

on these things, to that extent, the time on the demands will be taken away. You want to raise certain matters immediately today. There will be a speech made, a controversy raised and all that. It will take away some more time.

For instance, Mr. Lakkappa and Mr. Vayalar Ravi have given something to say that the Finance Minister has done something wrong and they want a statement from the Finance Minister. I have to go into it. I have to take the opinion of the Finance Minister also and find out whether he has done anything wrong. Then only I can permit it. I have told the hon. Members that I will discuss it in the Business Advisory Committee with the leaders of the Opposition and, if possible, try to do something about it. If you do that, it will proceed in a regular way.

Then, Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu comes and tells me something about the Health Minister, about some irregularity or some wrong statement made by the Health Minister. He is not here. I have to mention it to him and find out whether there is any mistake made. Then only I can permit it.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Do I understand that Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu wants to raise something to be answered by Mr. Raj Narain?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: That will be the day when we have it.

MR. SPEAKER: I think so! The other hon. Members also may appeal to him.

We have already taken 1 hour and 15 minutes. I have already given so much time for the Short Notice Question and the Calling Attention. If you want to take further time on these things, I may tell you that, ultimately, you are the loser, the whole House is

the loser. You will lose more demands. You can go on arguing and spend another hour. I don't mind. But you will be the loser.

13.14 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1977-78—
contd.—

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION—
contd.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we take up further discussion on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Civil Supplies and Cooperation.

Mr. Krishnappa wanted 2 more hours for this. I have no objection. To that extent, it will cut into other demands. For this, I concede. But in the Business Advisory Committee, you decide the time.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): We have no objection.

MR. SPEAKER: He will have no objection. If the same demand is discussed for 10 days, other demands will be guillotined. The whole House will be the sufferer. So far as this is concerned, I allow it. But next time, when we meet tomorrow or the day after in the Business Advisory Committee, we shall fix the time so that other demands may not suffer.

You want 2 hours more on this. We have got a balance of 1½ hours. So, it comes to 3½ hours. The Minister may reply at 5 O' Clock and take an hour. We will finish it today. Tomorrow we will take up the next demand. This is final. It will continue till 5 O' Clock and the Minister will reply at 5 O' Clock.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan to continue her speech.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN
(Coimbatore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is an extension of time. I hope you will be a bit kind to me also.

I was referring on Saturday to the import policy of this Government reflecting new Janata Government's policy of "trust" in trade which had already been blown up because it was adequately exposed by the scandal of the edible oil import out of licences for more than Rs. 500 crore worth of import. The actual import was only Rs. 40 crore worth. Because the prices in the international market were shooting up by 120—150 dollars per tonne in the past three months. Therefore, it was more beneficial to operate the licences outside the country than to operate it inside the country.

Meanwhile, the edible oil is being supplied to vanaspati units to help them to earn larger profits. So, I was wondering what was the policy of the Government on this question both in terms of import, supply and distribution to the consuming public.

I would like to give another example of trust in regard to the production of controlled cloth. In the three successive months, till March, 1977, the shortfall has been of the order of 100—130 million metres; the quota being 230 million metres. Therefore, even with that small quota, there has been a shortfall.

I will give you yet another example of trust. There is the scandal of the Indigo export of Rs. 1 crore where the exporters have diverted cash assistance to their profits. In this way, one can go on endlessly.

13.15 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Therefore, we have been asking what positive policy is the Minister going to have both in terms of trade and in terms of public distribution system? On the one hand, the balance of trade continues to improve, on the other, no public distribution system is set up so

that the consumers are protected. Take, for instance, direct export subsidy. It was Rs. 88 crores in 1974-75. Two years later, it went up to Rs. 296 crores. Government's expenditure on foreign trade in 1971-72 had increased from Rs. 41.29 crores. I want to know what is the net profit that Government is going to get there because so far the picture has been, I think, dismal and what makes it even more dismal is that you are talking of new policy and new philosophy.

But as far as the Ministry goes, it seems to continue the old Congress policy which was a policy that we were consistently criticising, and from that policy, there has been no departure at all. We would like to know what is the departure that is going to help you to bring about a change.

For instance, take jute and cotton textile. There is heavy import of low cost polyester and a cut in indigenous price, but it has not resulted in the reduction of cloth prices. Why are you going to continue this?

And secondly, there has been a long standing demand that you should nationalise three very important consumer goods industries—jute, cotton textile and sugar—because these are the industries in which big business and the management have been playing ducks and drakes for a long time and earning enormous profits. There had been an allergy, as far as the past Government was concerned, and I think that allergy at least is continuing in this Government also. We have to see how bit by bit, these big textile magnates have made money and then invested it in high profit yielding areas and then handed over all the mismanaged textile mills with outdated machinery to the people.

Now the Government says that they will not touch these mills. Let other companies take over these mills so that some more money is drained out both from the public exchequer and from the public fund. As far as the

National Textile Corporation is concerned, it is true that there are some concerns that are in a bad way; they need modernisation. Therefore, you should give more attention to them. At the same time, Government's report itself says that during the financial year under review, the loss has come down from what it was in the previous year. Therefore, the NTC is improving. Instead of giving the IDBI soft loans to the private sector, why do you not use those funds that are available for the NTC mills because here you have got something that is under your control and you can make sure that that money is being used for modernisation and you do not drain out the money from the public exchequer for other purposes. You will also have to take steps, as Mr. Pai pointed out, to overcome the malpractices in the NTC which are continuing. The malpractices that exist in the textile industry as far as the private sector is concerned are today existing in the public sector also. I would like to know what steps the Minister proposes to take in order to check those malpractices and make sure that the NTC continues to progress as it has been progressing since it came into being. The improvement should continue.

About handloom, in view of the shortness of time, I am not going into the details of the handloom problem. Many Members have referred to that. I would appeal to the Minister that special attention should be paid to handloom because I see very little being allotted to the handloom sector in his Ministry.

As far as cashew industry is concerned, the Minister should go into the malpractices of the CCI which handles the import of cashew. Those malpractices are continuing, seriously affecting the industry. This has been a long-standing problem. The Minister should go into it.

There is another problem, and that is in the south. Particularly in my State, there is a particular plant that

is now being grown called *vinca rosa*; in Tamil it is called 'Nityakalyani'; it is a lovely name in Tamil, but the English name is not so nice. Anyway, the point is that it is being grown in drought-prone areas in vast quantities and is being exported to America, England, and so on for purposes of medicines and so on. Now what is happening is that Government is totally out of the picture here, and most of the export is being cornered by the big farmers, the big landlords and the vested interests in the countryside. Therefore, I would like the Ministry to step in here. This export trade should be taken over by the State Trading Corporation. In this way, protection can be given to the small and marginal farmers—by some marketing system being set up. The Minister should take up this matter very seriously because here is a drought-prone region and it is not easy to overcome that particular situation that is there. This dry crop is extremely important there. Since you claim to be rural-oriented, farmer-oriented and peasant-oriented, I hope you will also be oriented towards the farmers, peasants and cultivators in the south.

Then there is the problem of the hosiery industry. I have no time to go in detail into all this. But the Cut Motions are there. The hosiery industry people have already met him and pointed out how there is a discrimination; those who are producing smaller hosiery products do not have protection whereas those who are producing ready-made garments such as trousers, bush shirts and so on have more protection from the Government. Hosiery industry is an industry on which thousands and thousands of workers are dependent—not only those who are employed in the hosiery industry but also those who are working in the ancillary industries like sewing, dyeing, making cardboard boxes, packing, printing of labels, etc.; it is a whole series. There are some areas, some towns, as

[Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan]

Tirupur in my constituency, that are totally dependent on this industry. If that industry closes down, there is a chain reaction, then the whole town becomes sort of bankrupt, so to speak. All these smaller industries get affected.

Lastly, I would come to the question of consumer protection. The outlay in the Fifth Plan for consumer protection is Rs. 142 lakhs; for this year it is Rs. 56.30 lakhs. And what are the measures for consumer protection? I am quoting from the 'Performance Budget'.

"It has been decided to provide financial assistance to voluntary consumer organisations and State and U.T. Governments for taking up programmes for the welfare of consumers... The Council will collect and disseminate information relating to consumer matters, conduct research ... to cover studies in channels of distribution and margins, performance and quality testing of products, seminars etc."

And what are these measures? An outlay of Rs. 39 lakhs has been approved for the V Plan to cover studies in channels of distribution and margins, performance and equality testing of products, seminars and dissemination of information to consumers, assistance to consumer associations etc. I am really sad that the Janata Government, exactly like its predecessor the Congress Government, suffers from 'seminaritis'. Is the seminar going to protect your millions and millions of consumers? Nothing is indicated as to what you are going to do about your public distribution system. Today there are fair-price shops that cover only 45 million of our population of 600 million. It is only in Kerala that you find that certain essential commodities are distributed through fair-price shops both in the rural and the urban areas—in every village. If they can do it in the State of Kerala, why can't you do it

throughout the country? Therefore, even out of this 45 million, a fair share goes to Kerala, thanks to the United Front Government. That is why even without defections and even without saying that they are prepared to take in defectors—as is happening in Maharashtra and elsewhere today—the Kerala Government could come back with a thumping majority in the elections both for Parliament and for the Assembly. Even when the ration was reduced, the people did not object and did not get agitated because there was equality in the distribution. When it was less, the less was divided equally and when it was more, the more was divided equally: it was not that some had more and some had less. That is what we mean by a public distribution system—that essential commodities should be divided equally between the topmost income strata and the lowest income strata. Only if you can see to it that you have this sort of network of public distribution system can you eliminate all those forces to whom you are today appealing, with all your notions of trust. Trust is not going to yield results; trust is not going to satisfy our people; trust is not going to feed our people. They cannot live on trust: they are faced by the hard facts of prices today. So, it is the speculator that has to be eliminated; it is the big trader that has to be eliminated; it is the big smuggler and the big hoarder that have to be eliminated. Garlanding the Prime Minister and falling at the feet of the Lok Nayak is not going to satisfy the common man of this country.

Therefore, two things are extremely important. One is your public distribution system: you should overcome your tendency to attend only to the urban consumers and see that you cater to the vast silent millions who live in the rural areas. The other thing is the manner in which the consumers in this country today are losing crores of rupees as a result of false or short-weighments. There is

no machinery to go into that. The Chairman of the Consumer Council of India, on the basis of the research carried out, has already pointed out that consumers suffer a loss of nearly Rs. 2000 crores per year due to short-weighments, because 90 per cent of trade is in private hands. Mr. Ashok Mehta himself suggested—this is almost like the devil quoting the scriptures, but when a good suggestion is given, one should not be over-shadowed by pre-conceived notions of who is who and what is what as our Minister for Parliamentary Affairs is sometimes inclined to be—that the wholesale trade in foodgrains should be taken over because this is where it starts, as far as the foodgrains are concerned. This has been lying in the archives for a very long time.

Now, there are a whole lot of issues of this sort, but I don't want to take up the whole of the extra two hours' time that has been allotted for everybody. I would however like the Minister to spell out his Government's policies on the very important issues before the people, especially prices and public distribution system.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Before I call the next speaker I would request the Hon. Members to see the cut motions to the Demands for Grants that have been circulated and, if they desire to move the motions, to send slips to the Table within fifteen minutes indicating the serial number of the Cut Motions to be moved.

SHRI PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN (Deogarh): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands moved by the hon. Minister. The Commerce Ministry is incharge of exports and imports. Government is subsidising exports to a large extent by way of incentives to the exporters. These incentives include cash assistance and assistance in the form of replenishment licences.

I would like to mention that these incentives on various commodities are not being given on a realistic basis. There ought to be a scrutiny for every item of commodity thoroughly taking into account the price of the commodity concerned. What is now being done is that a group of commodities are taken into account with the result that some commodities lose their importance. In this connection, I would suggest that smaller industries, of course, considering the price of the commodity, should be given preference and more incentive facilities.

Further, as the Ministry is concerned with export and import trade, it is its duty to find out foreign markets, which are the commodities that they require from our country and which are the commodities which can be imported in our country to our benefit. If certain commodities are available cheaper in other countries, it would be worthwhile importing them.

At present, in the developed countries, there are a lot of labour problems. Right from the raw material stage to the finished goods stage, the labour charges being very very high in these countries and the problems of strikes, lock-outs etc., the price of the finally produced goods becomes prohibitive to the consumers.

So such developed countries are now in need of importing parts of some finished materials from other countries. I think our Commerce Ministry knows it quite well that in the developed countries this high price problem has happened. Now the Commerce Ministry should suggest to the Industries Ministry that such high price commodities are to be produced in our country comparatively at lower price and such commodities are to be exported to developed countries as Japan, USA, USSR,

[Shri Pabitra Mohan Pradhan]

Germany, France or UK or some other European countries. They should think on these lines. India is a country which has the raw material and the man power and which has the skilled man power; but we want the industry. Although we have the man power, the raw material, we have not yet progressed so much as to establish so many industries to produce goods which are at present required by other developed countries, and especially the labour-intensive goods the prices of which are prohibitive to the consumer. So, I suggest to the hon. Minister to suggest to the Industries Ministry that it should intensively and extensively organize such industries. They may be smaller industries or medium industries, to produce such goods such as components, automobile parts, ferrous and non-ferrous castings and forgings and there are so many small things. For this purpose, our trade missions and trade representatives may be asked to find markets for us so that our goods produced at a cheaper rate may very easily be sold with good profits.

This Commerce Ministry is in charge of trade fairs and exhibitions. A large amount is spent every year on this account. But, unfortunately, the result is not commensurate with the money. That means that every year in this hackneyed way we go on spending crores of rupees by sending our exhibits to foreign exhibitions and fairs but the result is not achieved in proportion to the expenditure we incur on this account. In this work there is a little nepotism and favouritism....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): A little?

SHRI PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN: You may say 'big' but I do not think there is very very big nepotism, but definitely there is nepotism and favouritism.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Commerce Ministry is nothing but an

ocean of corruption. It is a den of thieves.

SHRI PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN: In selecting the parties and the exhibits there is some favouritism. Favour is shown to certain parties. Exhibits in the exhibitions are of such persons to whom the people of the Ministry want to show favour. My demand is that due care must be taken at the time of selection of the commodities, so that better exhibits are found out and exhibited there to achieve better results.

Quality goods are normally not exhibited. This is because of nepotism and favouritism. Whosoever known person comes and approaches the Department or the person concerned, gets an opportunity to send the commodity for exhibition.

Selection of firms and exhibits go by patronage. Patronage system should be avoided. Stricter control may be exercised to ensure that the exhibits which are sent abroad should be of a high quality.

There must be a close co-ordination between the trade fair authorities and the Export Council, the Industry and the Chambers of Commerce. This should be decided by a co-ordination Committee consisting of the said authorities. Other things being equal, preference should be given to small scale industries and industries which are located in the backward areas provided the produce is of high quality.

There are small firms which produce better and quality goods. But they have no means to personally go to participate in such fairs. They cannot incur the expenditure involved. For such persons business contacts in foreign countries should be made by the Departmental authorities.

I have a complaint to make to the Minister concerned with regard to refund of export duty by M.M.T.C.

M.M.T.C. takes a lot of time to refund export duty. The procedure is that the owners who export the ores have first to deposit export duty. That amount has to be refunded. For 4 or 5 or 6 years this export duty deposited by the exporter is not refunded to the owner. Lakhs of rupees of such deposit money are blocked up by M.M.T.C. for which the exporters don't get any interest. This money has been secured by them from banks, from private persons and so on. For this money he (exporter) does not get any interest because of the failure on the part of the MMTC's offices. I say this from my own experience. Although I am not an exporter, I was for sometime Minister for Mining and Metals in Orissa. For four years I was there. This is unexcusable corruption and should be stopped.

There is another complaint of mine about the MMTC. This is about the export-quota system under which quotas are allowed for owners to export their ores. This gives scope for MMTC to resort to nepotism, favouritism which means corruption. This should be avoided. The Minister should look into it.

There is yet another complaint about the MMTC. This is about Manganese, Ferro-Manganese and Silicious-manganese ore. For silicious manganese, there is no demand in the country. This is not needed in the country. But this is not allowed to be exported. I do not know the reason for this. They give thousand and one reasons for non-compliance. Silicious manganese is lying dumped. Mine owners and producers are put to harassment and loss. As the commerce department is in charge of export and import, the hon. Minister should look to this.

So far as export is concerned, I am not in favour of export of Oilcake. The farmers are taking to scientific cultivation. The farmers are utilising

chemical manure. It is a fact that if you use chemical manure the land becomes barren after some years.

Organic manure is necessary. And so, the oil cake which is an organic manure should be totally stopped from being exported.

I now come to another small thing. That is about export of fish. That is all right. But export of prawn to unlimited quantity is very bad. For us, these are consumer items. In Orissa the same was selling at Rs. 6, 4, 5 a k.g. three years back. Now the same is selling at Rs. 30, 35 and 45 a k.g. As a result, the local people do not get the prawns for their consumption. Whatever they produce in their own area is also exported. That is why I say there must be some sort of a restriction i.e. ceiling in export of prawns. The quantity must be limited for the export purposes so that some prawns are left for the local consumption. If this is sold at Rs. 35 or 45 a k.g. how can you expect the consumers to purchase that at that prohibitive rate for their own use?

These are my suggestions that I am making.

With these words, I support all the Demands of the hon. Minister.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR
(Quilon): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Very high duties imposed on Coffee and Cardamom (1)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1".

[Categorising coconut oil and copra as edible oils and oil seeds (2)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Necessity of fixing a fair floor price for rubber (9)].

[[Shri N. SreeKantan Nair]

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Failure in deleting the Notification dated 17-1-77 regarding categorising coconut oil and copra into edible oil(10)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Failure in deleting the Notification dated 20-5-77 regarding exemption of import duty on coconut oil and copra(11)].

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA
(Cannanore): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Decision taken by the Government to reduce the import duty on copra and coconut oil with complete disregard to the interests of the small farmers who produce more than 9 per cent of coconut in India(12)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure of Cashew Corporation of India to import adequate quantity of raw cashew nuts which resulted in an unprecedented crisis in cashew processing industry (13)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure in checking the price rise in tea by enhancing the export duty on it and making more tea available for the consumption of common people(14)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Exorbitant export duty imposed on coffee and cardamom which will adversely affect the interests of the growers of these commodities(15)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure of the Cashew Corporation of India in distributing the imported cashew nuts taking into account the best interests of the industry(16)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to protect the handloom industry from the unhealthy competition of power loom industry (17)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure in strictly enforcing decision to reserve certain varieties of production to Handloom sector which resulted in large scale clandestine production of the same by mills (18)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure of the S.T.C. in stepping up in a big way and make purchases of Handloom products and also rubber when there was a big crisis in those industries(19)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure in checking the crisis in jute industry due to shortage of raw jute(20)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to provide remunerative price to jute growers (21)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure in stopping the closure of jute mills by the IJM(22)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure in nationalising the jute mills(23)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to make it obligatory for the Rubber manufacturing industry to hold two and a half months requirements of natural rubber (24)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to give early approval to the buffer stock scheme formulated by the Rubber Board (25)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to ensure that prices of rubber products and the prices of natural rubber are properly coordinated(26)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide spraying subsidy and to ensure that this subsidy will be continued(27)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to fight effectively the problem of mealy bug infection in Rohiata Coffee Plantations in North Wynad(28)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to ensure that 'Crepe' produced mainly in Cannanore is protected(29)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to immediately nationalise the foreign owned tea plantations in India(30)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide adequate assistance to deserving planters for re-plantation in old tea gardens (31)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to ensure reasonable price to consumer through a system of public distribution of essential commodities(32)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide statutory minimum price to rubber(33)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to energise S.T.C. activities in the field of Rubber export (34)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to include rubber among the traditional export items (35)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Shri C. K. Chandrappan]

[Need to find out new markets abroad for crepe, a variety of handloom (36)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to find out new markets for coir abroad(37)].

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:
I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to give protection to the small units in match industry in Tamil Nadu by giving concessison to buy softwood which is at present allowed to giant units (41)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to remove discriminatory taxes against the hosiery industry in Tamil Nadu (42)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to take adequate steps to enable the hosiery to develop export products (43)]

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to agree to the unanimous recommendation of the Kerala State Assembly to nationalise the foreign-owned tea plantations (44)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to reduce excise duties on hosiery goods and give protection to hosiery manufactures in the country (45)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to take over and re-open closed textile mills in the country such as Lotus Mills, Podanur (46)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for steps to check corruption and malpractices in the State Trading Corporation (47)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for measures to protect handloom weavers from exploitation by the larger societies and to ensure regular employment and income to them (48)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for proper and adequate credit to handloom weavers for buying looms and adequate help to organise export of finished goods (49)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for steps to clear accumulated handloom stocks (50)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for steps to provide yarn at controlled prices to handloom weavers and to check the rise in prices of yarn (51)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for steps to set up a network of cooperative societies in the handloom sector (52)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to reduce the duty liability on cooperative societies getting cotton fabrics manufactured by their members on their powerlooms in small units of 1 to 4 powerlooms (53)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Failure to check malpractices in the synthetic gem manufacturing industry (54)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Failure to regulate the export and expand the same in the synthetic gem manufacturing industry (55)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Hardships of the small powerloom manufacturers (56)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to regularise the licensing of powerloom and give adequate protection to the smaller powerloom manufacturers and prevent malpractices by textile magnates (57)].

"That the demand under the head 'Foreign Trade and Export Production' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to nationalise the jute industry (58)].

"That the demand under the head 'Foreign Trade and Export Production' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to adopt measures to expand handloom export and give help to the cooperative sector in this regard (59)].

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Civil Supplies and Cooperation' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure in setting up a nationwide public distribution system for effectively fighting the price rise (10)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Civil Supplies and Cooperation' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure in strictly enforcing fixed price for all items sold in market and protect the interest of the consumer (11)].

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Civil Supplies and Cooperation' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to nationalise the cooperative sugar industry (12)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Civil Supplies and Cooperation' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to increase the sugar ration in all ration areas and in fair price shops (13)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Civil Supplies and Cooperation' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to establish a public distribution system throughout the country to ensure supply of

[Smt. Parvathi Krishnan]

essential commodities to the people at reasonable and controlled prices (14)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Civil Supplies and Cooperation' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to check weighing measures resulting in loss to consumers to the tune of Rs. 2,000 crores annually (15)].

"That the demand under the head 'Civil Supplies and Cooperation' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to take steps to check the rise in prices of essential commodities (16)]

"That the demand under the head 'Civil Supplies and Cooperation' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to make available adequate supplies of edible oil at lower prices (17)]

"That the demand under the head 'Civil Supplies and Cooperation' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to check hoarding and black marketing in edible oils (18)]

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR (Quilon): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister, Shri Mohan Dharia is a good and a sympathetic man. But, he has to carry out the policy of the Janata Government. In trying to do so, it so happened that he had to neglect the States along the sea coast of India. Maybe, the reason is that they are non-Hindi speaking areas or, maybe, it may be accidental that the Janata wave did not reach these States.

~~Take the plantation industry.~~ **Con-**trary to the profession of this Government, at page 7, at item 4(13) of the Notes on the Demands, the Government declares that for the development of plantation industries, the Boards have been set up. The most important of them are tea, coffee, rubber, tobacco and coir.

But, a heavy duty has been imposed on cardamom and coffee. This point has been agitating us. So, the Minister agreed to look into the matter and of course, he has made a small reduction in the case of coffee. So far so good. The question has to be gone into once again in regard to both cardamom and coffee. However the Government seems to be sympathetic so far as coffee and cardamom industries are concerned but they are not sympathetic towards the rubber industry. We have been demanding that a fair floor price must be fixed for the rubber. But, that demand goes on unheeded all these years.

After the land reforms, millions of small cultivators have got into this field. They have been divided into small sectors and lands have been given to the landless people including, of course, the harijans. The easiest thing that can be done here is to plant rubber. When you lower the price of tea by imposing Excise duty, you do not offer at the same time a fair price for the rubber growers. Naturally, the small landless people, who had been made owners of the land, have to suffer. Kerala is the only State where the land reform was implemented in letter and spirit. Therefore, you have to see that a reasonable floor price for rubber is fixed.

Then there is the Marine Products Development authority. That Authority has done nothing to help the poor fishermen. The huge mechanised boats, owned by the tycoons, have entered the fishing field. The poor fishermen have been left in the lurch. In order to compete with the motorised

launches they try to fish in the monsoon season with the result that hundreds of them are drowned. Sir, I would suggest that a system of patrolling the coast with speed launches be introduced so as to see that mechanised boats do not fish within the five mile zone from the sea-shore. Also these speed launches must come to the rescue of the poor fishermen when their boats get capsized. Sir, special facilities must also be given to the poor fishermen for marketing their catch.

Then, Sir, I come to the question of handlooms. Sir, it is admitted that handlooms have not been given proper treatment. Last year you gave subsidy. This year there is no subsidy. Out of Rs. 21 crores earmarked for loans, only Rs. 5 crores have been set-apart to State governments for enabling them to advance funds to Apex Cooperative societies. That amount is inadequate. At least, another Rs. 10 crores would be required to tackle the problem of accumulated handloom stocks, half of which will have to be utilised for giving special rebate on the sale of handloom cloth.

