

Broadcasts alleging ticketless travel by  
Congress (I) Workers (St.)

12.33 hrs.

- 12.30 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PETITION RE. GRIEVANCES OF  
EMPLOYEES OF COAL INDIA LTD.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA  
(Serampore) : Sir, I beg to present a petition signed by Shri Chitta Ray and others regarding grievances of employees of Calcutta offices of Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiary companies.

12.30 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. REPORTED AIR  
BROADCASTS ALLEGING TICKET-  
LESS TRAVEL BY SOME CONGRESS  
(I) WORKERS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND  
BROADCASTING (SHRI JAGBIR  
SINGH) : A news item was broadcast,  
by AIR in the morning of April 7, 1978  
in English and Hindi bulletins that three  
Congress (I) Members, who were ac-  
companying the Party President on way  
from New Delhi to Aligarh in the ACC  
Compartment of a train, were 'allegedly  
caught travelling without ticket. They  
were fined Rs. 100/- each.

The news item was based on a Samachar  
report which was also carried by some of  
the newspapers. AIR report put it very  
cautiously and used the words "allegedly  
caught". It was a categorical report by  
Samachar which even gave the amount of  
fine imposed.

When the report was denied by Shri  
Buta Singh, General Secretary of Congress  
(I), the denial was also broadcast on  
April 8, 1978, both in the English and  
Hindi bulletins by AIR.

It is incorrect that the original news  
item was broadcast for three days. It  
was broadcast only once in the respective  
bulletins. The denial by Shri Buta  
Singh was likewise carried in the concerned  
bulletins.

It is also incorrect that the news about  
the alleged ticketless travelling was  
broadcast even after the denial by the  
Railway Authorities on the Floor of the  
House.

## SIXTEENTH REPORT

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI  
RAVINDRA VARMA) : I beg to move:  
"That this House do agree with the  
Sixteenth Report of the Business Ad-  
visory Committee presented to the  
House on the 26th April, 1978."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the  
Sixteenth Report of the Business Ad-  
visory Committee presented to the House  
on the 26th April, 1978."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil) :  
Sir, the Railway Minister is here. A  
Railway strike is going on in the South  
and we are suffering a lot.

12.35 hrs.

## APPROPRIATION (NO. 3) 1978

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE  
(SHRI H. M. PATEL) : I beg to move\*

"That the Bill to authorise payment  
and appropriation of certain sums from  
and out of the Consolidated Fund of  
India for the services of the financial  
year 1978-79 be taken into considera-  
tion."

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to authorise payment  
and appropriation of certain sums from  
and out of the Consolidated Fund of  
India for the services of the financial  
year 1978-79 be taken into considera-  
tion."

As regards scope of the discussion, Rule  
218(5) says:

"218(5). The Speaker may, in order  
to avoid repetition of debate, require  
members desiring to take part in dis-  
cussion on an Appropriation Bill to  
give advance intimation of the specific  
points they intend to raise, and he may  
withhold permission for raising such of  
the points as in his opinion appear to  
be repetitions of the matters discussed  
on a demand for grant or as may not  
be of sufficient public importance."

So, whatever points have been covered in the Demands, I have disallowed them. It is only in respect of the Demands which have not been covered, observations will be allowed.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU** (Diamond Harbour): Sir, Rule 218(4) says like this:

"218(4). The debate on an Appropriation Bill shall be restricted to matters of public importance or administrative policy implied in the grants covered by the Bill which have not already been raised while the relevant demands for grants were under consideration."

Sir, Railway was discussed but that particular point was not covered or highlighted. A Member has a right to say anything that has not been replied to by the Minister.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I am not in a position to get your point.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Sir, you can restrict me if I say something which is not of public importance. You can restrict me if it is not connected with the administrative policy implied in the grants. You can restrain me if I bring something which is not covered in the Grants. You have now guillotined all those demands while the relevant demands for grants were under discussion. That means the grants which were being discussed, in that the point was not highlighted on the Minister's reply did not cover that point or the House was not satisfied with the reply.

**MR. SPEAKER:** It is not like that. It has not been raised by any Member.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** If the Minister did not reply to the point....?

**MR. SPEAKER:** It is mentioned here.

"—he may withhold permission for raising such of the points as in his opinion appear to be repetition of the matters discussed on a demand for grant or as may not be of sufficient public importance."

**SHRI ANNASAHAB GOTKHINDE** (Sangli): It was a specific matter regarding Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu zones while fixing the price of levy sugar. Nobody can say that it is not a matter of sufficient public importance. Neither the Minister of State nor the Cabinet Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation had even touched this point.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** I have had the privilege of speaking on the Appropriation Bill for many years. This is the first time I am hearing such observations from you; I regret to say this.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE** (Akola): Two things will be important under sub-clauses 4 and 5. If it is a matter of public importance, although the demands for grants had been discussed, if it arise thereafter, it has to be raised now. Then there could be no bar under sub-clause (4) to stop that matter being discussed. Under (5), it is the time to be given; notice is normally to be given before 10 O'clock. What happens? You have allowed some time in you notice which was sent to us this morning. That envelope comes round about 9 or 8 'clock sometimes even later; some people get it earlier.

