

[Shri R. V. Swaminathan]

difficulty being faced by the State Government. I once again assure the hon. Member that the Government will take all the necessary steps. In this connection, I may inform the hon. Members of this House that so far as the agricultural production is concerned, we are in a better position. I am happy to inform the House that so far as the kharif crop is concerned, we have achieved the target this year. We have reached the target of 80 million tonnes. Out of 131 million tonnes achieved in 1978-79, which was the record production in India, we were able to produce kharif crop to the tune of 78 million tonnes. Now, we have crossed that figure. The only thing is that there is some difficulty in so far as the rabi crop is concerned. But anyhow I am hopeful that with god's grace we would be able to achieve the target and would be able to reach the record production of 135 million tonnes this year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, let us go to the next item—Statement to be made by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIA): On behalf of Shri Bhishma Narain Singh with your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 24th November, 1980, will consist of:—

(1) General discussion on the Assam Budget for 1980-81; discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants (Assam) for 1980-81 and consideration and passing of the Assam Appropriation Bill, 1980;

(2) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.

(3) Consideration and passing of the Ear Drums and Ear Bones (Authority for use of Therapeutic Purposes) Bill, 1980.

(4) Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the following Ordinances together with consideration and passing of the Bill in replacement of them:

(i) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (Amendment) Ordinance, 1980.

(ii) The Auroville (Emergency Provisions) Ordinance, 1980.

(iii) The Bird and Company Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings and other Properties) Ordinance, 1980.

(5) Consideration and passing of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Amendment Bill, 1980.

(6) Discussion on the motions by Prof. Madhu Dandavate and Shri B. V. Desai regarding continuing rise in the prices of sugar and other essential commodities on Tuesday, the 25th November, 1980, at 2-00 P.M.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would request the hon. Members to make their submissions in brief with regard to the business for the next week as there are nine names before me.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I once again rise to urge upon the Government to provide for an early discussion on the communal situation in the country. The Government has once again disappointed us. We have the whole business for the next week and this Government has not been in a position to find time for a discussion on such an important subject. I would once again urge for an early discussion on this subject without going into the details of the difficult and tense situation that is there with

respect to it and the need for immediate steps and immediate measures that have to be taken. I do not know why the Government should fight shy of having the earliest possible discussion in the House on this particular question.

I must also say that the first annual report of the Minorities Commission for the year ending 31st December, 1978 should be taken up for discussion. Two years have passed and still there is no discussion. There are several important suggestions and recommendations embodied in this valuable report and they are very relevant and timely for the present situation. Despite all the lip sympathy that has been paid for the minorities in the country, it is a sad commentary to say that the Government does not want, it seems, a discussion on these reports to take place at the earliest possible occasion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When was it submitted?

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: It has been laid on the Table of the House.

Sir, you will be shocked to know that the annual reports of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities for the last ten years—not one or two years, but ten years—have not been discussed in this House. They have also been one after the other laid on the Table of the House, but no discussion has taken place. The successive annual reports since 1970-71 have not yet been discussed by this House. What is the situation? No time to discuss communal situation; no time to discuss the report of the Minorities Commission; no provision to discuss for nearly ten years reports of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities! We must take a very serious note of this particular situation, the manner in which this Government, as also the previous Janta Government have been functioning. Even during the time of the Janta Government, I rose again and

again in this House, but to no avail. I would request the Government now to have the earliest possible allocation of time for discussions on these reports.

Finally, the farmers in Maharashtra are very much agitated. Their agitation has turned violent. There is need for a discussion with respect to their demands. The Government of Maharashtra has reportedly requested the Union Government to raise the price of levy sugar. Then, there is a report in the newspapers which says that our Minister for Agriculture has assured the Congress (I) MPs in private that there will be an increase in the procurement price of sugarcane, onions and cotton. What is the situation? Then there must be an immediate statement with respect to this at least in this House so that we may know the exact position in the matter.