Then, Sir, the treatment being meted out to coconut farmers is the unkindest cut of all. The government by their notification dated 17th January, 1977 have included coconut oil and copra in the list of edible oils and oilseeds. The purpose stated by the government is that they are 'for direct human consumption or for refining and blending for direct human consumption'. This description ignores the fact that the coconut oil is an edible commodity only in the tiny State of Kerala. In no other State coconut oil is used for food. About 80 per cent of the coconut oil produced in the country is use for industrial purposes—and that too in Bombay and Gujarat. When you try to reduce the prices of coconut by importing coconut oil, you are helping the big industrialists of Bombay and Gujarat. Even beyond granting permission for import of

coconut oil and copra, the Ministry of Finance have on 20th May, 1977 exempted coconut oil under various sections of the Customs Act of 1952, Customs Tariff Act of 1975 and Finance Act of 1976. These exemption will increase still further the adverse effect on the price of coconut oil and copra. That will crush the coconut cultivators.

The Chief Minister and the Agriculture Minister of Kerala have represented to the hon'ble Minister in person against any liberalisation in the matter of import of copra and coconut oil. More than 40 MPs belonging to the coconut producing areas have also represented to the hon'ble Minister in writing as well as in person.

14.00 hrs.

For the Kerala State which produces more than 70 per cent of the entire coconut out put in the country, it is a question of life and death. The vast majority of the producers in Kerala are small holders with holdings of less than one acre. With the implementation of the land Reform Act, another five lakhs of Kudikidappukars landless tenants have become owners of 5 to 10 cents of land around their huts with yielding coconut trees. But these Kudikidappukars and the small farmers will be put to hardship if the Government reduces the prices of coconut oil, copra and other coconut products. When you try to reduce the prices of coconut products, you have to see that the nut prices do not go down. The only method you have to adopt is to see that more imports do not take place. In this way, you will also be making the Land Reforms Act, which has been implemented by the Kerala Government, a meaningful one. The Kerala State has implemented the Land Reforms Act more successfully and about five lakhs of poor people who had no land at all previously, have now got some place to sleep in and they have got some yielding coconut trees.

[Shri N. Sreekantan Nair]

Many cottage industries are there like coir from the fibre, handicrafts from the shell, thatching materials from the leaves and beams and rafters for the houses from the trunk. So, from the root to the top of coconut tree, every thing is put to good use in our State. So, this 'Kalpagavriksha' is the mainstay of the livelihood of the poor people in Kerala State. Therefore, I plead that on no account you should lower the prices of coconut oil. Hence I would request the hon. Minister to delete coconut oil and copra from the Notification of the Ministry of Commerce dated 17-1-77 and cancel the exemption of import duty under the Notification dated 25-5-77 of the Ministry of Finance. I would also request the Government of India to set up a Coconut Board on the lines of the Rubber Board.

There is another industry which is also very vital to our State. That is the Cashew industry. I do not want to apportion the blame or give credit to the Cashew Corporation of India. But there is failure on the part of the Government in so far getting cashew nuts from African countries is concerned. A concerted effort has to be made at the highest level and see that we get sufficient amount of raw cashewnut from outside. Otherwise 1,50,000 workers engaged in this industry would be starving. This is a very serious matter and this should receive top priority.

Then, Sir, I have a last point to make, which may be out of context. The non-Hindi speaking people of the Southern States, who have voted against the Janata Party are anxiously watching the performance of this Government. May I also point out that it will be disastrous for the Janata Government to snatch away the bread from the millions of small-scale coconut farmers, who unfortunately are outside the periphery of the North and Central Hindi block. The integrity and the solidarity of this country itself will be in danger if the welfare of these people is not cared for.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE (Mukandapuram): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I rise to congratulate the Ministry of Commerce and the hon. Minister of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation for the outstanding performance of 1976-77. Sir, if it is any other Minister I would have given only six days' credit out of the 365 days. But here we have a very able and enlightened man Mr. Mohan Dharia whom I thankfully recollect, was closely associated with the planning for the export performance, which we were able to achieve in 1976-77. Sir, anybody who is even distantly associated with the problems of export would know that the achievement of Rs. 4981 crores could not be had by just a day's effort or a year's effort. That is why I want to repeat that this is the result of planning and planning was the subject with which Mr. Mohan Dharia was intimately connected and I do recollect that he really planned for 76-77 and for further years ahead and he can feel gratified for that. The whole gamut of export performance was achieved to a great extent in 76-77. Here is a year, when I look at the report, where, after 72-73 we were able to have a surplus balance of payment. I remember in 1972-73, I was in the Ministry of Commerce as a Deputy Minister; we had surplus for the first time in independent India. But then later on we had run into deficit of Rs. 700 crores, Rs. 1000 crores and in 1975-76 the deficit was Rs. 1243 crores. Within one year, the heavy deficit was turned into a surplus. The balance of payment of exports increased by 23.8 per cent to Rs. 4981 crores. We are able to reduce imports by 6.8 per cent. And thus we had a surplus balance of payment situation of at least Rs. 72 crores. Sir, this is a picture about which we can be proud and this is a period when we can plan for the future also.

Because of the charitable attitude taken by Mr. Mohan Dharia, in sparing more time for the member, he did not make his introductory remarks while moving the demands for grants, and many of us were denied the bene-

fit of listening to his ideas. In the absence of his introductory remarks, I have to be guided by his earlier pronouncements in various places and more than that by speeches of some senior members who spoke yesterday like Mr. Kanwarlal Gupta and Mr. R. K. Amin and a galaxy of them. In the absence of your speech I can only be guided by that. Sir, I am very glad that this Ministry is the steering wheel of the economy of the country in every sense of it because between the Ministry of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation, you control the external trade of this country and the internal trade also. You decide what is going to be the strength of a rupee what is going to be the purchasing power of a rupee inside the country. If I can make a very gentle and subtle remark, I would say that had this Ministry been entrusted to somebody else, it would have been a havoc. But I am happy that it is in the hands of Mr. Mohan Dharia. Let us now recollect what was mentioned by some of the senior Members. I am feeling really aggrieved when I hear the speeches of some hon. members on the other side. Between 1971-72 and 1976-77 within a short span of five years, here is developing country which has increased its export performances more than three-fold from Rs. 1608 crores in 1972-73 to Rs 4980 crores in 1976-77. It may be very easy for some senior members there to decry whatever was done by the earlier government. Some people even had the audacity to say that the economy has been left in shambles. Amidst all the calamities of the Middle East and the soaring prices of petroleum products—out of Rs. 5000 crores of imports more than Rs 3000 crores was for petroleum and allied products alone—here is a government which within the short span of five years increased the exports three-fold. Is this leaving the economy in shambles? Our last week's report is that our foreign exchange resources are Rs. 3200 crores. Everybody knows that the respectability of a country has very much to do with the strength

of its currency which in turn is directly proportional to the balance of payment. I do not know how far my friends or the know how far my happy about it, but here is a report from the World Bank saying that India is one country where inflation was controlled and it commended our export efforts.

This achievement of Rs. 4981 crores was not possible in a day. It required hard work and planning day and night for years. But here we find some members casually saying, why do we need to export? If in a country senior members do not think about exports and foreign trade in a responsible and sincere manner, woe to that country! This export performance was possible after long years of hectic campaigning and efforts. One simple word is taken for granted. Even a child in the country will use the adjective 'valuable' when referring to foreign exchange. The expression 'valuable foreign exchange' is found in every speech and correspondence everywhere. After this proud achievement has been made possible, now some people on the other side are using the words useless foreign exchange or worthless foreign exchange. I feel all our efforts over the years have been wasted when I see this callous and indifferent attitude of some senior members on the other side to exports. Their remarks appear to me like the remarks of a small child to its elder brother, "why should we work at all?" because the father has worked hard, earned an honest living and achieved economic stability. They seem to me telling our Commerce Minister, "What is all this foreign exchange worth?"

Unless we had put in very hard work this achievement would not have been possible. I am really alarmed at the statement of our Home Minister, Shri Charan Singh, who has spelt out certain economic policies which have far-reaching consequen-

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ces on our exports also. In 1971-72, we exported engineering goods worth Rs. 126 crores. Now it has increased to Rs. 550 crores and it has been proved beyond doubt that by the turn of the decade it would reach Rs. 1000 crores. How are we able to export engineering goods? Unless the countries who have the purchasing power have confidence in us, they would not purchase these goods from us when they get offers from sophisticated countries. For instance Libya is purchasing turbines and generators from us. Kuwait, with all the gold in its pocket has asked us to build 3300 houses at a cost of Rs. 220 crores.

Sir, the confidence in other countries is built by our expertise. Nowadays I find there is a terrific tendency to explain everything by the word 'Gandhian'. Gandhiji did not want to pull India back to 17th century. Gandhiji had heart in the rural areas and among the farmers, but in any modern farming you have got to improve production and naturally it has to be supported by a heavy industry and a sophisticated industry and all the new technologies that go into. And here are some leaders who are saying that they are not bothered about it. How did Libya which has got one of the best buying capacities in the world think of buying our generators from BHEL? How do they think of entrusting even the most difficult task of project construction of airport in the heart of Sahara? In this connection, I would like to recollect that the Engineering Projects India, under the administration of Heavy Industries were able to get from Kuwait the contract of an Arab town housing project for the construction of 3,300 houses in stiff competition from Japan and South Korea. Did Kuwait give this contract gratis? No. They are convinced by our expertise. There is no use if you take a callous attitude from now on why should we bother about exports? I can understand if export of certain very essential commodities is discouraged or regulated. But international

markets are not built in a day. We must build the international confidence. That is why I said that we must go ahead especially in the matter of engineering goods and projects can be taken up because we have the advantage of consultancy services, we have the advantage of designing capacity and people have confidence in our construction capacity in the international world. Now everybody knows about India's capabilities. There was a time when there were doubts in the minds of many international agencies whether India can make it. Now we have proved beyond doubt that with better technology India can make it better than many. And sometimes there was doubt whether India can supply it. During the past 20 months of Emergency, whatever may be your criticism in other respects, and I do not in any way contribute to them, the discipline has really brought in confidence in the international market that India can supply this. I am not going to request you to go back to the rigours of Emergency, but we were able to effect improvement in the industrial field. Earlier people did not know whether we would be able to keep up to the shipping schedule and whether we have given confidence. Let the Commerce Ministry see that this confidence which is created is not spoiled by the indifferent or callous attitude. Some people said that foreign exchange is a liability. Sir, this is the exactly like certain children who sit back and say "Our father has earned it; why should we work? We need not even step out of the house". So, why should it be at the cost of internal consumption? I was in charge of Civil Supplies and Cooperation. I am intimately aware of the problems of essential commodities. When a country thinks about the export strategy, there must be proper planning of international operation and of the indigenous operation. Even a country like Japan which can offer many of the luxuries sometimes exports at the expense of indigenous consumption. Otherwise you will not be able to build up your image in the

international market. I am not asking you to take this up, but there must be regulation and discipline in this mechanism.

Sir, you may criticise the Congress Government for certain things. But I am sure my good friend, Mr. Mohan Dharia will not blame the previous government for the type of export strategies that we evolved and which are coming to a success. He and his Ministry are emboldened to speak about Rs. 6,000 crores. It shows laxity. If you are guided by the advice of some friends—it may be attractive i.e. playing to the gallery, and saying that we will not export. But if you are guided by that philosophy, from next year and during later years you will be paying for it dearly.

Some people talk about cash assistance and cash credit, and about the Rs. 240 crores given as cash assistance. In a performance of Rs. 4980 crores, if you give Rs. 240 crores, it comes only to 5 per cent. When you think of achievement and a stability that the currency has brought in and even if you think in terms of Rs. 240 crores of Indian rupee payment and the indirect benefit achieved by the stability of the currency, it is worth it. As my friend Mr. Pai pointed out, we must have a review of the rationale of the cash assistance. Don't attack at the root of it. We must have a long-term strategy, so that the exporters can plan well and approach 1979-80 with confidence. I would like to repeat that in planning, the approach is important. From now on, in the international field our main exports must be our skill, our thinking, our knowledge and our fabrication capacity. All these things will go into the turn-key projects and project constructions outside.

Now about commodities. I do not want to repeat what has been said about coffee. I still recollect that in November 1970 I myself led a delegation to the far-eastern countries to

find markets for coffee. At that time the export was 23,000 tonnes and the realization was nearly Rs 24 crores. Last year we were able to achieve Rs. 100 crores in coffee export; but here when you put duty off and on, it does not help. In coffee, if we have an average production of 100,000 tonnes, our internal consumption is only 45,000 tonnes, or 50,000 tonnes. It is evident that we have an export surplus. It is clear that we have to dispense with 50,000 tonnes. Let us therefore, formulate our policies, duties and other manipulations keeping in mind the fact that ultimately we will have to go to the international market.

This position is applicable to tea also. The other day Mr. Dharia said that he requested the growers to set apart 80 per cent of the production for domestic market. You cannot have it both ways. The projected projection is 540 tonnes; 80 per cent of it would come to 400-odd tonnes. When you leave it out, you are left with 108 million tonnes. Here again, I would repeat that since tea is an important and traditional item of export, even after meeting indigenous demand, we must have a proper planning for international market. We should not starve the internal market; but it should not mean closing down export efforts. The long-term promotional strategy should not be given up

I need not repeat what has been said about cardamom. 70 per cent of it is grown in Kerala; and in regard to the type of duty that we imposed on it, I am not blaming you. I hope you will not repeat the mistake of the previous government.

When I come to marine products, I would say that the performance here is good in spite of the government. I repeat the words 'in spite of the government'. This year we have an export worth Rs. 190 crores. From nearly Rs. 11 crores ten years back, it has been brought to this stage. The maximum contribution that the government, various agencies and various

[Shri A. C. George]

ministries made, combined with all their acrobatics was to try and see that the maximum number of obstacles were put.

Yesterday I was reading in the *Economic Times* that the Government is thinking of asking for fresh proposals for collaboration in deep sea fishing. This is what I did in 1971, asking for fresh proposals. And in 1977 Shri Mohan Dharia is asking for fresh proposals for deep sea fishing. Fish is an interesting specie which will not wait for the finalisation of the Government of India's policy. Right now it is evident from the figures that our maximum fishing is only less than 10 per cent. At the same time, we have extended our territorial limit to 200 miles. So, we have achieved the right. Because of the richness of the Indian ocean and the Bay of Bengal. Koreans, the Spanish, the Japanese, almost every fishing country worth its name has begun its operation there and it will definitely pay them. We are going on with different proposals. Polish, Soviet, Spanish, various proposals.

I do not know whether I will get the opportunity to speak on the Agriculture Ministry; so I want to say here that the Ernakulam fisheries have taken the most negative attitude. Every time you bring in a proposal, they will find out hundred reasons why it should not be done. Their ingenuity in this matter is fantastic. In the matter of tuna fishing, if we go by the latest figures, it is even anti-national. They see to it that fishing just does not exist. Now again we are asking for fresh proposals. How long will it take? I was feeling a little glad that the deadline suggested is 20th July. After the 20th July, if it is your Ministry which is processing it, finally if you send it to the Agriculture Ministry, be assured that in 1987 there will be another notification for fresh proposals for deep sea fishing. In the mean time, the fishes will either die or will be caught by enterprising people, who

need not go in for fresh notifications. In this field it is a golden mine. I might say a blue revolution. Normally we say that sky is the limit. Here not even the horizon is the limit. It is so vast. We have 8 maritime States—Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Orissa and Bengal, apart from the Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar, Laccadives and Goa. With all this long coastline, here is this great wealth waiting for the final decision of your policy. The fresh notification has to come by the 20th. I was really pained because in 1971, I remember, I was being associated with a notification for a fresh proposal. So, for God's sake, do not send it to the Agriculture Ministry. Then you will see the end of it. Then you will need the assistance of the Mining Ministry to unearth it. Do not send it to the Agriculture Ministry.

Then I come to rubber. My good friend, Shri Sreekantan Nair, has already referred to it. I would request you to recollect that eight years back this country was importing rubber. Nearly two lakhs of small farmers by their ingenuity and hard work made this country self-sufficient, thus avoiding imports, and now we have surplus rubber. It is admitted in the Report itself that there is 55,000 tonnes of surplus rubber. For the purpose of calculating the cost of tyre, the automobile tyre manufacturing companies have given the price as Rs. 10,000 per tonne and recently they came with a threat that they want to increase their prices. Then suddenly you made the statement that you will not agree to increase the statutory price. This increase in price is long overdue. This is a vital raw material which we have been importing 8 or 9 years back and now we have a surplus. Do not disturb the present situation. Because, if there is the slightest laxity on the part of the farmers, the result will be seen only next year or the year after, because it is a long-term crop. So, I would suggest that you should have a closer look into it.

I will end up with coconut. In the matter of coconut we are in a very confusing situation. The confusion is that we Keralites and our neighbours here take coconut oil as edible oil, but out of a production of roughly 210,000 tonnes of coconut oil, it is only 70,000—only one-third—which is consumed for edible purposes. I cannot say that it is not an edible oil, but it is not predominantly an edible oil. Its predominant use, to the extent of two-thirds, is for industrial purposes, and 90 per cent of the edible oil is used in Kerala. You check up your records; you will see that the responsible Government of Kerala made a strong representation that the notification issued by your Ministry waiving the import duty on 20th May, 1977, was detrimental to the interests of the State and the cultivators.

Some people were indifferently mentioning that since I was in Civil Supplies, I had something to do with the import of coconut oil. I want to make it clear categorically here that it was decided that edible oil would be imported as and when necessary as per regional demands. Kerala being a predominantly coconut-oil-consuming State, the Government of Kerala did not want it. The most important thing is this. You are a progressive Minister, very much concerned with land reforms. Twentyseven lakhs of families in Kerala have got a few coconut trees. They are not bothered about the price of coconut oil going up because by simple arithmetic, they gain more by getting a better price for their crop. I request you to see that this import duty is immediately reimposed.

Finally, I hope that what has been achieved in the export field in the last few years will not be frittered away by indifference to the whole problem of exports.

श्री महीलाल (बिजनौर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं वाणिज्य, नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता विभाग की अनुदानों का समर्थन करना हूँ। इस अवसर पर मैं प्रधान मंत्री जी को बधाई देता हूँ कि उन्होंने यह विभाग ऐसे

हाथों में सौंपा है जिन पर यह देश बहुत बड़ा भरोसा कर सकता है। ये हाथ वही हाथ हैं जिन्होंने राजनैतिक क्षेत्र में एक बड़ा उंचा आदर्श, निर्भोक्ता और परिपक्वता का, राष्ट्र के सामने प्रदर्शित किया है। राजनैतिक क्षेत्र में जो आदर्श धारिया साहब का रहा है वह भावी सन्तानों के सम्मुख एक उदाहरण के रूप में रह कर प्रेरणा देता रहेगा। परन्तु इस अवसर पर मैं यह कहने के लिए विवश हूँ कि राजनैतिक क्षेत्र में तो उनकी निर्भयता का प्रभाव सब को देखने को मिला लेकिन इस विभाग को सम्हालते हुए जो आशा उनसे की जाती थी वह आशा पूरी नहीं हो पाई। जैसे उन्होंने इस विभाग को सभाला हमारे यहाँ का व्यापारी यह समझ गया कि आपात-काल केवल उसके लिए हटा है, साधारण लोगों के लिए नहीं हटा है। तीसरे ही दिन व्यापारियों ने सीमेंट की कीमत बढ़ा दी और दूसरी जो उपभोक्ता सामग्री थी उसके भी दाम बढ़ गये। जो आशा लगा कर जनता ने जनता पार्टी की सरकार का इस राष्ट्र में गठन किया था उस आशा में कुछ कमी आई। शायद इसका कारण यह रहा हो जैसा मेरे पूर्व बक्ता जार्ज साहब ने कहा—कि हमारे मंत्री जी बड़े दयालु हैं। यहाँ दयालुता से काम चलने वाला नहीं है। हमारे राष्ट्र का व्यापारी व दुकानदार वर्ग कुछ इस प्रकार का है कि वह एक ही दिन में मुर्गी के सब सोने के अण्डे एक साथ निकाल लेना चाहते हैं। पुरानी कहावत है कि किसी ने मुर्गी पाली थी जो रोज एक सोने का अण्डा देती थी लेकिन उस लालची व्यापारी ने एक ही दिन में व सारे अण्डे निकाल लेने की कोशिश की। इसी प्रकार हमारे राष्ट्र का जो व्यापारी व दुकानदार हैं वह धीरे धीरे मिलने वाले लाभ पर भरोसा नहीं करता बल्कि एक साथ वह करोड़पति से अरबपति बनना चाहता है। उसीके फलस्वरूप रात-दिन ऐसे काम करते हैं, जैसे मिलावट, इन्फ्लैटियर बवालिट्टी का माल उपभोक्ताओं को देना। मैं मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूँगा कि यहाँ आपकी दयालुता

[श्री महीलाल]

काम करने वाली नहीं है, आपको निर्भयता-पूर्वक व्यापारियों के साथ कड़े हाथों से भुगतना होगा, तब आप साधारण जनता को कुछ आनन्दमय जीवन दे सकेंगे। इसी अवसर पर मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह भी निवेदन करना आवश्यक समझता हूँ कि व्यापारिक क्षेत्र में आज सब से अधिक भ्रष्टाचार है। उस भ्रष्टाचार को मिटाने लिए आपको कुछ कठोर कदम उठाने होंगे, आपको सख्ती से काम लेना होगा और इस तरह के लोग जो उभोक्ताओं के जीवन के साथ खेल खेलते हैं, उनके लिये कठोर दण्ड की व्यवस्था करनी होगी।

आज पूरे राष्ट्र में, और उत्तर प्रदेश के बारे में तो मेरी निजी जानकारी है,—आप ने जो देहातों में सस्ती चीनी की दुकानें खोल रखी हैं, उनको दी जाने वाली चीनी का शायद 10 परसेंट भी उभोक्ताओं को नहीं मिल पाता है, सारी चीनी ब्लैक मार्केट में चली जाती है। आपको यह चाहिए था कि जिस समय आपने इस विभाग को सम्भाला था, सब से पहले डम ब्लैक मार्केट को रोकते। आज हमारे देहात के लोगों को चीनी बिल्कुल नहीं मिल रही है, सब से पहले आपको इस चोरी को रोकना चाहिये था। लेकिन आज आपके काल में भी यह चोरी जारी है। इसी के नाम पर कांग्रेस के युवक पला करते थे, लोगों को लूटा करते थे, वह लूट आज भी आपके जमाने में जारी है—यह बड़े खेद की बात है। मैं आशा करता हूँ—हमारे मंत्री जी इस ब्लैक मार्केट को, इस बेईमानी को, जो हम सब को स्पष्ट दिखाई देती है, अविलम्ब रोकेंगे और चीनी के सम्बन्ध में जो दोहरी नीति चल रही है, उस नीति को एक-रूप देने की चेष्टा करेंगे।

मैं यह भी निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ—आज शहरों में जो राशन की दुकानें हैं—उन दुकानदारों ने मुझे बतलाया है—

चीनी की एक बोरी पर उन्हें केवल 1 रुपया मुनाफा मिलता है। एक रुपया प्राफिट में कोई भी व्यापारी ईमानदारी से चीनी सप्लाई नहीं कर सकता है। इस के बारे में भी आपको सोचना चाहिए।

अब जो बात मैं आप के सामने रखने जा रहा हूँ—मैं मानता हूँ हमारे मंत्री जी का उस से सीधा सम्बन्ध नहीं है, वह बात कृषि विभाग से सम्बन्ध रखती है, लेकिन मैं उन से निवेदन करता हूँ कि आप मंत्री मंडल के स्तर तक मेरा सुझाव पहुंचाने की चेष्टा करें कि जो किसान चीनी पैदा करता है, उस को अपने खर्च के लिए चीनी ब्लैक मार्केट से खरीदनी पड़ती है। हमारे राष्ट्रीय शासन को ऐसी व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए कि जो किसान गन्ना सप्लाई करता है, उस को गन्ने के मूल्य के रूप में कुछ चीनी उस के एक वर्ष के खर्च के लिए कन्ट्रोल रेट पर सीधे मिल से मिलने लगे।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं उत्तर प्रदेश के पश्चिमी भाग से आता हूँ, जहां विशेष रूप से गन्ने की खेती होती है। आज किसानों को गन्ने का पूरा दाम दिलाने के लिए चीनी मिलों के कम्पीटीशन में खण्डसारी उद्योग को खड़ा करें, उस को संरक्षण दें। राष्ट्रीय सरकार की नीति तथा प्रान्तीय सरकार की नीति के अनुसार आज खण्डसारी उद्योग को संरक्षण नहीं मिलता है, उस पर पाबन्दी लगी हुई है। खण्डसारी उद्योग को लाइसेंस देने में प्रान्तीय सरकारें उदार नहीं हैं और शायद इसी लिये उदार नहीं हैं कि उन को राष्ट्रीय सरकार की नीति के साथ अपने को जोड़ना पड़ता है। चौधरी चरण सिंह जी के सुझाव के मुताबिक हमें अपने देश के खण्डसारी उद्योग पर भरोसा करना चाहिए और देश में खण्डसारी का उपयोग करना चाहिए