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS** (PROF. MADHU DANDHAVATE): Le gets up late.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** If at that time the Member has some other business and he has to go out for a meeting, why should you debar him from giving notice before 11 O'clock to you? All that you want under the rules is notice in advance. Why do you want to prevent a Member? That is precisely what has happened to me today. I had to go out for a meeting.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Many people go out, for marriage or for some thing else.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** It is your disciplinary power and you should allow us to speak on demands which were not discussed at all, for instance, civil aviation and tourism.

**MR. SPEAKER:** No, I am sorry.

**SHRI C. M. STEPHEN** (Idukki): You have stated in the bulletin, "before 10 O'clock. There is distinction between notice being given and advance intimation being given with respect to a debate. With regard to notice there is a standing rule that the notice must come before 10 O'clock; everybody knows that. Here is a question of debate coming up when advance intimation has got to be given and the 10 O'clock deadline will be very harsh. It is not contemplated also. Kindly go through the spirit of the rule. "The Speaker may, in order to avoid repetition

[Shri C.M. Stephen]

of the debate. . . . . "That is the most important part of it. Points will have to be spent out to you before he speaks; it should be before the debate, not before 10 O'clock. It happens that the notice in the bulletin escapes them or it reaches them late and they are not aware of it. Therefore I submit that with respect to notice by 10 O'clock there must be relaxation. Any notice that comes to you before the debate begins must be taken note of and permission must be given because that is the spirit of the rule, it is to avoid repetition of debate. There is a difference between the rule with regard to notice and intimation with respect to the debate.

**SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Bengaluru) :** May I seek a clarification from the Chair ? Where the rule refers to the repetition of a debate, it means that a point has been raised by an hon. Member and that point has been dealt with by the Minister concerned. If the point has not been dealt with by the Minister concerned, then there has been no debate. The same point may be raised by the hon. Member, because it happens to be a matter of public importance. Therefore, your ruling in this matter should be that if a point of sufficient public importance had been raised by an hon. Member, and had not been dealt with by the Minister concerned, then the hon. Member who raised it or any other hon. Member would be quite in order to raise the same point and that would not be considered as repetition of the debate. This is extremely important because a Member may be very serious about a particular point and the country's mind may also be agitated on that point but the Government may conveniently pass over that point. Therefore, it should be your ruling that that can of course, come within the scope of the discussion.

**MR SPEAKER :** When we come to the actual point, we will consider that.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** What is your ruling ? Kindly see Rule 33a.

It reads :

"Every notice required by these rules shall be given in writing addressed to the Secretary-General, and signed by the member giving notice, and shall be left at the Parliamentary Notice office which shall be kept open for this purpose between the hours to be notified from time to time on every day except Sunday.."

This 10 O'clock business applies to the notice which is required by Rules : Sub-rule (5) of Rule 218 does not talk of notice at all. It talks only of the intimation to be given in advance before the debate starts. Under the Rules, you cannot, even by circulation in your bulletin, tell us that it must be given before 10 O'clock, which is contrary to the Rules. I go to that extent. Otherwise, you do not use your discretion. How can you debar us from raising ? I want your ruling.

**SHRI C.M. STEPHEN :** It is not a question of ruling and all that. It is a question of just accommodating. The Members have brought it to your notice that for certain reasons, they cannot give notice before 10 o'clock. The point is whether those Members should also be allowed to participate if there is no repetition and if they have given advance intimation.

**MR SPEAKER :** The question arises when there is a written notice, whether it is before or after 10 O'clock. Otherwise, it does not arise at all.

The first notice is that of Mr Jyotirmoy Bosu. Mr Basu has given as many as fourteen. He has avoided thirteen and given fourteen. The first one is, the Government's Industrial Policy with particular reference to the attitude towards the monopoly houses and multinationals. This has already been debated and the Minister has replied to it.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** I will cover new grounds. It is a matter of sufficient public importance.

**MR SPEAKER :** No. The matter has been raised, debated and replied to.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** The debate on an Appropriation Bill shall be restricted to matters of public importance.

**MR SPEAKER :** Undoubtedly.

The Rule further reads :

"...implied in the grants covered by the Bill which have not already been raised while the relevant demands for grants were under consideration.

These demands were raised and considered.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** That way you will get no cooperation from us.

**MR SPEAKER.** I cannot purchase your cooperation on your terms.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** You allow me to speak. When I get into a forbidden area, you tell me. This House is totally averse to such observations coming from the Chair. Economic issues have got to be debated on the floor of the House.

**MR SPEAKER :** Economic issues are not the monopoly of a single Member it is the monopoly of the House.

This point has been raised, debated and replied to. I come to No.2.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** Why are you labouring yourself unnecessarily? You allow me to speak.

**MR SPEAKER :** I cannot allow. I have got the right to fix the time. Do not bother about that. The Rules provide for that. I come to the second one, viz., the activities in India of the following MNCs: ITC, Hindustan Lever, Pfizer, etc. This has also been raised, debated and replied to.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** No, Sir. On which day? In which debate? Let the library be brought here.

**MR SPEAKER :** It is not for me to bring the library here.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** You tell me what I should not speak.

**SHRI VAYAIAR RAVI :** You are going to give us limited time 5 or 10 minutes and nobody can cover everything under the sun in that short time. Allow us to speak and if there is something you can stop us.

**MR SPEAKER :** I think it will be an easier procedure. Each member will have 5 minutes.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** I require 10 minutes.<sup>1</sup>

**MR SPEAKER :** No. There are a number of persons. Not more than 5 minutes.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** 10 minutes.

