

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT): Sir, I seek the permission of the House, through you, to make a short statement.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think, the House will agree.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Pantji.

SHRI K.C. PANT: Sir, The Swedish Government is issuing the following Press statement today in Sweden and the information has just reached us; and I am passing it on to the House. I quote:

"The Government has today decided....." i.e. the Government of Sweden...

"... to ask the National Audit Board to make an auditing review of certain transactions that were made by Bofors in connection with the Indian contract. The review shall be conducted speedily, and should be concluded by the end of May. The Indian Government has made a request to the Swedish Government to try to ascertain if middleman had been used. The assignment by the Government to the Audit Board means that the Board shall undertake an auditing review in the matter. The Board may, if necessary, appoint a Chartered Accountant to participate in the review. In its work, the Board should take the advice of the Military Equipments Inspectorate. The Government assumes that Bofors will give the Audit Board all necessary insight into the transactions. The Board will also partake of available documents with various authorities concerned.

The background to the decision on today is the following:

An important question during the negotiations for a contract between Bofors and the Indian Defence Ministry was the request of the Indian Government that the Howitzer deal should be concluded directly between the parties, without middlemen. This question was also raised in talks between the Prime Minister Mr Rajiv

Gandhi and Prime Minister Olof Palme. In January of 1986 Prime Minister Olof Palme informed Prime Minister Gandhi that Bofors had declared that it wished to conclude the business directly with the Indian Defence Ministry thus, without any middlemen. Bofors also write directly to the Defence Ministry in March 1986 stating that no middlemen would occur in the transaction.

On April 21 of this year, the Indian Ambassador came to the Swedish Foreign Ministry and asked that the Swedish Government should help in obtaining information whether middlemen had been used or not. In view of this, the Under Secretary of State, Mr. Carl Johang Aberg immediately contacted the leadership of the Nobel Industries and requested that full clarity should be obtained in the matter. On April 24, Bofors transmitted a written report to the Indian Ambassador in Stockholm. The Indian Government has declared that an investigation through the Swedish Government is of great importance. The Audit Board will make a speedy review of those transactions which may be relevant in the matter."

Sir, the above has been translated from Swedish to English by the Swedish Embassy.

17.33 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, 1987 - *Contd.*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Mr. K Pradhani

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir: I rise to support the Finance Bill for the year 1987-88. I congratulate our Prime Minister for having formulated a popular Budget without imposing much burden on the common man, and very particularly on the poor people.

The main object of our Government is the elimination of poverty, and that is why

[Sh. K. Pradhani]

the outlays for anti-poverty programmes have been stepped up. In the year 1985-86, only 1 million tonnes of food-grains were available for 62 million man-days, under this Food-for-Work Programme. In the year 1986-87, 2 million tonnes of foodgrains were allotted for this work, creating 128 million man-days of work; and this programme is proposed to be continued during the next year.

Regarding IRDP, Rs. 310 crores have been allotted for it, i.e. for the upliftment of the poor people, and a sum of Rs. 2,000 crores is likely to be spent during 1987-88, which is comparable to that of the 6th Plan expenditure of about Rs. 3600 crores for five years.

The growth of industries is expected to be upto 8%. The productivity of coal, railways and thermal power is also improving. It may not be out of place to mention that the production of thermal-power in this country during 1986-87 was 53.2% which is the highest in the last ten years.

Regarding the cropping conditions and the buffer stock of food stocks, they are very favourable inspite of poor monsoon. During the last year, the foodgrains production of India was expected to exceed 150 million tonnes. Due to favourable food stock, 2 million tonnes of foodgrains was supplied to tribal areas at a highly subsidised rate.

Due to unfavourable environment across our border, we have been compelled to raise the defence budget to Rs. 12,512 crores; it is unavoidable and every member of this House will support this thing.

Regarding education, to implement the new educational policy and to give a good start to this policy our government has allotted Rs. 800 crores in place of 352 crores in previous year.

I support the Indira Awaas Yojana which has been newly started and Rs. 125 crores have been allotted for the construction of SC&ST houses.

