

13.06 hrs.

**THE MANIPUR BUDGET 1973-74—
GENERAL DISCUSSIONS AND DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (ON ACCOUNT) 1973-74**

MR. SPEAKER: We shall now take up the discussion on the Manipur Budget.

DEMAND No. 1—LAND REVENUE

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,67,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Land Revenue'."

DEMAND No. 2—STATE EXCISE

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 67,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'State Excise'."

DEMAND No. 3—TAXES ON VEHICLES.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 44,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Taxes on Vehicles'."

DEMAND No. 4—SALES TAX

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 63,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which

will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Sales Tax'."

DEMAND No. 5—OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Other Taxes and Duties'."

DEMAND No. 6—STAMPS

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Stamps'."

DEMAND No. 7—REGISTRATION

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 31,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Registration'."

DEMAND No. 8—PARLIAMENT, STATE AND UNION TERRITORIES LEGISLATURE

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,53,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of

'Parliament, State and Union Territories Legislature'."

DEMAND NO. 9—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 36,45,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'General Administration'."

DEMAND NO. 10—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,39,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Administration of Justice'."

DEMAND NO. 11—JAILS

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,33,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Jails'."

DEMAND NO. 12—POLICE

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,18,29,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Police'."

DEMAND NO. 13—CIVIL SUPPLIES

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,16,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Civil Supplies'."

DEMAND NO. 14—EDUCATION

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,85,05,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Education'."

DEMAND NO. 15—MEDICAL

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 36,67,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Medical'."

DEMAND NO. 16—PUBLIC HEALTH

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,44,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Public Health'."

DEMAND NO. 17—FAMILY PLANNING

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,68,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of

[Mr. Speaker]

Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Family Planning'."

DEMAND No. 18—AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 26,14,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Agriculture and Fisheries'."

DEMAND No. 19—ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,78,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Animal Husbandry'."

DEMAND No. 20—COOPERATION

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,17,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Cooperation'."

DEMAND No. 21—INDUSTRIES

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,59,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of pay-

ment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Industries'."

DEMAND No. 22—COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 34,80,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Community Development'."

DEMAND No. 23—LABOUR

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,42,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Labour'."

DEMAND No. 24—STATISTICS

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,70,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Statistics'."

DEMAND No. 25—IRRIGATION

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,07,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Irrigation'."

DEMAND NO. 26—ELECTRICITY

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 38,00,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Electricity'."

DEMAND NO. 27—PUBLIC WORKS

(ORIGINAL WORKS AND REPAIRS)

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 31,67,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Public Works (Original Works and Repairs)'."

DEMAND NO. 28—PUBLIC WORKS
(ESTABLISHMENTS)

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 51,15,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Public Works (Establishment)'."

DEMAND NO. 29—ROAD TRANSPORT

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 26,67,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Road Transport'."

DEMAND NO. 30—FAMINE

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 80,86,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Famine'."

DEMAND NO. 31—PENSION AND OTHER
RETIREMENT BENEFITS

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,60,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of Pension and Other Retirement benefits'."

DEMAND NO. 32—STATIONERY AND
PRINTING

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,33,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Stationery and Printing'."

DEMAND NO. 33—FOREST

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,30,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Forest'."

DEMAND No. 34—MISCELLANEOUS

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 29,80,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Miscellaneous'."

DEMAND No. 35—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON
PUBLIC HEALTH

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 28,00,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Public Health'."

DEMAND No. 36—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON
IRRIGATION, NAVIGATION, EMBANKMENT
AND DRAINAGE WORKS

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 50,00,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage works'."

DEMAND No. 37—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF
FLOOD CONTROL

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,67,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of Flood Control'."

DEMAND No. 38—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON
ELECTRICITY

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 48,33,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Electricity'."

DEMAND No. 39—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON
ROADS

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 78,33,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Roads'."

DEMAND No. 40—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON
BUILDINGS

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 92,32,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Buildings'."

DEMAND No. 41—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON
ROAD TRANSPORT

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,67,000 be granted to the President *on account*, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Road Transport'."

DEMAND NO. 42—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON STATE TRADING

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,37,37,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on State Trading'."

DEMAND NO. 43—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 18,66,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Industrial and Economic Development'."

DEMAND NO. 44—LOANS AND ADVANCES

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 28,07,000 be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of 'Loans and Advances'."

The demands are before the House.
Shri Tombi Singh.

13.09 hrs.

