

[Shri A. C. George]

was declared as realigned from Kuttippuram through Kodungallur-Kollapuram Moothakunnam to join NH 47 near Cochin. For this realignment, the financial sanction of only Rs. 10 crores has already been made and all the preliminary work was done. There are 5 major bridges proposed in this re-aligned NH 17. This re-aligned highway will open up one of the most backward areas in the West Coast of Mallapuram district, Trichur district and Ernakulam district. It is of vital importance to the development of the marine products industry, and will be of immense help to the fishermen, over and above facilitating industrialization in that area. The lack of these 5 bridges is causing untold miseries to the people of those areas. The most prominent among the bridges are: Kottapuram-Moothakunnam bridge, Chettuva bridge and Cheraneellor bridge. The people in those areas are completely isolated from the rest of Kerala due to lack of transportation and bridging facilities. In fact, the Chettuva bridge was sanctioned even way back in 1954 by the then Madras Government. The Kottapuram Moothakunnam bridge is a 2-crore rupee bridge and will be one of the biggest in Kerala. In fact, one-and-a-half years back, the present Minister for Shipping and Transport, Mr. Chand Ram himself laid the foundation for the Kottapuram bridge. But not a single stone has been added.

The people were really consoled when the financial, administrative and departmental sanction was given 5 years back for this new re-alignment of the NH 17 between Mangalore-Cochin-Trivandrum. But, in spite of the long waiting and in spite of the foundation stone being laid for the biggest bridge, no work has been taken up. I do not know why the foundation stone was laid if there was going to be delay even in getting

the work started. After a lot of representation, memoranda and clamouring for a long time, the people of that area are so frustrated that they are forced to decide on a mass agitation. This will involve mass upsurge in the coastal areas of the 3 districts, viz., Mallapuram, Trichur and Ernakulam.

The work on the Kottapuram-Moothakunnam bridge, for which the foundation stone has been already laid, the Chettuva bridge, for which all the sanctions have been given and the Cheraneellor bridge, have to be taken up immediately. A categorical assurance and an early action by the Minister of Shipping and Transport will only assuage the feeling of the people and make them desist from launching any mass struggle.

12.43 hrs.

**DEMANDS • FOR GRANTS,
1979-80—contd.**

**(i) MINISTRY OF COMMERCE CIVIL
SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION—
contd.**

MR. SPEAKER: We will now take up further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation. The last speaker was Mr. P. Ankineedu Prasada Rao. He has already taken 10 minutes. His party has got only one more minute left. Anyway, he can take 3 or 4 minutes.

**SHRI P. ANKINEEDU PRASADA
RAO (Bapatla):** Sir, I am speaking about the cultivation of tobacco which is a sensitive crop and a sensitive commodity. It yields 50 per cent Bright variety and 50 per cent variety

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

of lower quality. The 50 per cent Brights fetch 80 per cent of the price. It was never a problem in this country to sell this type of tobacco, in 1964, 1972 or 1978 which were the peak years of production. Even during these years, the problem was there with the 50 per cent lower quality tobacco which yielded only 20 per cent of the cost price for the agriculturists. And, in order to solve the problem of this lower quality tobacco, the Tobacco Board tried to regulate and reduce the acreage, in which it failed, because of the intervention by the High Court. Even after that, 40,000 acres more than what the Tobacco Board had contemplated, were planted this year; and the crop is 100 million Kgs. or so; and there will not be any surplus. One trouble faced by the tobacco growers was the Excise procedure, which Government has removed now. It gave a great relief to the farmers, for which I thank the Government. The other thing is about the middlemen, i.e. people coming between the manufacturers and producers. Let them be called traders, exporters or by any other name. They are taking away 50 per cent of the produce price, for their benefit. Government should think of having an organization which will eliminate these middlemen and see that the sale proceeds of the produce to the manufacturers are transferred to the agriculturists, without being taken away by the middlemen. For that, an organization is necessary. If it is established, we will be very happy. Government thought of STC which entered the market for the purpose of commercial and support price operations. About its activities, I will not speak much.

I will now quote from the 34th Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings for 1978-79 which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 17-4-1979. It was on the purchase of tobacco by STC and from it, the Ministry itself can draw its inferences and then think out a proper way to provide relief to the agriculturists from this distress.

On page 17, para 2.38, the Committee says:

"On 22nd May, 1978, the STC made an allotment for 10,000 tonnes to all the growers' syndicate and cooperatives, although as per government directive STC had to restrict to purchases from growers only. 2018 tonnes were allotted to 11 cooperatives of growers and the remaining 7982 tonnes to 266 growers Syndicates. The so called growers syndicates are collection of men, not all of whom are genuine growers."

This is what has happened. The Committee say at another place, page 15, para 2.34:

"The Committee desired to know about a Growers' Syndicate in Kali-giri with which STC had business. The representative of the STC informed the Committee as follows:—

"They are from Kaiigiri of Nellore District. Originally the Tobacco Board recommended the growers syndicate, but when distribution was made, they registered themselves as a partnership firm, to our surprise. Since we have made a commitment on the recommendation of the Tobacco Board, we had to give hundred tonnes to them."

The Government intended to help the growers. STC gave the order to a syndicate which turned out to be a partnership firm. This is what is happening. On page 26, para 2.60, they say:

"It is obvious that in the existing scheme of things the benefit of even the STC's support purchase operation does not accrue to the growers while the traders acting under the cover of the syndicate make profit." Lastly on page 28, in para 2.61 the Committee says:

"Recently there was a possibility of STC entering the Chinese market but a private exporter got the better of Corporation and obtained an export order directly from China for 2200 tonnes valued at 4.2 million U.S.

[Shri P. Ankineedu Prasada Rao]

dollars. It is distressing that the STC remained unconcerned when it held enormous stock without being able to locate export market. The Committee apprehend that by this behaviour the government buying agency runs the risk of being discredited which will act as a damper for future entry into the export market. Government must therefore take a serious note of this.

2.62. The Committee gather an impression that local pressures and pulls in tobacco trade in Andhra Pradesh and elsewhere are such that a government regulatory and marketing agency would be greatly handicapped if executives are unduly familiar with local traders and are susceptible to their pernicious influence. Realising the imperative need to ensure a detached and impartial functioning of the agency for effectively safeguarding the interest of the genuine growers as well as the larger economic interest of the country the Committee are constrained to suggest that such executives either in the STC or in the Tobacco Board should not be entrusted with such a responsibility or posted to such a place as would run counter to these objectives."

That is the way things are moving with all the good intentions of the government who want to do something good to the growers. I therefore, request the hon. Minister to find out a way to see that whatever price they get from the manufacturers passed on directly to the growers and to have an agency which can buy from the growers and sell to the manufacturers. With these words, I complete my speech and thank you for the opportunity.

श्री सुबराज (कटिहार) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जो नागरिक प्रति और सहकारिता की डिमांड है, मैं उस क समर्थन के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। लेकिन मैं यह भी अर्ज करना चाहूंगा कि देश की जो विप्लव अर्थ-व्यवस्था

है वह जब तक समाप्त नहीं हो जाती है तब तक वस्तुओं के मूल्य का नियंत्रण नहीं हो सकता। हम केवल 30 साल के कांसेसी कुशासन की देन बता कर मंहगाई की जिम्मेदारी से मुक्त नहीं हो सकते। देश की 60 प्रतिशत जनता गरीबी की रेखा के नीचे जो रही है और 30 प्रतिशत जनता जो उस की अपनी परचेजिंग कैपेसिटी है उस को खो चुकी है। मूल्य वृद्धि को रोकने के लिए जब तक औद्योगिक और कृषि उत्पादनों के मूल्य में तालमेल नहीं बैठ जाता, तब तक हम इस से मुक्त नहीं हो सकते हैं। जनता सरकार की परीक्षा इस बात में है कि मूल्य वृद्धि के मोर्चे पर वह किम हद तक कामयाब होता है। 24 फरवरी के बाद से 4 सप्ताहों में मूल्यों में जो वृद्धि हुई है वह बहुत ज्यादा है, इतने कम समय में इतनी अधिक मूल्य वृद्धि बड़ी गम्भीर बात है। 24 फरवरी को समाप्त हुए सप्ताह का सूचकांक 183.6 था, जो अगले चार सप्ताहों में बढ़ कर 189.4 हो गया, इस प्रकार मूल्यों में 3.2 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई। पिछले दो वर्षों में मुद्रा प्रसार में जो उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि हुई है, मैं मानता हूँ कि उस के अनुपात में मूल्य वृद्धि में काफी सन्तुलन बना रहा है, लेकिन हम इस बात से भी आशंका नहीं मूंद सकते कि जो मूल्य सूचक अंक है वह हमारी स्थिति को बहुत ज्यादा चिन्तनीय बना देता है। वास्तव में सूचक अंक का लगभग 5वां भाग सन 1979-80 के बजट में लगाये गये उत्पादन शुल्कों से प्रभावित हुआ है और सूचक अंक के इस पाँचवें भाग में भी अकेले पैट्रोलियम समूह 15.9 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि के लिये जिम्मेदार है। आलोचकों को भी बजट में लगाये गये करों से अप्रभावित है। लेकिन फिर भी आप देखेंगे कि इस वृद्धि में भी 22.8 प्रतिशत का योगदान रहा है।

जहाँ तक चीनी की कीमत बढ़ने का सवाल है—वह भी काफी चिन्ताजनक है। यद्यपि गन्ने की जो दर है, जिसे सरकार ने

निश्चित किया है, हम किसानों को वह दर भी नहीं दिला सके और यह कहा जाता था कि भण्डारों में चीनी रखने की जगह नहीं है, इतनी वेगुमार चीनी है, लेकिन फिर भी प्रति किलो चीनी पर 75 से 80 पैसे की वृद्धि हुई है। वनस्पति तेल, जिस का कच्चा मान हम निर्धारित दर पर मुहिया करते हैं, उस में भी दो रुपये से तीन रुपये किलो की वृद्धि हुई है। इस वर्ष के बजट बाद ग्राम लोगों के मन में मंहगाई प्रति एक ऐसी आशंका थी कि अप्रत्याशित रूप से मंहगाई बढ़ेगी। वित्त मंत्रालय का यह अनुमान था कि केवल 1 प्रतिशत मूल्य वृद्धि होगी और यह बात हम सभी लोग जानते हैं कि थोक और खुदरा मूल्यों में 10 प्रतिशत का अन्तर होता है, लेकिन इस बार मूल्य वृद्धि का हिसाब यह है कि 20 से 25 प्रतिशत तक थोक तथा खुदरा मूल्यों में बाच मूल्य में अन्तर रहा है।

ग्राम देशांतों में चले जाइये-गरीबों का मिट्टा का तेल भी नहीं मिल पाता है। किसानों के पाम जाइये-जो सिंचाई डीजल से करवा था, आज उस की बाजार में डीजल भी नहीं मिलता। दालें तो गरीबों को मायस्मर ही नहीं हो पाती हैं-हर चीज की क़ामत बढ़ी है। जब तक हमारी साबंजनिक वितरण प्रणाली सुदृढ़ नहीं हो जाती, तब तक ग्राम लोगों को, साधारण आय पर जीने वाले लोगों को हम आवश्यक सामान भी मुहिया नहीं कर सकते।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप से और सदन से यह अर्ज करूंगा-आप थोक मूल्यों को ही लेते 24 फरवरी के एक सप्ताह पहले और उस के एक सप्ताह बाद-इतने कम समय में 2.5 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है-एक पखवाड़े में ऐसी मूल्य वृद्धि कभी भी देखने में नहीं आई। सरकारी आंकड़ों के अनुसार मार्च के पहले पखवाड़े में मिट्टी के तेल में 8 प्रतिशत,

मूंगफली के तेल में 5 प्रतिशत, कपड़ा धोने वाले साबुन के मूल्य में 6.1 प्रतिशत, दंतमंजन के मूल्य में 6.3 प्रतिशत, अंगार प्रसाधनों के मूल्य में 22.9 प्रतिशत, दियासलाई जैसी आवश्यक चीज के मूल्य में 28.2 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई। चीनी जैसी आवश्यक वस्तु, जो पीछे खुदरा मूल्य में सवा दो रुपये प्रति किलो पाते थे, आज उस का मूल्य 3 रुपये प्रति किलो है। उस के मूल्य में भी इतनी वृद्धि हुई है। इस समस्या का समाधान किस तरह से होगा। मैं आप से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि साबंजनिक वितरण प्रणाली को मजबूत किये बिना इस समस्या का समाधान नहीं हो पाएगा। इतना ही नहीं, सरकार चालू वर्ष में अपने प्रशासनिक खर्च में 10 प्रतिशत कटौती करे और सरकारी उद्योगों में जो उत्पादन होता है, उस के मूल्य में कोई वृद्धि न करे। अगर ऐसी तमाम व्यवस्थाएँ हम कर सकेंगे, तो मूल्यों में वृद्धि नहीं हो सकेगी वरना मूल्यों में यह वृद्धि होती ही रहेगी और इस का सीधा असर उन लोगों पर पड़ेगा, जिन लोगों को भरणे रोटी नहीं मिलती, जिनकी आमदानी बंधी हुई है, जिन की आमदानी सीमित है, जिनकी क्रय-शक्ति दिन प्रति दिन घट रही है। यह जो नया बजट आया कि सारे देश से चीजें गायब होने लगीं। इसलिए मैं अपने माननीय मंत्री जी से, जिन के विचार काफी सुलझे हुए हैं, जिन की ईमानदारी के खिलाफ कोई उंगली नहीं उठा सकता, जिन के व्यक्तित्व से हम सारे लोग प्रभावित हैं, जिन की सेवा से हम सारे लोग प्रभावित हैं, हम यह आशा करते हैं कि उन्होंने जो भारत की जनता के लिए यह निदान ठूँडा है कि साबंजनिक वितरण प्रणाली को सुदृढ़ किया जाए, उस को दृढ़ता से वे लागू करेंगे जिस से ग्राम लोगों को निश्चित मूल्यों पर चीजें मिलें। मैं ऐसी आशा करता हूँ कि आवश्यक चीजों के मूल्य सुदृढ़ होंगे, निश्चित होंगे ताकि ऐसा न हो कि व्यापारी जब चाहे चीजों के दाम बढ़ा दें।

[श्री युवराज]

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं समाप्त करता हूँ।

SHRI B. RACHALAH (Chamarajanagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Demands under discussion are very important from the point of view of the common man. This Ministry is responsible for the co-operative movement in this country and also for price stabilisation and for export. The co-operative movement over the years has significantly increased in membership, turnover and in transactions. Nearly 8 crores of people have been involved in the co-operative movement and nearly Rs. 15,000 crores of rupees of business is being transacted through these co-operative institutions. In spite of all these things, it is mentioned at page 36 of the Annual Report that the co-operative movement has not benefited the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the weaker sections.