Now I come to some of the problems in my constituency and the tribal areas. I represent the tribal area and I like to submit something about that area. During 1984, the Eighth Finance Commission submitted a report and awarded some benefits to the tribal areas for the officers posted in the tribal areas because they work in difficult circumstances where there is no house, no hospital, no school no road, etc., that is why this Finance Commission has awarded Rs. 30 crores as compensatory allowance in the 6th Plan Period, and the same amount has been awarded during the 7th Plan period also. During the 6th Plan period, there were no specific guidelines to the States as how to distribute this money. During pre-independence days in tribal and agency areas, the officers employed there used to get 10 per cent, 20 per cent and 30 per cent extra remuneration for their services rendered in those difficult areas. Urban areas are considered as number three agency areas; semi-urban areas are considered as number 2 and purely rural areas are considered as number 3 agency areas; that is why they have been allotted numbers 1, 2 and 3 that is 10 per cent, 20 per cent and 30 per cent extra remuneration was given to them during pre-independence days.

Now the allotment which has been given to those people is quite insufficient and they are unable to give it even to half of the people employed there. Suppose in a block there are 100 schools. If they have to distribute it to the teachers, they are adopting a very bad procedure; they are paying only to 20-30 schools and neglecting other people without giving any reasons for that. That is why, I would like to plead before the government that sufficient money should be released for this compensatory allowance so that there is no hatred among the tribal employees working in those tribal areas because everybody will get it.

Now in some States I have seen that only Gazetted officers get this compensatory allowance; only class I and Class II get this allowance; Class III and Class IV officers do not get it. Where could

they get this formula, I fail to understand. I request the Government of India to intervene in it and instruct them to distribute the money whatever is available, in an equitable manner, and not like the manner which creates hatred among the employee there.

When I talk of upgradation of administration in the tribal areas, some people say that it is a State subject; why should we intervene in that. I would like to submit that all tribal areas which have got more than 50 per cent of tribal population, those are scheduled areas, that is they are directly under the control of the Government of India.

According to the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution which I just quote, para 3 of which says:

3. Report by the Governor to the President regarding the administration of Scheduled Areas.....The Governor of each State having Areas therein shall annually, or whenever so required by the President, make a report to the President regarding the administration of the Scheduled Areas in that State and the executive power of the Union shall extend to the giving of directions to the States as to the administration of the said areas".

This is the power of the Government of India to interfere with the Government of the State where there are scheduled areas or tribal areas. For upgradation of administration in tribal areas lot of money is being spent, not only for compensatory allowance but also for construction of houses, offices, and all other things. But there are no guidelines, there is no instruction to improve the quality of the administration. It is only the quantity that is being increased, but the quality is not there up to the mark. Unless you improve the quality of administration in tribal areas we are not going to improve the lot of the people of those living there.

Therefore, I would urge the Government to intervene and issue some guidelines also

in this manner and see that the quality of administration in tribal areas is also improved.

PROF. N.G. RANGA: (Guntur): This is the special responsibility of the Finance Ministry.

SHRI K. PRADHANI: Here, I would suggest one thing. And I would just like to point out that in the year 1975 or 1978 the National Police Commission was appointed. That National Police Commission had given about 75 recommendation in the year 1981 and the Government and the Chief Ministers, all have perused those recommendations and they have accepted 74 recommendations, except one. One of the main and important recommendations was that the Commission which consisted of IGs of Police and DIGs of Police and other IAS officers and High Court Judges, had recommended that the existing Police Act that is available now has become out of date and that it is not suitable for the present democratic country and that the Police Act should be amended suitably. They had given a note and they also formulated a bill to amend the Police Act, and how the Government could implement. There was a very good suggestion that superior officers like IG or DIG when they visit the Police stations or district headquarters they should establish contacts with the cross-section of the people the MLAs and MPs and Members of the Municipalities and Chairmen of the Municipalities, and find out the shortfall in working of the departments, to solve their problems, so that the administration can improve in quality also. This is a recommendation submitted to the Government about six years back, but till today nothing is being implemented. That is why, I would draw the attention of the Government of India and specially the Prime Minister who had introduced this Finance Bill to look into this and get something done so that the lot of the tribal people can be improved and that too to a great extent, in which he is keenly interested.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHARAT SINGH (Outer Delhi):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Finance Bill which has been presented by the Hon. Prime Minister who is also the Minister of Finance.

