

of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 1977, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clauses.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3, and the Schedule stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.*

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

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

15.10 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (NO. 2) BILL,  
1979

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI  
SATISH AGARWAL): I move:

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the

services of the financial year 1978-79, be taken into consideration."

SHRI A. C. GEORGE (Mukandapuram): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in this Appropriation Bill No. 2, obviously, one of the main items, I understand, is to cover for the loss of Rs. 128 crores by the public sector undertakings and an important part of it is being consumed by the Food Corporation of India also. It so happens, if my arithmetic is fairly right, that on an investment of Rs. 12,800 crores, the Minister is asking for 1978-79 exactly a figure which is very very interesting, 128 crores, as supplementary demand. As was pointed out, this particular sector of investment could have, in the normal course, given us a good revenue which, to a great extent, could have been a relief to the proposed or existing taxes which have been put on the tax-payers.

15.11 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Another public sector undertaking which is mentioned in the Supplementary Demands is the Heavy Engineering Corporation in Ranchi. Sir, excuse me for being nostalgic, there was a time when I had something to do with the Heavy Engineering Corporation. In 1976-77, it was making profit. Now, we are at a stage when not only it is running in a loss but something has to be done to salvage it.

Another example is of Food Corporation. I do not want to enumerate all these industries. This is one sector which could have yielded profit and added to the revenue of this country. But the supplementary demand is again coming asking for a huge sum. This is a sector where the Government definitely has to take the blame. For the past two years, it has become a routine with the Members of that side and the Ministers especially to put the blame on the 30-year rule

†Moved with the recommendation of the President.

of Congress when something is criticised by us. I think, it is time now that we stop that alibi. Now, you are in power for the last two years. I think, you are slipping on to the second sector of your administration which, I think, will runout very fast. So, that alibi has to be stopped. If there is any criticism, you say that it is the legacy of the previous regime. From now on, I hope, this alibi of putting blame on the 30 years of Congress Government will be stopped. I hope, Kanwarlalji will kindly stop that.

When the Finance Minister was making his concluding remarks in the debate on the General Budget, he was mentioning a few concessions. According to me, it is a pittance. He thought of his age—I respect his age—when he made concessions to little children. But apart from that, the substantial lower middle class and the poor both in urban and rural areas who are suffering, have got no relief at all.

There is no provision in the Budget for two important sectors. One is, there is no advantage for the important community in our country, that is, ex-servicemen. In Kerala State alone, there are more than three lakhs of ex-service-men, some of them retire at the age of 30 or 32. I understand that there are more than two million ex-service-men in our country, a figure which is bigger than the population of at least 40 countries in the United Nations, who are able-bodied, disciplined but for them the provision is less than a pittance. We always say 'Jai Jawan' but in the present Budget, in spite of heavy taxation, there is no mention for them.

Another thing is that the Finance Minister is in a very happy situation where he can import everything. He can import power tillers and kill the Kerala Agro-Industries Corporation. He can import many other items and kill the small-scale industries here.

He has decided to allow the import of electronic items, an industry which was consistently developed by the Congress Government, and I take pride in it. This is the right industry with a high employment potential for giving employment to the educated middle-class employees. The electronic industry has grown all over the country. There are at least 14 public sector electronic industrial units in the country. Now you have decided with the vast accumulation of foreign exchange at your disposal that you are going to allow the import even to multi-nationals, so far as electronic components and finished products are concerned. By one stroke you are finishing Kleertone, which is world famous. We have the Kerala Agro Industries Corporation, which has specialised in manufacturing power tillers. Similarly, there are public sector electronic units all over the country. You are finishing them. How? By using the accumulated Rs. 4,000 crores of foreign exchange. Who made this foreign exchange? Is it the Commerce Ministry? From a deficit of Rs. 1,500 crores in the trade situation, we have come to a surplus of Rs. 4,000 crores, thanks to the remittances by the Indians abroad.

When I look at the Government, I want to make a small differentiation, so far as Shri Satish Agarwal is concerned, among the Ministers because he at least has recognised the core of the problem of Indians abroad. I am thankful to him as the Minister in charge of Customs and Excise.

But when he comes to reply to the debate as the Finance Minister, I am sure he will accept that at least one third of these Rs. 4,000 crores, that is, Rs. 1,500 crores is coming from Keralites employed abroad. So, he is using the foreign exchange remittances of the Keralites for killing a public sector undertaking in Kerala, and in other parts of the country also, thus killing the employment potential

If somebody asked me with my experience in Government for some time what is the right industry for the Indian conditions with a large number of semi-educated or highly educated unemployed people in this country, I will say, immediately that it is the electronics industry. It is labour intensive and with the Indian receptivity and capacity to learn techniques, I would say that it is an ideal industry for India. You are killing such an industry with the foreign exchange remittances of Keralites abroad. That is why the Keralites are angry. Many Keralites from the Gulf countries have told me that if their foreign exchange remittances are going to be utilized for killing industries in Kerala, it would not be an incentive; in fact, I am making an under-statement. The main item which contributes to your foreign exchange accumulations is the remittances from Indians abroad. If they decide to withdraw or withhold those remittances, the position will radically change, so far as your foreign exchange reserves are concerned.