**MR SPEAKER :** I am presiding, not you! After 5 minutes you should stop. The Finance Bill will have to be passed.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** Then I shall sit down.

**MR SPEAKER :** That is a very good gesture. Shri Prasada Rao.

76a L.S.—7

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** I will take 8 minutes.

**MR SPEAKER :** No, Mr Bosu. Only 5 minutes. No bargaining.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** They have claimed that there is increase in food production. But if you look at the Economic Survey of the current year, you will see that in coarse cereals including rice, other cereal, pulses, etc., the production has come down substantially. They talked about the most seriously affected countries. The Minister said that food production during 1974-76 was higher than in the previous biennium 1971-73. But if you read the United Nations report on this, page 18, it will show that what the minister had claimed is totally baseless. There is so much famine in the sphere of edible oil. The report which came in Business Standard dated 19th March is also a revealing thing, which belies what the minister has claimed. The Economics and Statistics Directorate of the Agriculture Ministry and ICAR do the costing of jute, tobacco, sugarcane and other cash crops always in such a way that it is tilted heavily towards the industrialists and the farmer is being exploited. He is giving a pound of flesh of every commodity when he parts company with it. The matters relating to the most important scientific body in the country involving ICAR need immediate examination and probing. A team of scientists of national importance must be deputed to do job evaluation of ICAR. They must also tell us what steps they have taken on the Gayendragadka Commission's report.

The permission for indiscriminate diversification to different businesses given to India Tobacco Co. has enabled them to diversify into hotels, fisheries and several low priority profitable areas. They are using dummy firms like Utkal Marine Co. and so many others. Small fishermen are dying. Small middlemen are dying. The whole thing is being swallowed by big business companies. Cadbury & Co. which has earned enormous profit has been allowed to start an apple juice plant in Himachal Pradesh. Britannia Biscuit Co. are producing three times what they are permitted to produce under their licensed capacity. Then there is Union Carbide and so on. These are all economic offenders. They are manipulating invoices while exporting fish and so many other things. This year there has been plunder of the tobacco growers in Andhra Pradesh. The tobacco growers have lost not less than Rs 50 to 60 cores. I want to know whether the price

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bose]

of cigarettes will be reduced to the extent of the tobacco growers' loss. Hindustan Levers Ltd. repatriated the maximum amount of profit. They have been caught with a tankerful of adulterated til oil in their Ghaziabad factory. I would like to know what has been done about it. The soap they are marketing has 25% less total fat content. Yet the Industry Minister is a silent spectator. The Commerce Minister and Civil Supplies Minister are silent spectators. It is very important that these things should be immediately looked into.

Sir, the Cadburys Ltd. have been charged by MRTTP. Their profit for 1975 on Paid-up capital was 131.9 per cent. Their profit in 1977 on Paid up capital was 320.1 per cent. We are moving towards socialism. We realise this. May & Baker & Co. plundering the country have set up a dozen benami firms in order to hoodwink the MRTTP. The Government's new drug policy in refusing to implement the majority Report of Hathi Commission on nationalisation is regrettable.

I would also like to know who are the owners or controlling hands behind the Coca Cola and Campa Cola. Is that the same interest and the same set of people? I would like to know this immediately. Multinationals are being allowed to enter freely in low priority consumer goods areas, the highly profitable areas. The Hindustan Levers made a remittance of their profit to the extent of Rs 3,00,94,385. It is a record remittance. Glaxo remitted Rs 86,14,134. The paid up capital of Colgate Palmolive is Rs 15 lakhs. Their remittance is Rs 1,55,71,797. The remittance of Bata Shoes is Rs 14,02,500. The remittance of India Tobacco Company is Rs 2,04,17,697. Pfizer & Co with a paid up capital of only Rs 2 lakhs, in one year, in 1976, made a profit of Rs 2.96 crores and the total profit made so far with these Rs 2 lakhs is Rs 16.3 crores. I would like to have the explanations from the Ministers concerned on this issue. What the Finance Minister is doing with regard to Kapadis and Kohinoor Mills? There is a fraud of Rs 26 crores. I would like to know the details as to what steps they have taken and whether they are going to prosecute them or not.

श्री केशवराव शेंवने (नांदेड) : सदर साहब, ज्यू शक्ति के बारे में जो प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने घोषणा की है, मुझे बड़ा ताज्जुब मालूम होता है कि पूरी नवती पहले को क्वेश्चन को है, हर पार्लिमी उनकी

गलत है, ऐसा कहकर ज्यू क्षेत्र में जो प्रवृत्ति हम करना चाहते हैं, ज्यू विस्कोट कर के विकास करना चाहते हैं, उसको मना करना मेरे ब्याल में शरणागती है, बुजर्दि ली का मामला है। इसलिये मैं हुकूमत से कहना चाहता हू कि आप उसके दबाव के सामने झुक गये हैं, और कहना चाहते हैं कि माइटिस्टो को और एक्सपर्ट लोगों की राय आप की जेब में है। हम यहां बैठने वाले क्या कोई नहीं हैं? हम कहना चाहते हैं कि मुल्क की हिकाजत के लिहाज से, बकत आ जाये तो आजादी को बरकरार रखने के लिये एटम बम रखना पड़ेगा। आपको हम हाउस को विश्वास में लेना पड़ेगा। अगर महज उस कांफ्रेंस गवर्नमेंट ने इनको सपोर्ट किया था इसलिये यह करना नहीं है, यह ठीक नहीं अमेरिकन लाबी के सामने यह झुकना है, ऐसा मैं कहता हूँ।