चीनी का उपयोग हम दूसरे देशों को निर्यात करने में कर सकते हैं, जिस से हमें विदेशी मुद्रा का लाभ होगा। यह एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विषय है, मुझे आशा है मंत्री जी इस पर विचार करेंगे।

मान्यवर, अब मैं सहकारिता के सम्बन्ध में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ क्योंकि आज भी राष्ट्र की उन्नति में सहकारिता का मुख्य स्थान है और हमारे राष्ट्र-नायक स्व० जवाहर लाल नेहरू जी ने सहकारिता पर बहुत जोर दिया था और उन की इस कमजोरी का हमारे समाज के चालाक और मक्कार लोगों ने बहुत अनुचित फायदा उठाया है और अभी तक उठा रहे हैं। सहकारिता के नाम पर हर क्षेत्र में फर्जी सहकारी समितियों का गठन कर लिया गया है चाहे वे एग्रीकल्चरल कांफ़ेडरेशन सोसाइटीज हों और चाहे औद्योगिक या आपके व्यापारिक क्षेत्र में कांफ़ेडरेशन सोसाइटीज हों। हर क्षेत्र में मक्कार और चालाक किस्म के लोगों के संरक्षण में ही एक एक कांफ़ेडरेशन सोसाइटी काम कर रही है और सही माइने में वे कांफ़ेडरेशन सोसाइटीज न हो कर समाज के शोषण का एक तरीका बना हुआ है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करूँगा कि सहकारिता की नीति पर वे पुनर्विचार करें और मेरा सुझाव यह है कि राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर इस प्रकार का अधिनियम बनाया जाए कि पूरे राष्ट्र में एक ही प्रकार से सहकारिता का आन्दोलन चले। आज तो अलग अलग प्रदेशों में अलग अलग ढंग के सहकारी अधिनियम बने हुए हैं और उन्हीं के आधार पर हमारे यहां यह आवाज उठती है कि सहकारिता का क्षेत्र शासन से मुक्त होना चाहिए। आज हमारे यहां जो भूमि विकास बैंक है, या कांफ़ेडरेशन बैंक है, उन के जरिए भोले-भाले किसानों को

लूटा जाता है। मैं यह मानता हूँ कि मेरी जो जानकारी है, उस से कहीं ज्यादा जानकारी हमारे मंत्री धारिया जी की होगी क्योंकि उन का प्रदेश कांफ़ेडरेशन के क्षेत्र में अग्रणी रहा है, लेकिन मैं यह नहीं जानता कि उन के अनुभव भी सहकारिता के बारे में ऐसे ही कटु होंगे जैसे कटु अनुभव मेरे रहे हैं। हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश का जो भूमि विकास बैंक का संगठन है उस के जरिये से किसानों को जो लोन दिए गए, वे फर्जी लोन दिखाए गए हैं और जिन किसानों की जमीनों पर वे लोन लिए गए हैं उन को पता भी नहीं है। उस का नतीजा यह है कि आज किसान परेशान हैं। वह इधर-उधर घूमता फिरता है और उस की जमीनें नीलाम हो रही हैं। जो उन के बाप-दादा की थी, उन से उस लोन का रुपया वसूल हो रहा है जो कि उन्होंने लिया ही नहीं था। ऐसे जो भूमि विकास बैंक हैं उन में उन मक्कार लोगों ने अपने लड़कों को ब्रांच मैनेजर बना रखा है और स्वयं डायरेक्टर साहब बैठे बैठे 75 और 50 रुपयों की एलाउन्स के लेते हैं और स्वयं उनके साहबजादे मैनेजर हैं और दूसरी तरफ उन्होंने आयल इंजनों की दुकान खोल रखी है। उन के खिलाफ़ कोई कार्यवाही भी नहीं हो सकती है क्योंकि नारा यह लगा हुआ है कि सहकारिता को शासन के अंकुश से मुक्त रखना चाहिए और उन की कोई नुकताचीनी या देखरेख सहकारिता के कार्यों के बारे में नहीं करनी चाहिए। यह इसलिए कहा जाता है कि सहकारिता के नाम पर जो लूट मचा रखी है वह जारी रहनी चाहिए। मैं धारिया साहब से अनुरोध करूँगा कि वे सहकारिता के मामले में उसी निर्भीकता और कठोरता

[श्री महीनाल]

के साथ फैसले लें जिस तरह से उन्होंने राजनीतिक क्षेत्र में हम जैसे छोटे सिपाहियों की अग्रवाही करके लिया है।

सहकारिता के क्षेत्र में मुझे भी एक उप-मंत्री की हैसियत से उत्तर प्रदेश में काम करने का अनुभव है। जब मैंने वहां सहकारिता के विभाग के कर्मचारियों की नियुक्ति के लिए अलग से चयन समिति का गठन किया तो चारों तरफ से उम का विरोध इसलिए हुआ कि वहां पर सहकारिता के नाम पर लूट करने वाले लोगों के लड़के सर्विस में नहीं आ सकते हैं। उसी का परिणाम यह निकला कि आज उत्तर प्रदेश, सहकारिता सेवा में अग्रणी है और योग्यता के आधार पर हमारे प्रदेश के सभी युवकों को सहकारिता सेवा में आने का अवसर मिल रहा है। उम के लिए अब यह आवश्यक नहीं है कि केवल डाइरेक्टर साहब के सुपुत्र या उनके चहेते ही, हाई स्कूल प्लकड काँफ़ेरेण्टिव बैंक के मैनेजर बनें और पढ़ते तो थर्ड डिजिटर ही मैनेजर बन जाते थे और फर्स्ट डिजिटर और इंटेन्सिजेंट लड़कों के मुकाबले उन की नियुक्ति हो जाती थी। मैं धारिया साहब से अनुरोध करूंगा कि वह इस दृष्टि से देखें। मैं यह जानता हूँ कि सहकारिता की उपेक्षा नहीं की जा सकेगी और न आप ही कर सकते हैं और आप का अथवा जनता पार्टी का विश्वास सहकारिता में है। पूंजीवाद के स्थान पर समाजवाद सहकारिता के माध्यम से ही लाया जा सकता है। लेकिन आप को सहकारिता की प्रणाली को बदलना होगा और शासन को उस पर कुछ अंकुश रखना होगा। मंत्री जी से यह बात नहीं छिपी होगी

कि खादी और ग्रामोद्योग के माध्यम से अरबों रुपया वहां पर रहने वाले कारीगरों और दूसरे लोगों को दिया गया है।

मैं अपने मंत्री जी को दावत देता हूँ कि वे हमारे यहां पधारें और देखें कि खादी ग्रामोद्योग क्षेत्र में किस तरह से निर्बल वर्ग के लोगों की सेवा हुई है। कुछ मक्कार और एक्स जमींदार लोगों के लड़के इस काम में लग गये हैं और उन्होंने निर्बल वर्ग की सोसायटियों के नाम पर, उनकी सेवाओं के नाम पर भारत सरकार के करोड़ों रुपये का दुरुपयोग किया है। निर्धनों का रुपया हवाई जहाज की यात्राओं और अपने कच्चे मकानों के स्थान पर कोठियां बनाने में व्यय हुआ है। इसको हमें देखना है। अगर आप निर्धन वर्ग की सेवा करना चाहते हैं, समाज के रूप को बदलना चाहते हैं, निर्बल लोगों को दूसरे लोगों के समान स्तर पर लाना चाहते हैं तो आपको यह भी देखना होगा कि आपकी नीतियों का पालन ठीक प्रकार से हो रहा है या नहीं। आपको अपनी नीतियों के पालन करने वालों पर अंकुश भी रखना होगा।

मान्यवर, जनता सरकार का बहुत जोर ग्रामीण विकास पर है। ग्रामीण विकास कृषि के ऊपर निर्भर करता है। कृषि का एक विभाग है पशुपालन। आज हमारे पशुओं की क्या स्थिति है, किस तरह का आहार उन्हें मिलता है? जिस तरह से मनुष्य अपनी शक्ति भोजन से प्राप्त करता है, उसी प्रकार पशु भी अपनी शक्ति आहार से ही प्राप्त करते हैं। आज हमारे पशुधन को जितना घासदाना मिलना चाहिए, उतना भोजन नहीं मिल पाता है। इसका कारण यह है कि हमारे देश में तिलहन की कमी है और तिलहन की कमी होने से खली की कमी है। इस पर भी हमारी राष्ट्रीय सरकार की आज तक यह नीति रही कि खली का विदेशों को निर्यात किया जाए। हमारे जानवरों को

खाने को नहीं मिलता लेकिन पिछले कई वर्षों से खली का निर्यात किया जा रहा है। मैं मान्यवर अनुरोध करूंगा कि खली के निर्यात को रोकने के आदेश जारी किए जाएं। जब आपकी यह नीति है कि आप ग्रामीण उद्योगों को बढ़ावा देना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए यह जरूरी होगा कि आप जानवरों के लिए खाने का इत्तजाम भी करें। मैं आपको अपने क्षेत्र की मिसाल देना चाहता हूँ कि पिछली बार गांवों में दो सौ रुपये बोरी खली 70 किलो की खरीद कर पशुओं को खिलानी पड़ी है। आप गोबर गैस लांट को भी बढ़ावा देना चाहते हैं। इसके लिए आपको पशुओं को शक्तिशाली बनाना होगा। यदि आपको खती की पैदावार बढ़ानी है तो आपको बैलों को शक्तिशाली बनाना होगा। इतने आपके बैल शक्तिशाली हों कि आपकी पैदावार चौगुनी और पंचगुनी हो सके। इसके लिए आप अपने यहां खली बाहर भेजना बन्द करें। अगर आप खली बाहर भेजते रहेंगे तो किस प्रकार से आप अपने पशुओं को खिलायेंगे। किस प्रकार से आपके जानवरों की नस्ल अच्छी रह सकेगी।

मैं एक ऐसे क्षेत्र से आता हूँ जिस क्षेत्र से स्माल स्केल इंडस्ट्रीज के जरिये से आपको 12 करोड़ रुपये की विदेशी मुद्रा मिलती है। वहां के हजारों हजार कारीगर कभी कभी कच्चा माल न मिलने की वजह से बेकार हो जाते हैं। यह क्षेत्र है मुरादाबाद का। मुरादाबाद शहर आपको 12 करोड़ रुपये की विदेशी मुद्रा दे और आप उसको कच्चा माल न दे सकें तो यह केवल मुरादाबाद के साथ ही ज्यादाती नहीं है बल्कि इस इंडस्ट्री के कारीगरों के साथ भी ज्यादाती है। इसके साथ ही जो उद्योग हमारे राष्ट्र में विदेशी मुद्रा देने में अग्रणी हैं उसको भी झटका व धक्का लगता है।

माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूंगा कि वे निर्यात नीति में परिवर्तन करें। हमारे देश में कच्चे माल की कमी है। उसे आप बाहर से मंगायें और जो माल यहां तयार हो उसको विदेशों में भेज कर विदेशी मुद्रा कमायें। कच्चा माल यहां आए और अच्छा माल यहां से बन कर बाहर जाये। निर्यात के क्षेत्र में जो कठिनाइयां आपके कारीगरों को हैं उनका आपको निवारण करना होगा। मेरे अपने क्षेत्र में पीतल और तांबे का काम करने वाले कारीगर हाथ पर हाथ धर कर बैठे हुए हैं। उन्हें कच्चा माल नहीं मिलता है। अगर मिलता भी है तो वह ऊंचे दामों पर मिलता है और बिचौलियों से मिलता है। इस कच्चे माल से जो माल तयार होता है उसका असर उपभोक्ताओं पर पड़ता है। उपभोक्ता या तो माल पैसे की कमी की वजह से खरीदते ही नहीं या उन्हें माल ऊंचे दामों पर खरीदना पड़ता है। नतीजा उसका यह होता है कि आपके कारीगर बेकार हो जाते हैं। आपको कोशिश करनी चाहिए कि जहां तक हो सके बीच में जो बिचौलिया है उसको आप निकालें और डायरेक्ट उपभोक्ता और निर्माणकर्ता का सम्बन्ध रहे ताकि यह जो बीच में दोनों का शोषण करने वाला व्यक्ति बैठा है वह शोषण न कर सके। हमारा अन्तिम लक्ष्य शोषण विहीन समाज की रचना है। इस दृष्टि से हमें उसी ढंग से काम करना होगा जिससे शोषक धीरे धीरे, शनैः शनैः निकलता चला जाए और उत्पादक व उपभोक्ता का सीधा सम्पर्क हो जाय।

आप कृषि के क्षेत्र को ही लें। किसान को अपनी उपज के पूरे दाम नहीं मिलते हैं। किसान जो माल तयार करता है उसका एक बड़ा भाग बीच में व्यापारी और आड़ती खा जाता है आप किसान का

[श्री महीलाल]

पोषण करना चाहते हैं उसको उसकी उपज का उचित मूल्य देना चाहते हैं, उसको प्रोत्साहन देना चाहते हैं और ऐसा करने के लिए आपने दाम भी निर्धारित किए जिन पर आप उसके गेहूँ को लेंगे फिर भी उसको अपना गेहूँ बहुत नीचे दामों पर बेच देना पड़ता है, 90-95 रुपये के भाव पर बेच देना पड़ता है। आपने परचेजिंग सेंटर बहुत दूर दूर खोले हैं और किसान बेचारा अपनी बैलगाड़ी ले जा करके वहाँ गेहूँ नहीं बेच सकता है और न पहुँचा सकता है उसको मजबूर होकर व्यापारी के हाथों उसको 80-85 रुपये के भाव पर या जैसे सौदा पटता है उस पर उसके हाथ बेच देना पड़ता है। वह व्यापारी उस गेहूँ को ले जाकर के सेंटर पर 110 रुपये में बच देता है। उपभोक्ता को वही गेहूँ 130 रुपये में खरीदना पड़ता है। अब आप देखें कि कितना बड़ा गैप पैदा करने वाले को जो कीमत मिलती है उसमें और जो उसका उपभोग करता है, उस में है। चालीस रुपये क्विंटल का गप है। यह एक भयावह स्थिति हमारे सामने पैदा करता है। अनाज के जो बिचौलिये हैं उनको शनैः शनैः हटाना है और सीधा सम्बन्ध हमें बनाने वाले कारीगर पैदा करने वाले व्यक्ति, उत्पादक और उपभोक्ता के बीच जोड़ना है और यही हमारी नीति का आधार होना चाहिये।

SHRI PURNA SINHA (Tezpur): I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Commerce and Civil Supplies Ministry which has been presented by Shri Mohan Dharia. But while supporting it I would like to add a few things. Hon. Members sitting opposite have both praised as well as criticized Shri Dharia for his planning in the erstwhile Government and submitting the present. Demands of his planning was good in the previous regime, there is no reason why

it should be bad now. The Opposition should praise him all the more for his broad outlook in the budget of his Ministry.

For furthering rural development, cooperative movement is an essential factor. We have an institution in Hyderabad built at a cost of several crores of rupees for training and research in rural development. But, though I scanned through all the pages of this publication (raised and shown), I found no mention here of the vital subject of how the Block Development Officers are to be trained to educate people to successfully generate the spirit and carry out their cooperative movement. I think, in this direction, though the institution is established by the Agricultural Ministry, the Ministry of Co-operation should also take some interest so that the Institute which trains our Block Development Officers can also train them how to organise cooperatives and see that these cooperatives successfully function in the rural areas of the country also.

14.55 hrs.

[SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO in the Chair]

Another point is in regard to the textile industry which is regularly becoming sick and more sick. Besides becoming sick itself, it has also caused the downfall of the powerloom and the handloom industry, which are dependent upon it. In my side of the country, in the eastern State of Assam, in every house, the women-folk weave the yarn which is produced by the mills. In the whole of Manipur State, the women-folk weave with the yarn produced by the cotton mills. In Imphal, there is a women's bazar, where the women sell what they produce in looms. I would like to request that an investigation may be carried out, to judge at how much price they purchase the yarn, how much labour they put in and what money they get in their market by selling their produce to the whole-

sale traders. There is a place Shaulkudi in Kamrup district in Assam, where every house has four-five power-looms or handlooms. That industry is dying out slowly and they are taking to some other professions. They have to buy the yarn at high prices. The cotton mill industry says that the prices are high because the cotton price has gone up. Here, I would like to ask the protagonists of the cotton mill industry, whether the industry has at any time in the past invested the profits they make for production of raw cotton. Have they been able to do anything in producing American upland or Egyptian long staple varieties cotton here? Have the mill owners in Maharashtra and Ahmedabad done anything to produce the variety of cotton produced in Punjab? In Punjab, the per hectare production of cotton is 375 kg. whereas in Maharashtra it is 70-90 kg. per hectare. They have no programme for research or at least to produce in India the raw cotton which is necessary to keep the industry going profitably as also help the other down-stream industries like the handloom and powerloom, and produce cheap cloth that is required for our poor people.

This industry has now become sick and they want to be helped by the Cotton Corporation of India and the National Textile Corporation. They take the licence, but cannot run the industry in a scientific and commercial way, and then they want to hand the loosing one over to the National Textile Corporation. The Government should take proper care in dealing with the whole textile industry. They should form a national textile policy, which would include the big textile mills as well as the powerlooms and handlooms industry also. I do not deny the role that they have played in India for the last one century, but at the same time, the fate of the powerloom and handloom industry should not be left to the mercy of the cotton yarn

producers. There should be certain coordination as to what percentage of natural and what percentage of man made synthetic fibres should be used for the purpose of producing cloth necessary for the people of this country with low buying capacity.

Sir, I come from a State, where tea is the only industry and in this case also, almost the same thing is happening. The tea land had been given to the owners at a very cheap rate; the price was about five times the land-revenue. Earlier, the land was given almost free by the British Government. The tea industry has also been earning foreign exchange. They have always been making and selling tea for foreign markets. In Assam, any time is tea time; during day and night the people of Assam habitually take tea. They have to use fannings for preparation of their tea; fannings, the unwanted portion of waste after the manufacture of tea, as also dust which is fit to be thrown away. It was the most neglected grade at earlier times. But we are compelled to take that because the tea industry has to cater for the external market. They get for a kg. Rs. 82 or 85 in the foreign markets after having paid all the duties. I do not minimise the necessity of its export but at the same time, internal consumers must not be ignored. They want good tea.

15.00 hrs.

Then, in spite of earning so much money by the tea industry in foreign markets, tea gardens are going sick in Jalpaiguri, in Darjeeling and also in Assam. Some planters of gardens have gone out. They cannot pay the labour, they deposit their provident fund and they cannot produce marketable quality tea. Therefore, the Tea Corporation of India has come to help them and in helping them always some factors have overplayed. I know of an instance where a tea garden worth Rs. 11 lakhs was sold at Rs. 31 lakhs. Such things should be checked. Tea Corporation pay public money.

[Shri Purna Sirha]

Then, there is a thing called tea waste which is used for producing caffeine which is good for sickness like headache, fever and pain. But the purchase of tea waste is so complicated. Tea can be produced and sold easily but tea waste cannot be and there is a long-drawn procedure as a result of which the tea waste which has become useless, which is fit only to be burnt or thrown away as a manure is made available for the preparation of caffeine. So, I say the Tea Waste Control Order of 1959 should be amended in order to enable the tea gardens to sell the waste by self-clearance as in case of Tea itself for making caffeine and other medicines. I think only caffeine can be manufactured from Tea Waste and no other things. -

Another point I would like to submit is that in the Export Open General Licence our government has got a long list of things. OGL 4 contains everything that is available in India and the canalising agency has been mostly the corporations owned by the government of India. I do not oppose it but at the same time, wherever there is any commodity or item like sugar, salt, cement or things like that which are plentiful and available in India and can be sent out to the neighbouring countries, they should be removed from OGL 4 or OGL 3 and there should be no check on people who want to deal in these things and there should be no compulsion on them that they must go to the STC and pay them certain surcharge or some sort of commission in order to export it. State Trading Corporation is a big organization and I am afraid that it does not cater to the small consumer. My experience is that several years ago some small newspapers were given licences for obtaining newsprint which was an item canalised through

them. They did not help the parties. There STC would not cater to the needs of small consumers but they deal with consumers who are big enough—say those who consume 100 tonnes or more. Because in the formation of a State corporation, its policy should not be ignore small consumers. It should function in such a way that no consumer, however small he may be, showed have reasons to complain that his case has been ignored by the STC.

These are my few suggestions. I hope that these will be considered by the hon. Minister. Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Civil Supplies and Cooperation, this time, are a departure for the better and I support the demands.

श्री पदमाचरण सामन्तपिहार (पुरी) :
सभापति महोदय, मैं कामंम सिविल सप्लाइज और कोआपरेशन मंत्रालय की डिमांडज का समर्थन करता हूँ।

जहां तक कोआपरेशन का संबंध है, मुझ पूरी आशा है कि मंत्री महोदय के नेतृत्व में उस में बहुत प्रगति होगी। जनता पार्टी का मकसद समाज में अहिंसात्मक ढंग से और शान्तिपूर्वक आर्थिक समानता लाना है, और कोआपरेटिव मूवमेंट के जरिये उस मकसद को काफी हद तक पूरा किया जा सकता है। आज आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि कोआपरेटिव को एक डेमोक्रेटिक ढंग से चलाया जाये। कैपिटलिस्ट कंट्रैक्टर्ज और ट्रेडर्ज आदि कुछ वर्ग कोआपरेटिवज का विरोध करते हैं और उन में जो कुछ त्रुटियां हैं, उन को बहुत पब्लिसिटी देते हैं पार्लियामेंट और विधान सभाओं में कोई भी व्यक्ति तीस साल तक सदस्य बना रह सकता

है, और कोई भी व्यक्ति पच्चीस साल तक मिनिस्टर रह सकता है लेकिन मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि मिनिस्टर साहब ऐसा कानून बनायेंगे कि कोई भी व्यक्ति को-आपरेटिव में दो टर्मों से ज्यादा न रह सके।

हम देखते हैं कि कोआपरेटिव पर नान आफिशल लोगों का कंट्रोल कम होता है। सिविल सप्लाइज डिपार्टमेंट और रेवेन्यू डिपार्टमेंट आदि विभिन्न सरकारी विभाग कोआपरेटिव को साधारण आदमी के उपयोग की चीजों की डीलरशिप और लाइसेंस नहीं देते हैं हालांकि कोआपरेटिव ऐसी चीजों का वितरण निजी व्यापारियों की तुलना में अधिक अच्छी तरह करते हैं।

उदाहरण के लिये अगर फटिलाइजर के डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन का काम निजी व्यापारियों के बजाय कोआपरेटिव को दिया जायें, तो एक तो उस में करणन कम होगा, और दूसरे, फटिलाइजर ठीक दाम पर फार्मज तक पहुँच सकेगा। यह संतोष की बात है कि सरकार ने कोआपरेटिव को 65 प्रतिशत फटिलाइजर के डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन का काम देने की नीति बनाई है। लेकिन पूरा फटिलाइजर दे दिया जाय, तो अच्छा होगा।

हमारे देश में फार्मज सोसायटीज, कनज्यूमर सोसायटीज और इंडस्ट्रियल सोसायटीज आदि कुल तीन लाख को-आपरेटिव सोसायटीज हैं, जिन के सात करोड़ मेम्बर हैं।

इस कोआपरेटिव डिपार्टमेंट के साथ में बैंकिंग डिपार्टमेंट भी होना चाहिये। यह कितना अजीब लगता है कि जो

कोआपरेटिव विभाग का मंत्री है उसके पास बैंकिंग डिपार्टमेंट नहीं है। उसके पास बैंकिंग विभाग भी होना चाहिये क्योंकि कोआपरेटिव मार्केटिंग सोसाइटी है, कनज्यूमर कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटी है, फार्मज कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटी है, इंडस्ट्रियल कोआपरेटिव सोसायटी है, ये सभी सोसाइटियां कोआपरेटिव बैंकों से लोन लेती हैं। इसीलिये कोआपरेटिव डिपार्टमेंट के साथ बैंकिंग डिपार्टमेंट भी इस के मंत्री के पास होना चाहिये।

आप देखें कि सारे भारत में 1950-51 में लोग 750 करोड़ रुपया लोन लेते थे। इस समय 6 हजार करोड़ लोन ग्रामजन लेते हैं जिस में कोआपरेटिव बैंक्स या दूसरे बैंकों से सिर्फ 23 प्रतिशत लोन लोग लेते हैं और बाकी 77 प्रतिशत महाजनों से या दूसरे व्यक्तिगत लोगों से लोन लेते हैं जिसके ऊपर उन्हें 25-30 या 35 प्रतिशत इंटरेस्ट देना पड़ता है।