So, I will repeat that your allocation for rehabilitation of able-bodied ex-servicemen is a very paltry amount. You have to provide more funds and develop their capacity and utilize them. There are 2.5 million ex-servicemen in this country. There is no mention about them, there is just vacuum. When there is a war you speak about the great jawans or the martyrs. But when they retire young, you have no schemes for them. You should utilize their services in the development of the country. Yet, there is no mention about them in the budget.

When a large portion of your foreign exchange is on account of remittances from Indians abroad, you have no schemes to tell the overseas Indians that you recognise their efforts. In this context I would point out that it is high time that you at least have a Department for overseas Indians, like many other countries are having, so that they can look after their problems. In that case Indians

abroad will feel happy that when they are sending money home, the Government is doing something for them. That will give them some incentive. Instead of that, there is malfunctioning or a wrong direction in the functioning of the Commerce Ministry. I know the Demands of the Ministry are going to come up, when we will deal with it in detail. I only want to warn them that from a surplus in 1976-77 they are going to and with a huge adverse balance of Rs. 1,500 crores.

In spite of this, they are allowing the import of power tillers and electronic goods. The import of power tillers is in the name of kulaks and rural orientation. But who is going to buy power-tillers with the present price of petrol? Poor farmers cannot afford them. They will be purchased only by the big landlords. So, it is not correct to say that the power tillers will increase the capacity of the poor rural workers.

I will conclude by saying that the budget should have more allocation for the rehabilitation of ex-servicemen. Definitely, think of forming a Department of Overseas Indians. Mr. Satish Agarwal, I understand your capacity for realism and I hope you will take immediate measures in this regard. I request that this Rs. 400 crores of foreign exchange will be recognised in terms of liberal attitude towards them.

With these words, I conclude.

श्रीवती बलवीर सिंह (होशियारपुर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं जूरी जी को सूचना देना हूँ कि कन्होने कार्मिकों को बहुत सारी रियायतें दी हैं। लेकिन जो ईश्वर उन्होंने भीजलजपर लगाया है उस का फलत उन पर पड़ने वाला है। भीजल ट्रैक्टर में इस्तेमाल होगा है। मिट्टी का तेल गरीब श्रावणियों के इस्तेमाल में जाता है। उन्होंने जो एक हाथ से लिया है, दूसरे हाथ से जूरी ने वापस ले लिया है। पटिना इजर्न पर उन्होंने जो कुछ रियायत दी लेकिन दूसरी बीजों से उन्होंने उन्हें वापस ले लिया है। यह बिल्कुल गलत बात है।

श्राप ने वैश्य ईश्वर के बारे में इस बजट में जो प्राविकन किया है उन के बारे में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह एश्रीकाम्यारन लैब पर नहीं होना चाहिये। कोई जिवनी देर तक जमीन एश्रीकलष जके काम में जाती है उस पर वैश्य ईश्वर नहीं लगना चाहिए। एक जमीन गहर के नवीक है, एक जमीन गहर से तल बीन दूर है। दोनों जमीनें एश्री

कमर के लिए इस्तेमाल होती है। हो सकता है कि बाहर वाली जमीन से उपज कम हो और बाहर से दूर वाली जमीन में उपज ज्यादा हो लेकिन बैल्ब टैक्स लगने पर उस की कीमत ज्यादा बढ़ जाती है। जिस पर बैल्ब टैक्स नहीं लगता है उस की कीमत कम बढ़ती है। आप को बैल्बन ही है कि किसानों को जब नोटिस जाता है, बैल्ब टैक्स के बारे में तो हजार-बी हजार रुपया उसकी बेच से निकल जाता है। यह हजार-दो हजार रुपया बकील और आपके अफसरों की सेवा में जाता है। वे लोग मिलकर इस रुपये को खा लेते हैं सरकार के पास कुछ नहीं जाता है। बैल्ब टैक्स का नोटिस जाने के बाद बिचारा किसान किसी के बड़े बड़ जाता है और वह कहना है कि हम तुम्हारा काम बनवा देंगे तुम हमें बनना पना दो। इस काम में किसान का बहुत सा पैसा खर्च हो जाता है और सरकार के पास कुछ नहीं जाता। इसलिये यह बहुत जरूरी है कि आप एग्जीक्यूटिव लैड पर बैल्ब टैक्स न लगायें। किसानों के तब जमीन खेती के लिये इस्तेमाल होती है, उस पर बैल्ब टैक्स नहीं लगना चाहिए। जब खेती की बगल उस जमीन पर कोई दूसरी चीज बूक कर दी जाए, उस पर प्लाट बन जायें, मकान बन जायें तभी उस पर बैल्ब टैक्स लगाइये। लेकिन खेती की जमीन पर बैल्ब टैक्स न लगायें।

केरल के श्री जाने साहब कह रहे थे कि केरल का फारन एक्सचेंज कमाने में हाथ है। मैं इन से कहना चाहता हूँ कि आपके से ज्यादा फारन एक्सचेंज पंजाब वाले कमाने हैं और पंजाब में ही होशियारपुर जिले के लोग कमाने हैं।

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE:** I claim only one-third. The other one-third is coming from Punjab.