13 hrs.

[**SHRI DHIRENDRANATH BASU** in the Chair]

In the objectives of the co-operative movement it has been mentioned that this movement has been started in order to provide full employment, employment to the rural people a production-oriented programme and decentralisation through economic power. Stabilisation of prices, supply of essential articles to consumers at fair prices, providing for labour-intensive technology and to serve the reconstruction of society—these objectives, though very laudable, have remained only a pious hope so far as the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are concerned.

In order to give a proper direction to the movement at the All India Conference of the Ministers of Co-operation, they adopted the National Co-operative Policy Resolution of 1977. In that, emphasis was laid on the point that the co-operative movement

should develop as an autonomous, independent self-reliant and politically neutral, movement serving the small and the marginal farmers and the rural artisans. As a result of that, 42 action programmes have been drawn up and the State Governments have been asked to implement them. I would have been happy if, while doing so, the Minister had given a direction to the State Governments to change the co-operative law, compelling them to enrol members from among the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other weaker sections, so that the benefits could flow to them. But you will find that the societies in the rural area are caste-ridden and faction-ridden. Therefore, the members who are already in control of these credit or marketing societies are reluctant to enrol new members, and they put a barrier on those who oppose them. Therefore, the benefits have really flowed only to a few families or groups of people in this country. Many co-operatives, either credit or services co-operatives, societies, control the village credit. Therefore, they have become almost a monopoly, a vested interest, and they do not allow any credit to flow to these people.

Therefore, when we think of the co-operative movement and when we say that it has been diversified, it has been on the increase etc., we will have to see that as many more people as people are made members of the societies, and that the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and weaker sections of society get at least 25 per cent of the membership in these societies. If they are unable to pay the share capital the State Government should be asked to finance the share capital amount for these people. Then they should also find a place in the management bodies, i.e., the Boards of Directors. Many of the cooperative organisations are employing a large number of people. But very few people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are there in these organisations and the result is that, whatever facilities are available, either by way of credit or

otherwise, they are not easily available for these people. The cooperative movement has not reached the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, as was originally envisaged. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to see that the cooperative membership is extended to these people in large numbers and their representatives should also be there in the management bodies.

Turning to the marketing side, the agricultural produce marketed by the cooperatives during the last year has shown a decline. The country has turned the corner in agricultural production and the farmers have done their best in looking for a remunerative price for their produce. But the purchase of wheat, paddy, cotton and tobacco have shown a decline. What does that show? When there is a scarcity the Government wants the farmers to surrender their produce and when there is a great need for a support price, the marketing societies have not gone to their rescue, which is very much expected of them. 16.77 lakhs tonnes of wheat and 5.89 lakh tonnes of rice were purchased last year. So far as cotton is concerned, they went to the market very late and so much so, for cotton, which is grown mainly in Karnataka, Maharashtra and other places, the producers were not able to get a remunerative price. In tobacco also, their purchase target was 15,000 tonnes, but they have purchased only 2,680 tonnes.

About 227 cooperative marketing societies are there. A sum of Rs. 72.6 lakhs has been given for strengthening them. By way of marginal money, a sum of Rs. 584 lakhs was also given. When we think of price stabilisation, we should first see the production programme, whether the necessary inputs and credit are made available to the farmers. Immediately after the harvesting season, the farmer expects the State Trading Corporation or the Cotton Corporation or other marketing societies to come to their aid. An attempt has been made by the Minister to see that the farmers are relieved of

their difficulties. But what he has done is not enough. He should go wholesale and see that whatever surplus the farmers want to sell is taken over by the marketing societies or the State Federations. You can have a buffer stock so that in the lean season, they can be released and thereby the prices can be controlled.

There has been a loud representation from all sections of the society and the House that the Public Distribution System alone will cure the maladies of marketing. I am one with those who want the Public Distribution System. But before we think of that, we should have enough storage facilities so that whatever surplus is available, can be stored and the same can be utilised when there is a shortage. The storage facilities available, when compared to the surplus to be procured, are very much less. Therefore, I want that storage facilities like godowns etc., at the Tahsil level and procurement level should be constructed so that the surplus will not go to waste.

Again, when we talk of procurement, we should think of what are the essential commodities that are in short supply now. These are baby food, bakery products, biscuits and such other small things and also articles required by students such as books, pencils and other stationery articles. Their prices have gone up, and only people with more children will understand now difficult it is to meet this expenditure. Therefore, these essential commodities should be identified and you should go all out to produce them in the co-operative sector so that they are made available to the consuming population.

So far as kerosene is concerned, of course kerosene is scarce, but whatever quantity is available should be distributed properly and in time. Sometimes it goes to the black-market and the people are finding it very difficult. Even toilet soaps—at least some of them—cost very much now, and so also tooth-paste and tooth-brushes. Even

[Shri B. Rachaiiah]

the common man is making use of these things and it is therefore necessary that these things are manufactured and made available.

Again, when we talk of the public distribution system, I would say that there are things like small utensils which are required for common families and there are certain items which are used by people below the poverty line. Therefore, I want you to identify those things and see that they are taken up for manufacture in the cooperative sector.

Similarly, sugar, kerosene and controlled cloth are not being distributed in the rural areas properly. Whatever you are distributing through 50,000 cooperative societies to rural areas consisting of 5 lakh villages is not enough to meet the demand of those people. Therefore, it is better that the number of fair-price shops, cooperatives and super bazars are increased. The production, procurement and distribution has to be channelised through an apex body and the fair-price shops should go to rural areas where vulnerable sections are living, where poor people are living, where they don't get anything and where traders are exploiting them. Therefore, you will have to take steps to see that these things are made available.

Now, about trade balance, I would like to mention here that last year there has been a decline in the export of coffee, tea, tobacco, cotton, mutton tallow and certain other items, which really does not speak of the efficiency of the Ministry. There may be an explanation ready with the Minister that the international trend is like that that money value has been reduced and therefore these things could not be done. But much more could have been done if something dynamic had been done.

Karnataka accounts for much of the export of iron ore, sandalwood, silk

products, cotton garments, coffee, tea, tobacco and cashew. But, in regard to the export of cashew there is a fall Mozambique and Kenya and other places, from wherever we were getting cashew-nuts here we are unable to get them now, and therefore, their export has declined. Sugar, potato, onions and cotton should be allowed to be exported. Last time when there was scarcity and there was price hike in sugar, you stopped the sugar export. Now that sugar is available in plenty, it has to be allowed to be exported so that the farmers may get their reasonable price.

There are certain items like fish and prawn which are being exported to other countries without meeting the country's demand. Your idea is to meet the country's demand first and then export. That is a good idea. Also there are certain dehydrated oilcakes which are being allowed to be exported. These oilcakes are the raw material for poultry—and cattle-feeds, and the prices of these feeds have gone up; it is very difficult to get them at reasonable prices. We want dairy development to take place, we want the white Revolution to take place in this country. We will have to see that these feeds are made available to the farmers at reasonable prices to enable them to feed their cows and buffaloes. Therefore, I personally feel that the export of these items has to be restricted.

The Karnataka Government has requested the Central Government to stop the import of raw silk. Every exporter is entitled for an import entitlement upto ten per cent of the value of the export he is making. Last time about Rs. 12 crores worth of material was exported. The import need not be in the form of raw silk alone. They can be permitted to import dyes, chemicals and also other machinery for better manufacture of silk fabrics. Now what happens is, even the traditional exporters are not using raw silk for the manufacture of silk fabrics. Only some people like Larsen & Toubro, who have no connection with the silk

trade, purchase the import entitlement and they are importing and are making profits. This has killed the Karnataka mulberry silk. Therefore, I want this to be stopped. The steps that the Karnataka Government are taking for the development of sericulture should be encouraged. With these words, I conclude my speech.

श्री छवि राम शर्मा (मुरैना) : सभा-पति महोदय, वाणिज्य, नागरिक पूर्ति तथा सहकारिता मन्त्रालय की मांगों का समर्थन करने के लिये मैं खड़ा हुआ हूँ। आपको मालूम है कि जब कांग्रेस की सरकार थी तो आवश्यक और दैनिक उपयोग की वस्तुओं के भाव आसमान को छू रहे थे और मार्केट में बल्क में आने से पहले ही वह वस्तुएं गायब हो जाती थीं। मूल्यों का सूचकांक बढ़ रहा था, किन्तु जैसे ही हमारे वाणिज्य मन्त्री श्री मोहन धारिया जी ने इस विभाग को सम्भाला है, बड़ी दक्षता के साथ उन्होंने काम किया है और मूल्यों में गिरावट आई है। मूल्यों का सूचकांक भी नीचे आया है।

मैं माननीय मन्त्री से कहना चाहता हूँ कि अभी भी इनमें और सुधार की आवश्यकता है। दैनिक उपयोग और आवश्यक वस्तुओं के मूल्यों पर नियन्त्रण की आवश्यकता है। आज देश में आवश्यक वस्तुओं के मूल्य नियन्त्रण के लिए लोक वितरण प्रणाली की आवश्यकता है और बैटन, चाबस, दालों, तेल और मोटे अनाज आदि सब वस्तुओं का सह-कारिता के आधार पर वितरण होना चाहिए। जनता सरकार की भंशा है कि गांवों का विकास हो और गांवों के लोगों को सुविधायें उपलब्ध कराई जायें। अगर सरकार यह व्यवस्था करेगी कि ये सब चीजें गांवों के लोगों, किसानों और हरिजन, आदिवासियों को उपलब्ध कराई जायें, तो लाभ होगा।

सरकार की ओर से कई वस्तुओं का समर्थन मूल्य निर्धारित किया जाता है। जैसे, उसने पिछले साल गेहूँ का समर्थन मूल्य 110

रुपये से 112 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल निर्धारित किया। लेकिन बाद में वही गेहूँ 140 रुपये और 150 रुपये के भाव पर उपलब्ध हुआ। मैं मंत्री महोदय से अनुरोध करूंगा कि इस प्रकार की जो वृद्धि होती है, वह नहीं होनी चाहिए, इस पर रोक लगानी चाहिए।

मैं यह भी प्रार्थना करूंगा कि आड़तियों और बिचौलियों की प्रथा समाप्त होनी चाहिए। आज उन्होंने देश में एक मोनोपली सी बना रखी है। आड़तिये बाजार में मूल्यों का नियन्त्रण कर लेते हैं और माल को स्टॉक कर लेते हैं। इसलिए आड़तियों और बिचौलियों की प्रथा को समाप्त किया जाना चाहिए।

हमारे देश में 5,417.38 करोड़ रुपये का आयात किया गया है और 4415.81 करोड़ रुपये का निर्यात किया गया है। इस प्रकार हम को 100 करोड़ रुपये का घाटा है। यह घाटे का मोटा नहीं होना चाहिए। ऐसी व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए कि हम अधिक से अधिक निर्यात कर सकें। उदाहरण के लिए हमारे यहां से कच्चे चमड़े का निर्यात किया गया है। अगर उसी चमड़े को पका कर निर्यात किया जाता, तो काफ़ी लाभ होता। अगर इस प्रकार की फैक्टरियां हमारे देश में लगाई जातीं, तो हमें काफ़ी लाभ होता। देवास में टाटा एक्सपोर्टर्स की एक फैक्टरी है, जिसमें 5 करोड़ रुपये की लागत का चमड़े का प्रोडक्शन है और 12,000 स्किन्स तैयारी होती है। लेकिन उस चमड़े की क्वालिटी खराब होने की वजह से मार्केट में और दूसरे देशों में उसकी खपत नहीं होती है। उसके मुकाबले में बाटा की क्वालिटी सुपीरियर है। इसी तरह हमने खबर और काजू का आयात किया है। हम इन चीजों को अपने यहां तैयार कर सकते हैं। हम काजू का आयात करने के बजाये उसका निर्यात कर सकते हैं। अगर हम काजू की पीद का आयात करें और अपने यहां बागान लगायें, तो काफ़ी लाभ हो सकता है।

[श्री छवि राम अग्रवाल]