पिछली सरकार ने रेडियों से यह एलान किया था कि वह गरीबों का उपकार करने के लिये गरीबी हटाने के लिये कानून बना रही है लेकिन उस सरकार के जमाने में क्या हुआ कि को-आपरेटिव बैंकों के लोन पर जो 9 प्रतिशत इंटरेस्ट था उस को 9 से बढ़ा कर 14 परसेंट कर दिया। यह इंटरेस्ट किस को देना पड़ता है? गरीबों को और छोटे छोटे लोगों को। इधर गरीबों के ऊपर पांच परसेंट इंटरेस्ट बढ़ा दिया और उधर जो आदमी रिजर्व बैंक या दूसरे बैंकों में रुपया डिपोजिट करते हैं उन के डिपोजिट पर उन को 5 प्रतिशत ज्यादा इंटरेस्ट मिलने लगा। गरीब आदमियों से तो 5 परसेंट ज्यादा इंटरेस्ट लेने लगे और बड़े बड़े पूंजीपति जो रुपया डिपोजिट करते थे बैंक में उन को पांच परसेंट ज्यादा इंटरेस्ट

[श्री पदमाचरण साम त्रिहार]

देने लगे। रेडियों से बयान तो गरीबी हटाने का किया और काम जो किया वह गरीबों का शोषण करने वाला और पूंजी-पतियों की सहायता करने वाला किया। बैंक में डिपॉजिट कौन करेगा? वही तो करेगा जिसके पास ज्यादा पैसा होगा, जो पूंजीपति होंगे। तो उन को पांच परसेंट ज्यादा इंटररेस्ट मिलने लगा और कोआपरेटिव से लोन लेने वाले के ऊपर जो पहले 9 परसेंट इंटररेस्ट था उस को बढ़ा कर 14 परसेंट कर दिया।

सारे भारत में कुल 7 करोड़ एग्री-कल्चरल होल्डिंग्स हैं। इन में 65 प्रतिशत यानी 4 करोड़ एक हेक्टेयर से कम जमीन की होल्डिंग्स हैं और 19 प्रतिशत 2 हेक्टेयर से कम की होल्डिंग्स हैं। कुल मिला कर 84 प्रतिशत चासी या काश्तकार इस प्रकार के हैं। इनको कौन लोन देना है—न कोआपरेटिव से इनको लोन मिलता है न किसी और से मिलता है। ज्यादातर इनमें से प्राइवेट इंडिविडुअल्स से लोन लेते हैं। स्माल फार्मर्स डेवलपमेंट एजेंसी 65 डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स में चालू है। इस से 25 लाख 50 हजार लोगों को लोन मिलता है। पांच लाख लैंडलेस एग्रीकल्चरल लेबर को इस से लाभ होता है। कोआपरेटिव सेक्टर के जरिये 20 लाख स्माल फार्मर्स को लोन मिलता है। आगे आप देखें 47 प्रतिशत शूगर मिलें कोआपरेटिव सेक्टर में चीनी बनाती हैं। जो प्राइवेट इंडिविडुअल्स की मिलों से चीनी बनती है वह तो ब्लैक मार्केट में बाहर चली जाती है लेकिन कोआपरेटिव सेक्टर के जरिये जो चीनी बनती है उसका वितरण गर्वनमेंट के जरिये सही ढंग से होता है। यह चीनी ग्राम आदमी के पास और प्रापर प्लेस पर पहुंचती है। इसलिये

यह जो कहा जाता है कि कोआपरेटिव का काम ठीक नहीं है और कोआपरेटिव चल नहीं सकती वह कैसे कहा जाता है? जैसे आप देखें कि आज कितने ही कमीशंस आफ एंक्वायरी मंत्रियों के खिलाफ, पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बरों, और विधाव सभा सभा के मेम्बरों के खिलाफ जांच करने के लिये बैठायें गये हैं लेकिन इस से ऐसा तो नहीं है कि वह विधान सभायें या पार्लियामेंट जो हैं उसे भंग कर देंगे उन की जरूरत नहीं होगी। इसी प्रकार पीसफूल नान वायलेंस के तरीकों से आर्थिक समानता लाने के लिये कोआपरेटिव को देश में लाना होगा। इस में जो वृष्टियां या खराबियां हैं उन को दूर करने के लिये मैं धारिया साहब से प्रार्थना करूंगा। मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि आप ऐसा कानून बनायेंगे जिससे ऐसी गलती न हो। इस के बारे में कुछ सुझाव में बाद में दूंगा।

कोआपरेटिव को जो लोन दिया जाता है, वह ईमर्जेंट रिजन में बहुत कम दिया जाता है। यह लोन रिजर्व बैंक की तरफ से दिया जाता है उसके आंकड़े को देखें तो आपको विदित होगा कि हमारे क्षेत्र में यह सबसे कम दिया जाता है। गुजरात में टोटल-मेम्बरशिप के हिसाब से एक मेम्बर को यह लोन 704 रुपया मिलता है, पंजाब में 406 रुपया है, महाराष्ट्र में 400 रुपया है, लेकिन हमारे उड़ीसा में प्रति व्यक्ति 88 रुपया मिलता है। जो एरियाज अनडेवलपड हैं, बैंक-वर्ड हैं, उनकी तरफ आपको अधिक ध्यान देना चाहिये, उनके उत्थान के लिये आपको अधिक पसा देना चाहिये। हमको सारे देश में समाजवाद लाना है, इस दृष्टि से जो क्षेत्र बहुत पीछे हैं उनकी तरफ विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिये।

मेरा सुझाव है कि कोआपरेटिव को लिए सारे देश में एक-जैसे कानून होने चाहिये।

अभी एक माननीय सदस्य वेस्टेड इन्टरेस्ट की बात बतला रहे थे, कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटीज में भाई-भतीजावाद का उल्लेख कर रहे थे। यह इसलिये होता है कि हर जगह अलग अलग तरह के कानून हैं। हमको ऐसा कानून बनाना चाहिये, जिसमें कोई व्यक्ति किसी कोआपरेटिव का लीडर बनता है तो उसके फमिली मेम्बर को ऊंचा पद नहीं दिया जाना चाहिये। उनके अपने लोगों को ऊप में नोकरी नहीं देनी चाहिए यदि ऐसा कानून बनाया जायेगा तो भाई-भतीजावाद नहीं पतप मकेगा।

आज जो लोग कोआपरेटिव के क्षेत्र में काम करते हैं, उनको सही प्रकार की ट्रेनिंग नहीं दी जाती है। नेशनल कोआपरेटिव यूनियन स्टेट की कोआपरेटिव यूनियन और कोआपरेटिव डिपार्टमेंट की तरफ से हम क्षेत्र में काम करने वाले लोगों को ट्रेनिंग दी जाने की व्यवस्था कीजिये और इसके लिये नेशनल कोआपरेटिव यूनियन और स्टेट की कोआपरेटिव यूनियन को धन दिया जाना चाहिये ताकि वे अपने यहां ट्रेनिंग की व्यवस्था करें। जनता सरकार का मकसद यह है कि देश में पॉनफुल और नान-बायलट तरीके से समानता लाई जाये, यदि इस और सरकार की तरफ से ध्यान दिया जाय तो देश में काफी क्रान्ति हो सकती है। हम इस योजना को न केवल कृषि क्षेत्र में बल्कि व्यावसायिक क्षेत्र में और दूसरे क्षेत्र में लागू कर सकते हैं, इसमें इंडिविजुअल इन्टरेस्ट (व्यक्ति स्वार्थ) का लोप हो सकता है।

पिछले पांच सालों में कोआपरेटिव लॉन्ज टर्म ब्याज की दर 5 परसेंट से ज्यादा हो गई थी, इससे जो छोटा किसान है उसको बहुत तकलीफ होती है। मेरा सुझाव है कि आप ब्याज की दर को काम करें, बिणेश कर जो छोटा किसान है उसको कम ब्याज देना पड़े, बड़े किसान से आप ज्यादा ले सकते हैं।

आज बहुत सी ऐसी वस्तुयें हैं जिनकी हमारे देश में काफी जरूरत है, लेकिन फिर

भी उनको बाहर भेजा जाता है। जैसे शूगर, सीमेंट, एडिबल आयल, इससे देश में उन चीजों के दाम बढ़ जाते हैं और जनता को बहुत दिक्कत होती है। मेरा सुझाव है कि ऐसी चीज बाहर भेजी जाय, जिन की हमारे देश में मांग न हो। सोशलिस्ट कन्ट्रीज और दूसरे देशों में भी यह प्रथा है कि जो चीज देश में पैदा होती हैं, पहले देश की जरूरत को पूरा किया जाता है, यदि देश की जरूरत से ज्यादा है तो उनको एक्सपोर्ट किया जाता है। 1975-76 में हमारे यहां से जो एक्सपोर्ट हुआ वह 4042 करोड़ 81 लाख रुपये का था और 1976-77 में यह 4980 करोड़ 60 लाख रुपये का हो गया। मेरा कहना यह है कि देश की जनता के इन्टरेस्ट को देख कर चीजों को एक्सपोर्ट करना चाहिये क्योंकि हममें जमता को फायदा नहीं हो रहा है बल्कि जो बड़े पड़े व्यापारी हैं, ट्रेडर्स हैं उनको फायदा होता है। कामर्स मिनिस्ट्री को यह देखना चाहिए कि जो चीजें देश के आदमियों के लिए जरूरी हैं, उनको पहले यहां की जरूरतें फुलफिल करने के लिए रख ले और जो बाकी बचे तो बाहर भेजें।

अब मैं टैक्सटाइल की बात को लेता हूं। 159 करोड़ रुपये का कपड़ा बाहर भेजा जाता है और मिलमैनर्स को सुविधा देने के लिए एक्सपोर्ट सव्सीडी भी दी जाती है। मिलों का कपड़ा ही बाहर बहुत ज्यादा भेजा जाता है। और इससे पूंजीपतियों और व्यापारियों को ही लाभ पहुंचता है जबकि हैंडलूम का कपड़ा बहुत कम बाहर भेजा जाता है। अगर हैंडलूम के कपड़े को आप काफी मात्रा में बाहर भेजेंगे, तो इससे गरीब लोगों को फायदा होगा। गरीब आदमी जो पैदा करता है, उसको बाहर भेजा जाए ताकि उसका लाभ उसको मिले और यह न हो कि मिलों का ही कपड़ा भेजा जाए जिससे कैपिटलिस्टों और पूंजीपतियों को ही फायदा होता है।

[श्री पदमावरण सामन्तसिंहार]

अब मैं महंगाई के बारे में यह कूंगा कि चीजों के दाम तीन कारणों से बढ़ते हैं। एक तो यह है कि गवर्नमेंट का जो खर्चा ज्यादा हो जाता है तो करेन्सी की काफ़ी सप्लाई कर दी जाती है। दूसरा कारण यह है कि डेफिसिट बजट होता है और तीसरा यह है कि उत्पादक कम होता है। इन तीन कारणों से ही महंगाई बहुत बढ़ जाती है। जहां तक करेन्सी का सवाल है, मैं आपको बता दूँ कि 1960-61 में 2.828 करोड़ 71 लाख रुपये की करेन्सी जारी की गई और मार्च 1976 में वह 12.468 करोड़ 42 लाख रुपये की चालू की गई लेकिन इमर्जेंसी के दौरान अप्रैल, 1976 के लास्ट में वह 13040 करोड़ 56 लाख रुपये हो गई। इस तरह में एक महीने में यह करेन्सी 572 करोड़ रुपये ज्यादा हो गई। इसको रोकने का कोई प्रबन्ध किया है, इसके बारे में मिनिस्टर साहब न कुछ नहीं कहा है।

इसके बाद मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि फर्टिलाइजर्स जो है उसका रेट कम होना चाहिए क्योंकि किसान जो पेड़ी, धान और गेहूँ आदि पैदा करता है, उसका दाम उसको सही नहीं मिलता है। यहां दिल्ली शहर में बैठ कर उनके रेट्स फिक्स कर दिए जाते हैं और जो चीजें चासी (किसान) खरीदता है, वे उसको महंगी मिलती हैं। चासी का जो शूगरकेन होता है, उसको कन्ट्रोल रेट पर लिया जाता है लेकिन शूगर पर पूरा कन्ट्रोल नहीं है। मेरा कहना यह है कि कन्ट्रोल के स्थान पर उस का डी-कन्ट्रोल करना चाहिए और विल्कुल एक ही रेट पर चीनी मिलनी चाहिए।

आखिर में एक बात यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि ये जितने भी कन्ट्रोल हैं इन को हटा देना चाहिए। जिस वक्त मद्रास में राजगोपालाचारी चीफ़ मिनिस्टर थे, उन्होंने कन्ट्रोल को उठा दिया था और उससे लोगों को बड़ी राहत मिली थी। किदवई साहब, जो सेन्टर में थे,

ने उसको सपोर्ट किया था और कन्ट्रोल हटा दिया था क्योंकि कन्ट्रोल रहने से करप्शन बहुत ज्यादा होता है और इसका फायदा कैपिटलिस्ट्स और मिल-ओनर्स को बहुत ज्यादा मिलता है। जब तक आप कन्ट्रोल नहीं हटाएंगे, करप्शन दूर नहीं होगा। लोग एक सवाल पूछते हैं कि लोक सभा के चुनावों के पहले कोकोनट आयाल का दाम 15 रुपया किलो था जो लोक सभा के चुनाव के समय 20 रुपया हो गया। इसी प्रकार में जीरे का बढ़ कर 22 रुपया किलो हो गया। जैसे ही लोक सभा के चुनाव खत्म हुए इनके दाम घट कर नीचे आ गये। कोकोनट आयाल का दाम 10 रुपये किलो हो गया और जीरा 16-17 रुपये किलो हो गया। यही विधान सभा चुनावों के समय भी हुआ कि चीजों के दाम बढ़ गये। जनता पूछती है कि इस गणतंत्र का क्या फायदा है, इम नागरिक स्वतन्त्रता का क्या फायदा है, इम एडवर्टाइजमेंट के करने का क्या फायदा है जो रेट्स नीचे नहीं आते, बढ़ जाते हैं। वे यह भी पूछते हैं कि क्या रेट्स कम नहीं होंगे अभी हमारा बजट आया, वह पास भी नहीं हुआ, मनी सप्लाई नहीं हुआ, फिर भी चीजों के रेट्स बढ़ गये। तो इन सब चीजों को माननीय मंत्री जी को देखना चाहिए। लोग यह भी कहते हैं कि फिर जनता सरकार के आने का क्या फायदा है अगर भाव नीचे नहीं होते। माननीय मंत्री जी इन सब चीजों पर ध्यान देने की कृपा करें।

SHRI K. MAYATHEVER (Dindigul): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demand for Grants of the Ministry of Commerce. Sir, first I wanted to make certain recommendations and suggestions for the consideration of the Government regarding the rise in prices in respect of handloom yarn, silk yarn, artificial silk yarn, etc. in Tamil Nadu. But now I am happy to know

that we are having a very good person as the Minister of Commerce and Civil Supplies and Co-operation. I am speaking nothing but truth. Therefore, I expect that the hon. Minister may do something in order to protect the interests of the 16 lakhs of weavers throughout the country. In Tamil Nadu alone there are more or less 6 or 7 lakh weavers, who are now in starvation. I submit with great respect to the hon. Minister that 50 per cent of the weavers in Tamil Nadu are now thrown out of employment. Actually they are not in employment at all. They were dismissed from their services. When I was coming to Delhi to attend the Session, I saw with my own eyes that people from my own constituency i.e. from Chinnalampatti, and from Aruppukkottai in Ramnad District were getting into the trains without bread because they were thrown out of their jobs. 50 per cent of the weavers are in starvation and another 50 per cent of the weavers are under-employed—not unemployed—because of the sudden reduction in their wages from 100 per cent to 50 per cent. I would therefore request the Government to take serious note of that. On behalf of the handloom weavers of Tamil Nadu, we made two representations to the State Minister. On 6-2-1977, we made representation to the Governor of Tamil Nadu under the leadership of Mr. Somasundram M.P. who is the leader of our party in the Lok Sabha. Then on 10-3-1977, we made another representation under my leadership. I led some group of people consisting of MPs and some leading members of other parties in Tamil Nadu. The Governor had promised to consider this aspect. But he did not take any action so far. He was actually telling that he was convening a meeting of the Handloom Director and Assistant Directors and the concerned officials of the Ministry. But unfortunately he did not take any step so far. Therefore, I bring in it to the specific notice of the hon. Minister who is very kind

to the poor masses especially.

Now, Sir, I request you to protect the weavers by taking the following steps. First, you must reduce the prices of silk yarn and artificial silk yarn. Silk Yarn price per kilo, prior to lifting of Emergency, was about Rs. 7.50 to Rs. 9.00. Now it has risen to about Rs. 15.00 to Rs. 17.50 per kilo. Their price have risen after the lifting of Emergency, under your Government. I hope you know what are the reasons and what is the background for the sudden and unfortunate rise in prices of Silk Yarn. Therefore, I suggest that every aspect of protecting these weavers and creating employment opportunity for these weavers should be looked into. There are stocks of handloom cloth worth crores of rupees which have become stagnant in the cooperative societies run by the Government through Government aid on the one hand while on the other, there are stocks of handloom cloth available without being sold in the open market or without being purchased by the Government from the private master weavers and weavers in general. Therefore, the Government can come forward, through State Governments or directly through a Central Agency to purchase the stocks from the private and public societies and private parties.

Then another thing you can do is that you can give stimulus to the exports of handloom cloth. When some of the hon. Members like Shri A. C. George and Shri N. Sreekantan Nair were pleading on this point, they were laying special emphasis saying that subsidy was given upto 20 per cent for handloom cloth. I do not know what amount of percentage you are giving towards subsidy to give impetus and stimulus for the export of handloom cloth. Therefore you must look into the matter to have more and more export to earn foreign exchange to ba-

[Shri K. Mayathevar]

lance the foreign trade as well as to protect the weavers in the local market.

Then, Sir, regarding the price stabilisation, I should say, you are having two kinds of prices in respect of the paddy prices. I can say you are even discriminating in the fixation of price, for wheat in the north and the paddy or rice in the south. We are happy to note that even in the Congress regime, they have enhanced the procurement price of wheat in the north. But that Government also failed to raise the procurement price of paddy in the south. Now you are also, following the same policy. You should not commit the same mistake. The producers and growers of paddy are not able to get profits. They are unable to maintain their day-to-day agricultural activities. They are not getting proper proceeds or profits by selling paddy and other essential commodities. Therefore, you must raise the procurement price for rice also. The people of Tamil Nadu and South should not feel affected, as we are often said to have been affected by language policy by way of certain discrimination or indiscriminate. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister who knows the difficulties of that place and this place—I do not want to say South and North—to have without discrimination, a national policy, a stabilised policy for fixing the prices of essential commodities, especially rice in comparison with the procurement price of Wheat in the north.

Then, Sir, the prices of essential commodities like rice, sugar, kerosene oil and all kinds of oils, and other essential commodities like medicine and cloth have been rising. I do not know why the Government are not at all considering to reduce the prices of cloth and medicine. Medicines are even more essential than other essential commodities. Some poor people are unable to get valuable medicines to save their lives. Medicines have equal priority with eatables. People die without eatables. Without medi-

cines, those suffering from serious diseases die. The prices of medicines have not been reduced by any government—by the British regime, by the Congress regime or by the present regime. Of course, you have come to power only recently and you have no practical experience and background. I call upon the government to take serious note of the medicine prices and bring them down. Under the 20 point programme and other programmes, we found advertisements in papers that prices have been reduced. But when we go to the shop, we find that the prices of cloth and other essential commodities have not been reduced even by a single paise. On the other hand, the prices are steadily rising. Therefore, I request the government to bring down the prices of cloth and other things used by the middle and poor class people.

Now once again we are going to face inflation. The Congress Government did at least one good thing, which you may or may not admit. But truth is truth. I can condemn the Congress Government for many of its mistakes and misdeeds. But we must accept the fact that within 19 months of the emergency, they could contain the inflation. It was a wonderful achievement. But now you have let loose all the man-eaters, I mean the smugglers, hoarders and profiteers. I do not mean the lions and tigers in the forests. It is not lions and tigers alone which are eating the flesh and bone of the people. We are having persons who are worse than those animals here. I am sorry, it may not be parliamentary. I say this just for the purpose of comparison and not to degrade any person. We must admit that during the emergency, the prices were reduced to some extent. Now the prices of all essential commodities have once again shot up. The people of Tamilnadu are unable to get rice, oil, kerosene, cloth and other things because the prices are not coming down. You have released the smugglers, hoarders and profiteers. But you should look into this aspect that

the prices should not be allowed to rise. That is the underlying point. How are you going to arrest the further rise in prices of essential commodities? Government should take stringent, firm and stern action against hoarders, black marketeers, profiteers and smugglers. It is these people who are responsible for the prices going up. They are almost running a parallel government. I heard this being said by some of you last year. Now you are in power. The people have voted you to power for doing better things than what the Congress government did, not to repeat the same thing or not to go backward or awkward. You go forward—that is what people expect of you. Therefore, Sir, do not put the old wine in the new bottle or do not go on putting the rotten wine in the broken bottle. You have absolute majority. People have full confidence in you and voted for you rightly or wrongly. You got the majority and it is an opportunity for you to do a better service than the previous rulers of the country. Now you are called upon to do better service than the Congress rulers or Ministers. Therefore, I appreciate that certain steps have been taken by the hon. Minister Shri Dharia in respect of export. I once again request you to consider sympathetically the plight of the weavers who are seriously and materially affected

With these words, Sir, I conclude my speech with thanks to the honourable Deputy-Speaker.