[SHRI K. N. TIWARI in the Chair.]

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipur): Sir, I rise to support the Manipur Budget for the year 1973-74. While doing so, I would like to make certain observations. Before I go into the details of the Budget, I would like to say that this is the second time in the first two years of the Fifth

Lok Sabha that the Manipur Budget has come up for discussion here. The first time it came was during the two year term of President's rule in Manipur. Manipur was then a Union Territory and the people refused to go to the polls. In spite of their sufferings and grievances during the President's rule for 2 years, they preferred it to enjoying a semblance of power. They knew that as a Union Territory they could not exercise the fullest rights of their citizenship, they could not enjoy all the privileges enjoyed by other States. In the year 1972 Manipur alone did not get it when sister States like Tripura, and Meghalaya also became full States. The benefit of its becoming a full State did not go to the people of Manipur because of a certain very unfortunate situation.

A local party, known as the Manipur Peoples' Party, of recent formation, without any clear and definite ideological and political character, composed of frustrated and mostly expelled Congressmen of this kind or that kind of indiscipline. In order to safeguard their temporary political character they mobilised regional sentimentalism to such an extent that they could get 15 members out of 60. After the elections when they were given the opportunity of forming a Ministry, the forces of corruption were let loose and no word will be strong enough to condemn the misdeeds of the Manipur Peoples' Party and their allies which utilized the regional sentiments to such an extent as to encourage young people here, many sections of the people here, to think of going away from the national mainstream with full freedom. This was the very unfortunate state of affairs.

In the 1972 elections no party had an absolute majority. Of course, the Congress was the single largest party with a membership of 17 out of 60. The Peoples' Party had 15 members. Then there were 3 members of the Socialist Party. This Peoples' Party,

[Shri N. Tombi Singh]

which had carried propaganda on parochialism and sentimentalism, was able to form the United Legislature Party with the assistance of another 14 Independents. The Governor in his generosity and wisdom, without foreseeing the march of events, allowed this unholy alliance to form the Ministry.

The United Legislature Party of Manipur, in order to build up the party, mobilised funds in many illegal ways, promised promotions and transfers to officers, patronage and favouritism to contractors, businessmen and job-seekers, either with or without merit, by following the procedure or violating the procedure. As soon as they came to power, in order to keep the promises they made to the officers at various levels, for promotion or transfer, they started implementing them, overlooking all the rules and conventions. A small investigation will reveal the unfortunate fact that Ministers transferred even low paid employees of the Government because they had the courage not to support the Ministers in their political thinking. They used to do all kinds of things only on political considerations. Mostly, these acts of Ministers of the U.L.P. were based on political considerations and, to some extent, for their personal ends.

One very interesting feature of the U.L.P. Ministry was that the Ministers rarely met. Each Minister was a monarch in his own portfolio. Each Minister did whatever he wanted to do in his office. So, naturally, the Chief Minister did not have control over his colleagues because he did not have the guts. Now, it has come to such a stage that decent standards of public life have been practically damaged. Today, the border State of Manipur is like a beautiful garden damaged by a wild elephant. We do not know—we have to say with much anguish—how long it will take to repair this beautiful garden.

The people have started looking at public life, at these political leaders, with some suspicion, with some doubt and fear. Knowing fully well, these politicians who were heading this gang that this will be their first and last chance to sit in their offices as Ministers, did not bother about the future. They did not bother about what might happen in the future. All these things happened under the nose of the Governor.

The Governor in his Report to the President has recommended the suspension of the Assembly. He has mentioned about corruption in political life. We would like to put a question, with all sincerity, whether at the time of that formation of the U.L.P. Ministry, the Governor, for one moment had the patience to speculate what might be the outcome. Now, he has shown his wisdom about the future in his Report to the President which he should have shown earlier.

The Government was formed there by an unholy alliance with 15 Members of a local party, of a recent formation, assisted by 14 Independents have their own individual isolated thinking and three members of the Socialist Party. Each M.L.A. was a monarch. With such a picture, he had the generosity to allow the Government to be formed. There were prominent signs of break down within few days of the formation. It appears that the responsibility of stabilising the Government became that of the Governor, not of the Chief Minister at this stage. From the strength of 5 Ministers, he generously allowed it to be extended to the strength of 12 Ministers in a House of 60, with one Speaker, Deputy Minister and Chairmen of all the small committees. Practically, most of the Members of the U.L.P. held some office or the other. In this way, the stabilisation took place for some time. This again did not last long. There were further signs of break-down. The basic cause was that the alliance did not have anything in common. Even so, things were allowed to proceed. Then, ulti-

mately some of the Members of the ULP including three Ministers at different stages broke off from the Alliance because they were convinced that the so-called Alliance was out to destroy all standards of public life and that they had transgressed all norms of decency in the administration and that they were concerned only with raising funds. With regard to the raising funds, Ministers were reported to be raising Party funds openly through the job-seekers, from those who wanted transfers and from those who wanted promotions. Stories are galore, instances are galore and on the slightest investigation, things will be out.