Therefore, I ask the Government to make an immediate statement on this particular issue.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) :  
हमारे देश में 20, 27 और 30 अक्टूबर को जबर्दस्त रेल दुर्घटनाएं हुई हैं जिन में कई सौ लोगों के मरने का समाचार है। यह इतना बड़ा सवाल है कि इसको अध्यक्ष जी ने भी स्थगन प्रस्ताव के रूप में स्वीकार कर लिया था। लेकिन उस पर अभी तक डिसकशन का भी कहीं अंदाज नहीं लग रहा है। बहुत सारी महत्वपूर्ण बातें इन रेल दुर्घटनाओं के साथ जुड़ी हुई हैं। आज भी गाड़ियां समय पर नहीं चलती हैं। आप तो सभापति जी स्वयं जानते हैं कि जब हम साथ-साथ एक बार आ रहे थे तो हमारी गाड़ी साढ़े तीन घंटे लेट आई।

सभापति महोदय : चूंकि आप साथ-साथ इसलिए शायद लेट हुईं।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : यह हो सकता है। लेकिन गाड़ी का लेट होना सही नहीं है।

[श्री: रामाबलार शारदा:]

इसलिए इन सब बातों पर सदन में विचार करने के लिए अगले सप्ताह समय निकाला जाना चाहिये। ऐसा हुआ तो हम बता सकेंगे कि ऐसी बातें क्यों हो रही हैं, इनके निदान का रास्ता क्या हो सकता है।

सभापति महोदय, हम सब लोग टेलीफोन रखते हैं। यहां पर भी रखते हैं, अपने घरों में भी रखते हैं। दिल्ली में भी लाखों टेलीफोन हैं। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या कोई टेलीफोन ठीक से काम कर रहा है। अगर पटना करते हैं तो वहां की लाइन नहीं मिलती है, अगर मंत्री जी को करते हैं तो उनकी लाइन नहीं मिलती है। कल शाम से मेरा टेलीफोन चुपचाप पागल हो गया है, चुप है। टेलीफोन की अराजक स्थिति पर भी विचार के लिए समय निकाला जाना चाहिये। रेल मंत्री जी ने तो तरह-तरह के स्टेप्स लेने की घोषणा की है लेकिन हमारे स्टीफन साहब कान में तेल डाल कर और चादर तान कर सोए हुए हैं। यह बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण सवाल है। यह केवल दिल्ली पटना, बम्बई, कलकत्ता का ही नहीं बल्कि पूरे देश के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण सवाल है। इस पर भी सदन में गम्भीरता के साथ विचार होना चाहिये।

भारत के विश्वविद्यालयों के कर्मचारी बहुत ही असंतुष्ट हैं। आल इंडिया यूनिवर्सिटी एम्प्लायीज कनफ़ेडरेशन ने चार पांच दिन पहले यहां प्रदर्शन किया था। वे पूरे देश में आंदोलन कर रहे हैं। दिल्ली के नाम टीचिंग एम्प्लायीज और दिल्ली की यूनिवर्सिटी के अध्यापकों ने मिल कर अपनी मांगों को मनवाने के लिए हड़ताल की है। उन्होंने यह भी कहा है कि अगर सरकार के कान पर जूं नहीं रेंगी तो फिर और कोई बड़ा कदम उठाने के लिए उबको मजबूर होना पड़ेगा। इस सवाल पर भी सदन में विचार होना चाहिये ताकि हमारे देश में जो हजारों कर्मचारी फँसे हुए हैं उनको संतोष हो सके कि संसद ने इस सवाल पर विचार किया है।

हमारे बिहार में एक सिंहभूम जिला है। वहां पर आठ सितम्बर को आदिवासियों पर गोली चली थी। आदिवासी जंगल के सवाल को ले कर आंदोलन कर रहे थे और उन पर गोली वर्षा हुई थी। हमारे बिहार में गुआ एक स्थान है जहां लोहे की खदान है। वहां मजदूरों पर गोली चार्ज की गई है, गोली चलाई गई है। इससे 11 आदिवासी मारे गये हैं। 11 का तो सरकारी दावा है, मेरा खयाल है मारे गए होंगे इससे ज्यादा।

15.00 hrs.

