressed in a holistic manner. There is no water-tight compartment. You cannot just by passing a Bill tomorrow say that the youth will be provided jobs. From where are you going to provide the jobs? Where are the resources? What raw materials will you give? Where is the basic infrastructure? Where is power? Where is energy? Where is steel? Where are the materials required? All these points will have to be thought of. You cannot think in

terms of water-tight compartments. When you think holistically or in totality, this Bill will force everyone in this House, irrespective of sides, to think. I sincerely wish that this Bill should be passed. Chimanbhaiji, I am sure that at least you can show courage to accept this Bill. We will help you to pass it. I assure from our side that we will support in passing this Bill. Let this Bill be passed by this House. Let the Government sit up and think on how we are going to create the infrastructure and how we are going to draw a parallel economy for production purposes. All these will have to be done. This Bill is a comprehensive Bill. It is not only about school or college education. It is about training jobs, unemployment relief, health, sports facilities and opportunities of youth. In short, the entire life of youth, the culture and character-building lies in their feeling of belonging. When one feels that it is his life, his country and he is going to build his life, that self-reliance and confidence builds up his character. That is the real character.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER. And also his vision of the future

SHRI VASANT SATHE. The youth should keep in view the vision of the modern world, a world of exponential growth in fields like science, a world where they are going and setting up centres not only in the moon but beyond moon also. Just give opportunities to the youth who are living in such a world. If you create those conditions for the youth, then they will bring about a revolution not only to change his life but to change the life of the entire country. Who else can do it than ourselves? Those of us who are old enough, will be fossilised and will pass on. That is the law of nature. It is the younger generation which will come and take over. They are to meet the 21st century. Let them build a new India. But our job towards our generation should be to at least, leave those conditions for the youth to come up. I think, we have failed in this respect. I must accept, in an introspective mood, honestly that our generation has failed. When history will be written, then the youth of this country will say that this generation has failed to create those

conditions. We may, for the sake of argument, say that we have done this and that. But the net result is that we have done this and that. But the net result is that we have not left those conditions in which the youth of this country can really become creative and achieve excellence in the fields of their choice in such a highly competitive world. No one is going to be charitable. No one has mercy for anybody in this world. When we cannot compete, when we cannot come on equal power with other developed countries of the world, nobody is going to have sympathy or pity for you. Therefore, I beg of the entire House, through you, to consider and concentrate on this creative aspect on how to create those conditions whereby the youth of this country will come up of their own and will build a new India, not only for itself but to show light to the entire world. Let us not waste our energies in internecine matters and quarrels. Fortunately, we have a rich heritage which Vivekananda had taught and which Aurobindo had spoken. But there is no use of talking of that rich heritage when today, we are living in a life of poverty and penury in this country. Only that country and only those people are heard who are able to stand on their own feet, who are self-reliant and who can achieve something of their choice. We must create that kind of country, that kind of conditions for the youths of this country.

Therefore, Sir, I entirely support the letter and spirit of this Bill brought by our friend Shri Hannan Mollah and I request the Government to accept it. Don't run away by saying that you are trying to implement it. That is what we used to do and if you also do the same thing then what new are you going to do? For the last 40 years we have remained more or less where we were. The gap between rich and poor has increased. So, if you want to show some new path, new direction of restructuring the entire system, you show that courage and I assure you that we will support you in such a constructive and dynamic programme.

Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: By this, the time allotted for this discussion has come to an end. For how long should we extend the time?

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): Sir, may I request that time for this discussion may be extended by one hour.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is all right. So, we extend the time for this discussion by one hour.

Now, Shri Brij Bhushan Tewari may speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI (Domariaganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the outset I would like to thank the mover of this Bill for having given us an opportunity to discuss the problems faced by the youth and also for having laid stress on the necessity to formulate a comprehensive youth policy, through the medium of this Bill. First of all I would like to state that the age of youths should be in between 15 and 35 instead of 15 and 45 as mentioned in the Bill. Secondly we are concerned as to how we should utilise the contribution of the youth. At the time of National movement our national leaders made the best use of this energy to attain independence from bondage. The youths played a vital role in all the major revolutions and agitations that took place in the country and became the carriers of new change. After attaining Independence we find that youths are our new inspiration but ironically we have not been able to use their energies in a proper manner. There is need to inculcate Political consciousness democratic traditions and dutifulness in our youth which unfortunately they lack. The people occupying the Supreme positions in Government merely impart lessoned of discipline to the youth. As such today our society is confronting more danger to propriety of conduct than to lack of discipline. The reason behind this is that in our society the powerful people do not frame any rule for themselves, they violate every rule and on the contrary they