दूसरी चीज यह है कि देश के बारे में हमको एटमिक एनर्जी में स्वावलंबी बनना बहुत जरूरी है, मुल्क के लिहाज से बहुत जरूरी है, इसकी कोशिश करनी चाहिये।

इसके अलावा ग्रामीण एरिया में टेलीफोन, पोस्टग्रॉफिस और टेलीग्राफ का इंतजाम बहुत कम है। मुझे परखों मंत्री महोदय ने जवाब दिया है कि एक एक जिले में 8 जगह पर है, 6 जगह पर है, इसके मायने यह है कि देहात के लोगों को हम सुविधाएं देने की तैयार नहीं हैं। देहात के लोगों को आप इन्सान मानने के लिये तैयार हैं या नहीं यह मेरा हुकूमत से सवाल है।

इसलिये मैं सरकार से गुजारिश करना कि वह भी इन्सान है, उनको भी उतना ही हक है जितना शहर के लोगों को हक है। दबा को छोड़कर उनके लिये टेलीफोन का इंतजाम नहीं है, पोस्टग्रॉफिस का इंतजाम नहीं है। आप उनके साथ कैसा बर्ताव करते हैं?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन के बारे में गुजारिश करना कि ब्रिटिश गवर्नमेंट की जो पालिसी थी, उसमें तबदीली करना बहुत जरूरी है। बाहर के फार्मर्स के लिहाज से जो कुछ सुविधाएँ दी जाती हैं, उन्हें देश के लोग, हिन्दुस्तान के लोग भी देखना चाहते हैं। ये लोग हिन्दुस्तान के पर्यटन केन्द्रों, तहजीब और तमद्वुन की जगहों को देखना चाहते हैं, लेकिन उन के लिए कोई सहूलियतें नहीं हैं। यह सारी व्यवस्था इतनी महंगी है कि गरीब आदमी उस का फायदा नहीं उठा सकता है। ऐसा मालूम होता है कि ट्रिजम डिपार्टमेंट सिर्फ बड़े बड़े लोगों और फारेनर्स के लिए है—अगर किसी को कोई ट्रिस्ट प्लेस देखनी हो, तो वह फारेनर बन कर आये, गरीबी के लिए यह मना है। इस के माने ये हैं कि जो एडमीशन कार्ड इच्छियन्स। यह बड़े ताज्जुब की बात है। इस लिए ट्रिजम डिपार्टमेंट में बुनियादी तब्दीली करनी चाहिए।

मैं गुजारिश करना चाहता हूँ कि नादेब के लिए भी हवाई अड्डा की सचिस मरु की जाये। इस बारे में नेशनल इकानॉमिक सर्वे इंस्टीट्यूट ने 1974-75 में एक कामर्सल सर्वे किया था। नादेब मराठवाड का एक प्रसिद्ध नगर है और पर्यटन केन्द्र है। वहाँ बस द्वारा है। बम्बई से हैदराबाद तक रोज दो बसत की सचिस है। अगर नादेब को भी इस सचिस से जोड दिया जाये, तो उचित होगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि नादेब के लिए एयर सचिस मरु करना बहुत जरूरी है।

कच्चार ने भी एक एयरस्ट्रिप बनाने की माग की जा रही है। वहाँ के मिजाजी कालेज ने कहा है कि हम लोग इन में मदद देने और श्रमदान करने के लिए तैयार हैं। लेकिन इस के लिए न तो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट तैयार है और न केन्द्रीय सरकार तैयार है। कच्चार के नवदीन बहादुरपुरा शांतिघाट के पास पर्यटक केन्द्र स्थापित करने के बारे

में मुझे महाराष्ट्र एसेम्बली में श्रान्वासन दिया गया था। लेकिन मैंने सुना है कि सरकार नये पर्यटक केन्द्र बनाने के लिए तैयार नहीं है। ऐसा मालूम होता है कि ट्रिजम डिपार्टमेंट में भी फीमिली प्लानिंग आ गया है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में सही संस्कृति मौजूद है। सरकार को उसे देखने के लिए लागू को मदद करनी चाहिए और बहादुरपुरा शांतिघाट के पास पर्यटक केन्द्र स्थापित करने की व्यवस्था करनी चाहिये।

जहाँ तक हवाई जहाजों में व्यवस्था का सवाल है, मैं एयरबस में बम्बई से दिल्ली आया, तो मैंने देखा कि वहाँ पर मच्छर के बगैर टिकट के, जो देशी और विदेशी लोगों का खून चूसते थे। इन बातों से हमारे मुल्क की बदनामी होती है। सरकार को इस तरह ध्यान देना चाहिए। हवाई अड्डा का एक्सीडेंट भी नहीं होने देना चाहिये।

अगर सरकार लोगों को न्याय देने की व्यवस्था का विकेन्द्रीकरण करना चाहती है, तो उसे मराठवाडा के लिए औरंगाबाद में हार्ड कोर्ट बैच स्थापित करनी चाहिए।

जा गरीब लोग कार्ट में आते हैं, वहाँ उन के लिए बैठने की जगह नहीं है, कोई बेंचिंग रूम नहीं है और इस लिए उन्हें घुस और बारिश में बैठना पड़ता है, जबकि बड़े बड़े लोग बार एसीमिशन के रूम में बैठते हैं। लिहाजा हर कोर्ट में ग्राम लोगों के बैठने के लिए बेंचिंग रूम की व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए। इस के प्रस्ताव देहाती लोगों के लिए भी मोबाइल कोर्ट्स की भी जरूरत है।

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN (Coimbatore) : I wish to confine myself to just two points in the limited time that is there. There is a very serious case in which I would like to draw the attention of the Minister, but before doing

[Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan]

that, I have to make an appeal to him. And that is this: he should immediately apply for a divorce. You will be surprised at this suggestion. He must divorce himself from the rules. All the time he is quoting the rules, or misquoting the rules, and he refuses to liberate himself from the rules.