बिहार में यह आम बात है कि हरिजनो को कत्ल कर दिया जाता है। अभी कुछ दिन पहले नालन्दा जिले के महतो चक गांव में 4 हरिजनों की निर्मम हत्या कर दी गई। यह स्थिति आज भी चल रही है। हम चाहेंगे कि आदिवासी या हरिजनों की हत्या का जो सवाल है, गृह मंत्री जी यहां मौजूद हैं, वह सुन रहे हैं, तो इन सवालों पर यहां विचार होना चाहिये ताकि हम यह समझ सकें कि सरकार ने इस दिशा में कोई कदम उठाया है और पिछले सत्र के मुकाबले में अब इस स्थिति में सुधार हुआ है या और बिगाड हुआ है। इन बातों पर इस सदन में विचार किया जाना चाहिये और अगर किसी वजह से विचार संभव न हो तो सदन में वक्तव्य तो जरूर दिया जाना चाहिये ताकि हम सब समझ सकें।

श्री: विजय कुमार यादव (नालन्दा) : सभापति जी मेरा भी सुझाव है कि अगले सप्ताह के लिये जो कार्य-सूची पेश की गई है, उसमें निम्नलिखित बिषयों को भी जोड़ा जाये।

पहला विषय जो मैं जुड़वाना चाहता हूं, वह यह है कि देश के अंदर शिक्षित और अशिक्षित बेरोजगारों की दशा दिनों दिन खराब होती जा रही है और उनकी संख्या में काफी बढ़ोत्तरी

होती जा रही है यह एक राष्ट्रीय प्रश्न है और इस पर अगर विचार नहीं किया गया तो देश में जो स्थिति पैदा होती जा रही है, उससे बड़ा विद्रोह होगा और वह इतना बड़ा होगा जिसमें मौजूदा सरकार का टिक सकना संभव नहीं होगा। इसलिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि इनकी बेरोजगारी की स्थिति कैसे हल की जाये, इस पर ठोस कदम उठाने के प्रश्न को एजेंडे में जोड़ा जाये।

दूसरा प्रश्न किसानों को उनकी पैदावार का लाभकारी मूल्य दिलाने का है। अभी एक माननीय सदस्य ने चर्चा की कि देश के कई राज्यों में किसान अपने पैदावार के लाभकारी मूल्य के लिये उठ खड़े हुए हैं। आंध्र की बात आप जानते हैं, महाराष्ट्र और यू० पी० में भी आंदोलन हुआ और मल्क के कई राज्यों में किसान इस बात की आज से नहीं, बहुत पहले से मांग कर रहे हैं कि पूंजीपति देश में बराबर उनका शोषण करते हैं उनकी पैदावार का मूल्य कम देकर और उन्हें बाकी सामान महंगी कीमतों पर खरीदना पड़ता है।

मेरी यह सलाह और अनुरोध है कि सरकार इस सवाल को अगले सप्ताह की कार्य-सूची में जोड़कर इस पर विचार करे और इस बात की गारन्टी की जाये कि देश के किसानों को, जो कि देश को अन्न खिला रहे हैं, पूरी सहूलियतें मिलेंगी।

**SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL** (Ernakulam): Can a member read the newspaper in the House while the proceedings are going on?

**SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN** (Trivandrum): Every day, some important incidents are appearing in the newspapers due to misdeeds of the Ruling Party both in a majority of the States and at the Centre. Yesterday itself, two persons were killed due to firing in Mehsana. We are raising that issue since morning.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Even if you read it, you do it in an invisible manner. (Interruptions).

**SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN:** Yesterday itself, two persons were killed.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** You are not listening to the remarks and suggestions of the hon. member. Your business is mainly to listen to the deliberations and make contribution.

**SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR** (Gwalior): He was wondering why that subject has not come up for a discussion.

**श्री विजय कुमार यादव :** तीसरा विषय सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के बारे में है।

जहां तक सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली, पब्लिक डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन सिस्टम का संबंध है, सरकार उसके बारे में लगातार वादे कर रही है, लेकिन सब लोग जानते हैं कि यह प्रणाली लगभग फ़ेल हो चुकी है। सरकार ने जिन दुकानों को खोला है, वहां पर लोगों को आवश्यक वस्तुएं नहीं मिल पाती हैं। इसलिए यह जरूरी है कि सरकार तमाम आवश्यक वस्तुओं के थोक व्यापार को अपने हाथ में ले, ताकि जनता को परेशानी से छुटकारा दिलाया जा सके। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस विषय को अगले सप्ताह के कार्य में जोड़ा जाये।