कई वस्तुओं पर कुछ लोगों की मोनोपाली है। जैसे, शहर में एक ही डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर रखा जाता है। हमारे यहां डोलक बीड़ी, फ्राउन्टेन बीड़ी, शेर बीड़ी और 27 बीड़ी आदि 27 नामों की बीड़ियां हैं। बीड़ी और सिग्रेट को बनाने वाले शहर में एक ही होलसेल डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर रखते हैं और उसके आकार पर वे सम्पूर्ण मार्केट पर कब्जा कर लेते हैं और काना बाजारी करते हैं। मेरी प्रार्थना है कि इस प्रकार की मोनोपाली नहीं होनी चाहिए और वितरक व्यवस्था में सुधार करके कई डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर रखे जाने चाहिए, ताकि कम्पिटिशन में व्यापार हो सके और लोगों को भी लाभ हो।

रेपसीड का भी आयात किया गया है। हमारे देश में इतना तिलहन पैदा होता है कि हम उसके आयात के बजाये उसका निर्यात कर सकते हैं। इसकी व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए। हमारे यहां इतनी तिलहन पैदा होती है कि उसका तेल हम पैदा कर सकते हैं और उस तेल से वनस्पति घी पैदा कर सकते हैं। आज हम को वनस्पति घी बाहर से आयात करना पड़ता है। हम इसके ऊपर खड़े हो सकें तो वनस्पति घी का जो आयात करते हैं उसका निर्यात कर सकते हैं।

मैं आपका ध्यान कुछ देसी वस्तुओं की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूं जो हमारे देश में निर्मित होती हैं जैसे सूती वस्त्रों का हम यहां से निर्यात कर सकते हैं। कई प्रकार की पोशाकें तैयार कर सकते हैं और कुटीर उद्योगों के माध्यम से कालीन, गलीचे आदि भी बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में तैयार करा कर उनका निर्यात कर सकते हैं। उस से हमारे देश को लाभ होगा इसलिए कुटीर उद्योगों को बढ़ावा देना चाहिए।

पिछले साल हमने जापान को मछली का निर्यात किया था। अब उसमें कुछ कमी

हुई है। 77-78 में 11.8 हजार टन मछली का निर्यात किया था लेकिन जापान ने अब उसको लेना बन्द कर दिया है क्योंकि हमारे यहां से सड़ी गली मछली भेजते थे। तो इस पर भी निगानी होनी चाहिए।

इसी प्रकार मसालों के बारे में मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं कि कुछ ही लोग हैं जिन्हें इनके आयात का लाइसेंस दिया हुआ है, उन्हीं के माध्यम से यह होता है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि अगर कुछ लोग आयात का काम करना चाहते हैं, शिक्षित बेरोजगार हैं तो उनको भी आयात लाइसेंस इस प्रकार के मिल सकें ऐसी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। पिछली गवर्नमेंट ने कुछ ऐसे लोगों को आयात लाइसेंस दिए थे दलगत आधार पर। कुछ अपने सफेदपोश हाथी जो उन्होंने पाल रखे थे उनका दिए थे। मैं अपने मध्य प्रदेश का उदाहरण देना चाहता हूं। वहां दो लोगों को हांगकांग से षड़ी आयात करने के लाइसेंस दिए गए। उनमें से एक ने मुरैना में जहां से मैं चुन कर के आता हूं, 414 का एक कमरा लिया हुआ है। उनका कहना था कि वह वहां षड़ी बनाएंगे। लेकिन वह कम से कम 1 लाख रुपये का ब्लैक मार्केट साल में करते हैं। तो इस प्रकार के जो फर्जी लाइसेंस हैं उनकी निगरानी होनी चाहिए। इसी प्रकार से दूसरे एक किसी सरदार को भोपाल में लाइसेंस दिया है। ये जितने फर्जी लाइसेंस इन्होंने अपने आदमियों को दे रखे हैं इनकी सारे की जांच होनी चाहिए, ये काम करते हैं या नहीं, कितनी बड़ियां इन्होंने निर्यात कीं, कितनी एक्साइज ड्यूटी दी, इन सारे मामलों की जांच होनी चाहिए और ऐसे लोगों के खिलाफ कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए।

इसी प्रकार से हमने पेट्रोल, वनस्पति, कृत्रिम सूत, मोती, बहुमूल्य रत्न, खाद, लोहा, इस्पात आदि का भी आयात किया है। मैं आप से कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारे यहां पन्ना में हीरे की खदान है। उसको हम अच्छी तरह से देखें

तो न केवल हम अपने पैरों पर खड़े हो सकते हैं बल्कि इसका निर्यात कर सकते हैं। और अपने घंटे की पूर्ति कर सकते हैं। हमने खाद का भी आयात किया है। क्या हम अपने देश में खाद के कारखाने नहीं लगा सकते? मैं मन्त्री महोदय से अनुरोध करूंगा कि इस मामले में हम अपने पैरों पर खड़े होने की कोशिश करें और आत्म-निर्भर होकर खाद का आयात करने के बजाय उसका निर्यात कर सकें ऐसी व्यवस्था वह करें।

मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मन्त्री जी का ध्यान नेफेड (एन ए एफ ई डी) की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा। जो कैंनेलाइज्ड आइटम है उनका एक्सपोर्ट इसके माध्यम से होता है। नेशनल एग्रीकल्चरल कोऑपरेटिव मार्केटिंग फेडरेशन के माध्यम से आलू, दाल, प्याज का एक्सपोर्ट होता है। यह सिर्फ इनके माध्यम में ही होता है। मैं आप से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि आप या तो इसको मरकारी माध्यम से करायें, मैं यह नहीं चाहता कि कोऑपरेटिव के माध्यम से नहीं होना चाहिए लेकिन मोनो-पाली किसी की नहीं होनी चाहिए। जैसे कई राज्यों में आलू, प्याज, सोयाबीन वगैरह पैदा होता है तो इनका एक्सपोर्ट किसी को भी जो इस काम को करना चाहे करने की अनुमति दे सकते हैं। यह मोनोपाली जो हां रही है यह नहीं होनी चाहिए।

इसी प्रकार से राज्यों में गेहूं, चावल, तेल, पटसन आदि रखने के लिए गोदामों की भी कमी है जिसे हजारों लाखों टन गेहूं खराब हो जाता है। गोदामों की व्यवस्था के लिए भी हमें प्रयास करना चाहिए। हम जो अपने आप पैदा करते हैं उसके रख-रखाव के लिए गोदाम की व्यवस्था कर सकें तो उसमें हमें लाभ होगा।

आपको मालूम है कि गन्ने का बहुत बड़ा उत्पादन हमारे देश में हुआ। पहले यह होता था कि हाथ शककर हाथ शककर और आज शककर

मारी मारी डोल रही है, कोई शककर लेने वाला नहीं है। हम चीनी का निर्यात कर सकते हैं। हमारे पास चीनी का बहुत बड़ा भण्डार है। यदि चीनी के निर्यात की व्यवस्था की जाए तो किसानों को गन्ने का उचित मूल्य भी मिल सकेगा और देश को भी लाभ होगा।

आजकल गांवों में मिट्टी का तेल उपलब्ध नहीं है। मिट्टी के तेल का वितरण भी ठीक ढंग से होना चाहिए। यदि सहकारिता और शिक्षित बेरोजगारों के माध्यम से मिट्टी के तेल का वितरण कराया जाए तो बेरोजगारों को रोजगार भी मिल सकेगा और मिट्टी का तेल भी आसानी से उपलब्ध होगा।

कृषि के उपकरण बाहर से हम मंगते हैं। हम अपने टैक्नालाजिस्ट्स, इंजीनियर्स को सक्षम बनायें ताकि कृषि उपकरण आयात करने के बजाए निर्यात कर सकें तथा अपने पैरों पर खड़े हो सकें। इस बात की व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए।

बड़ी-बड़ी कम्पनियों की आज टायर्स में मानोपाली है। उनकी मानोपाली को समाप्त किया जाना चाहिए। आज मोटर, ट्रक और ट्रैक्टर्स के टायर्स की कीमतें आसमान छू रही हैं। उनकी कीमत नीचे आनी चाहिए। मन्त्री जी का ध्यान इस ओर अवश्य जाना चाहिए।

उद्योगपतियों को सरकार लाइसेंस तो दे देती है लेकिन वे अपने कर्मचारियों के लिए आवास की व्यवस्था नहीं करते हैं। मेरा सुझाव है कि उनको लाइसेंस तभी दिए जायें जबकि वे अपने कर्मचारियों के लिए आवास की व्यवस्था करें।

इसके साथ ही मेरा यह भी सुझाव है कि देश में बनने वाली सभी प्रकार की वस्तुओं के लिए आपत, मार्केट की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए।

[श्री छविराज शर्मा]

आज स्माल स्केल इण्डस्ट्रीज के तहत शिक्षित बेरोजगार लोग अपने छोटे छोटे उद्योग खोल रहे हैं लेकिन उनके लिए मार्केट नहीं है। उनके द्वारा बनाई हुई वस्तुएँ मार्केट में बिकती नहीं हैं। आज देश में लोहारी, सोनारी, कुम्हारी जैसे धंधे बेकार से हो गए हैं। इसलिए जो भी वस्तुएँ बनाई जायें उनके लिए मार्केट की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए तभी उनको लाभ पहुँच सकता है।

कृषि उपकरणों से सम्बन्धित एक बात मैं और कहना चाहूँगा। जो भी उपकरण तैयार किये जायें वह सस्ती कीमत पर लोगों को उपलब्ध होने चाहिए तभी इसका लाभ पहुँच सकता है।

मसानों के निर्यात में पिछले साल के मुकाबले इस साल कमी आई है। इस बार सूत, कृत्रिम धागे का आयात किया गया है लेकिन हम अपने यहाँ ही सूत बना सकते हैं तथा अपने पैरों पर खड़े हो सकते हैं।

मैं एक बात की ओर और भी ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूँगा। आज देश में कई चीजों में मानोशाली बनती जा रही है जैसे कि कपड़ा है। ग्वालियर रेयान्स, ग्वालियर मट्टिम्ब—इनकी बिक्री बाजार में ज्यादा होती है। मेरा सुझाव है कि स्माल स्केल इण्डस्ट्रीज की तहत जो चीजें बनती हैं जैसे जनता साड़ी, जनता धोती, जनता क्लाब—इनका अधिक ब्याज रखा जाना चाहिए ताकि गरीब से गरीब आदमी को यह चीजें उपलब्ध हो सकें। मंत्री जी इसकी व्यवस्था करेंगे तो मैं समझता हूँ जनता को बहुत लाभ पहुँचेगा।

अन्त में मैं मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना करूँगा कि लाइसेंस प्रणाली में जो मानोपाली बनती

जा रही है उस पर विशेष ध्यान दें। इसके साथ ही अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति के लोगों को इसमें उचित रोजगार का अवसर नहीं मिलता है। जिस प्रकार से मंत्री जी ने मूल्य नियंत्रण के सम्बन्ध में तेजी से कदम उठाए हैं उसी प्रकार से अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति के लोगों के लिए रोजगार के साधन सभी जगह उपलब्ध होने चाहिए—चाहे वह बहुराष्ट्रीय कम्पनियाँ हों या बड़े बड़े औद्योगिक घराने हों या कोऑपरेटिव सेक्टर के उद्योग हों। किसी भी प्रकार के हों, इसमें अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के लोगों को रोजगार उपलब्ध नहीं होता है। मैं प्रार्थना करूँगा—इस बारे में आप जब जवाब दें तो अवश्य ध्यावासन देंगे।

अन्त में, मंत्री महोदय ने जो मांगें रखी हैं—
मैं उनका समर्थन करता हूँ।

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for allowing me some time to participate in this discussion. The activities of the Ministry of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Co-operation are of course very many and they cover a vast field and a variety of operations. Mr. Chairman, it would be an act of bravery and he would be a courageous man who can speak on the various activities of the Commerce Ministry in such a limited time, and although Mr. Chairman, I may have some other forms of bravery or courage in me, I confess I do not have this kind of bravery whereby I can do justice to the task of covering all the points relating to the Commerce Ministry within five minutes. Therefore, if I am very selective on account of compulsion of time, I hope the hon. Minister and my colleagues will pardon me for being very brief and for my being dogmatic and assertive in my presentation rather than persuasive and argumentative.

First I would like to quote paragraph 31 of the Introduction, page-XVI of the Report. It is stated as—

"31. Given the vast resources potential of our country stability in our policies, simplified procedures and a constructive and promotional attitude, the Government is confident that it should be possible to attain a sustained growth in exports as an important instrument of overall economic development and social advance and to achieve the objective of self-reliance in the near future."

Mr. Chairman, this is such a good paragraph, non-controversial idealistic, and therefore not only is it applicable to this particular year but if it was put in the year 1970-71 or 1989 or 1999 Report or in the report of 2010, who will oppose these things? But the operative word—my good friend and the "Young Turk" and the Minister and I am glad that he retains most of his young Turkness even while he is in power—'Given' is most important. Are they there? I would request them with folded hands to please use their good Offices and influence and bring the socialist and egalitarian ideas to ensure that this wonderful thing that you are mentioning in the Report is being looked into.