In this Budget, care has been taken to render maximum help to the poor people. You had established J.J. Colonies in the year 1975. But the work in this connection has not so far been completed. I would like to put forth some points about my constituency in Delhi. An allocation of Rs. 60 crores was made out of which the sewerage and water supply work is being carried on. If all these works are completed, these people will pray for your well being. In my constituency five thousand more jhuggis have been set up. I want that first of all a survey may please be conducted in this connection and then sites for resettlement may be earmarked and shown to them and provision of roads, drains and water may be made in them. Provision may also please be made for schools and electricity and thereafter they may be removed from there. The Government demolishes their jhuggis all of a sudden and they face difficulties. They are being told that this land belongs to Railway or this land is earmarked for the hospital. This creates a lot of difficulties for them and they come to me in large numbers. I would like that until and unless they are provided with plots, they should not be removed from there. First of all it may please be decided that such and such site will be allotted to them so that the poor people may not face any difficulty. They should not at all be shifted during winter and rainy season, because they come from far off places like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan. In this way people from whole of India have come to Delhi. I want that everybody should get basic minimum of clothes, shelter and food. I would like to request you that proper arrangements be made for them and they should be provided with facilities of electricity water and schools.

The second point that I want to raise is that the hon. Prime Minister has laid much

stress on agriculture. The farmers have made a lot of progress. There are no two opinions about the fact that all the credit goes to Government. Because it is the Government which provided all means like tube wells, tractors and opened branches of Banks in the villages. The scientist provided good varieties of seeds and good fertilisers and tendered good advice. The crops yield good produce due to the improved varieties of seeds and hard work by the farmers. But I must say this much that the farmers do not get the remuneration for their hard work. You may take the case of Government farms. How much money is invested in Government farms and what are the earnings therefrom? This will make it clear to you that the expenditure is more. The farmers do not get full wages. I would like to say that the prices fixed by Government are inadequate. When we say that the price should be increased, the Government clarifies that they will also have to look to the interest of the consumers. I admit this thing. But you should give concessions to them in fertilisers, you may give them grants for their tools so that the farmers may feel satisfied that though their wheat and rice fetch lower price, but they got fertilisers on subsidized rates and that they get grants also. Let the farmers not feel that they work hard but get nothing.

I want to say one more thing. You constituted Agricultural Produce Market Committee in Delhi in 1969. There are no two opinions about it that the middlemen took 2 per cent as commission. After the formation of the Committee, the commission system was discontinued and it was stated that not a single paisa would be spent from farmers' side and bids will be held openly so that the farmers may get full price for their produce. I would like to say that you pay full attention towards the farmers and also on their part work hard. He produces more in his field by his hard work. But it is unfortunate and the entire house appreciates this, that he puts hard labour for a year. His children and wife work in extreme heat and cold, he ploughs the land, purchases costly seeds and adds

fertilisers. After his hard labour the crops mature whether it is wheat or vegetables, and all of sudden clouds start gathering in the sky, there is hail-storm and the entire crop is destroyed.

The farmer literally cries when his crops are damaged. He thinks that he is ruined because he has taken loan for getting quality seeds and fertilisers and instead of a good crop he gets a damaged crop. He had hoped to repay the loan and also to meet expenditure on marriages etc. But when his crops are ruined he gets disturbed. Does the Government propose to grant them assistance? The cost of cultivating one acre of land is very high. Therefore, I suggest that the Government should at least give them half the amount of loss incurred. Nobody wants that his crops should get ruined. Unprecedented hailstorm ruins the crop.