So, things now have reached this stage and the Governor's report to the President has mentioned all this. Now, in order to bring some consolation to the Opposition which has resisted the horse-trading by the ULP and the purchasing of MLAs at a huge cost, the Governor recommended suspension of the Assembly—a conclusion which did not tally with his premises built on the basis of the Manipur People's Party thinking. The House will be surprised to know that some of the MLAs by revolting and by staging some calculated revolt once a month and threatening, 'I will go out' used to take money from the Ministers common fund which was raised through bribery and through all kinds of means as pointed out just now. Some used to receive Rs. 1 lakh and some received more than Rs. 1 lakh. What is this harvest by MLAs? They harvested from the Ministers and the Ministers in turn harvested it through their officers and ultimately, there was no worthwhile development in the State. Very little work was done. Nothing was left for the people. Valuable time of one year of this young State was wasted. Money was wasted. No development was done. Now, it will take much time to restore normality in this State.

During the short period, the State will be under President's rule. Vigorous steps have to be taken to undertake the mistakes of the U.L.P.

Government. Mere passage of tune will not bring improvement. This has a relevance to the entire public life of the country. It is not merely something which happens in a small State. It is a matter which has a relevance to the public life of the country. Now, unless something is done, perhaps what happens there will have its own chain reactions in other parts of the country. At least that part of the country has to be saved. In order to do that, no pains should be spared by the Government of India to find out the amount of corruption, the amount of nepotism and the amount of favouritism and the misdeeds that have been committed within this one year.

People had expectations that after becoming a State and getting this government under a local party which raised slogans of regional sentimentalism, they would gain a lot but now we find that practically nothing was done. Not only that, the ULP Ministry did much less than what the Congress Ministries did in the Union Territory regime. The Ministries then had very little power.

This is the situation. In this situation, coming to the Budget, I would like the House to recall the discussion the Manipur Budget during the Union Territory regime in 1971 on the floor of the House. While participating in the discussion, I remember to have observed that the pattern of assistance, the pattern of expenditure that was displayed in the presentation of the Budget was mainly expenditure for maintenance, routine expenditure. We talk of viability. We talk of putting small units on a sound financial position. Mere slogans will not do. Mere lip-sympathies will not do. There is no use repeating them over and over again. We have heard many times that industries and projects are going to be taken up. May be that it may involve a little more expenditure temporarily, but this has to be incurred for the development of this area. Otherwise how can this area develop and prosper? Sir, this would have

taken a number of days in Manipur Assembly, we are passing it in a few hours...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may take two minutes more.

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: My request is that the necessary amount of allotment of money should be made in respect of industries and projects. Manipur has been considered as a heaven for tourists. But the tourists are not attracted because Inner-Line permit system is there, which is very cumbersome. Therefore, foreign tourists will not be able to go there. Even the domestic tourists are not going there due to paucity of communications. Manipur should be developed as it is such a heaven among tourist spots; it has got very rich potentialities. Unless concrete programmes are taken up and heavy investment are made, how can this area come up at all? A concrete programme of development has to be taken up immediately. Our political aspiration has been fulfilled. We are most grateful to the leadership of Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi and to all sections of the House for the unanimity which they showed at the passing of the Statehood Bill. Now this has to be followed up in other respects. In this connection I would like to make some concrete suggestions to the Government of India for consideration.

Proposals regarding cement and pulp industries and also spinning mills are there already. We do not know why so much time is being taken for taking further action in these matters. One important difficulty is regarding communications and for getting a railhead the people have to go hundreds of miles via Nagaland. A proposal was made that a railhead should be opened at Jiriban from the nearest rail station of Cachar. May be that it would involve heavy expenditure, but then, if you do not overlook certain yardsticks, how can this area develop? Unless more allotments are made in the matter of setting up of railway

lines, in the matter of setting up of industries, and in other fields, how can this area come up? Therefore, to boost up the economic position of the area there should be a concrete programme of development. There should be a comprehensive programme which should be taken up. This is the only remedy.