[Sh. Brij Bhushan Tiwari]

expect the younger generations and the weak to strictly abide by all rules. Thus, the first thing I would like to say pertaining to this Bill is that there should be an awakening of political consciousness among the youth and I support compulsory education in this context. I admit that the youth should have the right to education. Simultaneously, provisions should be made to make available nutritious food for the youths at cheaper rates. The youths and the students should have actively participate in the management of schools and universities. Institutions imparting High School, Intermediate, B.A. and M.A. degrees should necessarily have students unions. We cannot create democratic tradition or the feeling of responsibility in the minds of our students and youths unless we provide them adequate opportunities to participate in political activities. Today the need of the hour is to fight against illiteracy in the country and this cannot be carried out with the efforts of Government and non-Government organisations only because I have seen that on one hand the sole motive of all non-Government organisations only to extract the Government funds. The Government sources are limited and thus in order to awaken the youth it is very essential to create a team comprising of educated people who can fight against illiteracy. In order to implement this there should be wide spread agitations in which the youths should resolve to educate everyone living in this country within a stipulated time period and the Government should make its best possible efforts in this direction. Apart from this *Bhoomi Sena* can also be constituted. The Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav has announced the formation of *Bhoomi Sena*. Similarly, if we start the formation of *Bhoomi Sena* at national level we can use this to make fertile our uncultivated barren lands, to extend our sources of education and give a new direction to our entire youth force. This can also be used for the purpose of seizing *Benami* lands. With the formation of *Bhoomi Sena* the country will get an opportunity to free itself from secessionist forces. Today, when we talk of youth

policy, it cannot be dealt separately. For this, it is necessary to bring in a radical change in our present system because if we constitute a team of literates and *Bhoomi Sena* we should have a clear idea of their objectives. A great deal of irregularity is in existence in our society and under the present circumstances in our country a person who labours hard finds it difficult to make both ends meet whereas on the contrary the people who earn their livelihood through deceitful means enjoy life to the utmost. We have to once again establish the value and dignity of hard work and re-establish an egalitarian society. Today the people think that the resources of the country cannot increase, and the gross national product of the country cannot increase so why not grab whatever is available. It is very obvious that only the mighty and the cratty will succeed in grabbing the major share for themselves. Our economy will no longer remain-egalitarian and the tendency of selfishness and to grab more and more of one's own self or one's family will continue unabated. If our society goes in this direction we will not be able to infuse new spirit in our youth. As has been discussed in this august House a short while ago by Shri Sathe we cannot make use of functional aspects and creatingly even if we are willing to do so, if such a kind of irregularity prevails in our society wherein the people who forcibly grab the share of other enjoy an upper hand. Thus we will have to frame a National policy. We shall have to think of transforming the present set up and organize an agitation in the entire country because if we do not make use of the youth force in encountering the forces surrounding us the situation will turn explosive. It will produce alarming results. Today, the situation is such that one person is not able to understand the other. In this system we shall not be able to recognize our language, our tradition and further we shall fail in awakening the youth towards the rich tradition of this country and as such this situation will impair our system and destroy our existence and impair our unity. Therefore we should create the right type of traditions among our youths. We have to make use of their energy and vigour in the right direction. Thus, in my opinion this Bill is very

right and timely but there is need to bring some improvements and amendments in it. I fully agree with the amendments moved by Shri Yuvraj particularly in respect of circulation among the people so that people of all castes and creeds could get an opportunity to express their views. Our National Front Government has declared to bring a new youth policy at an early date. After having taken the views of all parties regarding this Bill which is being discussed whatever concrete suggestions are put forth and whatever is congenial to the prevailing time we need such a youth policy. With these words, I support the basic sentiments expressed in the aforesaid Bill and resume my seat.

SHRI PREM KUMAR DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the outset I would like to recite a couplet—

'Hukme Hakim Ka Farmaye Raavani
Ruk Jaye
Kaum Kaheti Hai Hawa Band Ho Pani
Ruk Jaye
Dil Ki Beheti Hui Ganga Ki Ravani Ruk
Jaye
Lekin Yeh Mumkin Nehim Ki Joshe
Jawani Ruk Jaye'

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to congratulate my friend Shri Hannan Mollah for having introduced such a Bill which has made hon. Shri Sathe so youthful that he has assumed to give his party's support without consulting the other leaders of his party. It is truly the result of that youthfulness which has made him act in this manner.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir the biggest capital of a nation is its human resources because it is medium which can make use of all others means and the power of youth is the most important means in the human resource. It at all we have committed a mistake, it was that we did not pay adequate attention towards channelising the youth force in the field of education and this has been accepted by Shri Satheji. In India, had we not imparted education on the basis of caste and instead had given education based

on uniform education policy then perhaps one section of the society would not have gone much ahead. B.J.P. considers the power of youth to be most powerful and important. If we channelise the youth power, utilize it in a proper manner and take its help in organizing a literacy campaign then it can prove to be of a great help to the nation.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, many social evils such as untouchability, dowry, superstition, casteism etc. are prevailing in our country. The youth force can play a vital role in eradicating these social evils from our society. The creative and positive cooperation of these youth will be of immense importance for the nation because the youth possesses inherent power of bringing a change. History bears testimony that every change in the world has been brought about by the youth power. We have to familiarise the youth of our country with our heritage.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, just now during a discussion which was held here, a friend had mentioned and I feel that the phobia of R.S.S. has struck those friends of ours.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You please come to the point.

PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: I am coming to the point.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is not necessary to mention controversial points.

[Translation]

SHRI PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am coming to that point. While speaking that gentleman levelled a charge on R.S.S. being anti-national. I want to clarify this before you that R.S.S. cannot be changed of treason. No other organization in India possesses the same national character as that of R.S.S.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There are many important issues like education, employment etc. relating to this. You can give your suggestions either how you would like to incorporate them in the Bill or how you would like the Government to formulate a policy with regard to them. Would you like that these rights should be included in the Chapter on Fundamental Rights? We would like you to speak on those points.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: The Education Policy should be improved. Sanskrit has been totally ignored in the New Education Policy. We say that we should familiarise our youth with our culture and heritage. But if we do not promote Sanskrit language how will they become familiar with our heritage. I shall conclude after saying a few words because of paucity of time. I support this Bill. A comprehensive discussion should take place on it. Whatever amendments are made in it should be given wide publicity and there should be a national debate on this subject so that the power of the youth could be channelised properly.