There was a case involving the Jeypore Sugar Co. It was a case of serious defalcation of funds. I should say because they have violated the Essential Commodities Act and they have black-marketed in sugar and avoided excise duty. And they have been penalized for a more Rs 6 lakhs although they have gained Rs 90 lakhs in the black market. Already this has been brought to the notice of the Minister. And what does he reply? Under Rule 173 Q of the Central Excise Rules, a penalty upto 2 times the value of the excisable goods can be imposed. However they say that what is most relevant is not the value of the goods but the amount of excise duty evaded, or sought to be evaded in a particular case. In this case the duty evaded was (interrupted). This levy sugar was sold in the black market and not given to the allottees. At that time the price of levy sugar was Rs 150/- per quintal whereas the price of the open market sugar was Rs 360/- per quintal. And these people have committed an anti-social act by selling levy sugar in the black market and not giving it to the allottees. And you penalized them only Rs 6 lakhs when they have made more than Rs 30 lakhs of black money. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to a judgement by Chief Justice Chagla and Justice Gajendragadkar in Bombay, when a person was sentenced by the Magistrate to 6 months imprisonment and a fine of Rs 2 lakhs, when he sold a small piece of cloth without issuing a voucher and made a profit of Rs 1.75. When it came on appeal, what did Chief Justice Chagla and Justice Gajendragadkar say? They said that the imposition of a fine of Rs 3 lakhs was not excessive, and that such an economic offender must be dealt with severely so that he would not be able to enjoy his ill-gotten wealth after he came back from the jail. I understand that this case was decided in the Bombay High Court as far back as 1948. He is old enough to remember that. Therefore I would request he should go into these cases and see that the black market money that is being earned by these people is mopped up by this department, instead of introducing excise duty on many new items.

13.30 hrs.

Secondly, I come to the old age pensioners. He is no longer an old-

age pensioner, but he should have sympathy for those who are retired, many of whom were working under him, or may have been his colleagues. What do they ask for? They have only said that there should be a Pension Commission to go into the pension rules and revise them so that they are brought up to date, the wide disparities between one pensioner and another are removed and they are given extra dearness allowance. I think he should agree to those demands.

Lastly the Finance Minister is today standing in the way of the Minister of Energy who is sitting here because the CDS amounts have to be repaid to the workers of the Singareni Collieries and that is being held up by the Finance Minister. Khammam has been declared a cyclone-affected area and the workers have been asking for the money back. They are not being given that. So they are on strike and coal is not being produced. The thermal power station has come to a standstill in Madras and this will happen in Andhra and other places. Let him wake up and sanction that amount.

SHRI A. K. ROY (Dhanbad) : Sir, I say in all humility that the Energy Minister is being sandwiched because of all sorts of reasons. He is making a power plan. In Bihar even though the installed capacity is 750 mw you will be surprised to know that we are getting only 250 mw. So, all our industries are getting closed. When we ask the reason for that the hon. Energy Minister is blaming the hon. Industries Minister and the hon. Industries Minister is blaming BHEL and BHEL is blaming somebody else. All of them want to shift the blame on somebody else. The result is that the entire Bihar is facing a crisis.

The Energy Ministry is somehow or other apathetic to the demands of Bihar. Even in the next Five Year Plan, though they have made a Plan for 10,000 mw, the share allotted to Bihar is only 600 mw.

The idea of setting up industries in the underdeveloped areas is for the development of the rural areas and surroundings. But, in the case of coal industry it only results in clashes with the villagers. In Dhanbad and Chotanagpur belt there is always clash and quarrel between the officials and the villagers. You will be surprised to know that the land of the villagers is being taken away, no money is paid to them and no registration is made. When the villagers want either job or compensation, that is also not being given to them. Though that principle is being followed in the case of the steel industry and other

industry, it is not allowed so far as the coal industry is concerned. While an industry is meant to develop the villages, in this case it is being used for the exploitation of the villages and crushing the villagers.

Only a few days back, the President of India went to inaugurate the blast furnace of the Bokaro plant when he said that the steel industry must develop all the villages within a radius of 25 miles. But what is Bokaro Steel doing? It is in fact withdrawing even those facilities which were earlier given to the displaced persons regarding training, education and employment.

Lastly, I come to the policy of importing coking coal. I do not know the present policy, because we are hearing that the import of coking coal has been dropped or postponed.

I would like to say that it is a suicidal policy to import coking coal. The Energy Minister is there, and the Steel Minister is there. No doubt, the Steel Minister looks more robust than the Energy Minister, but I would like the Energy Minister to oppose this firmly, and I assure him that the entire House will back him because in this country we have got coking coal reserves in Assam and other places with an ash content of only six to seven per cent. In the Dhanbad area it is 16 per cent but it can easily be reduced at a low cost to the percentage desired by the Steel Ministry. So, we must see that this plan to import coking coal from outside at a cost of Rs. 700 per tonne, when we can produce similar quality coal at Rs. 150 per tonne in this country, does not go through.