Now, Mr. Chairman, the entire gamut of foreign trade policy which has got a lot to do in the vital role of national economy is being continued by the Ministry and therefore the question of import and export comes in. I do not have time to go into the import policy which of course came into being on 3rd April, 1978. And it is said that further improvement is going to take place, further exploration is going to take place. I do not blame him for that. I do not think that we should have a rigid policy for import and export. We are functioning in the international markets in the international community and if there are ups and downs in the international sphere and in the international economy, our policy of export and import will have to be naturally changed, it will have to be flexible enough to suit the adjustments and

requirements and even price conditions of those international situations which are in any case not in our control. What is more important is that internally we have to look constantly and review the consumption pattern of our people. There are areas and times when certain commodities may be required for consumption and there are areas and times for certain commodities which may not be required for consumption and therefore you may not have a fixed and a rigid policy of import and export. I think it is good, and I do not want to say that this paragraph which he has put in this Report is not good. I broadly endorse these points about the steps to be taken to promote exports, which have been given on pages 8 and 9 in the introductory part. I endorse those points. But I will only make a small request in regard to small scale industries and handicrafts and cottage industries. How much are we doing? I carry a feeling that we in India are capable of producing excellent quality of handicrafts—small scale and cottage handicrafts. In fact, we are producing these. I go abroad and what I read and learn from foreigners is that whereas the quality of Indian handicrafts is good, these are not being properly marketed and sold at the right time and right place. I would like the hon. Minister and his Ministry to look into this problem.

Now, I would say a few words about the Kandla Free Trade Zone. On page (xi) of the introduction, this is what the Minister has to say in this report:

"The Free Trade Zones are making steady progress. The number of units in Kandla Free Trade Zone increased from 35 to 39 during the year."

Even if the number goes up from 35 to 36, you have got one more, but you cannot say that this increase from 35 to 39 is significant. I am glad, the hon. Minister agrees with me because he is nodding his head.

[Prof. P. G. Mavalankar]

The report further says:

'The number of industrial sheds went up from 64 to 80. The total exports from Kandla zone during 1978 have been of the order of 6 crores.'

In all fairness, I would like to ask the hon. Minister, if it is really a satisfactory progress.

First of all, is Kandla Free Trade Zone based on any established legal authority? As far as I know, it was during the time of late Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri that this free trade zone was created, but till this day that free trade zone has not been properly strengthened and supported by the necessary legislative and parliamentary enactment. I would like the hon. Minister to explore this matter and go into not only Kandla free trade zone, but all other free trade zones in the country. I want that the Government concerned in this case it is the Gujarat State Government—should also be roped into more actively and directly. I would be wrong and would be failing in my duty if I do not mention by way of a word of congratulations to the hon. Minister, the fact of his being the first Commerce Minister ever to have visited Kandla free trade zone. The previous Ministers did not bother to go to Kandla. I say this, not because it is in Gujarat, but because it is a part of India. We want this to be properly strengthened and looked into. Let him go into this matter and before he relinquishes his charge—I do not want him to relinquish office of the Government—his charge as Commerce Minister, let him strengthen Kandla free trade zone in such a way that the import and export policy of our country and programme is stepped up in terms of using these facilities in a much greater measure.

He has also mentioned about Africa in the report. Only yesterday I tried to ask a question and the hon. Speaker

was not allowed to proceed. I find it relevant here and would say this. Shri Kundu, the Minister of State, External Affairs and his senior colleague, Shri Tlal Bihari Vajpayee have gone to Africa. I dare say that a part of the Ministry of Commerce, particularly in regard to foreign trade, has a bearing on foreign relations. Foreign relations are not diplomacy only, these are ultimately based on naked, clear and simple facts of economic relationship, trade relationship and commerce relationship. Therefore, I would like him to give more attention to economic trade relationship between African countries and ourselves.

As regards bilateral trade agreements I was in recently months in Austria, Spain and Switzerland. I am glad to find that visiting delegations have come from Austria and also there is some trade between Spain and India. I would like that some of the so-called less prominent countries of the world should also be roped into trade relations with us so that our political and international relationship with those countries of the world may improve. I do not want to go into the question of India and EEC and Great Britain as also Commonwealth except to say that of late, I find that a number of British delegations, delegations from Chambers of Trade and Commerce are coming from United Kingdom and they are able to give us some technology and help. I believe, it is Great Britain which gives us perhaps a large amount of aid not by way of loan, but as outright help. If that is so, then I think, the Commerce Ministry comes into the picture in ensuring that this help is so used intelligently and in an articulate manner that the monies that are given to us are utilised to the highest extent.

I am glad that during 1978, the Trade Fair Authority of India participated in international trade fairs at so many places. The places covered a number of countries and these trade fairs were held at Damascus, Zambia, Tehran, Baghdad, Milan, Budget and

Stockholm. There was also an Indian exhibition in Moscow. The report also indicates that a number of exhibitions were held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi during the year. Last year I saw these two or three times, I do not know whether you saw it or not, Mr. Chairman, there was a small scale industries fair at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. In some other places also, it was held. But I have a feeling that a lot of money is wasted. I am sorry to say this; but the moneys that you are pumping into all these Fairs—for organizing and participating in them—do not give you adequate returns in terms of more trade, in the aggregate, trade opportunities and facilities for trade with various countries of the world.

On the other hand, for the small-scale industries, you had a Fair in Delhi. I would ask Mr. Dharja to tell us whether those industries are able to get more and better orders from more countries. Let him give us an answer to this.

Lastly, about the public distribution system. I would say that it is good. Among the many steps he mentioned was the expansion of area coverage. He said he would go and cover small areas, areas having even populations of less than 2,000 or even less than 1,000, and also cover far-off, inaccessible and tribal areas. I am not sure whether it will be feasible and practical. He should give us a concrete picture of what he can do rather than give a rosy picture of what he wants to do. The public distribution system should be viewed from this angle. Secondly, there is an important step, agreed to by all, viz., constitution of federal and State-level high-powered Committees for coordination and supervision of the totality of the distribution system. He must appoint those committees with great care, with fewer people, people with knowledge a sense of responsibility and understanding, and people who can give their ideas to this committee and who will be constantly vigilant themselves. If it is done, I am

sure that through the public distribution system he will be able to do a lot of good.

In conclusion, I would say that his Ministry is one of those Ministries by whose performance the entire Government will be judged. After all, every State is known by what it does, and not by what it says.

If I had time, I would have gone into the Cooperatives and consumer societies; but I will not go into them now, because I do not want to draw on the generosity of the Chairman. I am thankful to the House for the opportunity given to me. I hope the country will not feel that an Independent Member deserves to be given only 2 or 3 minutes. Anyway, I am thankful for whatever time that has been given to me.

श्री रामलाल राही : (मिसरिख) :
अधिष्ठाता महोदय, पार्टी की तरफ से जिन लोगों के नाम यहां पर बोलने के लिए दिये गये थे और जिनको बोलने का मौका नहीं दिया गया है, इसलिए कि वे यहां पुकारने पर उपस्थित नहीं थे तो मैं उस के सम्बन्ध में जानकारी चाहता हूं कि क्या ऐसी व्यवस्था सदा के लिए बना ली गई है कि जिनके नाम पुकारे जाएंगे, वे अगर उपस्थित नहीं होंगे तो उनको बोलने का मौका नहीं दिया जाएगा, या यह व्यवस्था केवल आज के लिए ही है ? अगर यह आज के लिए ही है तो ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए । हम भी इस पर बोलना चाहते हैं । हमें केवल दो मिनट चाहिए । आप मेहरबानी करके हमें दो मिनट का मौका दें क्योंकि अधिष्ठाता महोदय, हम देख रहे हैं कि मूंगफली के तेल के वनस्पति में इस्तेमाल पर प्रतिबन्ध लगा दिया गया है । हम उत्तर प्रदेश से आते हैं और वहां मूंगफली अधिक मात्रा में होती है । वहां इससे लोगों में परेशानी है ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your name was called yesterday; and you were absent. There are definite instructions from the Speaker, not to call again a Member who was absent. I understand your point, but I cannot violate the rule. That has been the convention now. If I violate the rule, things will not go all right.

श्री राम लाल राही : मूंगफली के तेल के बनस्पति आयल बनाने में इस्तेमाल पर जो प्रतिबन्ध लगा दिया गया है, मंत्री मद्दोदय इसके बारे में यहाँ बता दें ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are a senior parliamentarian. Please take your seat and listen to the Minister.

श्री गोरूख तिरको (अलीपुरखार) : अतिथिभाता मद्दोदय, हमारा नाम भी हमारी पार्टी ने भेजा है, हम को भी पांच मिनट बोलने के लिए क्यों नहीं देते हैं ?

My name is listed there. Why have you dropped the parties?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister is replying.

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: My part has allowed me to speak today; and I am prepared for it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry, my dear friend.

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: I will demand that there is no quorum in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is quorum.

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: If you do not allow me to speak, then I will demand for quorum.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no time. I am sorry.

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: I want only five minutes to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: His name was also called yesterday. All right, you can speak. The Minister has agreed to give reply after a few minutes.

श्री पोयूष तिरको : मैं वाणिज्य और वितरण मंत्री माननीय मोहन धारिया के सम्मुख कुछ सच्ची तस्वीर रखने का दुस्ताहस कर रहा हूँ । मैं मंत्री महाशय से अप्रार्थ करता हूँ कि वह विचलित न हों और मेरी गुस्ताखी माफ करें ।

हमारी आजादी के 31 साल गुजर चुके हैं । पांच पंचवर्षीय योजनाएँ पूरी हो चुकी हैं । कांग्रेस के पतन के बाद जनता सरकार के भी दो वर्ष बीत चुके हैं । कितनी प्रचंड तरक्की हुई इस देश में । प्रति समृद्ध देश अमरीका के समान ही हमारे देश में टी वी, आलीशान मोटर गाड़ियाँ, सुपर फास्ट एयर कंडिशनड रेल गाड़ियाँ, जम्बो जेट विमान, गगनचुम्बी इमारतें, फाइव स्टार होटल, स्विमिंग पूल, मनमोहक पार्क, कंबरे नृत्य, रेस, शम्पेन, बल्यू फिल्में आदि सभी सुविधायें मौजूद हैं । ये सभी व्यापार से ही संभव हो पाई हैं । हजारों वैश्यागृहों में बालिकाओं से लेकर उच्च वर्गीय स्त्रियाँ तक हर किस्म की औरतों का इंतजाम किया गया है और इस नैक व्यवसाय में लाखों स्त्रियों के निर्वाह का उच्च प्रबन्ध किया गया है । लाखों लोगों को भीख मांगने की विद्या निरन्तर सिखाई जा रही है और करोड़ों को बेकारी में ही सुख चैन से कैसे निर्वाह किया जाए इसकी अद्भुत जानकारी बराबर दी जा रही है । सत्तर प्रतिशत से ज्यादा लोग यानि आजादी के वक्त जितनी हमारी आजादी थी उससे कहीं ज्यादा लोग आज निरक्षर हैं । 65 प्रतिशत लोग दरिद्रता की चोट में घाघे पेट या बाली पेट झोंपड़ों में या फुटपाथ में, घाघे नंगे या लगभग नंगे जी रहे हैं, मर रहे हैं । लेकिन मतदान का महान अधिकार उन्हें दे कर सन्तुष्ट किया गया है । करोड़ों परिवारों को पीने का पानी उपलब्ध न होने पर भी अमीरों के संडास स्वच्छ जल से बराबर चमकीले रखने की व्यवस्था उपलब्ध है । अछूतों के साथ मारपीट करना, उनके झोंपड़ों को जलाना या उखाड़ना बेरहमी से जारी है

परन्तु इसकी निन्दा करने का अधिकार मौजूद है। उन्हें जिन्दा जलाने का क्रम भी चल ही रहा है पर हाँ उच्च लोकशाही की भत्सना का अधिकार और उसकी पूरी छूट जनता सरकार ने फिर दे दी है। उनकी स्त्रियों के साथ बलात्कार जैसे घृणित काम भी पूरी ग्रहमयित से जारी है पर हाँ गर्भपात कराने की मुफ्त सुविधा उपलब्ध है। इस देश में कूड़ा कोठों पर जानवरों के साथ भ्रम की खोज लेने मानव देखे जाते हैं लेकिन दूसरी तरफ अन्तरिक्ष की खोज में करोड़ों रुपये के खर्च से कृत्रिम उपग्रह छोड़े जा रहे हैं। दवा दारु और पुष्टिकारक खाद्य के अभाव में पचास लाख से ज्यादा लोग भ्रष्ट हो चुके हैं लेकिन टी वी कैसे रंगीन की जाए इसके लिए करोड़ों रुपये मुहैया किया गया है। करोड़ों मजदूर कर्ज के बोझ से दबे हुए हैं लेकिन मालिकों द्वारा टैक्स टाल कर जमा किया गया काला धन कैसे खर्च किया जाए इसकी चिन्ता सरकार कर रही है।

इस देश में आज भी हिन्दु मुसलमान अकाली और निरंकारी सवर्ण और अछूतों से दुश्मनी बनाए हुए हैं लेकिन उद्योगपति और स्मगलर, बड़े जमींदार और सेठ साहूकार व्यापारी और काला बाजारी करने वाले, पुलिस और गुनहगार मिल जुल कर हंसी खुशी जी रहे हैं।

भारती और अन्य विदेशी पर्यटकों को आकर्षित करने के लिए पेशेवर बैथ्याओं के प्रलावा कई कालेज कन्यायों और घरेलू औरतों भी खुला घंघा करने लगी हैं। हम पर आक्रमण करने वाले देशों से भी व्यापार के नाम पर उनके ही देश में जाकर खुशामद का रवैया अपनाया जा रहा है और असली तटस्थता की डींग हाँकना व्यावहारिक हो चला है।

भारत भाँ की सन्तान आज बैथ्या, भिखारी भूखी, नंगी, निरक्षर बेरोज़गार, पीड़ित शोषित है और यह सब आपके व्यवहार व्यापार

मंत्रालय की ही देन है, इससे इंकार नहीं किया जा सकता है।

श्रीमन् हमारे देश में खाद्यान्न की बढ़ती इतनी हो गयी है कि रखने की जगह नहीं मिल रही है। दूसरी ओर 65 प्रतिशत लोग भ्रष्ट ग्रहार या पूरे भूखे अवस्था में पड़े जानवरों से भी बदतर जीवन जीने के लिये बाध्य किये जा रहे हैं। क्या यह एक अद्भुत पहेली नहीं है? आजादी के नाम पर तड़प तड़प कर मरना ही क्या भारत माता की इतनी बड़ी आबादी का मौलिक अधिकार है और चन्द से लोगों की व्यापार के नाम पर मौज करने का अबाध अधिकार कैसे सहन किया जा सकता है?