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): I rise to support the Bill moved by Shri Hannan Mollah with all the emphasis at my command. This is for the first time that such a comprehensive Bill encompassing the various aspects of the youth life of our country has been placed here for the consideration in the highest national forum democratically elected by our countrymen.

Sir, while I support it, I do it from a sense of nostalgia also. Sir, the thrust for the freedom of our country, impatience for a quicker pace of social transformation and an idealism for bringing into being a society based on equity and justice brought many of us at the forefront of the freedom movement of our country. I know many of you who are here have joined the freedom movement of the

country being inspired by that lofty ideal of bringing about a change of society based on justice and equity.

Today, certainly, at an age which is elder, we are very much frustrated that even at this age we do not find realization of the ideals for which we once fought and even landed ourselves in the prison houses under the British regime. Anyway, I do not like to take much of your time.

Of the major multi-vacated aspects of the youth problems have been brought into this Bill. That is the charm of it. That is the beauty of it. It is not piece. It is not a particular aspect of the youth life on which emphasis has been laid, because youth life cannot be reconstructed in a piecemeal way. Youthlife can be reconstructed on the basis of a comprehensive socio-economic programme, and this Bill serves to attain that.

One aspect to which I want to draw your attention—and through you of the House—is, that is about the rural youth. I was looking into the statistics regarding the youth population in urban areas and the rural areas. I found to my great surprise that of the entire rural population, youth population is only 44 to 45 per cent. If we want to really build a new rural India somebody may claim, then we cannot build it up without looking after the interests of the rural youth of our country. These rural youths, they may be agricultural workers, they may be artisans, they may belong to the weaker sections of the community, they may be SC or ST, they may be other weaker sections of the community, unless we can bring about a social and economic change, so that they can also enjoy the fruits of the progress and development of the country, I think we are inviting social tensions. That is exactly what is happening today.

17.00 hrs.

Look at the countryside of Bihar; look at the countryside of Andhra Pradesh; look at Kashmir and look at Punjab. These youths, who are the vital force of our country, have

been misguided and misled because they have no idealism before them. They have been completely frustrated. It is not the time to accuse anybody, this side or that side. Actually we could not redeem the pledges. Therefore, I would earnestly urge upon the Government, particularly my friend Shri Mehta to consider it. As a matter of fact, this is within the jurisdiction of the Policy Statement of the National Front Government. For the first time, under the National Front Government, on the 31st January last, the Prime Minister met the representatives of all youth organisations left, right, and centre. There was a background paper which detailed in great length the youth problems. I had gone through the background paper. I had listened to the leaders of the youth organisations who had attended the meeting. Many members were frustrated here because there was no Action Programme evolved in that Conference of the Youth Representatives. It is a good beginning. At least we have got some confidence among the youth leaders of our country. They had the right to be consulted. The consultation was there. But there was no effective outcome.

By accepting this Bill, I think, you can fulfil the pledge that you made in the Conference of the Youth Leaders of various organisations on the 31st January last. In order to fulfil the electoral promises made by you only four or five months before and in keeping with the views expressed by you in the Conference of the Youth Leaders only three or four months before, I would appeal to you to accept this Bill. As Mr. Sathe has said, other obstructions could be eliminated by the tremendous force of the youth masses together with other section of the people and by mobilising the people of our country. That will be a historic achievement of the National Front. I am happy that the Members sitting on my right have also pledged their support for the acceptance of this Bill.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): We are always right.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: But you did not do it earlier.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I not only wish to welcome the Bill that has been moved by Shri Hannan Mollah from Uluberia but also congratulate him for having taken this step to put together collectively many fundamental issues in this Bill and also addressed many fundamental problems.

This Bill is not a Bill dealing with just one or two issues. According to me, it deals with the very future of this nation. Many Members have mentioned—I do not think that it is irrelevant and it is worth mentioning it again—that in many a movement whether it is movement run by naxalities, whether it is a movement of secessionism, whether it is a movement which has communal angles to it, whether it is a movement indulging in arson, looting and violence, invariably the force that is utilised by all these conspirators and creators of these dubious movements, which destroy the fabric of the nation, is the youth force. Whether one looks at Kashmir or Punjab or Assam or even Tamil Nadu today, it is ultimately the youth power that is being used by the vested interests to destroy the fabric of this nation. Why is it that this power is available to them? I think, this is a question which we must address to ourselves. This power is essentially available to them because we are unable to channelise, attract and utilise the youth effectively in nation building activities. I was very happy to see in para 34 of the President's Address to Parliament on 12th March this year that the Government is sensitive to the concerns and aspirations of our youth. I can assure the Government and inform the Members of this House that these terms are not new, now the words new and nor this paragraph new. We have seen similar terms, even identical terms, being used in many a President's Address when it refers to the youth. These platitudes, these assurances, these words of praise of the youth have been used over and over again. Not only that, we have also seen not one but many a youth conference of the youth organisations to discuss what is it that is to be done to channelise the youth power. I am constrained to say that every one of these conferences came out with very pow-