My next suggestion is this. There should be high-powered commission which should look into the misdeeds of one year old ULP Ministry. That Ministry went out of all norms. Their Ministers went out of all norms of decency in public life for their own selfish ends. They even with armed guards taking machine-guns to hunt out for MLAs who have gone out of their camps out of sheer disgust. Even so they could not get them back. We must congratulate the bold members of the Progressive Independent Group who could ignore the generous patronage in cash and position offered by the ULP Ministers.

So, these are my two suggestions, namely, that a Commission of Enquiry should be set up to probe into the misdeeds of the Ministers and that there should be a comprehensive programme of development which should be taken up immediately.

With these words I support the Budget proposals. Thank you.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, I do not know how many more Budget this House will be required to tackle by the grace of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the great socialist and democrat, that covers the mind and head of the entire set of people sitting opposite to us. I have before me the Manipur Budget which shows the character represented by Mr. Ganesh. Out of a total amount of Rs. 14,83,90,000 the non-developmental expenditure exceeds Rs. 5,77,66,000. Out of that the godfather of the ruling party and this Government, namely, the Police, consumes Rs. 1,18,29,000 for a State of this size.

Then the expenditure met from the revenues comes to Rs. 1,72,99,000. What a miserable farce; They talk about democracy, developmental work, welfare, socialism—not Maruti, of course, that is their own welfare which took about two hours of this House today.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: You should bear in mind that in future whenever you speak you should not use slanderous language for which you have no proof. It is simply slandering a person. It is a political statement that he is making. This will be expunged.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Manipur is such a tiny State. I have shown the Police budget. Besides there is an expenditure for the Manipur people to pay to the Central Exchequer which covers the cost of 30 CRP companies—I call it Central Repressive Police—for a tiny State like Manipur.

Why is this Budget coming before us? It is because of the tactics and game of toppling which was started by the Congress Party in this country. History will bear testimony to it. Multiple standards are applied by this agent of the Prime Minister or Central Government, namely, the Governor. There is one set of rules for Orissa; another set of rules for West Bengal and yet another set of rules for Manipur. I would like to ask the Governor of Manipur, Shri B. K. Nehru, if he was not trying to find an opportunity for encouraging horse trading. It is not a fact? Is that the reason why he did not order dissolution of the Assembly immediately after the Chief Minister had recommended it? Mr. Chairman, what a miserable condition the Chief Minister has stated of the letter which I have circulated in the House! The situation bedevilled this unhappy land owing to the defection and horse trading indulged in by some power hungry and self seeking politicians. The defection are quite the promises they made to the officer frequent and the defections in some

cases have been even three or four times. The detector MLAs have now been kept in a concentration camp under police guard round the clock without permission even to meet their relatives. All the time they were brought to the Assembly in a group and under vigil, and as a result they have not been in a position to exercise their free mind to decide what is right or wrong.

This has been circulated by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the names have been given—1 to 8—Khan Lal, Amujao Singh etc.

He has said that, to the future Government on a stable footing, the Ministry feels that the Governor may dissolve Assembly and recommend a Mid-Term Poll in the State as quickly as possible.

We want a clear and categorical assurance here on the floor of the House that they will immediately announce Mid-Term Poll for Manipur and allow the people to decide their own future, and not be a colony of Delhi and be ruled by the bureaucrats from here as agents of the Centre.

13.37 hrs.

[MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair].

The Manipur People's Party gave a Memorandum. They said,

"To apply it to the present political situation in Manipur, 9 (nine) members of the U.L.P. have defected to the opposition groups on the condition that almost all of them would be offered ministership."

In their hunger for power the local Congress had unscrupulously enlisted the support of a recently expelled Congressman, Shri T. Bira Singh, without formally condoning the disciplinary action.

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

The political situation is so uncertain that defections and counter defections are in hot chase even before the very presence of the Governor. The Governor is doing the horse trading in Manipur on behalf of the ruling party who are his employers at Delhi.

Then Shri B. K. Nehru has said in the report to the President that the law and order situation to which the Cabinet and the Speaker referred consisted of a rowdy student demonstration outside the Assembly on the 14th March which had resulted in the gherao and the abuse of certain Ministers. He has also said that the membership of the P.D.A. consists now of 31 in a House of 60. (Of the original 32 one member has defected to the ULP). Of the 31 members of the P.D.A. no less than 13 have changed their party loyalty since they were elected, some of them more than once. He also says that in accordance with general principles and the strong desire of the people of Manipur that President's Rule should be for the shortest period possible he would recommend that the legislature should not be dissolved and fresh elections should not be ordered.