इन्दिरा गांधी के दस वर्ष के शासन ने गरीबों को धोखा देकर पूँजीपतियों की आर्थिक स्थिति मजबूत करने में पूरी ताकत लगायी थी। आंकड़े आपके पास मौजूद हैं। क्या आप उसी के पद चिन्हों पर पांव नहीं बढ़ा रहे हैं? जरा सम्भल कर चलने की कृपा करें। जनता धोखा खाते खाते अब समझने लगी है और और से देख रही है कि आप के कथन और करनी में अन्तर पड़ रहा है या नहीं।

सर, मेरा तो सुझाव है कि आप प्रति-श्रुतियों को पूरा करें जिसकी आपने हिमायत की थी। समय आ चुका है

- (1) उच्चतम आय सीमा निर्धारित करने की।
- (2) सम्पत्ति रखने के मौलिक अधिकार का निवारण।
- (3) जिसकी हल उसकी जमीन दिलाने की।
- (4) वितरण व्यवस्था में मिडिलमैन की समाप्ति।
- (5) मानवता का राष्ट्रीयकरण।

[श्री पी.ए. तिर्की]

सर, प्रत्येक भारतीयों के पीछे विदेशों से 950 रु० (यानी 6 जनो के हर परिवार के) पीछे 4,500 रु० का कर्जा भी अभी भी बरकरार है। और हमारे शासक जल की तरह विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जन करने के बदले नाना किस्म के बहाने खोज कर सारी दुनिया के चक्कर लगा कर रहे हैं और पब्लिक मनी का अपव्यय कर रहे हैं।

भारत मां की करोड़ों सन्तान ने अभी तक रेल नहीं देखी है। देश विदेश की बात छोड़ दें, अपने जिले तक की सैर उनके नसीब में नहीं है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारी वितरण व्यवस्था बिल्कुल ही गलत नीति पर आधारित है। हमारे बहुत से साथियों ने जिक्र किया है कि अति उत्पादन होने के कारण किसान को उचित मूल्य दिलाने में सरकार असफल रही है। यह सच है, परन्तु इसके दूसरे पहलू भी मौजूद हैं। आज सबसे ज्यादा भूखे, नंगे, शोषित अज्ञानता के अंधकार में डूबे करोड़ों लोग गांवों के ही रहने वाले हैं। उचित मूल्य की आवाज उठाने वाले कौन हैं? वे वही हैं जो व्यापार से सम्बन्ध रखते हैं, जिन्होंने बहुत सारे बेनामी जमीन अपने कब्जे में कर रखी है। बौन्डेड मजदूरों से काम लेते रहे हैं। बड़े-बड़े औहदों में हैं और साथ ही साथ जमीन के मालिक हैं। जो सस्ती मजदूरी से या बिना मजदूरी दिये ही मानवता के पोषण से गोदाम भरे हैं यह वही हैं जिनके हाथों छंटे किसानों की फसलें कटने के पहले ही जल के भाव में बिक चुकी होती हैं। यह वही हैं जो हंड्रेड परसेंट सूद की दर से रुपया किसानों की परोपकारी में हर साल लगाया करते हैं और पूरी उपज अपने गोले में भरते हैं। हकीकत तो यह है कि असल किसान के पास अपने ही खाने के लिये पूरे वर्ष का अनाज मौजूद नहीं है, बेचने की बात तो दूर की है।

यही कारण है कि फूड फौर वर्क के लिये कशमकश भीड़ देखी जा रही है। जरा गौर

करें यह फूड फौर वर्क करने वाले कौन हैं? क्या यह किसान नहीं हैं? क्या यह शहरों से दौड़ कर आ गये हैं? यह सोचने का विषय है और नीति निर्धारण में आमूल परिवर्तन करने की जरूरत है।

मनुष्य की कृय शक्ति खत्म हो चुकी है। जब आपको रखने की जगह नहीं है और अनाज की बरबादी हो रही है तो क्यों नहीं इन भूखे ग्रामवासियों को क्रेडिट पर बेच देने की आप व्यवस्था करते। कहावत ठीक उतरती है "गाँव में घाव तो चूंदी में दवाई"।

सर हमारी सरकार बड़े इत्मीनान से बोलती आ रही है कि हमने रेकार्ड उन्नति कर ली है। सभी क्षेत्रों में हमारा धन धान्य सरफ़स हो चुका है। चीनी, गेहूँ, चावल, चना, गुड़ और क्या नहीं। कल ही माननीय उद्योग मन्त्री, श्री जार्ज फ़र्नान्डीज़ ने आंकड़ों की बौछार से ऐसा साबित करने की कोशिश की कि हमारी गाड़ी उन्नति के शिखर पर पहुंच चुकी है।

इसलिये मैं मन्त्री जी से अनुरोध करूंगा कि जो हमारी वितरण व्यवस्था है उसमें आमूल परिवर्तन लाने की आप चेष्टा करें। हम जानते हैं कि व्यावसायी गणेश और लक्ष्मी की पूजा करते हैं। गणेश का वाहन चूहा है, जो बहुत चालाक होता है, चुपके-चुपके खाता रहता है और उल्लू दिखने में तो साधू दिखता है, लगता है निरामिष है, दिन में कुछ खाता नहीं है लेकिन वह चुपके-चुपके रात में शिकार करता है।

14.00 hrs.

मेरी आशा है कि माननीय मन्त्री जी व्यवसायियों से अच्छी तरह से पेश आयेंगे और इस दुरावस्था को दूर करेंगे जिससे आम जनता सुख से अपनी दरकार की चीजें जुटा सके और उन्हें प्राप्त करने में सफल हो सके।

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA). I am grateful to the House and to the hon. members for the various constructive suggestions and also the criticism which has come in a constructive way by and large.

At the outset I would like to say that the matter being discussed in the House is of great relevance in the economy and prosperity of our country. Commerce, Civil Supplies and Co-operation are the Departments on which we have been discussing. I wish had it been possible for us to bifurcate these subjects and to have independent discussions.

It has been said in the House that the Government has no concern whatsoever with the trade deficit. So far as exports of this country are concerned, I would like to dispel such notions at the outset and say that this is not correct. Government is very well concerned with the increase in trade deficit and particularly the international situation as has been created because of the steep rise in prices of petroleum and petroleum products and of several other products that are so vitally required including fertilisers by way of inputs for our industry and agriculture. It has severely affected not only the economy of our country but the economies of several developing countries. Under the circumstances there cannot be two opinions that if you want to achieve our objective of self reliance, more and more efforts shall have to be made with a view to have more and more exports so that this yawning gap of trade deficit is bridged and that too as early as possible.

It was said in the House that there is no philosophy. I am constrained to listen to that sort of criticism. Within these two years if you refer not only to the Reports but also to the various pamphlets and also the stock that we have taken of the performance of our ministry you will find that I

have made it very clear that we believe in not only philosophy but planned growth of our economy, including planned strategy of foreign trade. And it is in this context that we think of the objectives. What are those objectives? How should the whole foreign trade behave? The foreign trade shall have to behave in tune with the national development strategy and of accepted socio-economic objectives by the country. Attainment of self reliance is one of such major objectives. We would like to acquire new science and technology. We would like to transfer this new science and technology into appropriate technology with a view to suit the conditions of our country. We would very much like so far as foreign trade is concerned, it should necessarily help in solving the massive mountainous problems in the country including the problem of poverty and unemployment. Therefore, more emphasis shall have to be laid while having these exports to see that the exportable surplus products are as far as possible manufactured in such areas, as was rightly suggested by Prof. Mavalankar, in the small scale sector, in the village and cottage industry sector, whereby we can generate more and more employment at one end and also we could earn better foreign exchange at the other end. Along with this we want more and more foreign exchange because we shall have to take care of the development and the inputs required by our industry, by our agriculture and on some occasions, when need be, even for human consumption. Ultimately what is all this struggle for? What do we want this foreign trade for? It is Man who should be the supreme consideration. It is in this context that we shall have to earn more and more foreign exchange with a view to meet the increasing demands of our country, may be for industrial purposes, may be for agricultural purposes, may be for human consumption also.

What is the consumption level of the country today? When we say that our average per capita income is hardly Rs. 700 or 800 and when we

(Shri Mohan Dharja)

go from Rs. 800 to Rs. 1500, can we imagine what will be the consumption in the country and what will be the requirements of the country? Therefore, there cannot be two opinions that we shall have to earn more and more foreign exchange to meet these increasing demands of our country. But while doing that, again we are very clear about one thing. This country, during the past few years has created its own infrastructure for the industrial and agricultural growth and all possible protection shall have to be given for our indigenous production, whether in the industrial sector or agricultural sector. So, taking that care, we shall have to allow this new science and technology to come into the country. Ours is not a country where we can invest more and more capital for research and development. While modern countries are developing that fast, when we cannot invest on research and development in the country, if we want to acquire that new science and technology, for that also foreign exchange shall be needed. Besides, how can we forget that if you want to progress further, stabilisation of the prices shall have to be ensured? This is an instrument which can be used not only in meeting the demands which indicated just now but also in stabilising the price line in the country. It is in this way that this instrument shall have to be utilised.

Besides, how can we forget that when we think of foreign trade, we cannot allow the commanding heights of economy to be controlled by a few individuals or few monopoly houses? Therefore, when we speak of the STC, MMTC, NAFED, MMEC, PENCCE, and other agencies, we would like to encourage these public sector corporations and cooperative institutions so that the commanding heights of the economy are under the control of the public sector and of the society as a whole, and not of a few individuals. That is also one of the ways of looking at foreign trade.

Besides, how can we forget our friendly countries, particularly our neighbours? Reference was made by

Shri Shinde yesterday about our economic relationship with Pakistan and Bangladesh. It is not only a question of Pakistan and Bangladesh but Ceylon, Burma, Nepal, Bhutan etc. These are the neighbouring countries. When we think of our foreign trade again one more objective we have incorporated is that with these neighbouring countries, we are prepared to have some sacrifice with a view to seeing that they also develop along with India. Their strength is very much necessary if we want to lead a life of peace and prosperity. These are the objectives which we are bearing in mind when we evolve our foreign trade policy. It was said by my colleague, Mr. George, who is not here, that there is no policy. What I have been enunciating here is the policy of foreign trade. Again, I want to make it clear that we would not like to commit the mistakes of the past. I know the foreign trade had, no doubt, gone up. But then can we forget that previously there was no occasion when the Planning Commission and the State Governments including the Central Ministries were that way intimately involved in this whole process of our foreign trade? It is for the first time that an effort has been made to involve the Planning Commission, to involve the Central Ministries, to involve the State Governments in this whole process of our export and import trade. When we think of sustained exports, how can we forget that without sustained production it shall never be possible. If we want sustained production of exportable surpluses from the country whether in industrial or agricultural areas, is it possible without having this proper coordination and cooperation, without having this involvement of the various State Governments who are ultimately to take care of our production, of our Central Production Ministries who are to take care of the production? When we say that we want this foreign trade to be developed we do not want to develop it in a haphazard manner or in an adhoc manner, but we want this whole foreign trade to be developed on a scientific basis

where we can plan for future and where we can have a sustained export with sustained growth taking care of the domestic requirements.

Again, yesterday, a reference was made, a criticism was made that this is the Government which is putting bans here and there. May I bring to the notice of this House that when we stepped into the shoes of the earlier Government, when we took charge of the Government, what was the situation? It is true that during 1976-77 the export trade had gone up by about 24 to 25 per cent. But I want you to remember what were the circumstances then. May I say itemwise. What were the prices of tea? Is it not true that the prices of tea for the common man had gone up to Rs. 23, 26 or Rs. 27/- a kg? Do you want tea to be exported without bothering for the common man here? For whom do we stand? I do appreciate and agree that the producer shall have to be given a remunerative price. But at the same time, we cannot forget that that producer is also a consumer in some other respects. A cotton producer is a consumer of tea and we shall have to take care of that.