**श्रीधर बलवीर सिंह :** जब आप के लोग जाना भी बूक नहीं हुए थे तब से पंजाब वाले हिन्दुस्तान से बाहर जा रहे हैं। आप के यहाँ तो सरकार चाय पैदा हुए हैं बिनाओं ने कहा था कि जो समूह पार बना गया वह सो बहिष्कृत हो गया। अगर वह वापस आ कर युद्ध करता तभी वह समाज में शामिल हो सकता था। कामा जाता थाक जहाज भी अमेरिका से पंजाब वाले लाने थे और हिन्दुस्तान की धारावी की लड़ाई में उन्होंने सब से ज्यादा हिस्सा लिया था। जो लोग बाहर गए हुए हैं उन को आप कैसिलिटीज दें। जो यहाँ से गए हैं उन को किसी न किसी विन बापिस धाना है अपने घर में। होशियारपुर जिले में कोई ऐसा घर आप को नहीं मिलेगा जिस का एक प्राध धारवी विवेक न गया हो। मैं तो उन सब कहता हूँ कि जब कमाओ यहाँ जा कर। तुम्हारी यहाँ कोई इज्जत नहीं है। क्या कर के बापिस आ जाओ। तुम को एक न एक विन बापिस धाना ही है। अपने साथ पैसा यहाँ ले आओ। फस या परतों आप को यहाँ से निकलना पड़ेगा। गुणांडा, केनिया से वे निकलने पर मजबूर हुए हैं। उसी तरह से इंग्लैंड में भी उन को रहने नहीं दिया जायेगा। जब उन की सस्ती मेहनत और मजदूरी की उन को जरूरत थी तब उन्होंने उन को बैलकम किया था। इंसेंटिव दिये थे लेकिन अब कहने हैं कि तुम यहाँ प्रतिक हो गए हो। यहाँ पर यिनी हिन्दुस्तान बन गया है। अमरीका प्रावि से भी उन को किसी न किसी विन निकलना पड़ेगा। मैं चाहता हूँ कि जितना पैसा लेकर वे जाएं

उस पैसे पर आप कोई टैक्स न लगायें। उन को बापिस जाने के लिये आप हर तरह का इंसेंटिव दें। जो जमीनी ने अपने साथ ले कर धार्ये उन पर कस्टम ड्यूटी नहीं लगनी चाहिये। यहाँ पर उन मशीनों से वे कारखाना स्थापित कर सकते हैं। जो धारवी बना कर पैसा माएँ उन को आप इंसेंटिव दें। अब जो मजद तरोके से पैसा बाहर ले आता है उस को आप बीडे डंप से जाने दें और उस में आप भी उन की मदद करें। आप ने ऐसा किया तो जितना फारन एक्सचेंज आप को अब मिल रहा है उस से आप को गुनाना पैसा जायेगा। यह मैं दावे के साथ कह सकता हूँ। पैसा ला कर वे यहाँ इंडस्ट्री लगाना चाहते हैं तो उन को आप न्यूलिबर्से दें। इंसेंटिव दें। काले धन को आप बढ़ाना न दें। कुछ लोगों ने बहुत पर जावबादे बना ली हैं। अगर उन को इंसेंटिव मिलेगा तो वे उन को बेच कर यहाँ आ जायेंगे और अपनी इंडस्ट्री स्टार्ट करेंगे। जो बूक हमारे देश के एक बिने के भी बराबर नहीं था तीस मास तक हम उस से करोड़ों रुपया कमा लेते रहे हैं। जब हमें उन से कमाँ मिल जाता था तो इस को हम अपनी बड़ी कामवाजी समझते थे। मैं कहना हूँ कि बाहर के देशों से हमें कमाँ लेने की जरूरत नहीं है। सारा पैसा हम को ले दे सकते हैं जो बाहर गए हुए हैं। वे देश बन हूँ। धाराव करणें में उन्होंने ने हमारी मदद की थी। अमरीका और दूसरे देशों में गवर पार्टी और दूसरी पार्टियाँ काम की थी। नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस ने हिन्दुस्तान से बाहर आ कर धार्ये एन ए कायम की थी। तब इन लोगों ने जिन की तादाद बहुत बढ़ी थी इन लोगों के लिये अपनी बीबियाँ बोल दी थी और धार्ये एन ए को पैसे की कमी नहीं आने दी। उन को अब आप इंसेंटिव देने तो वे यहाँ कारखाने लगायेंगे और बिदेकों से हूँ कर्न नहीं लेना पड़ेगा। हमारे ही धारवी हमारे देश की तरफकी का साक्षन बन सकते हैं।