**SHRI ANNASAHAB GOTKHINDE (Sangli)** : I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity.

The decision of the Government to increase the levy price of sugar uniformly for all the regions was a shock to the industry. The industry expected that while fixing the levy price of sugar, Government would take into consideration the actual cost of production, but by increasing the prices uniformly for all the zones, Government is perpetuating the injustice done to the sugarcane cultivator so far. Government has been increasing the prices of levy sugar in the zones where the sugar production and the industry are in a bad shape, but I want to know why this being done at the cost of the zones where the industry is efficiently managed. The prices now fixed by the Government are both arbitrary and irrational. The recommendations of the Marathe Committee and

the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices in the matter have been ignored by Government. This has led to resentment among the sugarcane growers in the Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry zones. I therefore want to know from Government whether steps are being taken to rectify the injustice and the discriminatory treatment meted out to the Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry zones.

**SHRI P. ANKINEEDU PRASADA RAO (Bapatla)** : I thank you for giving me an opportunity.

I want to bring to the notice of the Agriculture Minister the crashing down of paddy prices in Andhra Pradesh, so far as the first and second crops are concerned. The first crop was sold at Rs. 60 a quintal instead of Rs. 77. Even for the second crop, there are no buyers today, and for second crop, we are unable to get even Rs. 70 per quintal. Government or the FCI never purchase paddy, they speak only in terms of rice. But the paddy is bought by the millers at low prices, and they sell the rice at a profit, depriving the agriculturists of the prices which they should get for their paddy. Instead of procuring rice from the millers, I request the Agriculture Minister to take up the policy of procuring paddy from the agriculturists. About 300 co-operative mills were set up with the help of the Central Government. They are lying idle. These co-operative mills may be activated and paddy may be purchased from the agriculturists paying them at least the price fixed by Government, though we have got objections to the price fixed by the APC. The paddy can be given to the co-operative rice mills and then the FCI can take the rice from them instead of purchasing rice from the private millers and traders. This will help the agriculturists.

As far as the price of paddy is concerned, the other day the Minister of State, Shri Bhann Pratap Singh, said that there was an increase of Rs. 3 and Rs. 2.50 in this year respectively, but if you compare the prices of 1967-68 and 1977-78, you will find that paddy was procured at Rs. 48 and wheat at Rs. 53. In 1967-68, the paddy is at Rs. 77/- and wheat is at Rs. 110/- in 1977-78. There is hundred per cent rise in wheat price and only 75 per cent rise in paddy price during these ten years.

The agriculturists of Andhra Pradesh are not able to sell their paddy even at the price fixed by the Agricultural Prices Commission. So, I request the Government to help the cyclone-hit agriculturists of Andhra Pradesh. The paddy of the



[Shri P. Ankincedu Prasad Rao]

first crop is lying unsold. The second crop is coming, but there is no buyer. They are left at the mercy of millers. If FCI comes to their help and lift their stock at the declared prices, that will be of great help to them. So I request the Minister to do something in the matter.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola):** I will take up only two points particularly relating to Civil Aviation and Tourism Ministry.

One thing in the Civil Aviation is that there are places and towns which have airports and landing facilities, but they are not yet linked. It is all right that big planes, airbus and Boeings may not be required for those areas but if you have an arrangement either with the Indian Airlines itself or with State or private companies if you like, to operate only those smaller routes and they need not interfere with your regular air line operations, that will feed more areas and serve more areas.

About tourism, I think Government should give a fresh look to their policy. Today, you go to any of the top hotels, the Government hotels, you will find a total desolate look in the catering houses. They are empty in the evenings. Nobody goes there. I am not a person who is in favour of addiction to liquor, but in life throughout a man's life—even our saints advocate—the best thing is temperance and self-restriction and not abdicating. I do not understand why we are doing this. Have you ever heard a rich man dying of illicit liquor? They do not. I think, it is harming tourism. It is going to curtail the earnings of foreign exchange. Do not try to be pontifical. Do not try to give sermons that we do not want to earn money if it is immoral. Let us be realistic about it. The Ministry of Tourism will realise this. Go to any place in the world like Japan, Switzerland, Germany any country. Are we going to say that all those people are immoral only because they do not have prohibition in those countries? Sir, I want the Government to give a serious look to this.

I do not want to mention names. But how many Ministers who are present here, do not take liquor? I am sure, except one or two, everybody takes. There is nothing wrong. They are not immoral people.

I would request the Government in the interest of tourism, at least for your hotels modify your arrangement. If you like, you can decide to do it for higher strata. Otherwise, your hotels are going to close down throwing lakhs of people out of employment.

Though we are a republic, yesterday, someone remarked that a 'republic' without a 'pub' becomes 'relic'. I hope, this country will not be like that.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:** Sir, I will confine myself to two or three points relating to the Ministry of Communications.

The Communication Ministry is a vital link, a vital nerve, of the nation to move on. Unfortunately, many of the problems relating to communication and its employees are pending in the Ministry for long. There are more than 4.5 lakh postal employees out of which 2.5 lakh employees are called as extra-departmental employees. This was a new device invented by the British rulers to make Indians work like slaves with a Meagre remuneration. They are not regular Government servants. These 2.5 lakh employees are paid an amount of Rs. 85/- only. Recently, the hon. Minister said that the amount has been raised to Rs. 100/-. He has misled the people. They are not getting Rs. 100/-. Only a few of the employees may be getting it. But not all.