Therefore, we have to put certain restrictions. Is it not true that even the prices of onion had gone up to Rs. 3 or 4 a kg? Was it not the demand in this House as to when you were going to make these articles available to the common man; why did you not stop exports or ban exports for the time being? It is not as if I have taken this decision myself in the beginning. Mr. George is not here. But so far the exports of potatoes are concerned, they were canalised by the earlier Government in 1973. And from 1975 onwards if you refer to the exports of potatoes; they were hardly of Rs. 200 or Rs. 300 or at the most Rs. 5000/- and not more. So, it is not as if the Janata Government has done all these things. If the prices had gone up, perhaps they might have done it. I am not blaming but ultimately we cannot forget that we

shall have to synchronise the domestic requirements, the requirement of the common man in the country and also the exports. It is in this context what is necessary is proper planning and production. Therefore, in collaboration with my colleague, Shri Barnalaji, who is present here, we have taken up several programmes. Take, for example, vegetables. It is true that we have put a ban on the export of vegetables. But we have introduced a scheme and we have told all the State Governments that they should take up massive programme of production of vegetables. Out of the additional production of vegetables, 50 per cent will be allowed to be exported. They are very happy and some of the State Governments have already taken up this programme. I am happy that our Chief Minister of Punjab has taken up a massive programme of production of vegetables near Amritsar. I told him that if you could have a plan load of vegetables, it could straightway take vegetables from Amritsar to Arab countries or other countries. In this way, we can give them fresh vegetables and we can give more income to our farmers. Simultaneously, as 50 per cent of the production would be coming to Indian markets, we can take proper care of our country. Is it not a scientific way of looking at things? Similarly, in the case of onions, potatoes, in all these matters we have taken care of the additional production so that the country's needs and exports are taken care of.

Reference has been made to the export earnings during this year and last year. Yes, the rate of growth in export earnings have gone down. But what are the reasons? Should we not go into this? In the year 1978-79 we have suffered to the tune of Rs. 426 crores, because the prices of tea, coffee and cashewnuts, such traditional items, have gone down in the international market, and we have suffered to the tune of Rs. 426 crores. In percentage it comes to 8 per cent. Had

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the prices remained stable in the earlier year, instead of a growth of 4 or 5 per cent, we would have achieved a growth of 13 per cent.

Then the value of dollar has gone down as against the rupee. Because 70 per cent of the exports are in terms of the dollars, we have suffered in terms of rupees, not in terms of dollars, to the tune of Rs. 150 crores in one year, which comes to 3 per cent. So, if you add it to 13 per cent it comes to 16 per cent.

Then, I am not going into the philosophy of strikes and other things. I am one of those persons who have fought for the rights of workers. But let us not forget that there are areas where all possible efforts have to be made in the interests of the country to avoid strikes and lockouts as the case may be. Because of the strikes at the Bombay and Calcutta ports—I am not referring to the other strikes; I am not referring to the strike in the jute mills which continued for more than 50 days—you are well aware how much damage it has done.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: There are many avoidable strikes.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I am only referring to the strikes at Calcutta and Bombay ports in the months of February and March. We have suffered Rs. 400 crores to 500 crores because we could not export goods which were ready to be exported. And these Rs. 400 to 500 crores comes to 8 to 10 per cent.

I am not referring to those items where the fall in export is due to the decision taken by the Government. We have suffered in steel and cement. We cannot export cement or steel. On the contrary, because of the increased consumption of steel in the country during the last year, which was of the order of 17 per cent, we are forced to import steel and we are forced to im-

port cement. True, we earned foreign exchange in 1976-77 by exporting cement. But then this was at the cost of drying up the pipeline for cement. Today we are the worst sufferers and we are not exporting it. These are the areas which have arrested growth. Otherwise, you can rest assured you would have seen a growth rate of 15 to 20 per cent this year.

So, to say that the Government is complacent is not correct. These are the efforts which we have made. Then the House should not forget that even though we have suffered because of this downfall of prices in the international markets, we have, simultaneously, earned much more, so far as other products are concerned. From the dynamic sectors we have earned about 25 per cent more. Take the leather industry, diamond or jewellery or the small-scale sector engineering exports. There are many sectors where we have earned much more. This House would be happy to know that so far as our diamond and jewellery exports are concerned, they have crossed the Rs 725 crore mark in the year 1978-79.

A reference was made by Prof. Mavalankar to the small-scale sector. This House should be happy to know that the exports from the small scale and cottage sector in 1978-79, if it is compared with the figure of 1977-78, there is a tremendous improvement. In 1978-79 the exports, including jewellery and diamonds, are of the order of Rs. 2,000 crores. This is the change. It has provided jobs to many thousands of people. Why should we not take it into consideration? In garments also we have made some progress. These are the areas where the rate of growth is 25 to 35 per cent. Even when there was a slackness in the foreign markets, it was possible to make good, because of these dynamic sectors providing jobs to many and earning additional foreign exchange. And this was the material consideration. And this was the material consideration when I appointed those Task Forces. This House was asking me every time: What are the operations that your

Ministry has been undertaking? What are the steps that you have been taking? And I felt that yes, if we want to give a new thrust to the whole export and import policy, let us go into all details and therefore, we constituted several Task Forces which I have referred to in my Report. And it is not that after the reports were received they were kept pending consideration. In many areas we have already examined the reports and initiated action. We have taken the decision in many other areas for necessary action on the basis of those Task Force Reports. A reference was made by Mr. Barnala on the Task Force of Agriculture. We have decided to give special emphasis so far as the agricultural products are concerned.

A reference was made by Mr. Shinde yesterday that America is a country which earns more than 25 to 27 billion Dollars out of their exports from agricultural sector. When it is possible for a country like America where for half of the country there is nothing but snow during winter, why should it not be possible for a country like India where we enjoy that much of sun and that much of tropical climate? Yes, and it is in this context, involving the Planning Commission on the basis of the Task Force Committee Report, we are taking several actions so that it should be possible for us to have more and more foreign exchange out of our agricultural products. That is how one after the other we have taken these decisions and we are going ahead. Along with this planned production, again there are several problems when we think of the international market. Here the prices and the commodities, the articles, vary every day. The fashions are changing very fast and it is in this background we have to see how we can have diversification of items, how we can have diversification of markets and what is the problem before us. And again, this House will be happy to know that in this context we sent several delegations outside. We have made our studies through the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, we

have made several studies through other institutions taking advantage of the Market Development Fund that is at our disposal, and it is on the basis of these reports we have started our bilateral dialogue with various countries. This House will be happy to know if I refer just to the list of the countries. Not just that I went to these countries or their representatives came over here. But we had our bilateral dialogue with the Ministers also and this is only what the Commerce Ministers have done, but it is not adequate. The Ministers for Petroleum and Chemicals, for Agriculture and External Affairs are also looking after several joint commissions and they also made the efforts. So, the countries that we contacted during these years are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, South Korea, North Korea, Iran, Afghanistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Thailand, Papua Guinea, Mongolia & Vietnam. Then, about Africa a reference was made by Shri Mavalankar. I was recently in Africa where we had the Conference of our commercial representatives and Ambassadors at Nairobi. It is not merely that, but I took advantage of meeting several Ministers from various countries at Arusha where we had the meeting of the G-77 Group. (Interruption). That is very nice. Arusha is in Tanzania. I also had discussion with Arabian and Nigerian Ministers at Arusha. Then Mauritius, Kenya, Congo, Ghana, Tanzania, Zambia, Somalia—because some discussions have taken place in those countries and therefore, you may see some double names also. Then all EEC countries are covered including France, Italy, England and all besides the Scandinavian countries. Besides these, Iraq, Libya and Jordan. And my colleague here, Mr. Bahuguna, has gone to almost all these Arab countries and he has had discussions there. He is one of our Shaikhs here, you know.

Similarly, Sir, we have also covered USA, Cuba, USSR, Rumania, and I have had my discussions with all these

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countries including USSR, Bulgaria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, GDR, Yugoslavia and Rumania. And my colleagues have also had their contacts with Canada and Cuba.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: If you give the names of countries which you have not visited the list would probably be smaller.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: These are not countries which I necessarily visited. Some of their representatives came here, to some I have gone. When a charge is made that no effort has been made at diversification of markets, I felt I should bring it to the notice of the House that we have left no stone unturned. On this basis, there were exchanges of trade delegations, and today itself I shall be having discussions with a Minister of Yemen who is coming from Aden. My colleague has gone to receive him. So, we are making all possible efforts, and not wasting time, because we are well aware that diversification is very much necessary.

Developed countries are taking to protectionist and anti-dumping measures, countervailing duties, restrictive duties and what not. Under the circumstances, if we want to have more and more trade with foreign countries, the best course is to have better bilateral relations. It is because of our discussions with countries like the USSR, that by the end of 1980 the trade between the USSR and India will go up to Rs. 1500 crores. Recently when Mr. Kosygin and party were here, I personally held discussions with them, and it has been agreed by both sides that we should make an effort to see that by 1985 this should go up from Rs. 1500 to Rs. 3000 crores. Similarly with the USA, the trade is of the order of nearly Rs. 2000 crores, and we would like it to go nearly to Rs. 4000 crores in five or six years. Even with a small country like Roumania our trade is Rs. 100 crores, and we would like it to become Rs. 200 crores.

There is need to increase our trade with east Asian countries, as was rightly pointed out by some Members. I held an importance conference of commercial representatives at Singapore last year and asked them to let us know what their difficulties were. I told them that if there were financial constraints, I was prepared to come forward and help. I told them our trade should go up by at least 15 per cent in 1978-79. I am proud of our commercial representatives, the members of the staff and the officers of my Ministry. In one year the trade with east Asian countries has crossed that targeted increase of 15 per cent.

Again, there are problems of market intelligence. The whole apparatus was working in a scattered way. So, we have tried to bring all our offices under one roof as far as possible. Our offices in New York and Paris have been brought under one roof. In Frankfurt they will be coming under one roof shortly, and we will be making a concerted effort. Generally there was one Manager with one steno at the most and no more. When he goes on tour, the office remains closed. How can we create confidence in the minds of those countries that we can function in an effective manner. If we mobilise all our resources, we can do it. So, we have decided that we shall bring the offices together for united functioning. This is confined not only to the various agencies under my Ministry but to all the agencies under the Government of India as a whole, and we are making an effort towards that sort of co-ordination. It has gone a long way in creating an impact on the countries outside.

There was a problem regarding publicity and fairs. Again, as was pointed out by Prof. Mavalankar, during these two years we have made stringent efforts not only to have our exhibitions and fairs, but to see that the standard is good, and that they are appreciated by the people. So far as the fair at Moscow is concerned, more than 20 lakhs people visited it. It was

an occasion by itself. It was so much appreciated and certainly helped. The question was again put to me whether the fairs that are held at Delhi are helpful. I have no doubt about it, because this is one of the media through which we can publicise as to what is India. Very few people in countries like France are aware of modern India. When I visited France and had discussions with the Prime Minister of France, I was surprised to know—I should not use that word—about our ignorance or failure of making them know about India. I suggested to them: "Why don't you send representatives representing various industries and various sectors of your economy to India on deputation?" Accordingly a senior level deputation of 22 friends came over here and they went round India and after their tour was over, I had discussions with them and they said: "Your Excellency, we must confess our ignorance. We never knew that India has made such a progress". There are areas and areas where India and France can come together. So far as our trade with France is concerned, the House will be surprised to know that it is less than Rs. 100 crores. Is it not possible for us to increase our bilateral trade with France? It is possible but only through this information, through this sort of new relationship and there also a lot of care has been taken.

Then there is the question of cash compensatory support. One case was mentioned by Dr. Pandeya in this regard and he said that this decision has affected the garment exporters. May I make this policy very clear to this House? What are the reasons for which this cash compensatory support is given? This is given to make our exporters competitive in the international market. There are certain incidence or burdens created by our tax structure, transport system and to that extent we give them cash compensatory support. So far as textiles or garments are concerned, in the case of sensitive varieties like ladies' blouses, shirts and all that, the exporters are

earning much more. Last year the floor price which we then decided was hardly Rs. 12 per piece and this year it Rs. 28 or Rs. 29 per piece. The export earning during the first three months are more than Rs. 60 crores as compared to the last year. Where we have secured markets, why should we give that support? The support is meant only for such people and in such areas where they have not been able to establish in the foreign markets and where they need it. We cannot use this amount to give support to those who have established markets. In case of agricultural products, I have taken a decision last year. For the export of plantains, last year, the freight subsidy given was Rs. 400 per tonne and we have taken it to Rs. 500 per tonne now.

So far as fruits are concerned, we have decided to give cash compensatory support to the tune of 15 per cent. If they export one lakh worth of goods, we will give them Rs. 15,000 as cash compensatory support. The agricultural producers should go ahead and compete in the international market. How are they to do that? So far as the letter of March 31st is concerned, as I have said, from the office of the Ministry, no such directive was given. Under the present law, this cash compensatory support can be withdrawn at any moment and even when they made that representation, I have told them that if any of them incurred any loss, having regard to the margin of profits, they should support their case with facts and I am prepared to go into them. It is for them to establish their cases. I do not know whether it will be possible for them to do so, because I know the manner in which the profits are made.

We have given a lot of emphasis on the joint ventures. Unfortunately time is running out. The House will be happy to know that during the last two years we have given such a speedy clearance of joint ventures that only four cases are pending and that too for want of information from the applicants. All the matters that have been referred to us have been cleared. That is necessary. We are producing sophis-

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ticated machinery in our country and if we want that machinery to go out, it is only through joint ventures that we can export this machinery. We say that joint ventures should be by and large based on the export of machinery and technical personnel from our country. Naturally through these exports, we can earn foreign exchange and we can get better customers. This is how we have given a lot of emphasis to joint ventures. Besides, we have taken care so that a long-term policy is not only accepted from our side but it is also accepted by other countries. If we can have that sort of long-standing agreements between the two countries, it goes a long way in bringing stability to our whole foreign trade.