श्रीमती चन्द्रावती (भिवानी) : चेयरमैन साहब, आज हमारे सामने मिनिस्ट्री आफ सिविल सप्लाइज़ और को-आपरेशन की डिमांड्स हैं, मैं इसका समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ी हुई हूँ। पहले मैं सप्लाइ पर बोलना चाहती हूँ।

हमारा जो पैकेज और कैंज सिस्टम है, यह बहुत दकियानूसी है, इसमें बहुत वेंस्टेज होता है। चाहे खाने-पीने का सामान हो, पहनने के कपड़े, रुई की गांठें, बिनीले या तेल और घी के डिब्बे हों, इनको पैक करने का तरीका क्लमजी है, इसमें बहुत वेंस्टेज है। क्योंकि जो भेजता है और प्जो विचौलिया है, उसको पता है कि तेरे ऊपर कुछ भार नहीं पड़ता, यह तो सब उपभोक्ता पर पड़ेगा। इसलिए चाहें आप प्लेटफार्म पर देखें, बन्दरगाहों पर देखें, जहां जहां से भी लदान होता है, जिस जिस जगह से भी लदान होता है और उतरता है, वहां चीजों को खराब करने का बहुत बुरा नजारा हम सब को देखने को मिलता है। मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से, जिनकी योग्यता के बारे में हमको कहने की जरूरत नहीं है, चाहूंगी कि वे इन चीजों पर गौर करें, ध्यान दें, इससे भी हमारी कीमतें कम होने में बहुत मदद मिलेगी। मैं यह भी चाहूंगी कि जितने की बोरी या और कोई पैकेज हो वह उतने पैसे में ही उपभोक्ता तक पहुंचना चाहिये और उसी रूप में पहुंचना चाहिये।

मैं आपको उपभोक्ताओं की रोजमर्रा काम में आने वाली चीजों की मिसाल देती हूँ। दांत साफ करने की ट्यूब आती है, किसी किसी ट्यूब में तो हवा के सिवाय कुछ नहीं मिलेगा। उस पर कभी उसकी क्वांटिटी नहीं लिखते। ये साधारण आदमी के उपयोग की चीज है, छोटी सी चीज है और कीमत पौने चार या कुछ रुपये होती है। इतनी कीमत की चीज है और माल नहीं निकलता। जो इन चीजों को बनाते हैं, उन से यह तो कहना ही चाहिये कि उसमें कितनी चीज डालते हो यह तो उस पर लिखना चाहिए।

साबुन की बात मैं कहना चाहती हूँ, पहले टाटा का साबुन 501 अच्छा मिलता

[श्रीमती चन्द्रावती]

था। सन लाइट और लाइफ ब्याय भी अच्छा मिलता था, लेकिन इन दोनों ने स्टैंडर्ड घटा दिया है। साबुन गरीब से लेकर अमीर तक सब इस्तेमाल करते हैं। लेकिन कुछ साबुन अब ऐसे आने लगे हैं कि अगर कपड़े पर लगाओ तो कपड़ा खराब और नहाने का साबुन शरीर पर लगाओ तो शरीर खराब। मेरा निवेदन है कि इस तरह की चीजें जो मैन्युफैक्चरर तैयार करते हैं उनको सजा मिलनी चाहिए।

खाने की चीजों को आप देखिए। एक बार मैंने कोकोनट का बन्द डिब्बा लिया, पता नहीं उसमें क्या था, मिट्टी का तेल था या कुछ और था। मैं हमेशा एक बात कहती हूँ कि हम कितना ही इंतजाम करें, हिरफिर कर उसी बात पर आ जाते हैं कि सौ सुनार की एक लुहार की। जब तक इकनामिक सिक्वोरिटी नहीं होगी, भ्रष्टाचार तो होगा। उस को खत्म किये बिना यह समस्या हल नहीं होगी, और चाहे कितना ही बढ़िया सिस्टम कर दें, बीच में खाने वाले खाने रहेंगे। ऐसा मालूम होता है कि काटन कार्पोरेशन जैसे बड़ी बड़ी संस्थाओं में केवल कुछ लोगों को बच्चीफ्रा देने के लिए चेयरमैन बना दिया जाता है। उन में कोई योग्यता नहीं होती है। इस तरह राष्ट्र के काम में आने वाली बहुत महत्वपूर्ण चीजों के साथ खिलवाड़ किया जाता है।

जिस तरह दुश्मन की सप्लाई लाइन को काट कर हम उस को हरा देते हैं, उसी तरह अगर देश की सप्लाई लाइन दुरुस्त नहीं है, हमारा सिविल सप्लाई डिपार्टमेंट ठीक ढंग से काम नहीं करता है, तो देश का जन-जीवन खतरे में पड़ जाता है, उस में अभ्यन्तस्था फँस जाती है। इस लिए यह बहुत जरूरी है कि हमारी इस सप्लाई लाइन में कोई बृति न रहे।

ट्रक वालों के बारे में कहा जाता है कि वे लोग बहुत बेईमान हैं और बहुत बेपरवाही से ट्रक चलाते हैं। लेकिन मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि और लोगों की बेगार तो खत्म हो गई है, मगर पिछले दिनों से ट्रक वालों की बेगार शुरु हो गई है। अगर बोट क्लब पर लोगों को इकट्ठा करना हो, या कहीं दूर कोई जत्सा हो, तो ट्रक वालों को पकड़ा जाता है।

इस के अलावा जगह जगह बैरियर लगे रहते हैं, मानो अलग अलग देश हों। वहाँ पर सरकारी अधिकारी और पुलिस वाले पैसे लेते हैं। मैं ट्रक वालों की कोई बहुत बड़ी चैम्पियन नहीं हूँ। मैं यह नहीं कहती कि उन में सब लोग ईमानदार और भले होते हैं। लेकिन उन को जगह जगह देर तक रोके रखने से फल-सब्जी जैसी चीजें खराब हो जाती हैं। अगर ट्रक जन्दी से जन्दी एक जगह से दूसरी जगह जा सकें, तो लोगों को ताजा चीजें मिल सकेंगी। अगर चीजों को अच्छी तरह पैक किया जाये, तो उन की कीमतें आटोमैटिकली घटेगी और वे ठीक हालत में साधारण आदमी तक पहुंच सकेंगी। सरकार को यह भी देखना चाहिए कि खाने-पीने की और दूसरी चीजें बहुत घटिया किस्म की न बनें।

को-आपरेटिव स्टोर्ज के बारे में मैं आप को क्या बताऊँ? मुझे याद है कि मैंने 1970 में उस वक्त की प्रधान मंत्री को एक पत्र लिखा था कि को-आपरेटिव सैक्टर, और लोकल सैल्फ-गवर्नमेंट (हालांकि उस का इस मंत्रालय से कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है) एक प्रकार से नामिनेटिव सैक्टर हो गए हैं। कोआपरेटिव सैक्टर बहुत डीजेनीरेट हो गया है। कोआपरेटिव स्टोर्ज, कोआपरेटिव बैंक्स और कोआपरेटिव कर्जा सोसायटियों में ज्यादातर नामिनेटिव लोग होते हैं। महज बच्चीफ्रा देने

के लिए यहां लोगों को बिठा दिया जाता है। चुनाव करवाने के बारे में टाल-मटोल किया जाता है।

आज हालत यह है कि कोई भी को-ऑपरेटिव स्टोर ऐसा नहीं है, जिस को लाभ होता हो या जहां अच्छी चीजें मिलती हों। अगर किसी प्राइवेट कपड़े की दुकान या जनरल मरचेंट की दुकान पर कोई एक चीज मांगे, तो दुकानदार बीस चीजें दिखा-येगा। लेकिन जो को-ऑपरेटिव स्टोर के लोग हैं, इन के यहां जायेंगे तो एक चीज दिखाने में भी इन को तकलीफ होती है। खादी भण्डार में भी अब से कुछ समय पहले तक यही हालत थी। वहां भी उन को दिखाने में तकलीफ होती थी, वे समझते थे कि दिखाएंगे तो इस की तह करनी पड़ेगी, इसलिए दिखाओ ही मत। तो वे तो सिर्फ तनख्वाह लेने के लिए वहां आते हैं। ऐसे लोगों को को-ऑपरेटिव स्टोरों पर या ऐसी जगहों पर बैठाना ठीक नहीं है। उन को आखिर कुछ तो अपने कर्तव्य का ज्ञान होना चाहिए। लेकिन मैं यही कहूंगी कि यह बहुत कुछ हम सब पर भी निर्भर करता है। मैं ज्यादा टाइम न लेकर केवल यही कहना चाहती हूँ कि यह जो को-ऑपरेटिव सेक्टर है इस को दोबारा फलने फूलने का मौका देना चाहिए और जो लोग इस में अभी तक बैठे रहे हैं उन से हिसाब लेना चाहिए कि यह क्यों डिजेनरेट हुआ है, क्यों इस में घाटा हुआ है, क्यों यहां घटिया चीजें दी जाती हैं जब कि उन की लिस्ट में तो जो नाम आते हैं उन में तो बढ़िया चीजें होती हैं मगर वह शायद ज्यों की त्यों रिप्लेस हो जाती है। तो यह जो सारा का सारा मुल्क दस साल में डिजेनरेट हो गया है उसको ठीक करने के लिए हमारी सरकार को बहुत बड़ा काम करना है, हिमालय से भी बड़ा काम उस के सामने है। लेकिन वह नहीं करेगी तो हमें जनता माफ नहीं करेगी। हमारी सरकार के सामने यह बहुत बड़ी जिम्मेदारी है।

अभी थोड़ी देर पहले दूसरी तरफ के कुछ मित्र बोल रहे थे कि बहुत तरक्की हुई है, फारेन एक्सचेंज के रूप में हुई है। हम मानते हैं आंकड़ों में हुई होगी या देश के लोगों को कुछ चीजें न दे कर उसे बाहर भेज कर हुई होगी। हमें खुद खाने न दे कर वह चीज बाहर भेज दी गई। मारुति के नाम से कितनी सीमेंट ब्लैक में बेची गई। यह एक ही कारखाना है जहां मजदूर को भी खाया गया और मालिक को भी खाया गया। मालिक से पैसा ले लिया और मजदूर के लिए कहा कि इस को मत दो। अभी तक जो लेबर के वजीर थे उन से हम ने रेप्रेजेंट किया। दादरी की सीमेंट फैक्टरी में जो सीमेंट बनती है उस से जो मकान बनायेंगे वह कोलैप्स हो जायगा। इस तरह की कितनी ही चीजें हैं। यह तो मेरी व्यक्तिगत नौलेज में बात थी वह मैं जिक्र कर रही हूँ। मैं समझती हूँ कि दूसरी जगह भी सीमेंट या दूसरी उपभोक्ता सामग्री बनाने के जो कारखाने हैं उन में डिजेनरेशन हुआ होगा। जिन्होंने एकोनामिक अपराध किए हैं उन में वंशी लाल और संजय गांधी का नाम तो हम ले लेते हैं लेकिन जो प्राइवेट सेक्टर की उन का था उस के पास 4 करोड़ रुपए हैं, उस का कोई नाम नहीं लेता। मिश्रा का नाम कोई नहीं लेता। उस ने कितना रुपया कमाया है और किस लैविशली रहता है, इस का जिक्र नहीं होता। मेरा निवेदन है कि दूसरे अपराधों के अलावा एकोनामिक अपराध जिन्होंने किए हैं उन को भी आप देखें। ऐसे लोगों को आप देखें दस साल पहले वह कितना इनकम टैक्स देते थे और आज उन के पास कितनी सम्पत्ति है? महाराजा पटियाला की जैसे दस दस गाड़ियां चलती थीं ऐसे ही आज उन की भी कितनी ही गाड़ियां हैं। वे सारी बातें सामने आ गई

[श्रीमती चन्द्रावती]

इसलिए मैं ने इस तरफ ध्यान दिलाया। . . .
(ध्यान) . . . मुझे इतना ही निवेदन करना था ।

SHRI B. RACHAIAH (Chamarajanager): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to make a few observations on the Demands placed before the House by the Minister of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Co-operation. Many members have already participated in the discussion on these Demands and offered their remarks. I would confine myself to only a few commodities which are exported.

We can say that 1976-77 is a memorable year in the annals of Indian exports. Exports have exceeded imports and there is a favourable trade balance of about Rs. 72 crores. This is the tentative figure that has been given by the Ministry. After the dawn of independence, only in two years has there been a surplus trade balance—in 1972-73 and 1976-77. Therefore, I must take this opportunity to express my appreciation of the good work done by the Ministry of Commerce in this respect.

Karnataka contributes a major share to the export trade of this country. Many of the articles that are being exported from our country and find a place in the export map of India are from Karnataka, particularly magnetite. Concentrates from the Kudremuk project. It is intended to export 7.5 million tonnes of ore to Iran. A production target of 42 million tonnes had been set for 1976-77 taking into account the requirement of 16 million tonnes for the indigenous steel industry and 26 million tonnes for export. It is good of the Government of India and the Government of Iran to have taken up this project for the export of iron ore. While congratulating the Ministry, I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that we had hoped that the local people would be given employment in this project, but

it is a pity that even in the Class III and Class IV services they are not being taken in large numbers, so much so that there has been a hue and cry in the Mangalore and Chickmagalur area where the project is situate. I wish the hon. Minister will look into this aspect and see that the aspirations and hopes of the local people are fulfilled.

Shri Maya Thevar was critical of the high price of silk yarn and said that the handloom industry suffered heavily. While agreeing with him, I would like him to see the plight of the mulberry growers in Karnataka. India produces four kinds of silk and stands first in the world market in all the four varieties. Karnataka alone contributes about 80 per cent of mulberry silk produced in India. Most of the areas producing mulberry silk are dependent on the monsoon. Not only on account of vagaries of monsoon but on account of supply of defective seed, the farmers lose their crops heavily. So, this is the crux of the problem. If the farmers are given enough irrigation facilities and they are supplied with good seeds they will be able to produce three times more than what they are producing now in the Karnataka area.

16.00 hrs.

I am aware of the action taken by the Central Silk Board with regard to setting up research stations. Recently Karnataka Government have been able to produce bivoltine cocoons for the silk reeling. Therefore, the content of the silk has been increased and there has been a little more production than we used to get. This time, on account of supply of defective seeds, crops have failed. The farmers could not get enough even for their livelihood. While speaking on the Budget, Shri Narasimha Rao has suggested crop insurance. I also feel that crop insurance has to be guaranteed so that the farmers are not put to loss.

Once the cocoons are produced, the market difficulty is not there. The Karnataka Government have started the cocoon markets where not only the Government but private parties also participate. But the private sector is not in a position to give cash immediately to the farmers with the result that the farmers are not getting the benefits. Secondly, cocoons which are produced in rain-fed areas, do not contain more silk. Therefore, not only on account of fluctuations in the vagaries of nature but on account of fluctuations in the price structure also the reelers sometimes are duped when the prices are prevailing at a higher level. The merchants take advantage. Therefore, the Karnataka Government have suggested the establishment of a silk bank in Bangalore through the Karnataka Development Silk Marketing Society and for that, they have asked for financial aid from the Centre. I would request the Minister to look into this thing so that fluctuations are avoided and the producers get their due and the silk reelers are not duped and the weavers get the silk at a price which is reasonable for weaving. Therefore, I would request the Minister to look into the proposal of the Karnataka Government and see that they are helped.

Now, with regard to irrigation facilities in Mulberry area, the World Bank has already agreed to finance some of the schemes. There, cooperative societies have been registered and they are looking to you for financial aid. I wish that the World Bank comes forward and sees that these societies are financed very early.

Karnataka is producing nearly 1.05,000 tonnes of coffee. More than 50 per cent of it is being exported and the rest is utilised for internal consumption. There was a hue and cry for the reduction of export duty on coffee. I saw in the press that the Government have already taken a decision to reduce the export duty. I once again thank the hon. Minister for

his timely action in not allowing the deterioration of the price of coffee in the export market.

Karnataka is also contributing for the export market in respect of items, like handlooms, handicrafts, cardamom, certain forest products, plywood, etc. All these items are being exported. I would request the hon. Minister to see that the protection given to these commodities is further extended.

Coming back again to the silk industry, the tariff protection is given only upto 1977 or 1978. Unless you extend the tariff protection to the silk industry by another 10 years, you will not be able to protect this industry. The silk industry, as you are aware, is labour-oriented and nearly 3.4 million people are engaged. I would request the hon. Minister to see that the tariff protection is further extended.

With regard to the export of certain food items like rice bran and oil cake which are being exported, I suggest that these two items may be excluded from the export list. The rice bran and the oil cake are required for the manufacture of feedstuff for cows and buffaloes, for the animals. The prices of these feedstuffs of animals have gone beyond the reach of the rearers. Therefore, I want these items to be excluded from the export list.

As regards sugar, there is 65 per cent levy sugar and 35 per cent is allowed for free market sale. There is a difference in price with regard to levy sugar in the southern States and that of sugar produced in the northern States. As you are aware, in the southern States, the sugar content, the sucrose content, is more and they produce more sugar per unit quantity where as in the northern States, it is not so. Therefore, if you want to encourage sugar industry, the sugar cooperatives have to be encouraged in Maharashtra, Andhra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu so that the productivity

[Shri B. Rachaiah]

is maintained at a high level. I would request the hon. Minister to see that the difference in prices is narrowed down so that the southern States also get their due share.

With regard to horticultural industry, fruits like bananas, mangoes, pine-apples, apricots and dry fruits like almonds and walnuts are exported. There is a large scope for export of these items by encouraging the farmers to grow more and more of these items to give them incentives by way of loans on concessional interest and also by giving them all the necessary inputs at a cheaper rate.

The imported cotton costs more with the result that the Government has to give them some subsidy. Instead of giving more subsidy for the imported cotton, I would request the hon. Minister to see that for indigenous cotton the farmers get more price and to give them more incentives so that they grow long and medium stable fibre in the country. With these remarks, I would like to congratulate the Ministry for having maintained the export at a higher level.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव (गोड्डा) :

इस विभाग के हमारे मंत्री यंग, एनर-जेटिक, इनिशिएटिव लेने वाले और योग्य हैं। मैं उनके सामने कुछ मूल प्रश्न रखना चाहता हूँ। मैं इन मांगों का समर्थन करने हुए उनसे पूछना चाहता हूँ कि सहकारिता की नीति के बारे में हमारी नई सरकार, जनता पार्टी की सरकार क्या परिवर्तन लाना चाहती है? इस मुद्दे को मैं इसलिए उठाना चाहता हूँ कि जब जब एपेक्स बाड़ीज़ पर बात हुई है सभी ने यह स्वीकार किया है कि सहकारिता में भ्रष्टाचार इस तरह से व्याप्त है कि सहकारिता के उन्मूलन के सिवाय कोई रास्ता नहीं है। फिर जब यह विचार आता है

तो साथ साथ यह सवाल भी उठता है कि सहकारिता का आल्टरनेटिव क्या हो? कोई आल्टरनेटिव इसका नहीं मिल पाता है। इसीलिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय सरकार की नीति की इस विषय में कुछ घोषणा करें ताकि सहकारिता का कुछ काम आगे बढ़ सके।

आज सहकारिता में वैस्टिड इन्टरेस्ट्स, निहित स्वार्थ वालों का बोलबाला है और सभी जगह है। इनको हटाने का मतलब प्रयास भी किया गया है लेकिन आज तक उसका निराकरण नहीं हो सका है। माननीय सदस्यों ने वैस्टिड इन्टरेस्ट की बहुत लम्बी चौड़ी कहानियाँ सदन के सामने पेश की हैं। मैं कोई व्यक्तिगत कहानी न रखते हुए इतना अवश्यक कहना चाहता हूँ कि भ्रष्टाचार चाहे बिमार की सहकारिता में हो या कहीं और हो और आज जो महाराष्ट्र इस बीमारी से बचा हुआ था वहाँ भी यह व्याप्त हो गई है, गुजरात में भी हो गई है और अन्य राज्यों में भी व्याप्त होती जा रही है, इसके निवारण का उपाय नहीं सोचा गया, वैस्टिड इन्टरेस्ट के निवारण का उपाय नहीं सोचा गया तो इसका प्रचार और प्रसार दूसरे राज्यों में भी जहाँ अच्छा यह आन्दोलन चल रहा है, वहाँ भी होना जाएगा।

आज सहकारिता हमारे जीवन का अंग बन गई है, गाँवों में कृषि के क्षेत्र में और शहरों में भी। जीवन के हर पहलू पर यह चीज छाई हुई है। कृषि के क्षेत्र में चाहे दीर्घकालीन, मध्यकालीन या अल्पकालीन ऋण देने की योजनाओं का सम्बन्ध हो, सबकी सहकारिता के द्वारा ही पूर्ति की जाती है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आपका सम्बन्ध प्रदेशों की सरकारों के साथ इस सहकारिता को पनपाने में किस प्रकार का रहेगा, कौन सी नीति आप अपनायेंगे? आप यह कह कर

निकल सकते हैं कि सहकारिता तो राज्य का विषय है और यथार्थ रूप में इसको एक्सीक्यूट करने का काम भी उन्हीं का है। आप यह कह कर निकल नहीं सकते हैं यह सहकारिता विभाग जिसको आपको विशेषज्ञ के रूप में कृषि से निकाल कर दिया गया है आखिर उसमें आदर्श के रूप में नीति के रूप में, कार्य के रूप में कौन सा परिवर्तन होगा ?

एक और बात इस संदर्भ में और वह भी एक मूल प्रश्न के रूप में मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। सहकारिता को जब तक आप स्कूलों कालेजों में शिक्षा के अनिवार्य विषय के रूप में नहीं लेंगे, इसको अविचार्य विषय नहीं बनायेंगे तब तक यह आन्दोलन प्रगति नहीं कर सकेगा। विज्ञान की तरह से इसका एक सैद्धान्तिक पहलू है और दूसरा यथार्थ ज्ञान, जिसको प्रैक्टिकल कहते हैं, एक यह उसका पहलू है। दोनों की पढ़ाई की आपको व्यवस्था करनी होगी। मेरे कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि किताबी ज्ञान, सैद्धान्तिक ज्ञान स्कूलों और कालेजों में मिले और यथार्थ ज्ञान, व्यावहारिक ज्ञान गांव में। गांव की सहकारिता शहर में है, शहर की सहकारिता का उनको सदस्य बना कर यह ज्ञान उनको दिया जाए।

मैं समझता हूँ कि सहकारिता को इस देश में शिक्षा से सम्बन्धित करने का अगर उचित रास्ता निकालने का प्रयास करेंगे तथा नवयुवकों को व्यावहारिक रूप से काम में लगायेंगे तो शिक्षा का सही मार्गदर्शन होगा और साथ ही साथ वेस्टेड इंटरैस्ट भी दूर होगा। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री जी सहकारिता की शिक्षा का अंग बनाने के लिए शिक्षा विभाग से मिल कर किस प्रकार की नीति तय करना चाहते हैं फिर शिक्षा का विषय भी केन्द्र से लेकर

राज्यों के हाथ में पड़ा हुआ है। यह मूल प्रश्न मैं उठाना चाहता था, इसीलिए मैं बोल रहा हूँ।

एक सवाल बारबार आता है कि सहकारी समितियाँ जो हैं उनका काम में कम सचिव तो होता है वह वैतनिक हो। कुछ राज्यों में और संस्थाओं में इसकी व्यवस्था की गई है। लेकिन सभी सहकारी समितियाँ मजम नहीं हैं कि वैतनिक सचिव रख सकें लेकिन अनुभव यह बनाना है कि वैतनिक सचिव पर कम खर्च पड़ना है बनि बत अवैतनिक सचिव के। अवैतनिक सचिव निहित स्वार्थ में आकर उसको बरबाद कर देना है। इसलिये कोई एक व्यवस्था दे जिससे सम्पूर्ण देश में सहकारी समितियों में सचिव का पद वैतनिक हो।

एक सवाल और उठाया जाता है वीकर सैकण्ट्स पर। मैंने काम करके देखा है कुछ राज्य हैं जो सहकारिता क्षेत्र में बहुत पिछड़े गये हैं। एक ही राज्य में कुछ क्षेत्र ऐसे हैं जो बहुत पिछड़े गए हैं और क्षेत्रों में वे वर्ग बहुत पिछड़े गये हैं। केन्द्रीय सरकार की यह खुली हुई नीति है कि इन पिछड़े वर्गों की, क्षेत्रों की हर हालत से मदद की जाये। लेकिन वचन से, साधन से मदद ही नहीं पाती है। इसीलिए मैं मंत्री जी से आग्रह करना चाहता हूँ कि पिछड़े क्षेत्रों की सचमुच व्यावहारिक रूप से आप किस प्रकार मदद देना चाहेंगे यह बताने की कृपा करें। मैं एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार के भूमि विकास बैंक से मैं सम्बन्धित रहा हूँ, आल इंडिया लेण्ड डेवलपमेंट बैंक, जब सहायता के लिये डिबेंचर के लिए पैसे निर्धारित किये जाते थे तो जितने भी पिछड़े राज्य थे उनके भी निर्धारित किये जाते थे। लेकिन उनके अंग कमजोर होने के कारण वह सारे

[श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव]

साधनों का उपयोग नहीं कर पाते थे परिणाम स्वरूप जो पैसे बचते थे उसको महाराष्ट्र, गुजरात के शक्तिशाली बैंक कंज्यूम करते थे। इसका अर्थ यह हुआ कि पिछड़े वर्ग की सहायता के नाम पर जो पैसा आप अलौट करते भी हैं, या रिजर्व बैंक करता है उसका उपयोग शक्तिशाली बैंक ही करते हैं। यही स्थिति स्टेट में भी है कि जो स्टेट विकसित है या जहां का क्षेत्र विकसित है वह इसका उपयोग करता है। उदाहरण के लिए बिहार का छोटा नागपुर बेल्ट है, कानूनी अड़चनों के कारण उनकी सहकारी समितियां आज तक विकसित नहीं हो पायीं। यह बात सरकार के ध्यान में है। और बनवासी क्षेत्रों में जैसे कोकुन सहकारी समितियां बनी हुई है जो मृत गाय हैं, उम जगह पर दूसरी समितियां नहीं बनायीं जा सकती हैं, और अगर बनती भी हैं तो वह चलती नहीं है। इसलिए वीकर मेकशन्स की जो बात करते हैं उनको सचमुच में किम प्रकार आप सहायता देना चाहते हैं, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ।

मैं सहकारिता मंत्रों का ध्यान दुनियां की सहकारी समितियों की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि सहकारिता ही वह क्षेत्र है जहां पर गुटनिरपेक्ष के समान काम होता है, चाहे अमरीकन ब्लाक हो, चाहे रशियन ब्लाक हो, या तटस्थ ब्लाक हो। वहां पर जितने भी प्रस्ताव पास होते हैं वह सर्व-सम्मत से ही होते हैं। कभी भी डिवीजन नहीं होता है। तो वह एक ऐसी दुनियां है जहां समन्वय और समदर्शीपन से विचार होता है। अपने देश में भी सहकारिता के विकसित करने के लिए ठोस कदम उठाया जाय। एक ऐसा क्षेत्र आज आप लिये हुए हैं कि अगर आप चाहें कि हम दुनियां में शान्ति स्थापित करें, लोगों

का विकास करें तो इस सहकारिता के द्वारा ही यह सारी चीजें सम्भव हैं।

अब हमारी नीति यह है कि हम कृषि का विकास करें। मैं गत रात चौधरी चरण सिंह जी का भाषण सुन रहा था, उन्होंने भी इसका उल्लेख किया। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि आप कौन सी नीति और कार्यक्रम निर्धारित करेंगे, जिसमें कि मैंने जो वेंस्टेड इन्स्ट्रुमेंट की बात ऊपर कही है, वह चाहे प्रान्त के स्तर पर हो या गांव स्तर पर हो, सहकारिता की बात हो, वह ठीक हो सके? हमारे अनेक मित्रों ने कहा है कि गांव में जो सहकारिता मंत्री हैं वह पैसा लोगों के नाम उठाते हैं और जब में रख लेते हैं। पहले ही उनके नाम कुर्की और वारन्ट ले लेते हैं। मैं आपसे कहूंगा कि जो बीज और खाद सहकारिता के माध्यम से उनको देते हैं, कर्जा भी सहकारिता में होना चाहिये और विक्री भी सहकारिता से होनी चाहिये। जीवन का ऐसा कोई अंग नहीं, क्षेत्र नहीं जिसमें सहकारिता व्याप्त न हो। सहकारिता सचमुच में हमारे जीवन को विकसित करने वाली चीज हो, न कि अष्टाचार के रूप में बारबार हमारे सामने आये। कोई यह कहानी न दोहराये कि बिहार में किसी ने प्लेटफार्म गिरवी रख दिया और किसी ने गांधी मैदान गिरवी रख दिया। यह सचमुच में लज्जाजनक स्थिति है। उसका हम कैसे निवारण करें, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से चाहूंगा कि इस मामले में वह दिल और दिमाग का उपयोग करें।

सम्पूर्ण देश में, खासकर पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में ऋण से ग्रस्त लोग हैं। महाराष्ट्र, गुजरात ने ऋण का आन्दोलन चलाकर बहुत हद तक ऋण समाप्त कर दिया है। लेकिन बिहार, उड़ीसा, और असम जैसे जो सहकारिता के और पिछड़े क्षेत्र हैं,

खासकर छोटा नागपुर जहां कि बनवासियों के बीच में 30-40 करोड़ रुपए का ऋण है, हर जगह बहुत ऋण है। वे लोग अगर मौखिक भी ऋण लेते हैं तो लिखित में भी ज्यादा कारगर मानते हैं। मैं चाहूंगा कि देशव्यापी ऐसे क्षेत्रों में ऋण उन्मूलन करने की नीति का आप निर्धारण करें। हो सकता है कि यह काम राज्य सरकारों का हो, तो भी आप ऐसी कोई मार्गदर्शिका उनके सामने रखें जिसमें लोग सचमच में उऋण हो सके।

मैं आपकी मांगों का समर्थन करते हुए यह चाहूंगा कि आप इस पर अपना दृष्टिकोण रखें जिससे हमको भी और देश को भी मार्गदर्शन मिल सके।

(SHRI S. G. MURUGAIYAN (Nagapattinam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of the Communist Party of India. I rise to express my views on the Demands for Grants of the Department of Civil Supplies and Cooperation.