Now, I would like to draw your attention to my area. Just one week back a farmer had gathered his crop in the fields. Suddenly after two days it caught fire and 600 maunds of wheat was reduced to ashes. The farmer was ruined. But nobody from the Government came to his help. He was told that he would be given Rs. 100-200 as relief. You cannot even get a quintal of wheat for Rs. 200. I would suggest that in order to save the crops from hail-storm or fire the Government should pay attention and set aside an amount of Rs. one crore for Delhi farmers. That many should be spent if the crops get ruined otherwise the Government can use it for other purposes. I feel that Government should certainly help the farmers when their crops are ruined.

There are many schools in the rural areas of Delhi but there is not college. The college is only in the city. The children of rural areas do not get admission in these colleges. You must be aware that the teachers do not prefer to go to village schools. Therefore, I would suggest that in order to motivate the teachers they should be given an additional allowance and provided accommodation so that these teachers go to villages and are happy to teach the students there. If a teacher is

transferred he is not happy and he makes lame excuses like 'I would be in trouble'; 'I would be away from my home; I will have to pay so much fare' etc. Therefore, I would like the Government to pay attention to the teachers who go to villages so that they can properly teach the students there. They should be given more benefits as compared to those teachers who stay in the city so that more teachers are motivated to go to the villages.

There are schools all around the rural areas in Delhi but there is no college. For example, there is no college in Najafgarh, in Delhi. There must be atleast 20-25 schools there. But the students studying in these schools do not get good marks. They do not get admission in colleges on merit. Therefore, we want that colleges should be opened in villages. Gram Sabha land worth crores of rupees can be made available free of cost for opening a college. We can give 70, 80 or even 100 Bighas of land for this purpose free of cost. That land may cost crores of rupees in the city. An agriculture college should be opened there so that the students of rural areas could get admission in it.

Similar is the case of I.T.I.'s The girls from rural areas have to come to Delhi to get the training. There are five Blocks in Delhi. I would suggest that an ITI should be opened in each of these blocks for the convenience of girls. Boys can go anywhere. They can go even 100 miles away from their homes for training. The opening of I.T.I.'s in every block would help the girls from rural areas to stand to become self reliant. Our party is also committed to this policy. Prior to independence no girl used to go to schools or colleges and they are not steps out of the four walls of their homes. This is all because of independence. Girls have been educated in large number after independence and they have started becoming self-reliant. Therefore, I would like that ITI's should be opened in rural areas also.

The water of a sewage nullah (drain) flows into Yamuna in my area. Some steps

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have been taken to check it. For example, this sewage water is diverted to the fields in 4-5 villages. This would not only help in checking mosquito mence but also getting a good crop. The crop will not require any more fertiliser. I would suggest that this sewage water be used in the fields. This would not only help in making the Yamuna water clean but also in increasing agricultural production.

What was the total foodgrain production in the country 20 years ago? Very little foodgrain was produced. Today, we have the latest means of irrigation and quality hybrid seeds. This has not only helped in increasing production in Delhi, Haryana and Punjab, but also throughout the country. Therefore, I would like that more attention should be paid in this direction. Irrigation facilities should be provided to maximum areas. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the population of Delhi is increasing at a fast pace and I am concerned as to how the Government will be able to provide water and electricity to them, when there is already acute shortage of water in the villages. Besides how will electricity be generated? Therefore, I would urge the Government to provide one more thermal power station in Delhi. Everybody wants electricity these days. They want their children to study under electric lamps, irrigate their fields through tubewells and therefore one additional thermal power station may be installed in Delhi to meet the requirement.

Regarding water, I would like to submit that we are getting the same amount of water as we did 10 years back, in spite of the fact that our population has increased tremendously. Today the population of Delhi is 70 lakhs and we are getting the same amount of water as we did in the past, when the population was merely 30 lakhs. Therefore, I would like that we should get additional water supply i.e. Ganga water from U.P. and Yamuna water from Haryana, so that our requirements are fully met.

Regarding unauthorised colonies, I would like to submit that I have met a number of people who have constructed

houses prior to 1980 in these colonies. Some of them are teachers, others are conductors and most of them belong to weaker sections of society. Earlier 612 colonies were notified to be approved but only 400 colonies were ultimately approved and the rest were left over. I would urge the Government to approve these unauthorised colonies so that the Damocles sword on the poor is removed. I thank the Government for providing one lamp and fan point in the houses constructed in the unauthorised colonies prior to 1981. The poor have benefited a lot by this measure. One thing more people have to pay lease on DDA houses. They have to spend more on these houses and there is little return. Therefore, we want that this lease system should be abolished so that the people are saved of trouble and they may have a sigh of relief.