[Sh. P.R. Kumaramangalam]

entful resolutions. The resolves are very strong but never did it become a statute nor did it ever really come into action to the extent that the youth power was really channelised. Yes, sporadically we have seen a festival or two of the youth, we have seen our Indian youth go and participate in international festivals, we have seen some sports festivals, but systematically, legally, under law, making it a bounden duty, making it compulsory on the Government to channelise youth power, I am sorry to say that it did not come. That is one of the reasons why I wish to join both Mr. Vasant Sathe and Mr. Chitta Basu to plead with the Government and specially our Minister, Mr. Chimanbhai Mehta, through you, Sir, not to make the request to the Member to withdraw the Bill because I am reasonably certain that Mr. Hannan Mollah belonging to the CPM would be constrained to withdraw the Bill. I would plead with him also that even if the Minister makes a request to him to withdraw the Bill, please disappear if necessary, at that moment but do not withdraw the Bill. Let the Bill lie at least on the Table of the House till the Government brings a Bill to put forward these points and make this a law which makes it a bounden duty of every Government that comes. This is the need of the hour. I think, it is relevant for all of us in this House to realise that the youth are straying from the path of development essentially because they are losing faith in the system.

Today it is an admitted fact and even the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill says that every fifth person who is unemployed is an Indian and every second person who is illiterate also happens to be an Indian. Why is it that we are not handling these issues? Why is it that we are trying to address these issues as insurmountable? Why do we not have the courage to allow this to become a fundamental right to the youth of this nation? Let them have a chance of survival. Give them the right of employment, right of education, give them the culture that some of us had the chance to be taught. Why is it that we are allowing our youth to get

infested, if necessary, by communal reactions? It was unimaginable to think about 20 or 30 years ago that the youths would be tools of caste and creed fights, youth becoming tools of communal fights, youth raising question that let us do away with the reservation; why should 'X' or 'Y' though backward should have more and all that. All this is borne out of the fact that there is injustice in society, that there are inequities which they are not able to tolerate. It is a situation where a youth knows that the degree that he gets in educational institution is sometimes not even worth cost or the value of the paper on which it is printed. Because if he has the degree, he is told when he goes to get a job, oh, you have a B.A. or M.A. Degree, what is the use; you must have so and so to put in a word for you and only then you would be considered. Unfortunately, merit has become irrelevant. Not only do we find that merit has become irrelevant, what has become relevant is psychopancy, nepotism and corruption. Essentially it is the system that is driving the youth away. They are no longer approving what we are discussing in this House. I can tell you this quite reasonably. When I meet my young nephews, I have noticed that there is cynicism when they discuss about politicians, politics and about the system, whether it is the judiciary, whether it is the legislature, whether it is the executive or whether it is the officialdom, they hold in contempt each one of us essentially because they think that in the last four decades, we have not been able to deliver what they wanted and meet their aspirations. I would request that the Government must accept this Bill. Even if they cannot accept this Bill, let them make an assurance on the floor of this House that within a specific time period they would bring forward a Bill which would become a statute, which will guarantee the youth his rights. And I wish let that assurance be kept. Thank you.

SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA (Bolangir):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support this Bill brought forward by Shri Hannan Mollah and I congratulate him for bringing before this House such a comprehensive Bill. Sir, lot of things have been told. I do not want to repeat

them. But, if you take an impartial view, I think that the House will agree with me that the youth power is just like the atomic power. The atomic power, if it is utilised properly, serves the mankind and when it is misutilised, it destroys the mankind. I am grateful to Shri Vasant Sathe that he has admitted that his generation is responsible for the present day's situation. Sir, so far as education is concerned, I am sorry to say that in India we do not have any educational institutions starting from the primary level upto the university level. We have got only institutions where people are taught how to read and write and produce a hunch of literate people. If you take the norm for a literate person to know the English, then Shri Kamraj Nadar will not be called an educated man. But, I do not think any of us will agree here to call Shri Kamraj Nadar uneducated. He did not have any degree from any Board or University. He had his education in Tamil vernacular upto Class Vth. But, he was an educated man. Similarly, today in the last forty years, we have failed to educate the youth of this country. That is one aspect of it. Similarly, our values are deteriorating fast.

17.14 hrs.

[SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN *in the Chair*]

The respect Satheji's generation had for probably we do not have for our seniors. And the generation next to us does not have that much respect for us as we have for our seniors. This is another thing for which today's youth is becoming more wise. The time is limited, so I am not going to repeat the points, nor I am going to elaborate the points.

Lots a of things are being told in the name of youth welfare. There is a Minister, there is a Ministry, there is a Department and a lot of money has been spent in the last forty years on this. But what is the concrete results of these investments? NCC and NSS are confined to colleges where youth is supposed to be processed. But what is the percentage of Indian youth who enter the college? Their number is very few and their percentage is

very less. So, will take this opportunity to request this Government that they should formulate a process in which all the youth of the country, after attaining the age of eighteen years, should serve their country for three years, in which military training should be there, literacy should be there and social service should be there. Only after that, they should be allowed to enter into the general life. We are spending a lot of money in the name of informal education, adult education, etc.etc. If we channelise that money, then I think the things will be better.