At the very outset, I would like to refer to the continuous rise in the prices of essential commodities. It would not be an exaggeration to say that there is no let-down at all in the price rise; the prices of essential commodities are going up minute by minute. It is no use saying that year after year the prices of essential commodities have been going up. What is the reason for this? Who is fixing the prices of essential commodities?

The speculators and the hoarders hike the prices of essential commodities without any compunction for the mute millions who are being maimed by the multiple rise in the prices. They seem to be the silent spectators of the seething discontent that is sweeping the country on account of the soaring prices. The price spiral is polluting the country like a poisonous gas. If this situation is allowed to con-

tinue, no Government worth the name will be able to save the country from chaos and confusion and conflict. If the prices of essential commodities are not stabilised and if equitable distribution is not ensured, then it would be impossible for any Government to hold the country together.

To achieve this laudable objective, the Government should take over the entire foodgrains trade; it should not be allowed to continue in the hands of the private people whose only motive is self-aggrandisement at the cost of common people. The Government should procure all the foodgrains after paying remunerative price to the farmers and evolve a public distribution system which would ensure availability of foodgrains at a fair price for the common people. If this is not done forthwith, it will be like someone sitting at the top of a tree and trying to cut at its roots.

In Soviet Russia and other socialist countries the prices of foodgrains showed an upward trend some seventeen years ago; after that the prices have been gradually declining. The primary reason for the prevalence of this happy situation there is that the Governments have taken over the entire responsibility of procuring and distributing the foodgrains through their agencies. We may not like to follow them in all aspects. Yet, the Government should at least procure all the foodgrains and also distribute them through its agencies. This is the only panacea for all the present evils in the country.

It is most unfortunate that the new Government is following the footsteps of the previous government in the matter of assuring remunerative prices to the farmers. The agriculturists, who are the backbone of Indian economy, are being harassed by the Government's hesitation in giving remunerative prices for their products. It is

[Shri S. G. Murugaiyan]

inexplicable to me that the Janata Party Government, which swears by the name of Mahatma Gandhi and on whose ideals it wants to base all its activities, has not come forward with any constructive scheme for ensuring remunerative price to the farmers. I would appeal to the hon. Minister who is known for his dynamism to bestow his personal attention to this perennial problem of our farmers and give them the much-needed relief.

In Tamil Nadu, the essential commodities like oil, pulse, cloth, sugar, children's food, etc. are distributed effectively through cooperative societies. If the common people are to be saved from the scourge of price rise, the essential commodities like kerosene, suji, rice, wheat, pulses etc. must be distributed through fair-price shops established throughout the length and breadth of the country by the Government. If this is not done, then the grievances of the people can never be redressed by any Government that may come to power.

Sir, the Super Bazars which have been established in metropolitan centres and other urban areas are serving only the well-to-do in the society. The Government must come forward to set up such Super Markets in the rural parts of our country. The hon. Minister recently issued a statement that 1000 Janata shops would be opened. Will these 1000 Janata shops be able to cater to the needs of 60 crores of our people? Even if he established 60,000 Janata shops, the needs of 60 crores of people can never be met through these Janata shops.

Coming now to commercial crops like sugarcane, groundnut, cotton, jute, pepper, rubber etc., it is really regrettable that even these commodities which earn valuable foreign exchange do not get remunerative prices. It is unfortunate that their prices are fixed by someone sitting somewhere, which state of affairs. The Government also seems to be in a coma so far as this is concerned. This situation should not

be allowed to continue. The only solution to this that the export-import trade should not be in the hands of the private sector. The Communist Party of India has been repeatedly emphasising that the export-import trade should be in the hands of the Government, and I wish to take this opportunity to reiterate the same.

In Tamil Nadu and Kerala—in Maharashtra too—the handloom weavers' cooperative societies are functioning fruitfully and effectively. I wish that the Government takes steps to establish such societies in other States also so that the problems of the handloom weavers can be resolved. As has been forcefully put forth by my hon. friend, Shri Maya Thevar, the handloom weavers in Kumbakonam, Madurai, Coimbatore, Salem, Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli are undergoing untold miseries. The handlooms are not similar protection as that of powerlooms. Numerous families of handloom weavers have been uprooted from their homesteads and they have lost their livelihood. There is severe competition between powerlooms and handlooms. In Tamil Nadu, big industrialists who are not bound by any rules and regulations have a free hand in having as many unauthorised powerlooms as they like. The price of cotton is fixed by them. The price of yarn is fixed by them. While the cotton-grower is denied remunerative price, the mill-owner is getting fancy price for the yarn. The industrialists are solely responsible for this grave situation. This should not be allowed to continue. Similarly, nobody knows how many mills are producing artificial silk yarn and who fixes its price. I have no hesitation in saying that large scale deception is being practised in this matter too, and black-marketing is rampant.

I would suggest that certain varieties of cloth must be exclusively reserved for the handloom and certain others for powerlooms; there should be no infringement of such reserva-

tions. I would like to request the hon. Minister that he should strengthen the handloom weavers' cooperative societies through which alone they will be able to protect themselves from the predatory power-looms.

I demand that the cooperative sector must be given more funds. The recommendations of Sivaraman Committee made in 1973 must be implemented without any further delay. In 1974 the production of handloom cloth was of the order of 2200 million metre valued at Rs. 800 crores. We do not know what it is today. In Maharashtra the Housing Societies are working very well. Such Housing Societies should be established in all other States of the country.

The agriculturist has now to pay Rs. 12.50 for a loan of Rs. 100 which he gets from the Cooperative Credit Societies. This is an exorbitant rate of interest. If the agriculturist is unable to pay back this loan on account of failure of harvest, his cattle is taken away, his seeds are confiscated and the loan is recovered in this compulsory manner. The agriculturist is to suffer both for natural and unnatural causes. The rate of interest must be reduced. Sir, I have personal knowledge that only a handful of agriculturists are able to get loans for purchasing cattle to plough. The Government must ensure that all the farmers are able to get loans for purchasing cattle to plough. In Tamil Nadu the Tenancy Farming Societies are not functioning properly. The Government should either reorganise them or abolish them if they cannot be made to serve the people. Similarly, there is by-law that the Harijans and the agricultural labour must be given consumption loan for purchasing essential commodities. But it is not being implemented in actual practice. The Government should take initiative in this matter and ensure disbursement of such consumption loans to the Harijans and the agricultural labour.

I have seen recently in the newspaper that the hon. Minister has stated that there should be no place for political partisanship in the cooperative set-up. I welcome this wholesome approach for the success of cooperative set-up. The cooperative societies must be rid of all political bickerings. All the farmers and the agricultural labour must be made the members of such societies.

Sir, fish has come to occupy a pre-eminent place in the whole gamut of foodgrains and it is imperative that fisheries must be developed. The Tamil Nadu Fisheries Cooperative Society is not functioning properly. It is in the clutches of a coterie and the poor fishermen are denied any benefit from this institution meant for their uplift. They were previously getting power-driven vessels, net etc., but now nothing is being given to them. This Society must be immediately reorganised so that the poor fishermen are able to get their requirements.

While expressing my grateful thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in this discussion, I would like to end my speech by emphasising the need for strengthening the cooperative sector which alone can help the common people of our country.

16.35 hrs.

[SHRI SONU SINGH PATIL in the Chair]

डा० रामजी सिंह : (भागलपुर) : पीठासीन सभापति महोदय, हम लोग करीब करीब वाणिज्य और व्यापार के सम्बन्ध में अपनी बहस को समाप्त कर रहे हैं और सब से बड़ी खुशी की बात यह है कि हमारे वाणिज्य और व्यापार मंत्री बिल्कुल एक-चित्त होकर हम लोगों की बातों को ध्यान से सुन रहे हैं, इस प्रकार शायद यहां सदम में यही एक ऐसे मंत्री हैं जिन्होंने इतनी शालीनता और आदर दिखाई है। लेकिन व्यापार का प्रश्न मूल्य-वृद्धि के प्रश्न से जुड़ा हुआ है और

[डा० रामजी सिंह]

जब तक हम मूल्य वृद्धि को रोक नहीं पाते हैं, शायद व्यापार को नई दिशा नहीं दे सकेंगे। यह ठीक बात है कि व्यापार मंत्री जी को इस बात का श्रेय मिलना चाहिए कि उन्होंने पिछले वर्षों में प्रथम बार व्यापार में घाटे को समाप्त करके सरलस दिखाया है। इस के लिए उन को तो श्रेय देना ही होगा, लेकिन जो स्थिति मूल्य वृद्धि की है, उस के सम्बन्ध में उन्होंने जो बातें अपनी रिपोर्ट में प्रस्तुत की हैं, उसमें जो कारण बताए हैं कि जौ, चना और मूंगफली की कीमतें नीचे थीं, इसी लिए वे ऊपर आई हैं तिलहन और मूंगफली का अत्यधिक निर्यात किया गया, देश से वर्षा हुई, इन तीनों कारणों के अतिरिक्त मैं समझता हूँ कि कुछ राजनीतिक और आर्थिक कारण भी इस के साथ जुड़े हुए हैं। जैसे चुनाव के समय लगभग एक अर्ब रुपया धना-मेठों में चन्दे के रूप में लिया जाना—यह भी हमारी मंहगाई का कारण है। इसी प्रकार में काले-धन की समस्या हमारे सामने दैन्य के रूप में विद्यमान है।

सभापति जी, मैं वाणिज्य मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहूँगा कि काला-धन जब तक समाप्त नहीं हो सकता है जब तक आप साहसपूर्वक विमूढीकरण की परिस्थितियों को कार्यान्वित नहीं करते। इसी तरह से सरकारी चीजों में जो भ्रष्टाचार है, जैसे सरकारी दुकानें हैं, उन के अन्दर जो भ्रष्टाचार है उस के लिए जब तक एक समर्थ निगरानी समिति का निर्माण नहीं करेंगे, सरकारी दुकानों में व्याप्त भ्रष्टाचार का उन्मूलन नहीं हो सकेगा।

मैंने आप के आंकड़ों को बहुत गौरपूर्वक देखा है। इनमें दिखाया गया है कि कितने लोगों को पकड़ा गया है। लेकिन मैं ऐसा समझता हूँ कि शायद ही

कोई ऐसी दुकान होगी जो भ्रष्टाचार का एक मूर्तमान केन्द्र न हो। लेकिन इस में आपका दोष नहीं है, व्यापार मंत्री जी, यह दोष व्यवस्था का है। इसलिए जब तक आप इस सम्बन्ध में कोई मौलिक काम कर के नहीं दिखाते हैं, तब तक आप के मंत्रालय को यश नहीं मिल सकता है। मैं विनम्रतापूर्वक कुछ सुझाव आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूँ।

मूल्यों के सम्बन्ध में जब तक एक राष्ट्रीय मूल्य नीति (नेशनल प्राइस पालिसी) का आप निर्माण नहीं करते हैं, तब तक आप केवल उधर में उधर भटकते रहेंगे। आप यह सोचिए कि उत्पादन में खर्च कितना होता है और बिक्री कितने में होनी चाहिये। जब यह अनुपात आप निश्चित कर देंगे और उस अनुपात को यदि कोई भंग करता है तो उस पर कड़ी से कड़ी कार्यवाही हो तब आप मूल्य वृद्धि को रोकने में सफल हो सकेंगे, अन्यथा आपका सारा प्रयास दिवा-स्वप्न के समान होगा।

मूल्य वृद्धि के साथ एक बहुत बड़ा प्रश्न सार्वजनिक वितरण व्यवस्था का है। जब तक हम सार्वजनिक वितरण व्यवस्था को सुदृढ़ नहीं करते हैं, तब तक मुद्रास्फीति रोक नहीं सकती। यह ठीक है—आप ने बताया है कि खाद्यान्न की लगभग 2 लाख 40 हजार दुकानें, कन्ट्रोल के कपड़े की 56 हजार दुकानें, कैरोसिन तेल की 2 लाख 45 हजार दुकानें हैं। लेकिन इस से समस्या का समाधान नहीं हो रहा है, प्रश्न यह है कि इन दुकानों से जनता को सचमुच किस प्रकार से राहत मिले, कैसे उन का भ्रष्टाचार दूर हो? इस सम्बन्ध में मेरे कुछ रचनात्मक सुझाव हैं। हो सकता है कि वे ठीक न हों, मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप

उस की जांच करें। जैसे सार्वजनिक वितरण व्यवस्था के लिए प्रशिक्षण की आवश्यकता है। एक और चीज जो मैं कहूंगा— वह है नियत-मूल्य। ऐसा लगता है कि भारत वर्ष में नियत-मूल्य कहीं है ही नहीं। एमर्जेंसी के समय में नियत-मूल्य के सम्बन्ध में जो जोर दिया गया था, मैं उस को स्वीकार करना चाहूंगा और चाहूंगा कि आप इस दिशा में प्रयास करें। क्योंकि सत्य न तो पाची के साथ बिका है और न प्रतीची के हाथ बिका है। इसलिए इस बात को आप करें कि ठीक कीमत सब जगहों पर लोगों से ली जाए। आज आप देखें कि खादी जो है उस की एक ही कीमत सम्पूर्ण भारतवर्ष में ली जाती है जबकि और दूसरी जो वस्तुएं हैं उन के साथ जुआ हो रहा है। कौन सी कीमत ठीक होगी, इसका कोई अन्दाज़ नहीं है। इस के लिए आप एक नीति निर्धारित करें कि किस दर पर, किस नियत कीमत पर यह चीज मिलेगी और उसको सारे देश में कार्यान्वित करें।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: We must have cost accounting audit for stabilisation of prices.

डा० रामजी सिंह : ज्योतिर्मय वसू जी ने कहा है, वह भी ठीक है। वे एक अनुभवही आदमी हैं। मैं तो शिक्षा के क्षेत्र से आया हूँ लेकिन यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री जी इस बात को सोंचें कि वितरण व्यवस्था को किस तरह से ठीक किया जाये और मैं ऐसा समझता हूँ कि जब तक जमाखोरों के विरुद्ध, मनाफाखोरों के विरुद्ध सरकार और जनता के द्वारा एक सम्मिलित अभियान नहीं छेड़ा जाएगा और जब तक घन्ना सेठों की पूंजीवादी वृद्धि पर कोई अंकुश नहीं लगाया जाएगा, तब तक इस में सफलता नहीं मिल सकती है।

922 LS—11.

इस तरह से आज एडलट्रेडन की समस्या है। आज हम एटोमिक एंज में न हो कर एडलट्रेडन एंज में हैं और चाहे वह कोई भी चीज हो, वह आप को एडलट्रेड मिलेगी। कोई भी दबा हो, वह आप को शुद्ध नहीं मिलेगी और यहाँ तक है कि अगर आप सखिया भी आप्रमहत्या के लिये खाने के लिये लें, तो वह भी एडलट्रेड ही मिलेगी। इसलिये इस मिलावट के सम्बन्ध में आप को सोचना है। आज से 30 वर्ष पहले बापू जी ने कहा था, उस को एक सुझाव के रूप में आप के सामने रखना चाहूंगा कि इस डालडा में कम से कम आप रंग तो दे दीजिये। हम जानते हैं कि उस समय किस प्रकार से पूंजीपतियों ने डालडा के जो ट्रेडिंकल एक्सपर्ट से मिल कर उस में रंग नहीं देने दिया था। कम से कम अब तो आप इस में रंग दे दीजिये ताकि लोगों को शुद्ध और डालडा भी का अन्तर पता चल सके हालांकि कांग्रेस के इन 30 वर्षों की हुकूमत के बाद अब शुद्ध भी पूजा के लिये भी शायद उपलब्ध नहीं है।

श्रीधरी बलबीर सिंह (होशियार पुर): अब तो डालडा में भी मिलावट हो रही है।

डा० रामजी सिंह : अगला मेरा सुझाव यह है कि स्टोरों की व्यवस्था को और बढ़ाया जाये और अच्छे स्टोरों की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये।

16.45 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

अगली बात अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप की आज्ञा से वाणिज्य मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि आप के वाणिज्य में ग्रामोद्योग का काफी अच्छा स्थान है जैसे हैंडलूम है, काजू है या

[श्री० रामजी सिंह]

सिल्क है लेकिन यह एक अजीब सी बात है कि ग्रामोद्योग की कुछ बातें व्यापार मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत है और कुछ बातें इंडस्ट्रीज मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत है। खादी इंडस्ट्रीज विभाग के अंतर्गत है और हैन्डलूम व्यापार के अंतर्गत आता है इस से बढ कर आराजकता और बिना बुद्धि की बात और क्या हो सकती है। मेरा सुझाव यह है कि ग्रामोद्योग की सब चीजों के लिये एक ग्रामोद्योग मंत्रालय होना चाहिये। रूल इंडस्ट्रीज कमीशन की बात श्री जयप्रकाश नारायण जी ने बहुत पहले की थी मैं यह चाहूंगा कि इंडस्ट्रीज विभाग से ग्रामोद्योग की चीजों को लेकर एक स्वतन्त्र ग्रामोद्योग मंत्रालय की स्थापना आप करें। जब तक ऐसा नहीं होगा, तब तक इस का काम ठीक ढंग से नहीं चलेगा। होता क्या है कि जब आप के यहां ग्रामोद्योग वाले अपनी बातें ले कर आते है तो उन की बातों को कोई मुनता नहीं है क्योंकि बड़ी बड़ी बातें ही आप के यहां होती है! इसलिये आप इस बारे में ज़रूर सोचें।

मैं आप के माध्यम से वाणिज्य मंत्री जी से यह भी कहना चाहूंगा कि व्यापार में बड़ा अविचार फैला हुआ है और प्रोस्टीट्यूशन इन कामन है। फारवर्ड ट्रेडिंग का जो व्यापार होता है उस को खत्म होना चाहिये फारवर्ड कान्ट्रेक्ट एक्ट 1952 में पास हुआ था और आप ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में इस के बारे में कहा है लेकिन 1952 से लेकर अभी तक फारवर्ड ट्रेडिंग का व्यापार कहीं भी समाप्त नहीं हुआ है। यह आप के मंत्रालय के मूल्यांकन का विषय है और जब तक फारवर्ड ट्रेडिंग समाप्त नहीं होगा, तब तक व्यापार में से अविचार समाप्त नहीं हो सकता है।

मैं एक सुझाव यह भी देना चाहूंगा कि विदेश व्यापार के लिये भी मंत्री जी को एक जांच आयोग बनाना चाहिये। पिछले पांच दस वर्षों में विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय अष्टाचार का सब से बड़ा केन्द्र रहा है। एक छोटे से छोटा भाई भी अगर फारन ट्रेड में मंत्री बन गया तो वह कुबेर से भी ज्यादा शक्तिशाली हो गया। इसलिये मैं विदेश मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि आठ कमीशन आपने बनाये है उनसे आर्थिक क्षेत्र में कोई उपलब्धि नहीं होगी, आप विदेश मंत्रालय की जांच करने के लिये भी एक समिति बनायें उस में आप को सौ संजय और एक हजार इन्दिरा जी के दर्शन होंगे।

एक छोटी सी बात मैं आप को आयात और निर्यात के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। हमारा आयात और निर्यात का संतुलन बिगड़ गया है। यह ठीक है कि इसमें हाल ही में कुछ सुधार हुआ है। लेकिन जब तक हमारे आयात और निर्यात व्यापार का संतुलन स्थायी रूप से ठीक नहीं होगा तब तक हमारी अर्थ व्यवस्था को शक्ति नहीं मिलेगी। हम लोग कूटनीति की बात करते हैं। विदेश संबंधों के क्षेत्र में ही करते हैं, राजनीति के क्षेत्र में ही करते है। अब तो कर्मशियल डिप्लोमेसी भी शुरू हो गयी है। कर्मशियल डिप्लोमेसी के साथ हमें मध्यपूर्व के देश इरान, इराक कुवैत और सऊदी अरेबिया में जाना होगा। कुछ समय पहले धर्मयुग में सिधवी साहब ने एक लेख लिखा था हम नहीं चाहते कि हम व्यापार की दिशा में अष्टाचार करें लेकिन हम यह अवश्य चाहते है कि अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय क्षेत्र में व्यापार के क्षेत्र में जो कूटनीति विद्यमान है, उस पर हम अवश्य ध्यान दें। हमें विदेश व्यापार बैंक की स्थापना भी करनी होगी। तब जाकर हम विदेश व्यापार में जो गड़बड़ होती है उस पर ध्यान दे सकेंगे।

कोम्प्रेटिव के बारे में बहुत सी बातें हमारे मित्रों ने कर दी हैं। मैं उन में नहीं पड़ूंगा आज समाजवाद और पूजीवाद के सिद्धान्तों के बीच जब कोई टकराव होती है तब, मैं बहुत विनम्रतापूर्वक कहना चाहूंगा, कोम्प्रेटिव सहयोग की कल्पना ईस्ट यूरोपियन कंट्रीज में ओ सहयोग समितियों का सांग्रान्य है अगर उस दिशा में हम बढ़ सके तो म पूजीवाद का जो अट-स्वरूप है उस से भी हम बच सकते हैं और समाजवाद से जो खतरे हम लोगों को महसूस होते हैं उससे भी हम बच सकते हैं और हम सचमुच में दोनों के बीच में चल कर के एक नया रास्ता ले सकते हैं। इसलिये मैं चाहूंगा कि जिस प्रकार की कोम्प्रेटिव चहवाण साहब के महाराष्ट्र में है, उसी प्रकार की कोम्प्रेटिव समूचे हिन्दूस्तान में हों। कोम्प्रेटिव का मतलब केवल इतना ही न माना जाय कि कर्ज लेकर उसको दिन दिन बचाये रखा जायगा, मजदूर नहीं किया जायगा। इसलिये मैं समझता हूँ कि कोम्प्रेटिव की स्थापना में ही समाजवाद की दिशा में बढ़ने में हम सफल हो सकेंगे और इस तरफ बढ़ने में कोम्प्रेटिव की स्थापना हमारा स्वस्थ कदम होगा। कोम्प्रेटिव की स्थापना के लिये हमें एक विशेष सशक्त मंत्रालय की स्थापना भी करनी होगी। मंत्री जी इस के संबंध में विचार करें।

व्यापार मंत्रालय पर बहुत आक्रमण हो रहे हैं। अभी अखबारों में आया है कि हमारे नये वाणिज्य मंत्री आये हैं, वे बड़े आंतिकारी और निर्मम व्यक्ति हैं। उनके आने से व्यापार में बड़ा शोक आप होगा। मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि आपके आने से अष्ट व्यापारी हिलेंगे। मैं यह नहीं मानता हूँ कि सारे व्यापारी अष्ट हैं। मैं यह मानता हूँ कि जहाँ भामाशाह व्यापारी थे वहाँ वे देशभक्त भी थे। अगर

हमारे गांधी जी देशभक्त थे तो सेठ जमनालाल बजाज भी देशभक्त थे। लेकिन अष्ट व्यापारियों के लिए आप दैत्य बनें। मैं राष्ट्र की ओर से आपसे निवेदन करूंगा कि आप विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय में अष्ट व्यापारियों के साथ सख्ती से पेश आयें।

मैं एक बात और कहना चाहूंगा। हमारे क्षेत्र भागलपुर में 12 हजार हैंडलूम और पावरलूम हैं। सूत की कीमतें बढ़ गई हैं लेकिन कपड़े की कीमतें इतनी नहीं बढ़ी हैं। लेकिन सूत की कीमतें बढ़ गई हैं। यह आपके समय में नहीं बढ़ी। जब चुनाव का बिगुल बज चुका था उस समय सूत की कीमतें बढ़ गई थीं। आप देखें कि गरीब बुनकरों को सत कम कीमत पर कैसे दिलाया जा सकता है। अगर आप उनके सूत की कीमत कम नहीं कर सके तो फिर आपको जनता सरकार कहलाने का कोई हक नहीं रह जाएगा। इसके रास्ते में कठिनाइयाँ आ सकती हैं, मैं यह मानता हूँ। लेकिन उसके बावजूद भी क्या कारण है कि एकाएक सूत की कीमतें छलांग लगाकर बढ़ गई हैं। इसके सम्बन्ध में आप विचार करें।

ट्रेड सरपलस आपके समय में पहली बार हुआ है। 72 करोड़ रुपये का हमारा सरपलस है। ऐसा लगता है कि आज एक पवित्र आदमी का प्रकृति भी स्वागत कर रही है। मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि हमारे व्यापार मंत्री जी इस मंत्रालय को बिल्कुल स्वच्छ कर देंगे।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस मंत्रालय की मांगों का हृदय से समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, first of all, I would request the hon. Minister to please give all the details regarding the names of those persons who were involved in the oil import racket and

(Shri Jyotirmoy Basu)

scandal. That is a very important thing because we have been paying for it through our nose. The House has to be taken into confidence and the House has the right to know who are the people who have been holding the whole country into ransom. I hope Mr. Dharia will oblige.