अब दो शब्द मैं सा एंड धारके के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। मैं आप को दो विन पहले की बत बतताता हूँ। मैं केवल दो विन के लिये होशियारपुर चला था। एक प्रोड्यूसर और एक बेयुट दोनों बाहर के बड़े इम्पार्ट धारवी बाजार में जा रहे थे। एक हैड कांस्टेबल और दो कांस्टेबल उन के पास आए। वह साडे नौ बजे रात की बान है। उन्होंने ने कहा कि कहाँ जा रहे हो? उत्तर में इन लोगों ने कहा कि घूम रहे हैं, अपना घर है, अपना मुहल्ला है। उन्होंने ने कहा कि आप नहीं जा सकते हैं। इन्होंने ने कहा कि कौन सा कानून है? तो उस हैड कांस्टेबल को गुस्सा भा गया कि यह हमें पुछने वाले कौन हैं? उन्होंने ने उन दोनों को पीटा। मैं गया यहाँ थाने में, बड़ी गरमागरमी रही। धार्विन में हम ने कहा पुलिस वालों का मैडिकल करवाओ। जब मैडिकल हुआ तो तीनों धारवी शराब पीये हुए निकले।

उसी विन दूसरी जगह गये, हमारे यहाँ एक नाना है महालपुर, यहाँ एक धारवी को किसी बानेदार ने पीटा था। उस धारवी ने उस के खिलाफ मुकदमा कर दिया। पुलिस वालों ने कहा कि मुकदमा बापिस ले लो नहीं तो तुम नुकसान उठाओगे। अब पुलिस वालों में उस के खिलाफ एक और किसी करल के केस में फंशाने की कोशिश की। अब उसे पता लगा कि पुलिस शरारत कर रही है तो उस ने सेकन जज से एंकिविपेटरी डेन ले ली। जब पुलिस उस के बापसे धार्ये ही उस ने कहा कि मेरे पास एंकिविपेटरी डेन है। श्रीन विन बाव डिप

[बौधरी बलबीर सिंह]

पुसिस उसके पकड़ कर ले गईं धमपी कानकार 17 सारीक की और उस को इतना पीटा कि 18 बोटो के उस के निष्ठाग है, सारा जिस्म उस का छलनी हो गया और वह धमकावास रहा, भस्मताल में उस को दाबिस करना पड़ा। मैं ने वहाँ को एस० पी०, डी० आई० जी० और आई० जी० को फोन किया। तो उन्होनें मे कहा कि हम ने उन को सस्पेंड कर दिया। पता नहीं किया भी है कि नहीं। अब जा कर पता करूया। तो इन बीजो को रोका जाये। नौकरशाही बेकाबू है। हम जिस डंग से चल रहे हैं नौकरशाही सोचती है कि इन का राज्य रूखना है या नहीं, यह सोच कर वह बेलगाम हो चुकी है। आप को जरा उस को कसना चाहिये। आप यह कह कर बरी नहीं हो जायेंगे कि ला एंड बाइर स्टेट का मसला है। आप भी उन को कह सकते हैं। क्योंकि आई० पी० एण्ड प्रफसर आप के नीचे है। इसलिये उन को जरा समझाविये।

मैं प्रार्था करता हूँ कि जो मुझाब मैं ने विये हे उन पर आप गौर करेंगे। आप किमान को रिलीफ दे, और देश की पैदावार जा बढ गई है उसे समालने की कोशिसा करे। और जो हम एक्सपोर्ट कर सकते हैं, जैसे सब्जिया रेगुलरली सप्लाई कर सकते हैं जिससे काफी फारेन एक्सचेंज मिलेगी। कृषि मंत्री ने कहा कि गन्ने की काश्त कम कर दो क्योंकि गन्ना ज्यादा पैदा हो गया। इसी तरह से अनाज और पैदा हा गया ता कहेंगे कि गेहूँ की काश्त कम कर दो, चावल ज्यादा पैदा हो गया तो कहेंगे कि इस की काश्त कम कर दो। कोई समय ऐसा आयेंगा कि जिस वकत हमें उस पैटर्न को बेंज करना हो। अरब मुल्को में सब्जिया जाती है उन के एक्सपोर्ट की सहुलियत आप मुहैया करवें। पजाब को अगर आप इजाजत दे प्रकेला पजाब सारे देश की अनाज देने के अलावा बाहर के देशा का सब्जिया एक्सपोर्ट कर के बहुत सा फारेन एक्सचेंज कमायेंगा और किसान यहा का खुशहाल हो जायेंगा। आज करोडो र० का धान् होमियास्पुर में मूड गया है, बारिश हुई है, बाहर डेर सने हुए थे। सरकार उस का उठा नहीं सकी। नाफेड वालो ने लोगो के साथ बहुतबूटे डंग में सलूक किया है। वे माल लेने के लिये खेतो में नहीं गये। उन्होनें किसानो को कहा कि अपना माल ले कर आ जाओ। किसान अपना माल ले कर गये। अगर कोई 500 बोरी लेकर गया, तो नाफेड वालो ने 200 बोरी छोट ली और 300 बोरी वापिस कर दी। किसान को वह 300 बोरी वापस ले जाने के लिये खर्च करना पड़ा। जिन तरह से छटनी होती है, उस से माल का सत्तानाम हो जाता है।

सरकार को पैरिसोबल बीजो के एक्सपोर्ट का इन्तजाम करना चाहिये। जब वह किसानो को नया पैटर्न अपनाते के लिये कहती है, तो उसे इन बीजो को बाहर बेजने के लिये मडिया तलाम करनी चाहिये, ताकि किसानों की उपज बाहर बेजी जा सके और इस के जरिये वे लोग कुछ अच्छी जिनन्दी बसर कर सकें।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN  
THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU  
PRATAP SINGH): Mr. Deputy-  
Speaker, Sir, I would like to take a

few minutes to offer some explanation about the Food Corporation of India and power tillers. These were the points raised by the hon. Member, Shri A. C. George, on the other side.