The D.A. has gone up 15 times. But these people have not been given all these instalments of D.A. Only when Mr. Bahuguna was the Minister of Communications, extra-departmental people got the D.A. No further D.A. has been given to these people. There are 12 instalments of D.A. which are due. I appeal to the hon. Minister to consider giving of D.A. to extra-departmental employees.

This system of having extra-departmental employees must be abolished completely. It was introduced when the population of undivided India was only 300 million. Now, the population of divided India, our own country, is 600 million. It is necessary that these 2.5 lakh employees who are serving the people of our country should be regularised as the employees of the P & T Department. Otherwise, they can be called always the slaves of modern India. It is a disgrace that for the last 30 years, this practice has been going on. Even during our regime, it was being continued. I would now request the hon. Minister to consider this matter.

They are introducing 1 lakh new post boxes. Who will take the delivery? They will need people. These extra-departmental employees work for more than 6 hours a day. They are working very hard, specially in remote villages. This is a matter which should be looked into. I appeal to the hon. Minister to look into it.

Coming to the Telephones Department, the employees of the Telephone Department are doing good work. The telephone system has been extended. But there is no sufficient staff. Recently, a circular has gone to reduce the staff by 10 per cent. These employees get abuses from the public as well as the officers. This is the condition of these poor employees of the Telephone Department. There is no proper staff; there is not even relief staff. Therefore, I say that this reduction of 10 percent in staff is very unfortunate. The Government should not introduce this thing. It will affect the working of the telephone exchanges.

Lastly, I would like to say about the supply of uniforms to post-masters, telegraphmen and other telegraph employees, etc. Please give them clothes and they will stitch it. I have seen with my own eyes what sort of uniforms are being supplied to these people—small men get big uniforms and big men get small uniforms. There is corruption and malpractices going on. They are stitching more than 2 lakh uniforms. I know, it is a heavy expenditure involving Rs. 80 lakhs. I appeal to the hon. Minister to please give proper clothes to these employees and allow them to stitch. Let them supervise the whole thing. Otherwise, they will have to boycott these uniforms.

I would appeal to the hon. Minister to consider giving more facilities to P&T employees in the matter of housing. They are not getting proper housing facilities, more so even in remote areas. As regards the RMS, there are a lot of problems. There is no accommodation provided at the railway stations, no accommodation at the halts.

I hope, the hon. Minister will consider all these points raised by me.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrackpore):  
Sir, I will confine my remarks mainly to the Energy Ministry.

West Bengal is plagued by a power famine. Small factories are closing down and in large factories, there are large-scale lay-offs. The local State Government has failed to tackle the power problem. They have failed to introduce power rationing. There is not only a shortfall in power generation but in its installed capacity also. The West Bengal Government has applied to the Central Government for a gas turbine which will immediately alleviate the power famine in West Bengal. Their application is pending with the Energy Ministry. I want the hon. Minister to immediately clear the application of the West Bengal Government for a gas turbine.

Then, the Energy Ministry has a plan for the coal carbonisation plant at Larkoni in West Bengal. I want that it should be carried forward and that should be allowed without any delay.

With regard to the Farakka Super-thermal power station, the work should be started immediately without any delay.

As regards the rehabilitation of Bardakaranaya refugees, the condition of these refugees in Sundarbans is beyond human description. So, some special efforts should be made very soon by the Ministry of Rehabilitation so that these people can be at least temporarily settled in camps till they go back to Dandakaranya.

With regard to communications, I want to say that the Minister has announced a programme for telephone exchanges and automatic telephone exchanges. In my constituency, there are only two telephone exchanges only 18 miles from Calcutta—one at Barrackpore and the other at Bhatpara—and both of them are not automatic and they are not supposed to be made automatic within 1985. I want the Minister to take up the work of at least making them automatic immediately at these two places because they are connected with the most industrialised areas in the whole of India.

Lastly, with regard to atomic energy, I want to say that this Government is going too slow on our nuclear programme. Already the Government has given up the programme for peaceful explosion and implosion for scientific and research purposes. Dr. R. Ramanna who was one of the main thinkers about Pokhran explosion had been removed from his post unceremoniously in the Atomic Energy Commission and now he has been shifted to a new post of Scientific Advisor to the Ministry of Defence. Under no conditions, this atomic energy programme should be given up and this should be strengthened.

With regard to Air India, there is some discontent among the Air India staff about the removal of J.R.D. Tata. The staff really feels that the removal of J.R.D. Tata has really tarnished the image of Air India here and abroad. I know that it has been done against the wishes of the Minister by the intervention of the Prime Minister's Secretariat. I want the Ministry to do something about Mr. J. R. D. Tata, so that he is given a proper honour before he is unceremoniously removed.

SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM (Tiruchendur): Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to your notice one important thing. The district Collector is there in the States.

[ Shri K. T. Kosalram ]

All the departments are working under his control. If there is any complaint against a particular department we represent to the district Collector. He goes through it and if there is anything wrong with the department concerned, then he pulls up that department and gets the things done.