Another thing is that the present Indian culture and Indian society has changed from what it was a couple of decades back. Earlier, a man was respected for his commitments, for his convictions and for his personality. But today, a man is respected by what he wears, what he rides on and what he eats. So, that is the difference. Just like in any other field, the end has become important, not the means. Similarly, right from the childhood, kid starts thinking that he will make money. He is not bothered about the means. He says he will mint money, he will live in an air-conditioned house; he will ride an air-conditioned car. The sense of dignity of labour is no more there. After this 10+2 theory, anybody who completes 10+2 will be around eighteen years. If that youth mixes up with the rest of the youth of the village, I think there will be lot of interaction and interchange of ideas and thoughts and there will be a lot of change in the society.

We have got these Nehru Yuvak Kendras and a lot of money has been spent on them. But what actually have these Nehru Yuvak Kendras delivered in the last, I think, eighteen years, except that some people of the elite class have got some opportunities? The rural youth have got very little, if I am correct.

As Mr. Kumaramangalam said, any movement you take, youth are involved in that. I do not agree with all those who say that only Mahatma Gandhi is responsible for the freedom of this country. If you take the history of the freedom movement of this coun-

[Sh. Balgopal Mishra]

try, Bhagat Singh, Khudi Ram, Chandra Shekhar Azad also had their own share. And at that time they were the youth of this country. So, in the freedom movement also, the youth forces have played their own role.

Lastly, I will request the Government, through you, to declare 23rd March as the National Youth Day because on this day Bhagat Singh and his companions had attained martyrdom, fighting for the freedom of this country. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat)
Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I would like to welcome this Bill piloted by my hon. friend Shri Hannan Mollah.

Millions of youth in the country are unemployed. Even today, the newspapers reported from the Annual Report of the Planning Commission for 1989-90

I quote

"The level of unemployment has shown a tendency to worsen and there has been a decline of employment in traditional crafts and industries. The organised industry has failed to provide additional employment commensurate with investment."

This is the position. While introducing this Bill, the mover of the Bill pointed out the situation about the unemployment in our country. According to the figures available, the registered unemployed are around 3.5 crores. While calculating the rural and partly unemployed youth, it will be around 10 crores. What does it show? Sir, the energy of the major chunk of youth in this country is not being utilised for the welfare of the country. Year after year, we are introducing deficit budgets and this year also there is hike in price of diesel and petrol. If we utilise the energy resources of our youth, if they contribute one day service to this country and if we fix the rate of service charges at Rs. 20,

then the country will get value in terms of money, Rs. 200 crores per day. If it is contributed for 10 days, it will be worth of Rs. 2000 crores. Then, there will be no need of deficit budget and no need of hike in the price of diesel and petrol. There should be some proper channelisation of the energy of the youth. That is lacking in this country. That is the cruel fate of the Indian youth which are facing

Sir, we can utilise these unemployed youth for the benefit of this country. I can give an example from Kerala. Some of the youth organisations in Kerala promised to work for some days for developmental activities in the State. And through those activities they have now started to build bridges, canals, roads, buildings, etc. It is a contribution to the nation. Now, the question is how to utilise the services of these unemployed youth for the welfare of the nation. That should be the primary thinking of the country. Some proper planning is required in this regard.

Sir, while piloting the Bill, Mr. Hannan Mollah pointed out about the situation of illiteracy in the country. About 50% of the illiterates in the globe are residing in India. While addressing this House today, the hon. member, Shri Vasant Sathe has raised a point and asked: what crime is done by their generation to this nation? This is the major crime done to this nation. Can we think of a person who cannot read a poem? Can we think of a youth who cannot read a good novel? That is his right to read a good novel, to know the traditions of this country through books. We have denied that to the major chunk of people in this country. Who is responsible for this? This is the responsibility of those people who were in there regime in the last four decades. This is one part. In regard to the policy of education in this country, one of the hon. Members on the opposite side has supported the Navodaya Schools. What was the tradition of education which we have created in the post-independence period in our country? We have promoted a bias towards English Medium Schools. Just after introducing the New Education Policy, a craze for English lan-

guage has developed in our country. One of the famous poet in Kerala has written a poem. In two lines, he pointed out that after introduction of this kind of educational system, the mothers in our country are thinking of booking labour rooms prevalent in England in a hope that during the delivery of a child, the kid will cry in English. Such kind of policy is there in our country. Here is a five-year old kid philosopher in our country. Here is a new generation of kids with shoes on their feet, with socks, with a blue trouser and white shirt, with parents on the right side and servants on the left side. Just like a bonded labour, the five-year old kid goes on. There is tuition not only for the five-year old kid, but also for his mother. This is the new tradition we have introduced in our educational system. Quite contrary to this, there is a major chunk of people who are illiterate. There should be a change in the policy. A new educational system should be introduced with a pattern which will give new orientation to our educational system.

Regarding eradication of illiteracy, I would like to say that this is the International Literacy year. We should chalk out a plan of how to utilise the unemployed youth in our country for eradication of illiteracy. There should be proper channelisation of the energy of the youth in our country. In our State, Kerala, we have started good programme of hundred per cent literacy in 1990. An All Party Delegation gave a representation to the Government for supply of newsprint at subsidised rate. Actually, in Kerala all the newspapers are ready to print all the brochures free of cost. Our Central Government is not taking any decision regarding the representation given by the representative of all political parties in Kerala representing in this House. I hope they will take the decision soon. But my suggestion is that there should be proper planning by the Central Government to utilise this unemployed youth for the eradication of illiteracy in our nation. That should be included in the Youth Act.