This gentleman, Shri B. K. Nehru, an agent of the Centre—goes there to rape the Parliamentary democracy that exists and he does this at the instigation and under the orders of the Central Government who are his employers.

I demand that the Governor should be immediately recalled and if there is any provision for impeaching him (I do not think there is any) he should be censured and he should be dropped immediately.

That is all I want to say. I condemn the Centres action as a result of which State Government budgets are being brought to Parliament, taking its time. This is killing and raping democracy in the country and they

ar no doubt fascist and dictatorial in character and they are ruining the country and its future.

SHRI PAOKAI HAKOIP (Outer Manipur): It is very sad that once again the Budget of Manipur has to come to this august House for discussion and passing. This is the second time this has happened.

The circumstances which led to the Budget of Manipur having to come to Parliament have been narrated by my hon. friend, Shri Tombi Singh, and I do not wish to go into that background because it will take time. Still, I would express my anger and pain over the situation leading to the dissolution of the Assembly.

A Ministry was formed there headed by the Manipur People's Party, a local party which had no base at all. How did they come to power? How did they get 15 members from among them elected to the Assembly? This aspect must be known to the House so that it can judge the situation properly. They came to be elected through corruption. This shows to what extent corruption has played a part in the political life of the nation. The House must know about it so that this may be checked.

From the very beginning in their election campaign, they did not have a political ideology. They do not have—I am using the present tense—a political programme or policy before them. What they have before them is corruption. That is what they have. By means of this corruption, they somehow managed to get 15 from among themselves elected. Later on they were joined by independents numbering 16. Somehow this group came into existence and into power.

Later on, what happened? They did not mean to serve the interests of the people who enabled them to form the Ministry, the people of the newly-born tiny State. But they resorted to all kinds of corruption, in the

matter of transferring people, making appointments to posts from among aspirants by extracting money from them forcibly and so on. This is what they did.

This corruption came to the notice of the public. The only course left to them was to condemn this corruption. Thus the Ministry started becoming unpopular in the minds of the people.

Then the Independents who had joined the MPP thought it proper to leave the Party as quickly as possible so that they might be able to serve the interests of the people, as they desired and as they had pledged to do at the time of the election. This way, this thinking led inevitably to defection and to come over to the Congress party and try to form the people's democratic alliance, a progressive alliance. After the defection of the nine members, the Ministry still claimed to have a majority, when nine of them very clearly, inside and outside, announced that they had resigned from the corrupt Ministry and they would no longer be able to remain in the Ministry which was doing only corrupt things and not doing any good and that they will join the Congress party, that was the largest single party.

Here, the Opposition, that is the Congress, along with the nine members, accepted the challenge that a trial of strength should be held on the floor of the House which was the proper forum in parliamentary democracy. Accordingly, the Assembly was called; a sitting of the Assembly was summoned, and here, the Speaker seeing the situation not in favour of the Ministry, again, on unreasonable excuses, adjourned the House indefinitely. Here again, the democratic alliance accepted it saying, all right, we can see and will prove that the Ministry has been reduced to a meagre minority. So, on the 22nd, a session was held again.

Here, what happened? The saddest thing happened. Again, it was said, on the pretext that some students who were outside the House were agitating, that it was not possible to continue the House, and the Speaker adjourned the House. That way, they could not decide the strength of the parties and decide it in the House. That way, the House was adjourned by the Speaker.

Then the progressive party alliance, with 19 Congress and five CPI, totalling in all 32, went again to the Governor's residence, Shri B. K. Nehru's residence, and told him that they were really in a position to form an alternative Ministry, and so they should be given a chance. But the Governor did not agree to their suggestion. So, ultimately what happened? The Assembly had to be dissolved.

Here, I would ask: in parliamentary democracy, what is the principle of democracy, and what is the concept of democracy. To my understanding, in a parliamentary democracy, as I know, and as we know, when the majority or a large section of the members is in a position to form a government, is it not the practice in parliamentary democracy to give them a chance to form a Ministry? It may last long; it may not last long. I feel that they should have been allowed to form the Government and the Opposition Parties should have been made to bear the burden of office. This was not done and a decision was taken for the dissolution and so the Budget is here before the House for the Members to discuss.