He said that if the FCI had functioned in a proper way, that would have contributed to the general revenues of the Government. In this respect, I have to submit that the House should appreciate the nature of the Food Corporation of India. I would like to emphasize that it is not a commercial organisation at all. It is an organisation set up to help the consumers as well as the producers. The Government takes a conscious decision about both the support price as well as the issue price. If within those two limits set for us it is not possible to function in a commercial sense, then, of course, there will be losses.

I would give you one instance. We are paying Rs. 147/- per quintal of rice produced in Haryana and issuing the same in Kerala at Rs. 150/- per quintal. Anybody who has some trading instinct or commercial sense will realise that it is just not possible to purchase at Rs. 147/- in Haryana and sell it at Rs. 150/- in Kerala. So, the FCI is not having any commercial transactions at all. On the one hand, we are trying to help the producers and, on the other hand, we are trying to help the consumers. If it had not been in a sense of social welfare scheme, then, perhaps, we would not purchase any foodgrains at all. Our purchase any foodgrains at all. Our the problem as to where to store what we will procure. But we have still to procure. Otherwise the farmers will be ruined. Therefore, the functioning of the FCI should be taken in that sense only.

Regarding the power tillers, I have to submit that it is a very useful machine. All over South-East Asia, Japan and Korea, it is being increasingly used. In our country also, it is a well-known fact that power available for the cultivation of our land is not adequate. Even if we try our best, we cannot provide power only through the bullocks. There-

fore, additional power has to be supplied. Our own power tiller manufacturers are able to supply at nearly twice the cost . . .

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE:** Here, you are arithmetically wrong. This is because of the high excise duty on power tillers. Instead of importing power tillers, if you give relief in the matter of excise duty to power tiller manufacturers who are mostly in the public sector, their price will be competitive even with international price.

**SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH:** I am prepared to sit with the hon. Member and work it out. Perhaps, he is not well-informed. There is no excise duty on indigenously produced power tillers. There is no excise. So, there is no question of withdrawing it. The cost of manufacture is high because the sale of the power tillers is very limited in this country, and the reason for this small sale is that the cost is twice as much as in the international market. There is a possibility of reduction in the price only if the demand goes up. But the demand cannot go up unless the price comes down. So, it is a case of which comes first, the egg or the hen.

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE:** Am I to understand from the hon. Minister, who has been kind enough to intervene, that, ultimately, we need not have power tiller manufacturing units in India and that our requirements will be met only by imports?

**SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH:** No; I did not mean that.

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE:** Then how to break this vicious circle?

**SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH:** The best way to break this vicious circle is to import it first and demonstrate its utility. Then, perhaps, when the farmers are convinced of the utility, the demand would grow

and the local manufacturers can come in.

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE:** One more point. The incongruity in the Budget proposal is that the concession is more for finished product than for semi, knocked-down condition. Instead of finished products, we could import components and then given employment here for assembling them.

**SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH:** I have offered to sit with him and work out the details. I may also tell him that the final decision to import has not yet been taken. If a way can be found to help our indigenous manufacturers, I will be the first person to opt for that. But if that is just not possible, and if our Indian farmers are prevented from using a very useful machine simply because our indigenous manufacturers are unable to give them at a reasonable price, then, I think, as we import so many other things, we should also import power tillers which will help our poor farmers. I can tell you that no big farmer is interested in a power tiller. In fact, our thinking is such that even the poor farmers do not want to work behind the power tiller. They will have to be taught that his is a good machine; it is good because, in addition to cultivation of land, it can also be used for pumping water, threshing grains, etc. I am always willing to consider whether there is any way of bringing down the cost of indigenous tillers . . .

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE:** What do you propose to do with the six existing units with a licensed capacity of producing 50,000 units per year, out of which two are in the public sector? Kerala's is 12,000 per year.

**SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH:** I will have to say this. When you imported foodgrains, you did not take into consideration the interest of the Indian farmers.

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE:** That was 'deficit'.

**SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH:** Here also it is 'deficit' of the machines. This is a very one-sided view that the hon. Member is taking. When agricultural produce has to be imported, there is not the slightest hesitation to do it and everybody supports that. But when there is something which you can import for the help of the farmers, then the spirit of 'swadeshi' is preached to us. Is this spirit of 'swadeshi' to be preached only to farmers or is it for the rest of the community also?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very thankful to the two hon. Members who have participated in this debate. They have raised certain points. Some of them are not directly related to the Appropriation Bill which is under consideration. But anyhow the hon. Members have availed themselves of this opportunity to highlight what was in their mind.

I am very thankful to my colleague, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh for clarifying the two points raised here, one with regard to the Food Corporation of India and the other with regard to power tillers.