The other part is regarding culture. We all agree that there is erosion of cultural

values in our country. This is the great land of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Bhagat Singh and others in the freedom movement. There are great values of sacrifice in our freedom movement. What happens to all those values? From the public workers at the top to the rural villagers you can see the erosion of these values. What have we done to prevent such an erosion? Now, a new culture is developing. People are around pop music. I am not opposing the classical aspect of any music. But a crusade against the degenerating culture of the west, a culture of drugs and wines, is needed. But what we have done is, we have started Utsavs like the Apna Utsav and so on, but nothing is done about the rural villages to preserve the real tradition and culture. That should be there and I have congratulated my friend, for he has introduced that in this Bill.

Regarding sports, what is the position? How many people we have in the Olympic Games who got medals for our country? We had hockey medals some 20 year ago because there was a lot of importance given to sports in those days. But what is the position today?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: You have P. T. Usha in your State who won the medal.

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: About that, I will come later. I will just mention one thing. There was a football tournament in Kerala. Hon. Chairman also happens to be from Trivandrum and this was held there. So many teams came and our country was also represented there. But we did not score even a single goal. One of my friends happened to be the member of that Football Team. He said that those who were coming from outside were our guests. So, we should treat them as hosts and to score our goal against our guests is not the tradition of the game. Then I thought we will do something when we go abroad to participate in international games. Shri Vasant Sathe has already mentioned about P. T. Usha. She is from my University and I have great respect towards her. Then, one of my friend happened to be a member of the Olympic team. When I had

[Sh. A. Vijayaraghavan]

a discussion with him asked him, what is your argument regarding your failure in international games? Then there reply was:

"Karmanyevadhi Karaste Ma Phaleshu Kadachna"

We should have to run through these tracks and not think about medals. He just quoted Geeta. All our great traditions are being misquoted in our country. This is the pathetic condition of our sports. There is not a comprehensive sports. The sports policy which we have introduced in 1984 is not good for the development of this country. Ultimately what is going on? This policy leads to frustration. This frustration leads our youth to the terrorist camps in Pakistan; this frustration leads them to take AK-47 rifles in their hands and this frustration leads them to ruin this country. So, we should save our youth from this frustration. We request this new Government to take some initiatives to save this country. The Government should utilise the majority of this nation for the benefit of this country, they should utilise their energy for the future of this nation. I hope this Bill which is introduced by Shri Hannan Mollah will given enough ventilation in this regard and I hope this Government will take necessary steps according to this Bill. With these few words, I conclude my speech.

DR. VISHWANATHAM (Srikakulam):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. While supporting this Bill, I would like to point out to this august House that the youth passes through three stages. During those three stages, they learn a lot and so many factors affect them. According to psycho-analysis, whatever the child learns while passing through the third year to the fifth year, is carried out throughout the rest of its life. Our children in India are also passing through those stages. For example, we talk of drug abuse. But we practise it in front of our children. Naturally, the children will practise the same without knowing the bad effects of it. So much so, if we want to have a youth as placed in letter and spirit of this Bill,

we must develop a system of education where each child, whether it is in the village or in the city or in any nook and corner of our country, must be given institutional education wherein the child learns as to how to build himself or herself, how to associate with others and how to carry on the duty to which he or she is born. They are destined to do certain things and not those things which we all see in an around us. So, this country or any other country should develop a system of education where the children are taught moral and ethical values before they become youths. It should be just like old days ashram or residential schools where they should be separated from the grown-up riff-raff. There is a saying in Telugu:

"Mokkai Wonganadi Maana! Wongadu"

Unless you mend the children while they are very young, you cannot mend them when they are grown-up. These youths are having ideas only. Whatever you do, they simply pretend to do something. Actually, they are set on one track, i.e. rigid track. Unless you give them education in a proper manner, we cannot have better youths which we are dreaming of. Now majority of the youths have the idea of 'easy money and jolly life.' That is the fashion of the day. Wherever you go, you go to a Youth Camp, by evening, you see the vagaries of their nature. This is the minds of the present youths.

I do admit that there is an un-ending force in the youth which must be utilised in a proper way to build the nation.

SHRI BHABANI SHANKAR HOTA (Sambalpur): Sir, at the outset, I welcome this Youth Bill moved by hon. Member, Shri Hannan Mollah. On listening to the views from all sections of the House, I urge upon the Government to pass this Bill. If that is not possible right now, I request the Government to take concrete action so that the provisions of the Bill which have been proposed could be acted upon.

Here, while going through the Bill and

on hearing what the hon. Members have said in this House, my opinion is that the attitude of the State and the society towards the youth and the problems faced by the youth are comprehensively reflected in the Bill. But we have also to take into consideration how the youths view the society, what is their perception. Some of the hon. Members have made just passing references about the value judgement of the youth, about the society and about the State. What I want to emphasise is, can we think of "youth" only as has been drafted in the Bill, as has been mentioned in the definition, i.e. 'youth' means all persons between fifteen and forty-five years of age?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. Now time allotted for consideration of this Bill is over. So many Members have given their names. So, we will extend it for another two hours.