The income limit for grant is Rs. 750. Whose income is Rs. 750 these days? It is true that a member of metropolitan council draws a salary of Rs. 450 or Rs. 500, but otherwise nobody has an income less than Rs. 1250. The people are thereby deprived of the grant which is meant for purchase of plot. Therefore, I would request that the ceiling of income should be raised to Rs.1250 in order to enable the poor to purchase a plot of land and thus benefit.

In the end, I would like to submit that though the population of Delhi is increasing at a fast pace but the strength of the police force is decreasing. The police posts in the city are quite inadequate. I request that instead of a police post in Paschim Vihar, a police station should be set up, and in Mangolpuri where the Rohini residential scheme is coming up, another police post should be set up. I hope that the hon. Minister will certainly pay attention to the problems I have mentioned. I thank the House for allowing me to express my views.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for calling me to speak in the debate

on the Finance Bill, 1987. I support this Finance Bill, 1987. This is intended to give effect to the various financial provisions of our Budget 1987.

This is the third stage of our discussion on the Budget. First there was a general discussion quite for some time. We had gone into the details of the Budget proposals. Thereafter, demands have been discussed. Yesterday there was guillotine and also an Appropriation Bill was adopted. Today we are discussing the Finance Bill so as to get final approval of the Lok Sabha to the entire Budget. With this the Budget exercise will be over and final approval of the Lok Sabha will be given to the Budget of 1987-88.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can continue to-morrow. Now we take up Half-An-Hour Discussion.

18.00 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR-DISCUSSION

[English]

Loans for Purchase of Animals

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up Half-an-Hour Discussion. Shri Dileep Singh Bhuria.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA (Jhabua): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Rural Development Programmes are so dynamic that if properly implemented they can accelerate the development of villages. The IRDP programme has been formulated for the prosperity of villages. I had asked a starred question of 15th regarding this programme. Crores of rupees are spent on these programmes, but the plight of beneficiaries in contrary to it. What are the reasons and why is such a situation created? Indiraji had launched this programme for the prosperity of villages but we

did not achieve the desired results. Only the hon. Minister knows whether this is being done intentionally or otherwise. The farmer who is engaged in agriculture requires many things, whether he is running dairy or is engaged in poultry or fish farming. How can poverty be removed from villages if this continues? What is happening today. Suppose 50 cases are sanctioned. Thereafter, farmer goes to the market or to the mela to buy an ox and he gets an ox for Rs. 1000. He has to pay twice the price. There is rampant corruption in getting a fitness certificate from the doctor or getting things done in the bank. The beneficiary is so perturbed that he is ready to receive whatever is given to him, sometimes the ox dies within a month or two. The farmer is thus not able to plough his fields with one ox. He is handicapped and he runs from pillar to post in the bank. He is asked to get a medical certificate. 80% of the people live in the villages in our country. Sometimes the farmer is not able to find a doctor and at other he has to run after the BDO or other politicians. Even after running from pillar to post he is not able to get the insurance money. 'According to the reply of the hon. Minister Rs.51 crores are deposited in the banks on this account. Why that money has been deposited? This should be utilised to improve the economic condition of the poor and to help them. We do not help them which proves harmful to them. Such a good programme is becoming a complete failure and it is being done internationally. In the hill areas, oxen are provided where they are of no use. It would be better if cattle are provided as per the climate and suitability of the area. In Jhabua area, the Labour Ministry has made an assessment of the programme. I have complete record of the assessment with me and on the basis of it I asked the question. If the hon. Minister desired I will provide a copy thereof to him. Not even a single cattle provided under the rural development programme whether an ox, goat or buffalo could survive. I wanted the Ministry of Rural Development also to be associated with this question but it was restricted to the Ministry of Finance only. Therefore, I would request the Finance Minister to make