देश में लाखों बीड़ी मज़दूर हैं, जिन्हें मुख्तलिफ़ सूबों में विपरीत परिस्थितियों में काम करना पड़ता है। उन्हें समान वेतन भी नहीं मिलता है। इसलिए अगले सप्ताह के कार्यक्रम में इस विषय को शामिल किया जाये कि तमाम बीड़ी मज़दूरों के लिए अखिल-भारतीय पैमाने पर समान मज़दूरी तय की जाये, सरकार उन्हें कम से कम साढ़े दस रुपये प्रति-हज़ार की मज़दूरी दिलाने की गारन्टी करे और उन्हें सेवा-कार्ड दिया जाये

**SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat):** I rise to draw the attention of the House to an important subject which is being neglected for the last few years, namely, land reforms. Of course in plan documents and in the speeches of the Ministers, it is often mentioned but as you know implementation of land reform throughout the country has been tardy. There have been no effective measures on the part of the government to implement them effectively. It is not only a question of non-implementation; it is also a question of certain governments obstructing the very process of distribution of the land. As an illustration, I should like to mention this. Several thousands of agricultural workers, land-hungry peasants and landless poor cultivated the land in Bodh Gaya which is illegally being occupied by the Mahant and the Mutt. A government committee was set up by the Government of Bihar and that submitted its report on 3 October this year. The committee also came to the conclusion that the Mahant and the Mutt had illegally occupied a big chunk of land at Bodh Gaya, about 10,000 acres; all these lands are being illegally occupied by him by some fictitious transfers. This way the whole process of land distribution is being frustrated. What is more surprising is that the Bihar Government have today posted police in that area where the land was cultivated by landless agriculturists, collectively last year, so that those peasants could not harvest the crops. I have reports to suggest that the Bihar Government are supporting the Mahant and Mutt in their effort to harvest even unripe crop with the help of Police. Great tension is prevailing. It is not only a question of tension and law and order; it is also the question of the State Government helping the Mahant and the Mutt who had illegally occupied the land to deprive the landless agriculturists who cultivated the land from the fruits of their effort by preventing them from harvesting their lawful crop.

I think the House should take a note of it and make it a matter of discussion. My second point, a simple one, is, as the House knows, that a condition of uncertainty terror and intimidation prevails among the Press community and the Press fraternity. As you know, Sir, on October 3 last a journalist in Mr. Naba Kishore Mahapatra was assaulted, was a victim of harassment in collusion with the administration, in collusion with the ruling party, in collusion with gangsters and hooligans. His wife was murdered, not only murdered, before murder they committed rape on her and it is a slur on the part of everybody of us, that a journalist's wife has been raped and has been murdered. (*Interruptions*).

'Everybody' in the sense 'every citizen' in the country. It is an incident which is very pathetic and tragic. (*Interruptions*).

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** You have referred to it.

**SHRI CHITTA BASU:** The Orissa Government is trying to see that the whole evidences are hushed up and they are trying to coerce statements from the journalist, Shri Naba Kishore. He was kidnapped and it is alleged that Press people were not able to meet him, so that he cannot make a statement in the court. That being the case it is not only a question of merely but it is the question which concerns the security and safety of the journalists' fraternity as a whole, who are here, whose professional duty demands that they should be fearless, they should be objective and they should record objectively, fearlessly and trully. Mr. Naba Kishore Mahapatra's fault was that he made an objective report. He made certain reports which went against the ruling party, which went against some traders. Therefore, that matter is to be discussed in this House.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** You can take only one or two minutes. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY (Calcutta South): What happened during Calling Attention? (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Mhalgi?

SHRI R. K. MHALGI (Thane): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have got only one point to submit. (*Interruptions*)

AN HON'BLE MEMBER: Because you have raised a point of order. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali): It is a point of order.

SHRI R. K. MHALGI: It is a partisan objection.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Under Rule 290, yes,....

'...not more than half an hour shall be allotted for the discussion of the motion and no member shall speak for more than five minutes on such motion.'

AN HON. MEMBER: That is the rule. He cannot compare it with a Calling Attention.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Time is prescribed by the presiding Officer.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We have got to take up Private Members' Bills.

SHRI R. K. MHALGI: I will take only two or three minutes.

AN HON. MEMBER: You can take more. You cannot avoid the rules.

SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Number of modifications in the Cantonments Act, 1924 have become absolutely out-dated.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is the subject? What is the subject matter that has to be included?

SHRI R. K. MHALGI: I have just now started.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I want the subject. What should be included?

SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Amendment Bill of the Cantonment Act.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That you say, and that will be a statement.