SEVERAL HON MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

SHRI BHABANI SHANKAR HOTA: Sir, I was saying that the problems of the youths, as we have been witnessing now, have been genuinely reflected in this Bill. That is a part of the socio-economic order that exists in this country. Unless we change radically, the socio-economic structure of the country, we cannot remove unemployment, we cannot remove the frustration among the youths. Unless we do that, the conditions of the youths is not going to be changed. For providing employment to the youths, are we going to encourage cottage and village industries in rural areas, are we going to stop multi-nationals from coming into this country? Are we going to stop the multi-nationals from coming to this country and are we discouraging the monopolistic and capitalist houses? All these are linked with providing employment to the youth. This has to be viewed in a particular perspective and concrete action has to be taken.

Total frustration prevails among the youth. I refer to a particular incident. 20 years ago, a student while coming out of the examination hall, after doing some malprac-

tice, felt so much ashamed that he would just go to the railway track to commit suicide. But now if he is caught, he is proud of assaulting his teacher. No guilty conscience prevails today. These malpractices are continuing and are being strengthened as we see corruption prevailing in the political, economic and social fields starting from top to bottom. This corruption is there in the political, and social arena and in the business field and everywhere. That is why, it is a total reflection upon the character of the youth. In my view, it is not possible to reform only the youth. We have to reform the whole society and we have to work upon such proposals which would change the situation in the world and which would radically change the society and which would create conditions where the youth can function properly.

I welcome this Bill because it has thrown sufficient light on the programmes of the youth and as it has acted as a catalyst to bring about certain basic change in the conscience of the youth and in the health programmes, and in the educational system—amending the old education policy which are adopted three or four years ago—and as it seeks to develop sports and to organise youth festivals. Taking all these things into consideration, I hope Government will act upon it sincerely and try to implement some of the programmes which have now been suggested so that a new era will usher in for the youth in this country.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this Bill wholeheartedly and I think that this Bill will open the eyes of the Government firstly to formulate the youth policy which we did not have for a long time.

Secondly, I am sure either this Bill would be accepted or some kind of implementation will come through some other legislation.

I would propose that the gist of this Bill, the pointers which are shown in this Bill should be wholeheartedly accepted.

The first thing which has been given

[Sh. P.C. Thomas]

recognition in this Bill is a pointer to the fact that youth should be recognised. Recognition to the activities of the young man and to the youth as an organisation is required and I can also say that if a boy wants to do something even in his childhood and if the parents and the society is not going to recognise it, the boy will just loss his confidence to act. The youth is unable to do what he wants because he does not get due recognition. He is afraid and he is not getting the confidence to do the right thing. To have real confidence and to act fearlessly and honestly and in a devoted manner to the cause for which one stands, will be the best output from a man

There are very good indications for these aspects in this Bill

As has already been stated by many hon. Members, the capacity of the youth has to be channelised properly. Unless it is so channelised, the huge power of the youth will not be useful to him, to any individual, to any family, to any community, and in the larger perspective, to the nation as a whole. Therefore, this Bill points to so many facets which will give methods of channelisation for the youth power. Then, I would think that the grant of proper opportunity to the youth is something which has been stressed in the Bill all through. Grant of proper opportunity is in respect of all fields. I am not going into the details. But it has been given in all the fields like education, employment, health services, cultural activities and sports etc. I think that these aspects are to be considered very seriously and this Bill has to be supported by all Members because the necessity of giving opportunity to the youth in all these respects is stressed in this Bill.

With regard to other aspects, I would just like to mention about sports. I think this one aspect which is worth mentioning. Now we are not able to give the necessary encouragement to sports and cultural activities though at various points we are trying to give some kind of encouragement. Of course, we are devoting time, energy as well as money

for these activities. But the point is that these activities are not properly planned and given to the youth. For example, I can just quote one example which I have seen a few days ago. There was a football tournament in which two teams had reached the final stage. In fact, that tournament took place on 29th of last month. That was about the competition for Federation Cup Football Tournament. Two teams, one each from Goa and Kerala, were fighting tooth and nail. Doordarshan was giving a live telecast. But when just 12 minutes was to go, when the match had reached the climax, when thousands and millions of people were viewing this game all over this country, the programme was suddenly changed. In its place, there was some kind of a feature serial which could in no way be useful. (*Interruptions*) I think it was about Lakshadweep. I am sure that even people from Lakshadweep would not have appreciated it. There were very many persons who were appreciating the football tournament. Here, I just point out one instance only. Such kind of cruel attitude from our Government, administrators, elders as well as people in power is in vogue. So, it is necessary that the people who hold responsible positions should give a very serious thought to this matter and they should give proper recognition to all the activities of youth including sports, cultural activities etc.

Regarding cultural activities, I have got one aspect to say. For the past several years, I know what has been taking place in Kerala. In Kerala some kind of encouragement is given in this respect to the students at the schools and colleges. Different types of competitions are being held and the best of the lot are being picked up. They are being given encouragement. I would like to suggest that at the national level also, the students of schools and colleges as well as other youth who are not being educated in colleges etc. Should also be given such kind of cultural opportunities so that the best of them can be chosen and given due encouragement. I would also just like to suggest a few programmes for the youth. Of course my learned hon. friend Shri Hannan Mollah touched all those areas or many of

those areas or many of those aspects. I would suggest that youth exchange programme is necessary especially in our country from State to State to build up India, to have better encouragement and to have better feeling among the youth in order to strengthen our nation. It can also be extended to exchange programmes in the international sphere also.