As far as the Central Government is concerned, we have passed all the Demands for Grants and the Appropriation Bill is going to be passed. You are going to spend crores of rupees, as far as this huge country of ours is concerned. In the States, there are so many departments and the man who is at the top is the head of the department or the boss of the department or the emperor of the department. Every department is like that. But he does not bother about anything. Nobody is trying to effect coordination between these departments in the States. From Delhi to Kanyakumari, it is very difficult to control these officials. So, I would suggest that somebody must be there at the State headquarters to coordinate the work of various Central departments, agencies, who could without referring to Delhi, take decisions. This will be real decentralisation of decision making powers. to control these things. Some method should be adopted so that this problem could be solved at the State level. I do not know how are you going to do it. We have to solve this problem in cooperation with these officials. (Interruptions) Regarding passport, I do not agree with my friend that the M. Ps should be given power. I had written to Shri Vajapeeyji about the signing of application forms. I said ; even that power, we do not want. So, I request you to see that these departments must be controlled by somebody at the State level.

My friend Mr. Biju Patnaik has been talking about the production of aluminium and so on. He said that there was no control. But he has been importing 3 lakh tonnes of aluminium also. As far as small scale people are concerned, they are not getting their quota. But every day the Government is saying that whatever help the small scale people want, they are prepared to give. But everywhere the aluminium small industry people are crying like anything because they are not getting their quota. Nobody cares about these people. I want to know how are you going to solve this problem because you are importing 3 lakh tonnes of aluminium also. You must come forward with some system, the Government must come forward with some system so that the small scale people get their needs fulfilled.

Now I come to the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Shri H. M. Patel. The State Bank of India wanted to employ 40,000 people. I do not know whether the Reserve Bank of India is coming in their way or the Government is coming in their way. As far as sanction is concerned, it has already been given. But as far as vacancies are concerned, these have not yet been filled up. I could not understand this.

The number of educated unemployed is going up every day. People are representing to the Members of Parliament. Now, State Bank alone wants 40,000 persons. Tamil Nadu alone wants 10,000 persons. Just I wanted to know who is standing in their way. The previous Government had issued a circular that all attenders and peons must be taken from the Harijan community alone. But not even a single Harijan has been taken in the State Bank. I can challenge this Government. We find that everywhere the Harijans are harassed. They are denied even job opportunity. I request the Finance Minister to see that the 40,000 persons in the State Bank are recruited immediately.

MR. SPEAKER : Does any of the Ministers want to say anything ?..... Then I will call the Finance Minister.

Shri H. M. PATEL : The hon. Members have raised certain points. I shall certainly see that they are all examined and gone into.

Shrimati parvathi Krishnan said something about divorcing. It gave me a little shock. Thereafter, she proceeded to soften and said that it was only divorce from rules. I wish she had complied also with this business of complying with rules.

She said about Jeypore Sugar Mills. I think, the fine of Rs. 6 lakhs was imposed on them on the basis of rules. The Collector of Excise concerned cannot go beyond the rules...

Mr. SPEAKER : The question was, why did you not prosecute.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : That is not the business of the Collector of Excise. That is the concern of some one else and not of the Finance Ministry.

Then there was a question about old age pensioners. Certainly I would very much like to do much more for old age pensioners...

MR. SPEAKER : Particularly if it could benefit us also.

SHRI H. M. Patel : But unfortunately the resources are limited. I must, therefore, harden my heart in spite of my great desire to do something for them...

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN :  
(Coimbatore) : Appoint a Pension Commission.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : When you appoint a Commission, it will make its recommendations saying 'give this' and 'give that'. I have to find money.

Then there was the question of the workers in Singhareni Coalfields and about the return of money to them under the Compulsory Deposit Scheme. I heard about this only today. But the delay was not because of Government of India. The Singhareni Coalfields management had not forwarded those applications to the Provident Fund Commissioner.

SHRIMATI PARAVATHI KRISHNAN : They have forwarded them and they are with you. (Interruptions) ...

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Why don't you be a little patient? Only just before I came to the House, I came to hear of that. I am taking steps to see that these things are immediately set right.

A great many other points were raised by hon. Members. I do not know whether they would like me to reply to them individually now. To some points I could reply, but it seems to me that it will be much better if they are taken note of, and whatever action is to be taken regarding them will be taken by us.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the question is...

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Some Ministers are here. We made some points. In regard to the grants which have not been covered, if the Ministers who are here could reply, why should they not?

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot speak for them. I asked them.

The question is :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1978-79, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we take up Clauses.

The question is :

"That Clauses 2 to 4 and the Schedule stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 4 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI H.M. PATEL : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

13.30 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, 1978

MR. SPEAKER : We now take up the Finance Bill.

Three days have been allotted for all the stages of the bill. Therefore, approximately 12 hours would be available for its discussion. If the House agrees, we may have nine hours for general discussion, two hours for clause-by-clause consideration and one hour for third reading.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS :  
Yes.

MR. SPEAKER : So, this is adopted. Mr. Patel may move his Bill.

SHRI H.M. PATEL : Sir, I move :

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposal of the Central Government for the financial year 1978-79 be taken into consideration".

I would like to make a few remarks or observations. I have already explained the salient features of the main proposals contained in the Finance Bill in my Budget speech. The details of the specific provisions in the Bill have been given in the Explanatory Memorandum circulated to Hon'ble Members. I do not, therefore, consider it necessary to traverse the same ground again.

The Finance Bill has been before the Hon. Members for nearly two months. During the debate on the Budget, and