SHRI R. K. MHALGI: A number of provisions in the Cantonment Act, 1924, become absolutely out-dated. The Act was passed under foreign British Rule. Since independence, there is a persistent demand for the amendment of the said law from the concerned citizens.

I raised this question twice in Sixth Lok Sabha and two three times during the period of last ten months. I was informed in this House that the Amending Bill is practically ready for introduction. In the last budget session of Parliament, to the query of my cut motion No. 14 to the Demand, the following information was provided to me..

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You want that item to be included. Now conclude. There are five more members. When the subject is accepted, you can speak.

SHRI R. K. MHALGI: I am taking only two minutes. Let me give reasons why it should be accepted and introduced next week itself. I was informed:

"The Government had under consideration for quite some time various proposals to amend the Cantonment Act of 1924. Action is in hand to introduce the Bill in Parliament at the earliest possible..."

Accordingly, in the Government business for the said session, the said Bill was shown among others for introduction. But ultimately it was not introduced. Now to the great surprise of the hon. Members, the Bill has not even been shown in the Government Business expected to be taken up during this session of Lok Sabha.

[Shri R. K. Mhalgi.]

This can be very well verified from Lok Sabha Bulletin Part II dated 6th November, 1980 at item No. 540. The Government's attitude, towards important issues is not only casual but it is insulting to the House.

I, therefore, strongly demand that the Cantonment Act, 1924 Amending Bill be introduced next week and passed during the current session of Lok Sabha.

श्री कमला मिश्र मधुकर (मोती-हारी) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं चाहता हूँ कि अगले सप्ताह के विजनैस में इस बात को जोड़ा जाए और इस पर विचार होना चाहिए :

(1) समग्र देश में आज किसानों का आन्दोलन एक नये स्तर पर पहुंच चुका है और वे अपनी फसल के लाभकारी मूल्य के लिए सारे देश में लड़ रहे हैं। इस पर बहस होनी चाहिए।  
... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please read only the items. I cannot allow you make a speech. You have given certain items to be included. Please read only those items. There are three or four members and at 3.30 we have to take up Private Members' Business (Interruption). Right of the member is there, but it is within the time-limit.

श्री कमला मिश्र मधुकर : मेरा दूसरा प्वाइन्ट यह है कि देश में चीनी की कीमतें बढ़ती जा रही हैं और आज अखबारों में सुपर बाजार में भी 10 रुपये किलो चीनी बिकने की खबर छपी है। इसलिए चीनी की बढ़ती हुई कीमतों पर भी विचार होना चाहिए।

तीसरा विषय जिस पर मैं सदन में बहस चाहता हूँ यह है कि सारे देश में रेल गाड़ियां बहुत विलम्ब से चल रही हैं। इस से माल की दुलाई में तथा यात्रियों को बड़ी असुविधा हो रही है। इसलिए सदन में गाड़ियों के विलम्ब से चलने की स्थिति पर विचार होना चाहिए। रेलवे की जो यह फंक्शनिंग है, उस पर विचार होना चाहिए। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार में गण्डक योजना और कोसी योजना चालू है उनकी कार्यप्रणाली पर विचार होना चाहिए ताकि किसानों को लाभ मिल सके और किसानों को सिंचाई की सुविधाएं मिल सकें। इस काम में बहुत त्रुटियां हैं। इस पर पूरे हाउस में विचार होना चाहिए ताकि किसानों को राहत मिल सके।

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Middnapore): 300 students of Delhi Polytechnic have been on strike since 17-11-80. Their demand is that the agreement that the authorities had made with them on 19-1-80, should be implemented. Also three students of the Pusa Polytechnic have been suspended and the students have been on strike since 3-11-80. These things should be discussed here.

The farmers are on a mini-revolt on an all-India basis. Today it is Nasik tomorrow it may be Maharashtra and other parts of the country. So, this should be discussed here.

Government had brought a Bill on Cinematography. But every time, they see the face of the Bill, they again withdraw it. I want that a comprehensive Bill on Cinematography should be brought immediately.

IIT employees of Kharagpur have been on strike since 11-11-80 over certain demands. The Director of the IIT is looking to their needs in a casual manner. He has no money for building houses for the employees. But he is spending lakhs of rupees for building an air-conditioned guest house. So, these things should be stopped.