I would just like to stress another point. Youth should be given some kind of interest and role. They should be given some kind of involvement in tourism because that is a field where we have got much scope to develop. The other point which I would like to stress is about the menace of drugs. Some kind of a fight against this drug menace should be there. That is very necessary. For that, some kind of channelisation has to be done when the Youth Policy is framed.

Apart from all these things, I may also add that when we think of the rights of the youths, betterment of the youths, we must also think about the hard work which the youths put in. For the very hard work which the youths of this country put in, the Policy should give a very strong stress on the need for their involvement. I am sure, the youths of this country will only take it up in the right perspective if they are asked and if they are given the opportunity to work hard in the spheres in which they do their work

We see that many of the Indian youths who go abroad, they work very hard and they get very good reputation as persons who are involved in very good hard work. But somehow when we are engaged in work in our country, at various levels, we find that we are sliding away from this very important aspect of hard work. As my friend pointed out, it may be because our elders are also doing that. I am sure, the elders as well as the youths are interested in working hard. For that, a proper programme and its implementation has to be thought of when a Youth Policy is framed and when legislations are brought.

I may also point out about the neglect of

youth in my State. There is a youth hostel which has been constructed in Thrikkakara, in the Ernakulam District of Kerala. It took a very long time for its construction. After it was constructed, it took along time for it to be inaugurated. Then a Minister from the Centre came and inaugurated it. Now, for a very long time, the work has not started. It has not started functioning even after several months.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): Why?

SHRI P. C. THOMAS: There may be reasons. That is why, I am placing it before the Government so that this can be taken note of. I am told that there a warden has to be appointed. And a warden gets a salary of about Rs. 3000 to Rs. 4000. It is a covetable post. Applications have been called for and about 14 to 15 applications have come in. Qualified persons are also there. But, somehow, some kind of appointment through the back door is being thought of. That was one of the allegations which I found in one newspaper. Anyway, since there is no direct information, I do not stress on that. I would say that youths are neglected in very many fields— Neglected even to the maximum extent. When we formulate programmes, when we put it into action, even at that stage, we find that neglect creeps in.

I am sure, the Bill has given a very good direction in this regard to see that the youths are not neglected. Youths should be recognised and their capabilities and talents should be recognised and that should be used for their own development, for the development of the community as well as for the development of the nation.

[*Translation*]

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome this Bill moved by Shri Hannan Mollah. Today, our youth are the worst sufferers. A large number of them are unemployed. They do not get employment even after their best efforts. Those who want to study cannot continue it because their guardians cannot bear the expenses of education. There are 25 clauses in this Bill.

[Sh Tej Narayan Singh]

If this Bill is passed and becomes an act, the youth of our country will get an opportunity to make some progress because the development of youth is the development of the country, otherwise the whole exercise will be futile. According to the Government figures about 4 crore doctors, engineers, professors, postgraduates and graduates are jobless. These figures have been published by the Government. According to the Government the number of unemployed people was about 50 lakh in the year 1950 but at present, about 4 crore people are unemployed. If this situation continues one cannot say what will be the number of unemployed after 2-4 years. If this Bill becomes an act then the number of unemployed can be reduced otherwise it will go on increasing. No doubt, development of Kerala took place because of literacy but the literacy rate in Bihar which is also a part of the country is very low. Even an intelligent child cannot get his education because his guardian cannot afford to meet the expenses on education when crops of farmers are ruined by heavy rains then they are unable to make their both ends meet. In these circumstances how can they afford the expenses on education of their children. I support this Bill and hope that the people who have progressive views will also support it. The people who do not have faith in socialism will not support it. In the present situation a few persons might be getting some facilities but the condition of 90 per cent is going from bad to worse. Our youth migrate from their State to other states to get an employment but they do not get it. A postgraduate is ready to accept the job of a peon. There is a provision that if a graduate does not go for a job he can start his business with the help of the Government. No such assistance is provided to anyone in the existing law. The Janata Dal Government has given an assurance of right to work to the youth by amending the Constitution. There is a similar provision in clause 11 of this Bill. If the House passes this Bill, the youth will be benefited. I do not agree that maximum age limit for work should be reduced to 35, the age of 15-45 is all right. The condition of the

children below 15 is the worst. According to law the children below 14 should not be provided with any job.

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN The hon Member may continue his speech on the next occasion.

18.00 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

Computer Assisted Sanskrit Teaching and Learning Project

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN Now, we shall take up Half an hour discussion Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (Delhi Sadar) Mr. Chairman, Sir, the answer given by the hon. Minister to a question No. 188 on 26th March, 1990 regarding the computer assisted Sanskrit Teaching and Learning Project and Sanskrit as a scientific language of computer was not satisfactory at all. It does not generate any hope for future also. He said that two computer-assisted Sanskrit teaching and learning projects had been started in the Jawahar Lal Nehru University and the Lal Bahadur Shastri Kendriya Vidyapeeth in the year 1988-89. But every effort is being made to eliminate Sanskrit in accordance with the education policy of the Government and it has been excluded from three language formula also. If Sanskrit language is not to be taught in schools and colleges, what would be the use of computer-assisted Sanskrit teaching and learning project as who will learn Sanskrit language? Therefore, I want to say that Sanskrit should be taught in schools and colleges. I want to mention this point particularly which is important from the point of view of India.