There were questions raised in this House by some of our friends regarding labour orientation. As I said earlier in this House, we have given a lot of emphasis to such products which are necessarily labour oriented. Yes, there are many areas where it could not be so but, by and large, we could compete in the world because we have good man-power in the country and we are making all possible use of it.

Then, the Hon. Minister of Industries said yesterday that we have given emphasis to creating training centres. We had hardly eleven or twelve training centres for carpet weaving in the country in 1977 when we took charge but today there are more than 700 centres where more than 30,000 boys and girls are taking training and after they come out, they will be earning Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 per day and the exports of carpets will also go up.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI (Anantnag): For that you deserve congratulations.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Thank you very much; I know there are some who are quite fair to the other side.

Again, there are some other problems. When we think of foreign trade,

don't forget we are in the inter-national market and, therefore, how we can have a lot of cooperation with other countries has to be thought of. We have our own problems of iron ore. This House will be surprised to know there was a recession in the steel market and there was a slump so far as iron-ore is concerned. When the Prime Minister of Australia was here, I had a discussion with him and also with other exporting countries because I was the Chairman of the Iron-ore Exporting Countries Association and I took that advantage. I told the Prime Minister of Australia 'We do not want to create cartels but when purchasers are creating their own cartels, why should we not stand together to break the cartels in the interests of our countries? For iron-ore, which is not a renewable commodity like wheat and cotton, why should we not get a fair price?' I do agree with some friends when they ask 'Why are you exporting iron-ore?'. I would be the happiest man if we could use iron-ore in our own steel plants in the country, but steel-plants require a huge investment and we have our own priorities. For some time we were forced to export iron-ore, but it could be asked, when we are in a better position why should we continue to export it. But what do we do with the thousands of workers employed in the mines? Can we close the mines and throw them on the streets? That cannot be done. In the circumstances, the best course is to bring the iron-ore exporting countries together to fetch a better price, with a better understanding.

This House will be happy to know that, compared to last year, on the same quantity we shall be earning not less than Rs. 25 crores because of the negotiations we have had with the various iron-ore exporting countries. This is how we tried to give a new orientation.

It is not only iron-ore, but there are commodities like tea, coffee, rubber, pepper, tobacco and various others where the producing countries can come

together and have a better understanding. We cannot forget the producer. What is the present situation of our producer here? What is the position of the jute grower? We cannot give them even the support price today. Is it not possible for us to have a better price for jute and jute products—and also to give a better support price or, rather, a remunerative price to the jute growers? It is possible. Cannot we have that sort of dialogue with friendly countries like Bangladesh, Thailand, Burma and other nearby countries producing jute? We have taken that initiative. The House will be happy to know that in all these matters India has taken the initiative. My friend Arif Beg happens to be the Chairman of the Pepper Community. This is how we have taken the initiative and this will also go a long way in fetching a better price for the commodities exported outside.

Then, there are multilateral bodies. There is UNCTAD, there is GATT, there is ESCAP etc. Some countries have come together in the form of regional groups such as EEC or ASEAN. Naturally, discussions are held and decisions are taken in these forums. But, here, again, we have created our own export technical personnel. We cooperate with friends from all other developed countries and offer our good offices to study the various issues and put forth our cases effectively. There also, whether it was the Conference of the Ministers of Asian region at Colombo or the Conference of G-77 of developing countries or whether it is the Conference to be held in Manila from the 7th of May—UNCTAD V—I can assure you that India has been and will be playing a leading role in rendering justice to developing countries and the whole world. This is how we take care of these areas as well.

A point is made, and rightly so, regarding the agencies functioning under this Ministry. It is being said: 'Mr. Dharja yours is a vast empire. There is STC, MMT, NAFED, NCDC, Tea Board, Coffee Board, Rubber Board and

what not and there are so many other agencies functioning under the Ministry like the Trade Development Authority the TFAI, the Indian Standards Institutions and what not. Are they tuned up with a view to cope up with the new responsibilities with a new awareness? I agree with the Hon. Member who asked 'Are you going to have a structural change in the Ministry with a view to improving the quality of life of the common man?' Yes, we have instructed all the institutions and Corporations that they shall have to fashion themselves to meet this new challenge.

A point was raised by some friend from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The House will be happy to know that immediately on taking charge of the Ministry I passed an order that the seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will not be filled unless and until candidates are found from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and they will not be de-reserved temporarily also. I prefer keeping them vacant; I prefer having some training programmes for them, but I do not want these reserved seats to be occupied by anybody other than Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Similarly I have told the STC that there many people coming from those communities, who are very much concerned with shoes, chappals and other leather products, and instructions have been given to them that whatever purchases are to be made, priority shall be given to cobblers or their cooperatives which are engaged in this industry. In that respect, if something more has to be done, if there are any constructive suggestions, I can assure the Hon. Members that I shall be happy to consider them.

We have now taken up a massive programme of housing. In regard, to this housing programme also, whether it is of the Coffee Board, of the Tea Board, for plantation workers, or whether it is a programme of the STC or MMT etc., I have told them that first priority

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must be given to employees from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and backward communities, and then to others. If we want to create a new India, we shall have to take such decisions and see that they are ruthlessly implemented. I can assure the House that the Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation Ministry will not be lagging behind in making these efforts because this Government shall have to function that way. Every Minister and officer will have to function that way. He is not only a Minister or an officer but he is an instrument for bring about a new change in our society. If he does not function as an instrument for this new socio-economic transformation, it will never be possible. In this context, we are giving a new orientation to our philosophy.

I am sorry Mr. George is not here. He would have been happy to know this. He happens to be a Member of our Consultative Committee. I have made all these points know to Members of the Consultative Committee on many occasions and Mr. George must be aware of it....

AN HON. MEMBER: Which George? George Fernandes?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Mr. A. C. George. (*Interruptions*). There can be no comparison. Anyway, my reference was to Mr. A. C. George. I am sorry, he is not here. He said that this Ministry had no concern for exports. It is not correct. In spite of all the difficulties, there was strike at Calcutta, there was strike at the Bombay Port, there was strike in the jute mills, there were no facilities available for transport, there was shortage of coal, there was shortage of power, in spite of all these various factors, should we not be happy that this country, even though the prices were down in the foreign countries, even though the production constraints have been working against us, even though we have

taken deliberate decisions with a view to meeting the domestic demand, we have certainly checked that declining trend and we shall be having an increase of about 4.5 per cent in exports during 1978-79, and I can assure the House that we are taking all possible steps so that, in 1979-80, the rate of growth of our exports must be necessarily up and should cross ten per cent at least. This is the decision that we have taken. We know all these constraints. But we shall have to show our performance and we shall have to prove to the country. I was asked, 'Do you mean business?' I say, yes I mean business, it must happen. There may be constraints, but we have to do. This is a challenge to us. Only those who can accept challenges can rule effectively in this country, and we shall show that we deserve that.

Regarding the performance of STC and MMTC, I have given all these Reports; so, I will not go into them. But, if I may quote one figure about STC, this House will be happy to know that the turnover was up by five per cent, from Rs. 1,070 crores to Rs. 1,127 crores, and the exports were up by nine per cent. Again, out of these exports by the STC, this House will be happy to know, the articles manufactured in small scale sector, which are not traditional exports, are of the order of Rs. 119 crores. A question was put to me by Prof. Mavalankar. The STC has already taken care of the small sector. They have already exported Rs. 119 crores worth of articles coming from the small scale sector. We are giving a new orientation to all these various agencies coming under my Ministry.

There are various Boards, including the Tea Board. You are all very well aware of the problems; the whole country is aware. On the one hand we have to take care of tea required for our consumption and on the other we have also to take care of our exports. How can we do that? It is not only that we have removed this export

duty, but we have given a lot of emphasis on value-added form. This House will be happy to know that, when I took charge of this Ministry the exports of tea in value-added form were of the order of Rs. 15 crores, and by 31st March, 1979, from Rs. 15 crores, we have crossed Rs. 67 crores of tea exports in the value-added form, giving more employment and earning more foreign exchange.

Not only this, but we have also taken a longer view. The Tea Board has constituted its own Committee. We have consulted the tea industry. We have made a perspective planning, so that, by the year 2,000 the production of tea must go up from the present level of 570 million kgs. to nearly 1400 million kgs. Various programmes of rejuvenation and replantation and new plantation are being taken up, and several subsidies and facilities are being made available, not only in the traditional tea-producing areas but in the non-traditional areas also. Similar is the case with rubber, similar is the case with coffee, similar is the case with spices, similar is the case with all other commodity Boards coming under my jurisdiction. That is how we are giving a new look, and I am sure that, with these efforts, with the involvement of the State Governments and the Central Ministries, and with the emphasis on agricultural products, it should be possible for us to take care of the exports and earn more foreign exchange in days to come. I am sure the House will appreciate this philosophy, this policy and the way and the scientific manner in which the Ministry has decided to go ahead and I can assure you that we shall go ahead.

Then, there are two more Departments. One is the Civil Supplies and another is the Co-operation. I would not like to detain the House very long. But I would like to take the House into confidence so far as civil supplies are concerned. I know it is a very ticklish job to make available the essential commodities and articles

required by the common man at a reasonable price in a massive country like ours having a population of 84 crores. Then for whom do we stand? When the prices go up, who suffers? So far as the industrial and the organised workers are concerned, so far as the government employees and other employees are concerned, they can certainly agitate in many areas that the DA should be linked up with the cost of living going up. But so far as those who are unorganised, those who are remaining in the rural areas, may be the farmers or peasants or agricultural labourers, they are the worst sufferers whenever the cost of the industrial products go up and whenever the cost of other commodities which are not produced by him go up. He is the worst sufferer and it is in this context and it was very much in my mind, that this country needs a public distribution system. It is not only a distribution system, it is production-cum-distribution system. Production, procurement, storage, transport and distribution are the five facts of this distribution system. Here again it is no longer a scheme of Mr. Dharwadkar now. Yes, when I was answering you earlier, it was certainly a scheme sponsored by an individual or by a Minister. But this scheme has been approved by the Central Cabinet. This scheme has been approved by the Planning Commission.

Again for the effective implementation of the scheme, the effective co-operation of the States was necessary. Therefore, we have had a Conference of the Chief Ministers of the States on the 5th of January, 1979 and all the Chief Ministers have also given their consent to the scheme that this is not now a scheme of the Civil Supplies Ministry or Dharwadkar's Ministry but this is a scheme of the whole country. It is a national scheme and that is how we are bringing it into operation from 1st July, 1979.

How do we begin? We have identified certain articles. Along with them

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we have constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of the Secretary for Industry to go into the other industrial items. It may be match box, it may be controlled cloth, it may be kerosene and there may be other aspects also. And it is how we would like to cover these various articles to the extent possible. To begin with, we shall not start with many items because the question is one of management and restoring the confidence of the country. It is how this scheme envisages that there should be a distribution centre for a population of 2000. People in the far-flung areas or people who are in the hills or in those backward areas—they have not committed any crime if their villages have a population of less than 2000. So, we have to take some special care. So we would like this distribution centre should cover villages with a population of 1000 also in such far-flung areas. We would like to create a whole structure of distribution centres.

To-day in the country there are 240,000 fair price shops. Besides there are many who deal in kerosene and in controlled cloth. Such centres are also there. By and large, we believe that we require about 350,000 centres all over the country and we have written to all the Chief Ministers to see that for their States there is a proper coverage of the population.

Again, even though some propaganda is being made to mislead the community we have taken care that if the fair price shops in the private sector are prepared to extend their co-operation, we would not oust them. But they will have to accept certain disciplines, they will have to accept some vigilance of citizens. So far as the fair price shops are concerned, they have to accept discipline and if they do that, we would very much like them to participate.

So far as existing shops are concerned, 180,000 are with the private trade

and 60,000 are with the co-operative societies. The new shops should be with the cooperatives. But, wherever it is not possible, as was suggested rightly yesterday, by Shri Somnath Chatterjee, then Gram Panchayats should also be introduced into that.

We would like to create the whole structure to take care of the whole distribution; we are having our dialogue with the State Governments; they are also making their own plans. By and large, there are some States in the country fortunately where there is a good distribution system. There are some others where there is no good distribution system. Therefore, I would like to take the House into confidence by saying that there are certain vested interests in our country who are very much disturbed; they have started writing articles after articles in the papers and editorials after editorials telling that this scheme cannot succeed in this country meaning thereby that this must necessarily fail; it is a challenge for you and to me. We want to give that protection to the common man of this country. We want to tell them that whatever may be the ranges of price, so far as essential articles or commodities are concerned, we shall see that they are made available at reasonable prices, at the prescribed prices. Are we prepared to see that the common man in the country or only those who stay in Bombay or in cities like Calcutta, Pung, Delhi etc. are protected? There are people who are in absolutely backward areas; they have not committed any crime by taking their birth in those areas. So, should we not see that these essential articles are made available to them also at the same price by insisting even the states' passing on that load to the urban areas?

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN (Madurai): Kerosene is not made available to the common man there?

SHRI MOHAN DHARJA: I am coming to that.