Sir, this export craze is an economic colonialism in a new garb. Unfortunately, this Government does not realise that. During the British regime, what was happening? Under-selling and over-buying. What we buy from foreign countries should be bought at the sellers' price and we should sell abroad our goods at the buyers' price. This is exactly what is happening. This craze for export is by starving the cow and at the same time your oil cake is exported abroad and the milk in tinned form, powder form, is coming back to our country at a high price. The same thing is happening in the case of fish. Fish is completely going out of the market. I can understand if a select variety of prawns is exported. Mr. Dharia, you may be a teacher, Professor, philosopher and a good man, but you do not understand the intrigues of the international trade. They would never pay a price which is advantageous to us. Therefore, kindly put a check on this. Do not allow unlimited export of protein. India's *per capita* consumption of protein is one of the lowest in the world. Without protein a nation cannot advance. Fish export is done in a manner which is detrimental to the nation.

Sir, they are taking away the natural resources of the country. The export incentive is one of the biggest rackets that I have seen. In the Public Accounts Committee, we tried to get full details. I know they have already cheated the Exchequer to the extent of Rs. 400 crores. We could not get hold of the file; we could not get the details. For one-and-half years we tried, but we could not get

the file. A sub-Committee was formed. But there was no co-operation from the Commerce Ministry. Otherwise all the skeletons would have come out of the cupboard.

Sir, for food items, for protein items, you are having food cordon-area in the country. But today in the world map what is your position? You are not wanting to think that there should be a cordon on unlimited export. What you want is foreign exchange. Can you tell us that by starving yourself, by making yourself sub-standard of mentally retarded your performance of Projects and Equipments Corporation, STC, etc. will improve? Maruti Limited gave an undertaking that they will produce car without any import of technical know-how, any import of machinery. Mr. Dharia, kindly tell this House how Maruti managed to get imported machinery on stock and sale basis. For that also they require a licence. How did they get this licence. The Directorate of Industrial Development wanted to enquire. The erstwhile Commerce Minister, Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya—of course, in this country every-body is a professor, but professor of what, that one has to discover—got angry. Mr. Cavale and Mr. Bhatnagar, the two Officers who were trying to do honest job, were transferred. The Director, Mr. Krishnamurthy's house was raided. And then the file was taken to No. 1, Safdarjung Road, because the item was considered to be sensitive, and national security is involved and so cannot be handled by Tom, Tick and Harry.

Then I come to scandal of Sugar export. How much Mr. Vinod Parekh has in his Swiss account—Have you ever tried to find out? Where is he now? Why has he resigned? This sugar export scandal is one of the worst scandals of recent times.

Then I come to export of silver. Why did you give the monopoly to

only two firms? Because they were feathering some peoples' nests; nobody else was found to be good enough and they were given complete monopoly for export of silver.

Shri C. R. Das of M.M.T.C.—What did he do? He signed a contract with the Japanese Ore Importers—Mr. Biju Patnaik knows about it—at a price substantially below international price. This is done at different levels one is ferro i.e. the content of steel in the ore. If it is 62, you invoice at 52 and charge accordingly. Load your ship with 15000 tonnes and the invoice is for 12000 tonnes. Then Sir, the price matter, three points attack—You cannot escape.

Then I come to the rag scandal. The Public Accounts Committee—there were 17 members belonging to the then ruling party—said “nothing short of a high level enquiry into the entire matter under the Commission of Enquiry Act by a Commission presided over by a Supreme Court Judge, preferably sitting, would bring to light the true magnitude of loss to the exchequer by way of loss of customs duty, penalty and under-invoicing, etc....” Have you done that? Why have you not done it? Mr. Dharia, you owe an explanation to the House. You have now stepped into the shoes of somebody else. However filthy it may be, you have now stepped into it. You should explain now.

This Tea Trading Corporation of India, which was started in 1970—the child is a still born one. That is because the Brooks Bonds and Liptons, did not like it. They thought that if this ITCI starts exporting package tea, they cannot make an earning of 200 per cent. The child never moved for three years. After it started moving, you compare the annual turn-over of the year before last and the profit and the last year's turn-over and the profit. You see a great difference. Perhaps you do not know much about the difference, because you are in a different sphere of life. But any-

body can make out. The Tea Trading Corporation, which was started with the objective of exporting package tea to bring home the lost consumer price to the country, has now been diverted for the manufacture of managing sick tea gardens, and also making purchase for the defence requirement. Do you require TICI to make defence purchases? Anybody can sit in Calcutta and Cochin auction and buy tea if he understands it. Sir, these tea people contributed about 3 crores of rupees for 1977 elections. So, they were justified in doing it. They have reduced the export duty on coffee. Why? Will it not mean loss of revenue to the exchequer? Does not the new born party require more money for implementing its economic programmes? Will it not lead to escalation of the domestic price of coffee?

17.00 hrs.

The jute mills have laid off 80,000 workers. They have made so much money but on some pretext, they have laid off 80,000 workers. After a lot of persuasion, two sick mills have reopened and they have absorbed only 7000 workers. The Budge Budge jute mills have laid off recently 750 workers. I request the minister to kindly send a telex or telegram to compel the owners to take back these workers. Who have been thrown on the streets.

What is the love between the erstwhile government and Coca Cola? Why are they getting the import licences and also permission to repatriate the money? From four, they have managed to get 22 bottling plants. It is a firm of magriolians. If somebody tells them that Mr. Sanjiva Reddy is creating trouble for them in Lok Sabha by permitting questions about Coca Cola, you may be in trouble.

I was talking about the tea industry. What have you done for the plantation workers? They have made so much money. The cost of production is Rs. 7 to 8 per kilo, but the sale price

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

for clean common bottom grade tea is Rs. 20 a kilo. They have imposed a small duty of Rs. 5, but that is not going to touch them. The entire AICC session at Gauhati was financed by the tea plantations. So, for Prof. D.P. Chattopadhyaya and company there was no problem at all.

Coming to the garment industry, the attitude of the government is deplorable. There are over 3 lakhs of Muslim tailors in West Bengal in Budge Budge, Santoshpur and other areas. All the money is being eaten away by middlemen. When they buy cloth, they pay a lot of money. But when they sell the garments, they get only a fraction of the price. The middlemen are getting the money. On the one hand, the middlemen are getting export incentive. On the other hand, they are cheating the poor tailors who are living on starvation diet.

About the Indian Tobacco Co., would the minister take the House into confidence and tell us what was the trouble with the shipment of tobacco which was rejected abroad and what was the invoice manipulation in that? What did they do with the excise duty? I can tell you about it, but I do not have the time.

Another biggest menace which I have been pointing out here right from 1967 onwards—Mr. Chavan will bear me out—is invoice manipulation which is biggest economic enemy of the country. I can assure you we lose nothing short of Rs. 1000 crores a year due to invoice manipulation. They do not have any establishment which can scrutinise and check it. They do not have an intelligence cell to look into it. Only a private eye like the Pinkerton eye can check this invoice manipulation, which is worse than smuggling. What happened? Mr. Bharat Singh Singhanja was caught for invoice manipulation, for under-invoicing in jute products export. He got out on the payment of a paltry sum of Rs. 25

lakhs, of course with the help of the only temple in Delhi which they used to visit till 20th March. A secret circular went out from Mrs. Gandhi—I can produce a copy—that their cases should not be pursued. You catch only the small fry under COFEPOSA and say you are trying to check smuggling. What about the invoice manipulators? What happened to His Master's Voice Company of gramophone records? Union Carbide, Indian Tobacco so many of them are there, but no action was taken. So, these Statutory Boards on produce items are a den of vested interests. In fact all these statutory Boards are dens of vested interests. You see big producers dominating, all of them without exception. The Public Accounts Committee had arranged to see that the Coffee Board is recast. What about other Boards? You have to have more Members of Parliament into these bodies and one thing is the question of propriety. When there are Members of Parliament in a Board sitting as ordinary Members, no bureaucrat should be allowed to chair the meetings because that contradicts the warrant to precedents. A Joint Secretary sitting over as Chairman of the Board where senior Members of Parliament and former Ministers are sitting as Members is highly improper. It should be done away with.

Sir, the Public Accounts Committee made a strong recommendation for expansion of coffee areas. We went to Andhra, particularly Srikakulam District, a tribal area, Very little was done there. For Assam, Orissa, West Bengal and Andaman Islands which are climatically suitable, nothing was done.

Then, Sir, a very interesting thing is instant coffee, viz, Nescafe. You will be surprised to know that we have found out that the price of instant coffee put up by Nestles Products, New Delhi, is Rs. 34.95 paise per kilo. Do you know how much you pay today? You pay about Rs. 7/- per 50-grammes tin of Nescafe. That is a multi-national organisation and they know how to make money out of this.

Then, you have neglected the coffee board workers. For the housing of the coffee board workers and other things you have done nothing. The report is revealing meagre grants. Nothing has been done. You want to shut down the coffee Board workers who work from morning till night. The PAC has given report that in each city or big town where the population is one lakh or more you should have coffee houses. Have you done this? No. You have to explain to the House why you have not done that.

I particularly want to mention that the Tea Board is a dump doll. It has no power. It is a statutory Board. Everything has to be dealt with by an Under Secretary or a Deputy Secretary or a Joint Secretary in the Ministry. As regards Coffee Board, the Board becomes the automatic owner of the coffee beans as soon as they are ready, but for tea it is different. Please amend the Act so that the moment tea comes out of the drier, it becomes the Government property and the marketing has to be left in the hands of the Government. Otherwise you cannot do away with the mischief. The Ministry of Commerce is bigger than the Pacific Ocean. For one Minister it is physically impossible to handle. I have tabled a motion that there should be a Ministry for Plantation Affairs at least because the plantation has assumed a big proportion in the country.

MR. SPEAKER: Your time is over. You please sit down now.

SHRI JOTIRMOY BOSU: Sir, I will sit down in one minute. I make all these submissions and I would expect that the Minister will also put a floor price on raw jute. Otherwise jute fields will be converted into rice fields. Mr. Dhraia, don't blame us later on. If you don't give a floor price an economic price to the grower for the jute, jute fields will be converted into rice fields and you will be sorry later on.

श्री रीतलाल प्रसाद बर्मा (कोडरमा) :
 मैं श्री धारिया जी की मांग का समर्थन करते हुए अपने क्षेत्र के अन्नक व्यापार के सम्बन्ध में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ क्योंकि यह एक ऐसा व्यापार है जिस पर दस बारह लाख लोगों का जीवन निर्भर करता है। लेकिन यह व्यापार आसमान दिशा की ओर जा रहा है जिससे पचासों हजार मजदूर बेकार हो गए हैं। इसके कुछ कारण हैं। पिछली सरकार की कुछ गलत नीतियाँ निर्धारित हुईं और उसके द्वारा कुछ जन-प्रतिनिधियों ने अनुचित लाभ उठाया जिसके परिणामस्वरूप सैकड़ों माइका माइन्स बन्द हो गईं और पांच हजार के लगभग डीलर्स का सारा धन्धा खत्म हो गया। इस कारण हर जगह से मजदूरों की छंटनी हो गई और आज बीसों हजार मजदूर जो क्रिश्चियन माइका इंडस्ट्री लिमिटेड में काम करते थे वे सब घर बैठे हैं। उनके भूखों मरने की नौबत आ गई है और एक दो मजदूर तो मर भी चुके हैं। बिहार गवर्नमेंट की एक अंडर-टेकिंग थी बिहार माइका सिडिकेट, उस में भी करीब दो तीन हजार लोग बुरी तरह से प्रभावित हुए हैं। माइका ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन, मिटको वीकर सेक्शन के लिए बनाया गया था। लेकिन उसकी गलत नीति के कारण छोटे छोटे जो अन्नक के व्यापारी थे जिन की संख्या गिरिडीह, डोमचांच, कोडरमा और उसी क्षेत्र के गांवों में सब मिलाकर करीब 5 हजार के थी, और हर डीलर के यहां 20 से लेकर सैकड़ों मजदूरों को काम देने की क्षमता थी, ये सब आज बेकार हो गये हैं। ये लोग मिक्स्ड या सेमी-प्रोसेस्ड माइका जो तैयार करते हैं उसकी खरीद की गलत नीति के कारण यह हालत इस उद्योग की हो रही है। बड़े बड़े एक्सपोर्टर्स और खदान के मालिक जो हैं उन्हीं में ये विशेष रूप से सौदा करते रहते हैं। उन्हीं के बीच में खरीद बिक्री करते रहते हैं। इस कारण छोटे छोटे डीलरों का यह धन्धा बन्द हो गया है जिससे इतनी बड़ी

[श्री रीतखाल प्रसाद वर्मा]

संरक्षण में सन्तुलन प्रथमविक रूप हैं और सत्य साम्य बहुत सारे कुटुम्ब जो इसमें लगे हुए थे उनका जीवन यथाम कठिन हो गया है ।

यह एक कुटीर उद्योग है और इसमें खदान मालिक, बिर्यातक, डीलर और मजदूर ये चार कड़ियां हैं। इन चारों में लिक ठीक रहे और गवंचमेंट की पालिसी ऐसी हो जो सब लोगों के हित को देख कर चले—राष्ट्रहित, उद्योग हित और मजदूर हित, इन तीनों की अघार शिला पर नीति निर्धारित हो तो सब का जीवन बच सकता है। यह व्यापार जो 40 करोड़ से ऊपर विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित करता है आज 7-8 या 10 करोड़ के अन्दर चला आया है। हमारे पास बहुत से अघ्रक व्यापार संघ वाले आए, बिहार अघ्रक उद्योग संघ और भारत अघ्रक उद्योग संघ, इन सभी संघों के लोगों ने हमारे पास और मंत्री जी के पास मेमोरेण्डम भेजा है कि इस की नीतियां बदलनी चाहिए और इस पर एक ऐसा सेमिनार हो जिसमें खान मंत्री, वाणिज्य मंत्री और श्रम मंत्री तीनों उपस्थित हों। उस के अन्दर इस व्यापार को फिर से पुनर्जिवित करने के लिए उपाय सोचे जायें जिस से यह उद्योग बच सके और सभी को उस में लाभ हो।

मैं इस दिशा में कुछ सुझाव देना चाहूंगा। मिटको को चाहिए कि वह ऐसी नीति बनाएं कि जो कूड माइका खान से निकलता है उस की बिक्री केवल डीलर के यहां हो। क्योंकि जो माइनस या एक्सपोर्टर्स हैं इन की संख्या केवल सैकड़ों में है, ज्यादा नहीं है। इन्हीं लोगों को आज इस का लाभ मिलता है। इसलिए इस पर ऐसा रेस्ट्रिक्शन लगाना चाहिए कि डीलर्स जो पांच हजार की संख्या में हैं उन को यह माइका मिले ताकि उन के यहां इम्प्लायमेंट का अवसर बढ़े। दूसरी

बहुत यह है कि माइका बाजार में स्थिरता आए, उस में संतुलन हो और वीकर सेक्शन को राहत मिल सके। इस के लिए सरकार को मिटको के कुछ अनुसंधान निश्चित रूप से देना चाहिए। वहां की यूनिवर्स और एसोसिएशंस की राय है कि बस करोड़ रुपया सरकार उस में दे और स्टाफ पाइलिंग के लिए छोटे छोटे डीलरों में वह माइका खरीदे ताकि उन लोगों का जीवन भी बचे और मजदूरों का भी जीवन बचे। साथ ही साथ इस में अनुसंधान भी होना चाहिए। जब मिटको की स्थापना हुई थी 1975 में उस समय सरकार ने एक नीति निर्धारित की थी कि माइका के सम्बन्ध में एक रिसर्च संस्थान खोला जाएगा, उस में अनुसंधान कर के देखा जाएगा कि माइका के क्या-क्या उपयोग हो सकते हैं, कौन-कौन सी चीजें बन सकती हैं, और उन वस्तुओं का निर्यात करके हम अधिक से अधिक विदेशी मुद्रा कमा सकते हैं। इस के लिए अब तक उस दिशा में कोई कारगर कार्यवाही सरकार ने नहीं की है। इस लिए जरूरी है कि एक अनुसंधानशाला उसी अघ्रख क्षेत्र में खोलनी चाहिए ताकि वहां के अघ्रख से माइका-फोलियम, माइका-नाइट, माइका-इलेक्ट्रोनिक्स, आदि चीजें बना कर तैयार माल दुनिया के दूसरे देशों को बेच सकें और उन से हमारे देश को अधिक से अधिक लाभ हो।

जो माइका सलाहकार बोर्ड हैं, समिति हैं, लाइजंस कमेटी है, उन में वही पूजीपति जो माइका-मैगनेटस हैं, भरे हुए हैं, इस तरह से वीकर सेक्शन के इन्टरेस्ट को कोई संरक्षण नहीं मिलता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इन कमेटियों में वीकर सेक्शन का भी रिप्रेजेंटेशन होना चाहिए, ताकि इन के द्वारा उन की विक्कों को दूर किया जा सके।

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the House for taking a keen interest in the work of the Ministry of Commerce, Civil Supplies and cooperation. I was having a feeling that perhaps Co-operation Ministry may stand neglected, but I am happy that many Members have taken a lot of interest in Co-operation as well. So, I am grateful to the Members on both the sides of the House, not only for participating in the debates, but I must say for crossing the barriers of political opinions which they thought it fit to do because this Ministry is very much concerned with the national economy of the country. So, the whole debate was elevated to that level and various constructive suggestions, along with constructive criticism, have come forward.

There are several issues with which I am supposed to be dealing because I am the Minister of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Co-operation. I know there are several issues which are quite sensitive and which are affecting the life of the common man.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Oil imports.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Not only oil imports, there are other issues too. Under the circumstances I do not know to what extent it will be possible for me to render justice to all the issues, but within the time that is at my disposal I shall try to do my best.

Hon. Members, and some who are ex-Ministers of the very same Ministry, chose to come forward with forthright criticism and, if I am allowed to say so, with introspection. It goes to their credit, particularly of Shri Pai and also Shri A. C. George, that when they submitted their suggestions, they felt that if there are any failures, the new Government should correct them. I must say it goes to their credit and this has given me a lot of encouragement in handling these matters.

So far as our exports are concerned, please allow me to say at the outset that this country cannot afford to have an export-led growth, because it involves the dangers of perhaps doing some harm to the perspective of development that follows from the ideas that we cherish. Naturally, we cannot accept a policy of export-led growth. At the same time, we cannot forget that the speed to be given to our export strategy cannot be undermined.

What I plead for is not export-led growth, but export growth which will take our country more and more towards achieving self-reliance. When I say self-reliance, it is not starvation, it is something more. So, I may say that the whole emphasis of our exports should be to make our country more and more self-reliant. It is true, but at the same time unfortunate, that reliance was being placed on foreign aid. I can very well understand that there may be occasions when foreign assistance and foreign co-operation are necessary, but while accepting foreign assistance, we shall have to take care to see that the producers here do not suffer, that this country and its progress in attaining this objective of ours are in no way harmed. Therefore, I would like to make it very clear today that taking this precaution, I would very much like to have more and more exports in order to meet the needs of the country.

Ultimately, exports are for what purpose? Exports should be meant to meet the basic domestic needs of our industries of our agriculture, of our developing science and technology. If we want to have these needs satisfied, naturally we should have that much capacity to repay in foreign exchange, and it is in that context that I said that all possible emphasis would have to be laid on our exports.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Not of essential eatables.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I am coming to it.

[Shri Mohan Dharia]

When I say this, I am well aware that the question arises where to draw the line. We want to export—export what? I can very well understand that there were occasions when we had to sacrifice to a great extent as the foreign exchange balance position was absolutely uncomfortable, but today when we are having a comfortable foreign exchange balance position, I have no doubt in my mind that the export strategy should be so planned that the domestic consumer, particularly the common man, does not suffer, that we take care of the essential commodities required by the common man. When I say essential requirements of the common man, it also includes the inputs required for making those goods available.

So, it is in this context, taking care of our domestic needs, that we shall have to plan our export strategy. And, as was rightly said by Mr. Pai and other friends, fortunately India is entering an era where it is possible, whether it is engineering goods, garments or fisheries, excepting fish required by the common man, there being other varieties which we can export, and for a country having thousands of miles of sea coast. . . .

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Fish is selling at Rs. 18 a kilo. There must be a check on that. No matter that you are a vegetarian, you must know that fish is protein diet.

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA (Chikbalapur): Most of the fish that we export is not eaten by Bengalis. It is prawns.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I would like to remove the misunderstanding that I do not eat fish. I can assure the House that whatever is needed for domestic consumption as an essential requirement by the common man, so far as those exports are concerned, the Government shall take care to see that the needs of the common man are properly satisfied.

Then, we shall have to continue to take into account two basic considerations that are involved. One is our

national programme of development and second is the cost that the society has to bear. Here also, the earlier issue is very much involved and when we plan for our exports, our programmes of national re-construction shall have to be taken care of. Now, there are various areas—I am particularly talking of the problem of unemployment whatever may be the industry that we intend to give protection in this country or we want to develop in this country, all possible care shall have to be taken, whether in the field of agriculture or industry, to see that more and more employment is generated and while generating this employment it should be possible for us to achieve the national reconstruction at the one end and also consistent with that programme, we shall have to take care of our exports. So, these are basic considerations that the country cannot afford to forget. This should be the broad outline when we think of any policy review.

I want to make it clear that this country is now fortunate enough to have a favourable balance and all possible efforts shall have to be made to see that this speed is not slackened if we want the country to prosper. I can assure the House that we shall take all possible care to see that this new impetus that we have gained does not suffer a set-back.

Now, I am thinking of my Commerce Ministry, for the time being. We have created several agencies like the STC, MMTTC, TDA and other subsidiaries. And there are many other instruments too. These are various instruments that we have created to take care of our exports and imports and to some extent of our internal as well as external trade. And they are very much in the public sector. Several things are being said here regarding the public sector. It is also alleged that the new Government would not like to take care of the public sector. Here, I would like to make it very clear that we have firm faith in the public sector and in order to control the commanding heights of the economy and to see

that the public sector grows, all possible care shall have to be taken so that it necessarily attains the required heights in the economy. We cannot allow the monopolists to squander and ruin the country. In this background, it is true that there are certain drawbacks, as pointed out by some of the hon. friends from both sides, but we shall have to be very clear whether we want to remove the drawbacks or we want to allow the public sector to die. The shortcomings will have to be removed. This is how we shall proceed further. Therefore, it is not only an enquiry that we have ordered in the STC and MMTC but we have also asked the Institute of Management, Ahmedabad to study the basic objectives for which these institutions—STC, MMTC and their subsidiaries—were created and to what extent, there are certain drawbacks in the functioning of these organisations and as to how they could be made efficient in handling their affairs. The House is well aware that the transactions of the STC have crossed one thousand crores and that of the MMTC is nearing one thousand crore.

Under the circumstances, as to how these institutions which are carrying on transactions of the order of Rs. 1,000 crores could function in an efficient and effective way, it is in this context that we have asked them to make a study. I must say that there are areas where the expenditure could be contained and there are areas where more expertise could be inducted because it has unfortunately so happened that many persons have been inducted without knowing what are the spheres of activity of MMTC, STC and other such institutions. The study will be conducted on various areas of operation, including the staff structure, and, on the basis of the study, prompt action will be taken.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about corruption?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Sir, I have entered into a Ministry which is known for rampant corruption. I have

already taken certain measures regarding certain individuals where there was some *prima facie* evidence. All those cases have been sent to the CBI and, on the basis of that investigation, whatever action is called for will be taken.