So far as the question of import of power tillers is concerned, it is not within the exclusive domain of Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh to permit the import. Ultimately the file has to come to us. Therefore, if the hon. Member has certain valid points and if he can convince him and me, I can assure him that there is going to be no indiscriminate import of any item whatsoever, what to talk of power tillers. We are much alive to the indigenous industry, and I am sure that we do not want to pursue a policy of import where our indigenous production is hit hard. I think that is sufficient so far as this point is concerned.

Two other points were raised by Shri Balbir Singh. One was with regard to withdrawal of duty on diesel. That is a part of the 1979-80 Budget and not a part of the 1978-79 Supplementary Demands for Grants. So nothing need be said on that score.

So far as the question of law and order situation in Punjab is concerned, I think the hon. Member concerned is strong enough to take care of that and a man from the Finance who himself has to be very careful about the law and order when he deals with money, cannot do anything. But the Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1978-79 do not contain any provision with regard to that. But funds will be no problem, it is a question of proper management of the Police administration in the State that way. So money aspect is not very much there.

Now, a very pertinent point has been raised by both the hon. Members. Both of them have claimed a share in the inward non-trade remittances. Mr. George has claimed a one-third share in the total remittances and Mr. Balbir Singh has claimed practically half of it and much more for his own district. It is a fact that our inward remittances have been on the increase for the last 4-5 years. If mistake not, it is quite encouraging . .

**SHRI ANNASAHIB P. SHINDE (Ahmednagar):** Even now are they on the increase?

**SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:**

now—I will also tell you. In 1974 the inward foreign remittances were approximately Rs. 600 crores. It rose to a thousand crores in 1975 and it still rose to Rs. 1500 crores in 1976 and in 1977 it still jumped up to Rs. 1900 crores and in 1978 we got by way of inward foreign remittances a sum of more than Rs. 2200 crores

and in January and February this year they were of the order of Rs. 200 crores per month. That means we shall cross Rs. 2000 crores in 1979. So, there is no fall in that connection. The non-trade inward remittances are going up and for this I wish to place on record my gratitude to our non-resident Indians earning money abroad and sending it to this country.

That is why during my tour of USA and UK in December 1978, I made it a special point to see and meet all Indians residing there and understand their problems and difficulties. And this House would be very glad to know and particularly, Mr. Balbir Singh, that in Southhall which is 60 miles away from London, there was a huge congregation of Sikhs, about 2000 of them, and I addressed their gathering and also met their deputation and heard their difficulties under the provisions of Sec. 9 and 31 of the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act and also certain procedures and *pro formas* laid down by the Reserve Bank which subject I was not directly dealing with at that time and even now. Even then, Sir, I heard their difficulties and one Special Officer was there deputed with me for that purpose. I met all Indians there, majority of them were Sikhs and there were other also and looked into their problems. And on my return, as a follow-up, we have now set up a Committee of Senior Officers to look into their problems and advised the government as to what should be done, particularly, with regard to simplification of the procedure and the *pro-forma* that they have to fill in for remitting money and for purchasing properties here in India with that money, they were facing a lot of difficulties as they had to fill in so many forms. This House will be glad to know that I took a draft form with me approved by the Reserve Bank and showed it to the people there in London and told them. If you approve of it, I will convey my acceptance to the Reserve Bank and they were very happy about it that for the first time

a Minister was bringing the form to them for their approval. They have approved of it and it has now been decided that way.

So, Sir, we are very much aware of this problem. This was great facility has been extended to them. I am sure they are very happy about the decision of the Government of India.

So far as other facilities for the non-resident Indians are concerned, I am grateful to Mr. George for having spoken some words about that. On return from my tour from 15th of December, that is, within fifteen days, whatever commitment I gave to the Indian community I honoured that. This was a universal complaint throughout in Paris, in London, in New York and everywhere that the Indian Customs is like a police thana where the people are not treated well. There was also a complaint on the floor of the House by Mr. George and by Mr. Vayalar Ravi with regard to the treatment meted out at the Indian airport at Cochin, Trivandrum and Bombay to the people coming from Gulf countries. I assure them and also the non-resident Indians there that the year 1979 will have a new face-lift so far as the Indian Customs are concerned. And this House will be glad to know that within fifteen days of my arrival in India, I implemented the whole scheme so successfully.

Before 1978 the average time taken for clearance at the Indian Airports was six hours. I brought down the time of six hours in 1977 to four hours in 1978. I was told at the Bombay airport when I had a surprise check there on 10th and 11th of this month that that in the past in some cases, the passengers who come in the morning were relieved in the evening after fifteen hours of examination. Now, Sir, the House will be happy to know that I have calculated, assessed or evaluated the working of this scheme in all the international airports. I found



that the average time for clearance of all passengers from time of arrival till the time of the last passenger's departure, it took only thirty minutes in comparison with four or six hours.

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE:** We applaud you on behalf of my colleagues.

**SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:** You deserve our congratulations because you were a partner in that decision because you drew my attention to all that. (Interruptions). This particular decision of the Government of India has been hailed by all the non-resident Indians. I have received hundreds of letters and telegrams appreciating this gesture. But the point the hon. Member, Shri Balbir Singh, made out is this that these non-residents, when they want to come back to this country, should not be asked to pay any tax on whatever they want to bring with them. But this is not possible because I have seen myself that each one of the non-resident Indians working in America, numbering 30 thousand, has practically purchased a house within five years; he has purchased a car; he has got a T.V. and he has got a fridge. Not only that. I was surprised to see that the people who had gone five years back have now got decent cars to sit in and to travel which even our Prime Minister has not got. They do not go out of the car to open the gate of the garage. They do not get out of the cars just to close it. They have got some system, electronic system by which everything is done automatically. So they are living there comfortably that way and, if they come to this country, and, in terms of foreign exchange, if they bring goods worth 15,000 dollars and the duty comes to 1200 dollars, then why they should mind paying the duty. They are earning lakhs and lakhs of rupees. And everybody is well off. In America, at least every Indian living there or working there as advocates by profession, chartered accountants, engineers and doctors, is well off.

There is no question of how much money they are earning. They have all practically got houses worth 50,000 or 80,000 or 90,000 dollars; they may have one house or two houses. So to plead for them that we should not charge any duty is not proper. There is a provision that anyone returning to India, is permitted to bring equipments which had been in use for more than six months. He can bring equipment worth upto Rs. 30,000. If he wants to bring much more then let him pay the duty to Government because he has got the capacity to pay it. (Interruptions) If he has got the capacity to pay, he must be made to pay.

Last year, in 1978, a very strong feeling was expressed here in this House that the baggage allowance of Rs. 500 fixed about ten to twelve years back is nothing at all. It should be 40 to fifty times that. So we last year doubled that from Rs. 500 to 1,000. It means Rs. 65 crores of loss by way of duty to Government. Increasing the limit from Rs. 500 as the baggage allowance to Rs. 1,000 for more than a million passengers means a loss to the tune of Rs. 65 crores by way of duty. That is why we introduced a system from 1st January. There were apprehensions that the persons would like to misuse this green channel facilities. Out of the vigilance or alertness of the Customs officials and the Intelligence Officials, during this period, we had very good seizures and had arrested a lot of people. So trust begets trust. If people misdeclare and if people deceive us then we shall take note of them.

So, our duty collection has also not gone down and Mr. George will be glad to know that during this period the average adjudications in the international airports were 300 per day. It was more than 80,000 in a year. Now, after the facility has been extended the average adjudications per day has come down to 100 and the House will be glad to know that

this is a financial matter and I belong to the revenue earning department and I am not here to liquidate the revenues of the Government of India. The House has not appointed me for that purpose. I am to collect more and more revenues and so simultaneously while providing these facilities to the travelling public, my revenue in international airports which was previously near about Rs. 2.5 crores per month has now gone up to Rs. 3.5 crores per month. I was getting Rs. 30 crores a year. This year it is Rs. 40.0 to Rs. 45.0 crores a year despite all these facilities.

बाँवरी बलबीर सिंह : जो धाने और कैंन ले कर धाने उन पर इनकम टैक्स नहीं लगना चाहिए ।

**SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:** You hear me. Whatever points you have raised I am replying to them. From kerosene to diesel you ended with the law and order point. So, don't worry about them. I am reply to them *in seriatim* if I have to replying to all those points provided they deserve a reply. So, Mr. Deputy-Speaker he also made a point, a very strong plea, that there should be no wealth tax on agricultural lands. This is true that the income or the wealth tax so far realised by the Government of India on the agricultural lands is not too much. Sometime back when a representation was made to the Government of India that the urban population have shifted to the villages in large farms and converted their black money into white money through agricultural income running into lakhs of rupees, then even a straw was not produced on that agricultural land, I saw it in Jaipur and nearby places also. Huge farms are in the names of jewellers and industrialists and they are in 10 bigas, 20 bigas and 30 bigas and the production was shown worth Rs. 2 lakhs and nothing was grown there absolutely. And then the Government of India took a decision that for the purposes of calculation of income-tax, that particular income from the

agricultural land shall also be included in this. Of course, the revenue has not been much. But on account of these decisions, practically 69,000 assesses had been affected, though of course bringing on additional revenue of Rs. 4.5 crores. That is the position. Similarly this agricultural land which is somewhere costly, which is somewhere costing only Rs. 2000 per bigas and if you go to Ganganagar District, you will know what is the price of one biga of land. Now, for a man having lakhs of rupees worth of property, should he not pay wealth tax? The case of exemption in so far as the agricultural wealth tax is concerned is that. The Revenue at the moment is hardly 1 crore per year from the agricultural land. You have to lay down a certain system. Now there has been a demand in this very House as to why the rural rich people should not be taxed. Of course, I have got all the sympathies, the Government has got all the sympathies for the rural poor, for the marginal farmer and the landless labour. But so far as those big people are concerned who have got tractors, who have got cars, who have got huge buildings, who have got big houses—both in cities as well as in rural areas—they are enjoying the benefits of the urban life as well as rural life. I think the House is in agreement with that to some extent in some way that rural people should also be taxed and there is no case for any exemption from the wealth tax in so far as the agricultural land is concerned. But that is a major policy decision which the Government has to take in the context of many other considerations.

**SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA**  
(Delhi Sadar): Can you do it.

बाँवरी बलबीर सिंह : हमारे राज्य में जिसके पास ट्रैक्टर होता है, उसके यहाँ कोई सबकी का रिस्ता नहीं करता । वह समझता है कि हमने बच्चा पब्लिक से कर्ब लेकर यह सबीसा होना और इसकी सारी प्राप्ति तो कर्ब में ही बनी जायगी ।

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE:** I said that the initiative for creating departments of overseas Indians should be taken by the Ministry of Finance because they are the beneficiaries.

16.00 hrs.

**SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:** So far as the creation of separate departments for overseas Indians is concerned, so far as the problems of employment, unemployment, and other matters connected with service conditions are concerned, I think, it is not possible for the Finance Ministry to monitor all these things. So far as the exploitation of labour etc. is concerned, the position is this. Keralites are going to the Gulf countries, for instance. People are there who sometimes cheat them, in getting employment and all these things. There are various complaints regarding this and about less payment of money. But the Finance Ministry cannot do anything. So far as the repatriation and other matters are concerned, I may point out that we have got a separate wing in our Ministry to deal with Foreign Exchange and all that. Whatever genuine problems are there with regard to non-resident Indians, if they are brought to my notice, I will attend to them suitably and speedily. There is no other important point to be covered here. Mr. George mentioned one thing about ex-servicemen, if I remember correctly. Now, this year, as the House is aware, for Defence Expenditure...

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE:** Even Chaudhury Balbir Singh and our friends from Punjab will agree with me. There are many ex-servicemen from Punjab.

**SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:** The budget provision for 1979-80 has already crossed the limit of Rs. 3,000 crores. There are various welfare measures undertaken for the ex-servicemen at the level of various States. There is no need for a separate provision in this regard as it

is already part of the activity of the Defence Ministry. They are doing it very well. We have not received any complaint whatsoever from any ex-serviceman that they are not being looked after properly. There are separate departments in every State to look after their interests. Sailor's, Seamen's and Airmen's Boards are there. In Rajasthan there is a separate department with a separate Minister. He is looking after all that. Kerala and your constituency may not be contributing that much towards our Defence personnel as Rajasthan does. That is why they are very particular about it, and they have separate department in that connection. I am very thankful for all the hon. Members who have made very valuable and constructive suggestions on this Bill. I request the hon. Members to pass this Bill unanimously. Thank you.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further 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. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Now we take up Clause-by-clause consideration. The question is:

"That Clause 2 Clause 3, and the Schedule stand part of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted*

*Clause 2 and 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.*

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

**SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:** I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The questions is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What about the second one?

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Both the Appropriation Bills are passed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mohd. Shafi Qureshi. What is your point?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI (Anantnag): The hon. Minister has mentioned about the procedures which he has taken to streamline so far as the air customs is concerned. Sir, there is marked improvement and there is no doubt about it. I have seen it in Calcutta and at other airports. But I would request the Minister to take particular care about the set customs and land customs. It takes 45 minutes from Amritsar to Lahore but it takes 2-1/2 hours for the customs to check the people at Attari. So, if some system could be adopted which could facilitate the people going from India to Pakistan and people coming from Pakistan to India it will greatly help them. Same is the question with regard to Bangladesh also. These steps would greatly help all of them. My second suggestion is about sea customs. Lot of complaints are received when the Haj pilgrims come from Mecca. When they arrive at Bombay they face lot of difficulties. It is our experience that normally a ship which comes at the dock takes about 9 days to get cleared from the customs. You have taken steps for streamlining the procedure of air customs. I would request you kindly to look into the sea customs and land customs also, because, lot of people come from land from Bangladesh, from Pakistan, and also people from other countries.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is just a suggestion. But the Appropriation Bill has already been passed.

16.04 hrs.

SUGAR UNDERTAKINGS (TAKING OVER OF MANAGEMENT) AMENDMENT BILL—contd.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh on the 9th of March 1979, namely:—

"That the Bill to amend the Sugar Undertakings (Taking Over of Management) Act, 1973, be taken into consideration".

There are certain amendments for circulation. Is Shri Ram Dhari Shastri moving his amendment?

SHRI RAM DHARI SHASTRI (Padrauna): No, Sir.

SHRI B. K. NAIR (Mavelikara): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is surprising that within four months of the Bill being passed into Act, a move has now been made for making amendments in the Act and the reasons given there are that the arrears had been accumulated not only last year but also in the earlier year. So coverage has to be provided for that, it is claimed. The other point included is that certain parties have taken the issue to the High Courts and so provision is being made to see that the provisions of the Act are not subjected to attack from interested parties.

16.07 hrs.

[SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN in the Chair]

Madam, the arrears had been accumulating in the past also and the only reason why the amendment has been thought necessary just now is that the Bill was originally adopted in a hurry without any proper thought. Even in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it is said that the arrears had been accumulating in the past. Why was this aspect overlooked? I am rather surprised. When the original Bill was moved, I had pointed out that this Bill was rather politically motivated and not honestly meant. I shall only draw attention to the fact that as it is, in spite of the fact