Please don't forget that kerosene is not adequately produced in our country. We have to import kerosene and my friend will bear with me.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: That Ministry's demand is coming up for discussion.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: That is correct. It was very nice of you, I am sure my colleague, Shri Bahuguna, will take care of that. I may assure you that wherever there is no good system or wherever there is the problem which is acute, then, it is for Mr. Bahuguna to take care of that. I can assure this House that this scheme is in the interest of the country and this can take care not only of the common man but also the priceline in this country. What happens when prices go up? There is a demand for more and more dearness allowance. If D.A. is given, that amount is pumped into the market and that creates an inflationary trend. If we want to take care of these inflationary trends, in the country, along with that, other fiscal and monetary measures are very much necessary. I have no doubt that this scheme can also take better care of the priceline.

I would like to have the whole-hearted cooperation from the House. In your constituency, I would like the Members to take interest because you are going to be one of the important advisers on the advisory committees in your districts. I have already told the Chief Ministers that I would like to involve these elected representatives in these various Committees at the state level, at the district level and also at the local level. If you can take care of that, then, we shall go a long way. If there is not more production, distribution is not possible. Without production, there is no distribution. Therefore this is a production-cum-distribution scheme. Right from the production to the procurement storage, transport and distribution, if we can take care of these, then we shall be doing one more justice, that

is, of giving a remunerative price to our producers thereby making available these things to the common man at a reasonable price. That sort of linkage will be there and, to that extent, we shall be able to eliminate the middle men.

My friend made a mention of the cooperatives. So far as cooperation is concerned, this is a movement which has a dynamic and vital role to play in our economy. I have always believed in that. So far as cooperative movement is concerned, as was rightly pointed out by Mr. Shinde, our country has no doubt made progress. This is a country of several cooperative societies having a large number of members in various areas. But, what is needed is to strengthen this whole cooperative movement in a healthy manner. If that way, the cooperative movement is properly strengthened, then it will go a long way in not only giving social justice but also economic justice to the common man in this country. Along with this decentralisation of economic authority, it will help in stabilising the democratic forces in the country. We want decentralisation of power. We want decentralisation of economy. When we insist that we want these commanding heights of economy to be controlled by the State and I am very much convinced and it is a matter of faith for me. But when we find that there are losses and the public sector units are not functioning well then those who believe in this philosophy should not say that we do not believe in public sector. Actually, we should try to see that the defects are removed and we want the public sector to be a success and simultaneously the co-operative sector to be a success on the same grounds and for the same reasons.

15 hrs.

Sir, a reference was made to the sugar cooperatives from Maharashtra. I know there are a few individuals who have not played fair with the community as such but that does not

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mean we shall go against the co-operative movement itself. If there are some drawbacks we would like those drawbacks to be moved. So far as sugar cooperatives are concerned I would like the hon'ble Members to visit Maharashtra and see for themselves. It is because of the co-operative sugar societies that there is a virtual revolution so far as the farmers in that area are concerned. Whatever good has come do we want to destroy it or do we take care of the drawback and say that this movement also stands strengthened. I do not want nationalisation of sugar cooperatives. So far as I remain the Minister I shall see that the sugar cooperatives are not nationalised but I do want that whatever drawbacks are there they must be removed and they should operate in the interest of the society, producers and the workers working in those sugar factories. It is not only the sugar cooperatives but in various other ways we would like it to make a dent. I am happy to say that NCDC of which I have been the Chairman, when I took charge the Plan allocation was of the order of Rs. 30 crores for giving help to various cooperatives in the country but during the last two years the Plan allocation has gone up to Rs. 69 crores. I have told them whether they are the small States from Eastern sector if we want this cooperative movement to function in that area they will have to be given an equity base. NCDC should come forward to give them equity base and see that the cooperatives develop in those areas. What is the state of affairs of farmers who produce oranges in Assam? They do not get adequate price. Why? It is because there are no producers cooperatives in that area.

Along with NCDC we have got NAFED. It is an apex body of marketing federations in this country. To ask NAFED to do everything is not possible.

नाफेड की माफ़त खरीदारी करो, लेकिन
यहां से कौन आदमी भेजे ?

It is the marketing federation of that State who could be given all possible cooperation by NAFED. We can give them money and some technical personnel could be sent but it is then the State marketing federation which will have to gear up so as to take care of the particular area and the commodity. So far as the performance of NAFED is concerned as against the turnover of Rs. 60 crores within one year it has reached the level of Rs. 100 crores. Let me give the example of Madhya Pradesh. As against the procurement of hardly 500 tonnes of soyabean last year, this year NAFED has procured more than 65,000 tonnes of Soyabean giving justice to producers. I find those who were against the movement are now the supporters of the movement.

All these various agencies are trying their level best to accept this new culture and new orientation and I would like that this House should look at them with sympathy. If there are any drawbacks I shall be happy to remove such drawbacks but let us not discourage those who have been working hard during the last two years. You see the new trends and change in the Ministry of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation and when I shall be urging this House to pass these Demands I shall only be assuring that we will leave no stone unturned in fulfilling the objectives that we have accepted.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Sir, I had referred to Kandla Free Trade Zone but the Minister has not mentioned a word about it. I would like him to tell what exactly has been done for development of Kandla Free Trade Zone.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Sir, I am aware that there are two free trade zones—one at Kandla and the other at Santa Cruz. I am not happy with their progress. That is the reason why I had visited these areas. We

have taken lot of care. Several arrangements shall have to be made. I have discussed it with the Shipping and Transport Minister. Several units wanted to go back. I requested them not to do so. I would like to have more and more units. My friend is right some sort of legislative support is necessary and that legislative measure is being prepared and we shall see that support is given to the Kandla free trade zone. I want these two free trade zones to be a success so that I can go before the Cabinet and ask for more free trade zones. But with these two limping free trade zones being there I cannot go and plead for more free trade zones.

श्री श्री बनबीर सिंह (होशियारपुर) : हमारे जो लोग विदेशों में काम करते हैं, उनको यहां फारन-एक्सचेंज लाने में कुछ सुविधायें दें। इससे यह फायदा होगा कि बहुत सी चीजों की, जिनकी हमारे मुल्क में जरूरत है, उनको फारन-एक्सचेंज कमाने के लिए बाहर नहीं भेजना पड़ेगा। मैं चाहता हूं कि जो पैसा वे यहां पर लायें, उसमें इन्कम टैक्स और दूसरी जो रूकावटें हैं उनको दूर किया जाये, इस तरह का इन्तजाम किया जाय तो जितना फारन-एक्सचेंज इस वक्त है, उससे दुगुना हो सकता है।

दूसरा सवाल यह है कि आलू और मन्जियों को बाहर भेजने के लिए परमानेन्ट इन्तजाम होना चाहिए। उन लोगों का यह कहना है कि जिस वक्त हमें जरूरत होती है, उस वक्त मिलता नहीं है, हमें इस बात का यकीन होना चाहिए कि हम को मुस्तकिल तौर पर मिलेगा। आज हमारे यहां आलू ज्यादा पैदा हो गया तो हम कहते हैं कि आलू को बाहर भेजो, जिस वक्त प्याज ज्यादा पैदा हो गया, उस वक्त प्याज भेजने के लिए कहते हैं। लेकिन अगर परमानेन्ट इन्तजाम हो जाये तो इससे किसानों को भी नुकसान नहीं होगा और साथ ही उन लोगों को भी

भरोसा रहेगा कि यह सामान हम को मुस्तकिल तौर पर मिलेगा।

श्री मोहन धारिया : सभापति जी, इस वक्त दो सवाल उठाये गये हैं। जहां तक पहले सवाल का ताल्लुक है—इस का सम्बन्ध फाइनेन्स मिनिस्ट्री से भी है और इस के लिये हमारे फाइनेन्स मिनिस्ट्री ने कुछ स्कीमें चालू भी की हैं। लेकिन जहां तक सुविधायें मिलने का ताल्लुक है—अगर आपके पास कोई खास सुझाव हों तो आप मुझे बतलायें, मैं जरूर फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब से चर्चा करूंगा।

जहां तक एक्सपोर्ट का सवाल है—मैं माननीय सदस्य की भावनाओं की इज्जत करता हूं, हमारा एक्सपोर्ट इन-कंसिस्टेंट नहीं होना चाहिए। बाहर के मुल्कों में ऐसा भ्रम नहीं होना चाहिए कि कभी भेजेंगे और कभी नहीं भेजेंगे। इसके बारे में मेरी बरनाला साहब से बातचीत हुई है—जैसे जिस वक्त आलू पैदा होता है—हम यह कह सकेंगे कि इतना आलू या 1 लाख टन आलू या 1 लाख टन प्याज भेजेंगे। इस चीज की गारन्टी बहां भी दी जानी चाहिए और यहां भी दी जानी चाहिए कि कितना भेजना है। यह काम हमें अच्छे दिल से करना है।

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far as the hoarders and blackmarketeers are concerned I want to know whether these economic offenders falling under the Essential Commodities Act, will be brought to book within the purview of the Special Courts Act.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Wherever they are coming under the Essential Commodities Act, we have written already to the Chief Ministers to take stern measures against them under the Essential Commodities Act. I have also quoted the provision. We would like very stern measures

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against such economic offenders to be taken. This has got to be carried out by the State Governments. I cannot force myself on them. Let us not forget the State-cum-Federal structure of the Government in this country. In this context, I would like to have all possible cooperation from the State Governments. Simultaneously I would like my hon. friend Shri Janardhana Poojary and other hon. members to see why it should not be possible for Members of Parliament and other social workers who are dealing with these matters to work and create the necessary type of consumer resistance. And in that respect I would say that the Government will give them all possible co-operation.

SHRI VIJAYKUMAR N. PATIL (Dhulia): Some time back I wrote to the hon. Minister regarding the distribution system of cement. We were told that Chairman Panchayat Samities were involved. I wrote to him and I requested that MPs should also be involved. I have got a reply saying that it comes under the State and he has advised the State CMs to do the needful. But, Sir, nothing has been done and now the Minister has come with some scheme saying that advisory bodies will be appointed at district levels. Sir, if they are left with State Ministries, I don't think that M.P. will be involved. Only MLAs and MLCs and Chairman of Panchayat Samities will be involved. So, I want to know this. Is it in the mind of the hon. Minister that MPs should be involved in these district levels, because, they are also representatives of the people at the local level?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I shall take up the matter with the Chief Ministers. I do want MPs to be involved with all these things because they are also the representatives of the people. I do feel that without the representatives of the people it shall never be possible for us to operate such a scheme successfully.

SHRI IQBAL SINGH DHILLON (Jullundur): I want to ask one question. For the realisation of the basic objectives of our planning we need more production in our agricultural and industrial sectors. There are so many commodity boards set up under the enactments of Parliament like the Coffee Board, Tea Board, Tobacco Board, Cardamom Board, etc. etc. I would like to know whether the Minister is thinking of setting up a Potato Board which can help in the development, processing and export of potato. Sir, even small countries like UK and Holland have set up Potato Boards, to develop their potato cultivation and they look into the export of potatoes. So I want to know whether the hon. Minister is thinking of establishing a Potato Board under an enactment of Parliament?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: This is a suggestion which the hon. Member has made long back. We are examining whether it is possible to have a separate Potato Board for the purpose.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before I put the Cut Motions moved to the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Co-operation to the vote of the House, I would like to know if any Member wants to withdraw any of his cut motions.

SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL (Machilipatnam): Mr. Chairman, yesterday, I moved all my cut motions shown in List 6 in respect of Ministry of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Co-operation. My cut motion No. 56 along with my other cut motions has also found a place in the above list. Yesterday, I moved all those cut motions under Rules 210 and 211. But surprisingly my cut motion No. 56 has not been shown in today's list. My cut motion 56 was in regard to failure to check black marketing, profiteering resulting in high price and other irregularities in the distribution of cement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It has already been explained that your cut Motion No. 156 does not relate to this Ministry. It relates to the Ministry of Industry. Now, I will take up cut motions of Mr. Rajagopal Naidu. His cut motions Nos. are 31 to 37. He is absent. I shall now put all his cut motions to the vote of the House.

Cut motions Nos. 21 to 37 were put and negatived.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDAR (Durgapur): Sir, Mr. Mukunda Mandal's point is that he has already moved his cut motion No. 56 as shown in the List 6.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already said that that subject relates to the Ministry of Industry. Now, I shall take up cut motions Nos. 39 to 55, 57 and 58 of Mr. Mukunda Mandal. Are you withdrawing your cut motions?

SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL: I am pressing my cut motions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Mr. Mukunda Mandal's cut motions Nos. 39 to 55, 57 and 58 to the vote of the House.

The Cut motions Nos. 39 to 55 and 57 and 58 were put and negatived.

Demands for Grants, 1979-80 in respect of Ministry of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation voted by Lok Sabha

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now take up cut motions No. 62 to 66 of Mr. K. A. Rajan. He is not here I shall now put his cut motions to the vote of the House.

Cut motions Nos. 62 to 66 were put and negatived.

Cut motion Nos. 1 to 10 were put and negatived.

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

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1980, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 11 to 13 relating to the Ministry of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Co-operation."

The motion was adopted.

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 16-3-1979	Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House
1	2	3	4
		राजस्व Revenue Rs.	पूँजी Capital Rs.
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO- OPERATION			
11.	Ministry of Commerce Civil Supplies and Cooperation	30,66,000	1,53,31,000
12.	Foreign Trade and Export Production	62,12,04,000	56,00,40,000
13.	Civil Supplies and Cooperation	3,53,14,000	4,47,83,000