The RPF personnel observed hunger strike very recently. They also demonstrated in front of the offices of the Divisional Managers and General Managers of various Railways. They are coming to Delhi on 27th of this month to demonstrate before Parliament House. Their demand is very simple. They say: "either treat us as railwaymen or as force. If you treat us as railwaymen, give us bonus. If you treat us as force, then give us the amenities of the force". So, this also should be discussed here.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): I want to point out three things. One is the removal and transfer of Governors. The arbitrary decision of the Government regarding the removal of the Governor of Tamil Nadu from his post and the transfer of the Governor of Maharashtra in his place in violation of the spirit of constitutional provisions as well as democratic norms and conventions should be taken up. There have been two precedents in this respect. In the case of Shri S. S. Dhawan, the former Governor of West Bengal, the question of his removal would have gone to the court of law but the matter was dropped as Shri Dhawan was accommodated in the Law Commission. Similarly, when Vice-Chancellor, Shri Hardwari Lal, was removed from his post, the matter went to the Haryana-Punjab High Court which considered his removal illegal.

The second point is about the satyagraha that is going on by the landless of Bodhgaya. The satyagraha movement by landless, mostly belonging to Scheduled Castes for redistribution of more than 10,000 acres of land held

illegally in Gaya district alone by the Mahant of Bodhgaya, in clear violation of ceiling laws as established by the Committee appointed by the Government of Bihar in 1979, should be taken up for discussion.

The third point is about the freedom of the press. The growing tendency of the Government to interfere with free and independent functioning of the Press as demonstrated in the case of the popular Telugu daily EENADU published from Hyderabad also requires discussion in the House.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR (Gorakhpur): Recently many people died because of encephalitis. More than 700 people have died all over India and in UP alone more than 500 people have died by this illness. We should discuss this question.

Secondly, fertilizer plants are going to be set up in Thalvaset in Maharashtra and in Hajira in Gujarat, based on Bombay High gas. The consultancy contract for the ammonium plant has been given against the recommendations of two expert committees. It is a very serious matter. We have given several notices that the matter should be thoroughly discussed because this will result in a severe drain on the exchequer.

Thirdly the freedom of the press is in great danger, as has been mentioned by Shri Chitta Basu. Even though we have given notice of an adjournment motion, it has not been admitted. So, it should be taken up.

Fourthly, there should be a discussion on railway accidents.

Finally, the recent meeting of the CHOGRAM was an important one. There should be a discussion on that.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: The suggestions made by the hon. Members have been noted with all the seriousness at the command of the Government. Shri Banatwalla has again raised the question of communal violence. It has already been



[Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah]

decided by BAC that some time would be allotted for it. Both Shri Unnikrishnan and Professor Dandavate were present in that meeting. So far as price rise is concerned, a discussion has already been admitted for 25th November. Regarding the railway accidents, the opposition did not want the adjournment motion to be discussed.

Shri Chitta Basu referred to land reforms. It is one of the important points in the 20-Point Programme. The Government of India and the various State Governments have appointed implementation committees of land reforms. L

All the points which were mentioned will be conveyed to the concerned Ministries for necessary action.

I would now request that the hon. Law Minister may be allowed to move his Bill before 3.30 p.m.

15.28 hrs.

MONOPOLIES AND RESTRICTIVE  
TRADE PRACTICES (AMEND-  
MENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion Moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969."

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, I rise to oppose the introduction of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (Amendment) Bill, 1980. Article 39(c) of our Constitution reads:

"that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment;"

The proposed Bill shall result in the concentration of wealth; there is no doubt about it. It will also be to the common detriment. Therefore, this Bill is in violation of the spirit of article 39(c).

The MRTP Commission is an important instrument in the matter of examining as to whether any company, any industrial house, becomes dominant and, if so, to impose certain restrictions on them. The MRTP Act is an instrument for preventing the concentration of wealth and the Bill says that the MRTP Commission shall not have the power to sit in judgment or examine the proposal of any industrial house if an undertaking expands.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara): Sir, it is now 3.30. You should take up Private Members' Business.

(Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has already moved for leave to introduce; it will take only one or two minutes more. (Interruptions). All right. We will continue this later on. We will now take up the Private Members' Business.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEM-  
BERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

NINTH REPORT

SHRI RASHID MASOOD (Saharanpur): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Ninth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 20th November, 1980."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Ninth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 20th November, 1980."

The motion was adopted.