When I think of all these public sector institutions, whether it is STC or MMTC, whether it is Jute Corporation, whether it is Tea Board or Coffee Board or Rubber Board, whether it is National Textile Corporation or any such institution, I have no doubt in my mind that all these public sector undertakings shall have to perform an effective role, as an important instrument for achieving socio-economic transformation in the country. To that extent, whatever modifications are necessary shall be made. But to condemn these very institutions will be unfair. At the same time, to undermine the work done by them will also be unfair. Take, for instance, STC. As the Minister of Civil Supplies, I was facing an acute shortage of oil. It is very much true that licences worth Rs. 540 crores were issued in the month of January and February...

SHRIMATI MRINAL GORE (Bombay North): On 17th January, one day before the elections were announced.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I am thankful to the hon. Member for giving the information. Unfortunately, the oil was not imported. It is one thing to take care of those who misbehaved in one area. But to take care of the millions of masses is perhaps more important. I am not here to disclose the figures because that will perhaps affect the international market. But I am now prepared to take the House into confidence and say today that more than 90 per cent of the oil is imported through STC. Now, perhaps, we may not get the cooperation from the private sector. Whether the cooperation comes or not, the STC will take care of the country's requirement. This is how these institutions can

[Shri Mohan Dharia]
 Speaks. Sir, we should not condemn the institutions that are created in the country.

I must make one point very clear that I am not here to say that during the last 30 years nothing has happened in the country. I do not accept this contention. There are several areas where the country has made progress; there are also areas where the country has not made much progress. Wherever they have failed, we are here to rectify it. But to say that nothing has happened in the country is condemning the very capacity of the country and condemning the very capacity of our people. I am not prepared to accept this sort of argument because I know that there are areas and areas where this country has made progress. But while making progress, we have to see whether social justice was rendered to the people.

While I was in the Ministry of Planning, the country, in various areas, had made progress, but while making this progress, we have forgotten the millions of our poor people in the country. We have not taken care of our youngsters. There are millions of masses. More than 70 per cent of our masses are below the poverty line, and in this context, we have failed to give justice to them.

(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: This is the progress they have made.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: My friends will please forgive me if I say some thing more. When I was in the Ministry of Planning, I was one of the persons who insisted within the Government and with the then Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi that when I looked at these various problems of the country, including unemployment, poverty, illiteracy and what not, I felt that we would have to think in a very dispassionate way about sixty crores of our people. Leaders belonging to the various political parties have to come together

in the interest of the country. At that time, I emphasised for a dialogue amongst the Prime Minister, Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan and other leaders. Today, I would like to make it very clear that in case we want to meet various mountainous challenges in the country, we shall have to take into confidence all those who have faith in the country, all those who have faith in our democracy and all those who have faith in providing social justice to the poor people. I had pursued that line then and today I would like to pursue that very line. Those who do not accept this line will be doing great injustice to the younger generations to come, to the country itself and to the poor people.

The STC had played a very good role at that time when the licences to whom they were given, did not fulfil their obligations. It was very clear in the order. It says: "In view of the shortage of oil, it has been decided to give these licences to the private traders to the tune of Rs. 544 crores." In spite of this, it was not done. Now a question is being asked by Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu and other friends what the Government has been doing. Immediately after my taking over the charge, I took care to see that those who had not imported oil or had not entered into any permanent contract, their licences were cancelled and they should not be given licences.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Who are they?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: There were certain cases. (Interruptions) That time has gone now. Otherwise publishing the names of those who committed lesser offences... I do not know why they have not published certain names against whom some enquiries have been instituted.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am grateful to you.

MR. SPEAKER: Allow him to do that.

' SHRI MOHAN DHARIA We have noted the names of those who are responsible for this. My office was convinced about 13 names. Against 13 firms, they had sent the cases to the Central Bureau of Investigation. Out of them, six are such persons whose cases have been referred to the Finance Ministry because these alleged offences are under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act.

श्रीमती सुबाल गोरे : मंत्री महोदय, इनमें से कई लोग अभी विदेश में चले गये हैं डाक्यूजमेंटरी एबीडिस खतम करने के लिये इस बारे में आपको कुछ जानकारी है ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Action has been initiated against parties who were suspected of having misutilised licences issued to them for import of edible oils. Cases of the following 13 parties have been referred to Central Bureau of Investigation for detailed enquiry and advice:

(i) M/s. Godrej Soap Limited, Bombay.

(ii) M/s. Jamnadas Madhavji & Co., Jamnagar.

(iii) M/s. Jai Hind Oil Mills, Bombay.

(iv) M/s. Prabhat Solvent Extraction Industries (Private) Limited, Manayadar.

(v) M/s. The Vegetable Vitamin Foods Co. (P) Ltd., Plot No. 108, 190-B, Soin, Bombay-22.

(vi) M/s. Mulji Devshi & Co., House No. 116-Mulji Devshi Building, 116-Keshavji Naik Road, Bombay-9.

Their matters have also been referred to the Director of Enforcement, Ministry of Finance for enquiry under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act. The others are:

(vii) M/s Kamani Oil Mills, Bombay.

(viii) M/s Shree Krishna Oil Mills, Bombay.

(ix) M/s Karachi Khopra Mills, Bombay—8.

(x) M/s Appejay Private Ltd., Calcutta—16.

(xi) M/s Kuceanic Solvent Industries, Badeshwar, Jamnagar.

(xii) M/s Krishna Oil Cake Industries, Porbander Road, Upleta.

(xiii) M/s Bajrang Lal Amritkumar, Calcutta—27.

श्रीमती सुबाल गोरे : 540 करोड़ रुपए के लाइसेन्स उनको दिये गये । कुल मिलाकर कितने करोड़ रुपए का लाइसेन्स उन्होंने बर बेच दिया ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I don't have the figures now, but I can supply them later.

I was referring to the instruments. I would like to appeal to the House that so far as the STC, MMTC and other public sector undertakings are concerned, they may not say anything to demoralise them. We shall take care to see that they become more effective ultimately. They are our instruments and they will have to be sharpened if these instruments are to be effectively used.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: We know that it is people like C.R. Das who are sucking our blood.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: So far as those names are concerned, I would not like to go into them today. But all such matters wherever there is some evidence have been sent to the Central Bureau of Investigation.

Now, when we think of imports and exports we will also have to take care of the price-line of the country. It is in this context that so far as our domestic production is concerned and our domestic requirements are con-

[Shri Mohan Dharia]

cerned utmost care becomes necessary and, at the same time, the inputs required for our industry and agriculture are also matters of great concern and, therefore, there also great care will have to be taken.

On this occasion I would like to say that, along without internal activities, this Ministry has activities in the international field also. There are certain agencies like UNCTAD, GATT etc. and there are various Councils and other Associations like ESCAP and other bodies where also we are trying to be more effective. Here, India has been playing a dominant role in protecting and safe-guarding the interests of the developing countries. I am sure this House would very much like these activities to be further strengthened by the Commerce Ministry.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I wish you were correct.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Again, we have to think of other areas mentioned by my friends. It is not that we only have to import or export. There may be certain areas—because new skills and new science and technology are developing in the country—where we can have not only economic cooperation but also technical cooperation. We can have agreements with various countries and we can go to the third countries and offer our skills and technology for setting up key industries. This is how we can function. Here also, we are trying to take utmost care. All this will help us because we have certain scientists who have proved themselves to be among the best in the international world. They could be useful in the country and their capacities and their intellect could also be utilised for establishing turnkey projects outside. These are the efforts that are being made by us already and I would very much like to encourage these activities in future also. I accept the suggestions made

by the hon. Members belonging to various sections of the House in this respect.

As I have already said, while looking at the exports and imports, we cannot forget the requirements of the country. Here, comes the coordination with the other Ministry, the Ministry of Civil Supplies. At one end, I am minister incharge of Commerce, and while the Ministry of Commerce may be interested in enhancing our exports more and more, I am also supposed to take due care of the domestic consumers when I look at it from the point of view of the Ministry of Civil Supplies. It is true that prices have risen and have become unbearable to the common man. As I have already explained in this House, the Economic Survey Report tabled by the Finance Minister has taken care of it. It is not that the prices have risen only after our having taken over charge. When there was emergency in the country during the year 1976-77, and the national production was hardly 2 per cent, the rise in money supply was more than 17 per cent. Besides, it is true that the year 1975-76 was a good year from the point of view of crops, but 1976-77 was perhaps again a bad year in certain respects, particularly oil seeds, cotton, jute and pulses. The production of oil is of the order of 33 lakh tonnes and three lakh tonnes are imported to meet our total requirement of 36 lakh tonnes. Unfortunately, the production of groundnut oil went down by 5 lakh tonnes and mustard oil by 3 lakh tonnes. Thus, there was shortage of eight plus three, i.e., 11 lakh tonnes. All this has affected the market. Similar was the case in respect of cotton. The production of cotton, which is supposed to be of the order of 70-71 lakh bales went down to 56-57 lakh bales. Regarding pulses, it is a tragedy that this country has not been able to increase the production of pulses during the last 12 years. It has remained at 11 to 12 million ton-

nes, except in 1975-76, when it went upto 13 million tonnes, but it came down to 12 million tonnes last year.

These shortages have affected the price line and, therefore, efforts are needed to introduce immediate measures, mid-term measures, and long-term measures. Now, in that context, What could be the immediate measures? We have tried our level best in this respect. It is said: Why don't you peg the prices at a particular level? Had there been some buffer-stock with the Government, I would not have waited for a single minute in taking that action, but without any stock if I peg the prices, what would happen in the market? There would be arson, firing and looting in the country. Naturally, I had to take care that unless and until I build up the buffed-stock, I cannot peg the prices. We made efforts through STC and I am happy to say that the stock of the rapeseed oil is 28,000 tonnes and that of soyabean and other oil is 65,000 tonnes and it is with that that we have now brought the price of refined oil to Rs. 8.50.

SHRI D. D. DESAI (Kaira): How did Government treat the farmers in respect of cotton in the year 1975 and how did it treat the farmers who produced ground-nut in 1976? They were very heavily punished.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: On this point I am very much with Mr. Desai that when we are importing oils and other things from outside, why should we not pay more to our own farmers? I am very much with him and I can assure him that whatever best price could be given to the farmers, that shall be the endeavour of my Ministry and of the Government.

Certain measures have to be taken immediately whether it was tea or cotton or oil or pulses. Regarding tea, this was the first time that an export duty was imposed on tea and besides they were asked to bring 80 per cent of the tea produced into the market. It has been queried by my friends

that in case this 80 per cent comes to the market, how can we export? It is for both purposes—for internal consumption as also for exports. Here we have taken care to see that while during 1977 the production of tea will be of the order of 532 million kgs. we shall see that more tea is made available. The exports of tea have been pegged at least year's level. This step is taken to see that tea is made available at reasonable price. These are some of the urgent measures. I have mentioned these to the House on an earlier occasion also and I will not take more time of the House. There were certain other measures which were taken immediately. A small Committee of Secretaries—Secretary of Agriculture, Planning, Finance and Civil Supplies as also some experts from outside—we constituted to recommend measures as to how we can obtain a better production of cotton, oil seeds, pulses and jute taking advantage of the present Kharif season and also the Rabi season and whatever money was needed was made available. When their report came, on the very day it was accepted and implemented. The idea is that we should have a better crop of these various commodities of which we are falling short....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You are increasing tea production. By that you are going to a market which is dominated by the buyers. You should produce just enough.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I will request my friend that my reference was not to tea alone. My reference was to cotton, oil seeds and pulses. He is dreaming somewhere. What can I do?..... (Interruptions) After all, unfortunately, Mr. Bosu is speaking to a new colleague and he is missing the link altogether.

SHRI T. A. PAI (Udipi): It is good that the government asked a committee of Secretaries to go into the question and recommend measures. But do they take one commonsense point of view? Unless it is made

[Sari T. A. Pai]

attractive to the farmer to grow, all your official policies will be of no avail. It is this attitude that farmer alone is not a man who does not require any incentive while every other section of our society needs it that is responsible for all this.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I share very much the hon. Member's concern and I do feel that in case we want the farmers to produce more, an incentive price should be given and a further guarantee that if the price goes down, a proper support price will be given.

These are the mid-term measures. . . (Interruptions) I am not yielding. I patiently sat here and heard all your speeches and only once when a statement was made, I uttered only two sentences. Otherwise I have not at all interfered. So, I will only expect that the members may give me the same treatment.

I was saying that for a country of our size having a population of 65 crores, to tackle this problem of prices and for making available essential supplies of these articles and commodities that are needed by the common man, a permanent system is needed. That is what I meant, namely a massive distribution system, my reference is not only to the distribution apparatus. When I say massive distribution system, in my report I have made it very clear and that is what is needed in the country which is to have the articles and commodities required right from the morning till late at night, and what will be the requirement to-day and what will be requirement in days to come and years to come. Then we shall have to think of production pattern. After that production, we shall have to take care of procurement storage, transport and distribution. And again if these articles are to be made available at a reasonable price, the in-puts that are required by the agriculturists and also by such industries producing such articles, those inputs should be

made available at reasonable prices. That sort of massive system will alone be able to take care of it. That may provide a permanent solution of the problem.

As the debate was elevated to a national level, it is not possible only for the Government to solve the problem. The Central Government, the State Governments, all the political parties, the social scientists and various organisations shall have to come together. We shall have to evolve a national policy right from production to distribution and we all will be partners in that. That may be the only permanent solution.

In this context that report of mine has been sent the various Ministries concerned. It will be up-dated. It will be properly co-ordinated. I would very much like the co-operation of this House and of the State Governments. Of course the Cabinet will take a final decision. In case we could evolve that sort of permanent programme, then alone it would be possible to take care of that. My Ministry is very much engaged in that exercise also.

I do agree with the concern expressed by many hon. members about the rise in prices. Please bear with me that unless and until we evolve such a permanent solution through appropriate measures, it will not be possible to control the price rise.

A mention was made about 1,000 shops to be opened. I had not mentioned about those 1,000 shops in the context of the massive distribution system. It was a function organised by a Vaikuntha Mehta Co-operative Institution. While speaking there I said that so far as Super-Bazars are concerned, we are opening in certain places like Connaught Place and other posh localities, but what is needed is to open shops for the poorer sections of society. It is in this context I said that instead of opening these, we have decided to open 1,000 shops under the Co-operatives. Here if the youngsters come forward, we

would like to give them all the additional help as may be necessary. It is in this context I said that under that scheme a subsidy to the tune of Rs. 2,000 will be made available. As against Super Bazars being opened in posh localities, I said I am interested in the areas where there are jhuggies, in the areas where there are scheduled castes and scheduled tribes who are staying in the backward areas. How are we going to take that care? We are interested in the poor people who shed tears for the small necessities required by them. Unfortunately, it has been taken that I was going to have 1,000 shops and how I could manage that. I may appeal to the House to take into consideration this new aspect, this new strategy being taken by the Government.

Regarding Co-operative movement, I must say today, that this country has suffered a severe set back in the past few years. It is true that in certain areas this cooperative movement has done well. But unfortunately, it has been haphazard movement, and as has been pointed out by Shri Shinde and many other members, the malady is over-politicalisation and over-officialisation of this co-operative movement. If at all we want this co-operative movement to be strengthened and to prosper in the country, what is needed, is commitment to that movement. What is needed is de-officialisation and de-politicalisation of the movement. So far as I am concerned, I can assure this House that I shall not try to bring in any party politics or try to play these institutions for the interest of Janata Party and shall see that it is de-politicalised and de-officialised also.

18.00 hrs.

Sir, I would like to quote Mr. Kantilal Ghia, who happened to be the Chairman of IFCO, that is, Indian Fertilizer Corporation. It is a co-operative venture.

922 LS—12.

Immediately after my assuming office, Kantilal ji came to me and said: 'Mr. Dharia, please take my resignation'. I asked 'why'? He said: 'I am the Chairman of this organisation. The Janata Party has come to power'....

श्री लालजी भाई (सलूमबर) मेरा
व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है :

मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि आयात और निर्यात की आप ने उदार नीति बरती है लेकिन तस्करी के खिलाफ कोई प्रभावशाली नीति नहीं बरती है। वे चोरी-चुपके माल लाते और ले जाते रहते हैं और महंगाई बराबर बढ़ रही है। उन के खिलाफ सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है।

श्री मोहन धारिया : माननीय सदस्य ने जो बताया है, उस पर मैं ध्यान दूंगा।

श्री लालजी भाई : महंगाई पर कोई फर्क नहीं पड़ा है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : एक दफा तो ठीक है लेकिन बार-बार नहीं।

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Kantilal ji said: 'The Janata Party has come to power. I am the President of the Gujarat Congress Committee I want to resign.' I said 'I will not accept your resignation I do not look at the co-operative movement from any political angle. If you are working on right lines and if your co-operative movement is making progress, then, there is no need for you to resign'. I did not accept his resignation. I am quoting it to point out to you that I would like to have the cooperation of the whole House in having this approach so far as the co-operative movement is concerned.

[Shri Mohan Dharia]

I am very clear in my mind that if our objective of establishing democratic socialism is to succeed, we should have accept decentralisation of economic power and here the co-operative movement can play a vital role so that our democratic forces can be properly strengthened in the country. I would very much like that weaker sections are properly represented so far as our co-operative movement is concerned

Now, in the meeting of NAFED which was held recently in Delhi this was the first time that the representatives of primaries were present here. All of them took part in the deliberations. I am speaking about it because nobody should try to undermine the importance of the co-operative movement in the country. On the contrary, we would like to give all possible help so far as the co-operative movement is concerned because here we have a vital force to protect our democracy in the country. We should bring in decentralisation of power through panchayats and zilla parishads. We should bring in decentralisation of economic power through the co-operatives. This will go a long way in achieving our desired objectives.

We very often hear a cry saying this should be nationalised, that should be nationalised, sugar industry should be nationalised, textile industry should be nationalised, etc. The House is aware that I am not a person who is opposed to nationalisation; on the contrary I believe that nationalisation is one of the instruments for socio-economic change. But then there are areas, particularly areas of our agricultural producers, to whom we should give every possible assistance. We should give them all encouragement and help whether they are engaged in agriculture or in any other cooperatives, sugar, textiles, spinning mills and so on. We should try to strengthen their hands. If there is anything which has gone wrong, we should take care to see

that the wrong is corrected. We should not discourage this movement. On the other hand, we should encourage them in every way. I say this because concentration of economic power leads to dictatorial trends. Therefore, we should not allow this concentration to take place. This is one of our primary objectives and I am sure that the co-operative movement will help us in this direction.

So, Sir, these are the broad strategies about my Ministry.

So far as cut motions are concerned, there are several cut motions and I have my notes prepared. And I can deal with all these cut motions. I suppose nobody wants it. However, I must say that in some matters, we have taken certain decisions and, to that extent, I shall be very brief. I would like to say that regarding handloom, one constraint has been removed. That is this. The U.S.A. had imposed quota restrictions on our exports of handloom garments to that country. We have been pointing out to them through a series of negotiations that such a step is not only illegal in terms of the international agreements on textile trade but also injurious to the interests of the multitude of handloom weavers in India. After considerable efforts, the U.S. Government have recognised the force in our arguments. I am glad to inform the House that as a consequence, an agreement has been entered into between us and the United States on 17-6-1977 dismantling these quota restrictions on export of handloom garments. Henceforth, exports of handloom garments to U.S.A. will be free of all quota restrictions. This will go a long way because there are lots of garments which have piled up and this will give a lot of opportunities to the small-scale industries in our country.

Regarding the import of coconut oil, it has been decided to drastically restrict the amount of coconut oil to be imported. Orders have been

issued to re-examine the licences so far issued, assess the extent of contracts made and restrict the amount of licences so far issued. The level of import duty has been so fixed as to enable the imported oil to be marketable at prices not lower than the prevailing domestic prices. This should give sufficient protection to the coconut growers in the country.

Regarding rubber, the Government is actively considering the issue of fixation of price of rubber to ensure a fair return to the rubber growers. It is expected that the Government will be able to announce its decision on the quantum of the minimum price within a few weeks at the most.

Regarding coffee, as all the Members are aware, a lot of friends from Kerala State insisted to bring down the export duty on coffee. On 12th February, 1976 export duty on coffee was raised from Rs. 50 to Rs. 300 per quintal. Subsequently, on 6th November, 1976, this was raised to Rs. 1,300 per quintal and on 26th April, 1977 to Rs. 2,200 per quintal. However, as the international prices started declining, during May, 1977, this import duty was reduced on 18th May, 1977 to Rs. 1,600 per quintal and more recently, on 25th June, 1977 to Rs. 1,100 per quintal. The Government is keeping a continuous watch on international prices and will consider providing suitable relief as and when the situation so warrants.

Regarding the rise in price of art silk yarn raised by my friends, I had a meeting with all the manufacturers of the rayon industry and because of my intervention, it has come down by about Rs. 5 per k.g. But, whatever quota was voluntarily accepted and was not delivered to these weavers by the spinners, that quota will also be given. These are some of the comments that I want to make.

SHRIMATI V. JEYALAKSHMI (Sivakasi): Are you going to introduce the statutory control on art silk yarn? That is the only question

that I want to ask? Otherwise you can't control the fluctuation of prices.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I can only assure this House that I shall take care of all the weavers because I am very much interested in the weavers. I cannot take a decision on the floor of the House. I shall look into their problems.

Regarding cashew imports, Mr. Nair has suggested that it should be taken up at the ministerial level. We used to import cashew, particularly, from the African countries and from Tanzania. Most of those countries have also started processing it. Naturally, they are reluctant to give their cashews because they would like to add to their value. When they can add to the value of their exports, naturally, they are reluctant to give their cashews. As my hon. friend suggested, I shall take the matter with the Ambassador or at the level of the High Commissioner or at the ministerial level.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR: They want to earn more profits and that is why they bargain with the African countries and come back empty-handed.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: As suggested by you, I shall take up the matter even at the ministerial level. But, by and large, though I only stated the strategy, I know that it is not possible for me....(Interruptions)

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: What about coconut?

MR. SPEAKER: Please don't convert it into a question hour.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Sir, one more word and I have done. Regarding the trust in man and trust in trade, I may say that this whole House and this country believes in the philosophy of trust in man. It is in this context that we have increased trust in man. If somebody takes undue advantage of this trust or somebody misbehaves, as I have

[Shri Mohan Dharia]

already stated, those culprits shall be dealt with firmly as I have already done and also reported the same to the House.

Then there is one more important point about the consultative committee of Parliament so far as my Ministry is concerned. This House will be happy to know that we have divided this consultative committee of forty members in five groups, namely, foreign trade, plantations, textile and jute, civil supplies and cooperation. I have decided to give utmost importance to these five groups of the consultative committee. So far as these five groups are concerned, I have already asked my office to give these groups all possible cooperation. One official will be asked to take care of the work of the Committee. I would very much like to take these Members of Parliament into confidence on several issues that are concerned with my Ministry.

श्रीमती अहिल्या यी० रांगनेकर (बम्बई उत्तर-मध्य) : काटन के मोनोपोली प्रश्नोत्तरोंमें के बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा है ।

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: There is a monopoly procurement scheme in Maharashtra. Basically—as I have said earlier while I was in the Ministry of Planning—if due justice is to be rendered to the agriculturist, the middleman shall have to go. We will be encouraging either their cooperatives or creating an agency by the government. This will be the best solution. Unfortunately, this scheme got started only in one State and there I had my doubts and I expressed the same to the then Chief Minister and also to the present Chief Minister, that is, it may not be possible to implement this scheme if it is made applicable to one State. That

was the only difficulty. In principle I have no doubt in my mind that there should be a direct link between the agricultural producer and the consumers. There should be a direct link between the consumers, the producers and the industrial consumers. The middlemen who are taking all this profit shall have to be eliminated gradually. To that extent, I have no doubt in my mind but because of constraints and difficulties naturally there is going to be a dialogue between the Chief Minister and the Prime Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Does anybody want to put any Cut Motion separately or shall I put them together?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: All together.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put all the Cut Motions relating to the Ministry of Commerce to the vote of the House.

Cut motions Nos. 1, 2, 9 to 37 and 41 to 59 were put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the Demands for Grants to the vote. The question is:

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the Year ending the 31st day of March, 1978, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 15 and 16 relating to the Ministry of Commerce.”

The motion was adopted.

Demands for Grants, 1977-78 in respect of the Ministry of Commerce voted by Lok Sabha.

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 30-3-1977		Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE					
15.	Ministry of Commerce.	48,50,000		97,01,000	..
16.	Foreign Trade and Export Production	131,54,90,000	105,22,44,000	277,65,39,000	177,19,87,000

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put all the Cut Motions moved to the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Civil Supplies and Co-operation to vote together.

Cut Motions Nos. 10 to 18 were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the Demands for Grants to vote. The question is:

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue

Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1978, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 13 and 14 relating to the Ministry of Civil Supplies and Co-operation.”

The motion was adopted.

Demands for Grants, 1977-78 in respect of the Ministry of Civil Supplies and Cooperation Voted by Lok Sabha.

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 30-3-1977		Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House.	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION					
13.	Ministry of Civil Supplies and Co-operation	12,27,000	..	24,53,000	..
14.	Civil Supplies and Cooperation	7,57,74,000	7,21,16,000	15,27,48,000	14,19,32,000

18. 17 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till 28, 1977 / Asadha 7, 1899 (Saka)

Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, June