My friend Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu was saying that there were thirty companies of CRP in Manipur. All over the country there were only 80 battalions of CRP and thirty companies were in Manipur. Does he not know that Manipur is a border area and it could have been more. It is not for Manipur alone. More forces are supposed to be in the border areas throughout the country, not only in Manipur. CRP, border security force

[Shri Paokai Hoakip]

etc. are supposed to be in border areas. He did not appreciate this fact and I deplore it.

I do not know whether Members will have another opportunity of discussing the problems and the political activities in Manipur and the difficulties of the people of Manipur. I should like to say a word about the Kuki refugees. There are at present 1600 kuki refugees, expelled and repatriated from Burma in 1967. The State Government as well as the Central Government had been generous enough to come to their help quickly and about Rs. 4 lakhs had been given to them.

With this money they were able to pull on. In this regard I submit that the help given to them was not sufficient.

More money and more help should be extended to the people in terms of agricultural loans so that they may be able to rehabilitate themselves and they may be able to live a comfortable life in the State.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have already taken 15 minutes. How long will you take? There should have been a Resolution for approving or disapproving the Presidential Proclamation. Everybody is talking about that Resolution and not about the Budget. The Resolution is not before the House.

SHRI PAOKAI HOAKIP: I shall take some more time.

The next point that I would like to make is with regard to the creation of two more districts in the hill areas of Manipur.

Sir, the House knows very well that at the time of conferring of Statehood to Manipur, an autonomous Council was in existence which was set up under the Act. According to the provisions contained in this Act, there is room for creation of two more districts for the State of Manipur. Al-

ready there are four districts in the hill areas and we want to have two more districts.

As the House knows, the policy of the Government has always been this viz. to bring the people closer for the development of the hill areas rapidly. With the coming into existence of these four districts, the progress made by them is very much appreciable. That is why our demand for bringing into existence two more districts.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please listen to me. You have already taken twenty minutes. I am going to give you three more minutes. You should conclude. In twenty minutes a person can make a world-shaking speech. I shall give you two or three minutes. There seems to be no end at all.

SHRI PAOKAI HOAKIP: In Manipur the people have been demanding construction of a railway line from Silcher to Zeriban. This is very important. Due attention has not been given to this by the Ministry. I hope this will be given due consideration by Government. I also hope that the railway line will be constructed soon.

There is a constitutional provision for the protection of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. These are weaker sections of the community. something should be done to protect them from exploitation. Government must give serious consideration and see that all sorts of injustices done to these people come to an end.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Member must conclude.

SHRI PAOKAI HOAKIP: One more point and I have done.

The two districts should be created soon and elections to the District Councils should take place as scheduled. If the elections had been held, by now some progress could have been

made. I request the minister to keep in mind that the elections to the district councils should not be delayed any longer.

Another important point.....

14 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No. Nothing of what the hon. Member says will go on the record now.

Judged from all that has been said, it all relates to the political question of the imposition of President's rule and very little to the budget. I do not know why the Government did not include that resolution. It appears everything said is about that. They will have to bring a resolution seeking the approval of the House of the Proclamation and the same thing will be repeated. I think the Government should take note of it. This is just wasting the time of the House.

Shri Indrajit Gupta.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is a tragic commentary on the working of the parliamentary system that once again President's rule has descended upon this unfortunate land of Manipur. It is all the more tragic because, as pointed out correctly in the Governor's report to the Rashtrapati, for many many years, Manipur was a Union Territory and just before the last election, they were under President's rule for 2½ years. He has correctly said that because of this, President's rule is very much more strongly resented here than it would be elsewhere. I paid a visit to Manipur about 1½ months ago. Anybody who goes there and talks to the people there cannot fail to sense their very strong antipathy to the idea that they should come under President's rule again. But frankly speaking, I do not see also what other alternative there was in the concrete situation which had developed.

About the Governor's advice. I am constrained to say that Mr. B. K. Nehru, who is an administrator of

great experience, has really made a very surprising proposal, coming as it does against his own analysis of the political set-up there. He says:

"There is a great deal of fragmentation of society, loyalties to groups and individuals are often stronger than loyalty to party, rivalries between individuals within the same party are strong and corruption which is the main cause of defection is unfortunately even more rampant in Manipuri political system than elsewhere."

If this is the analysis in which he believes, it passes my comprehension how he came to the conclusion that the Assembly should not be dissolved but should be kept under suspension. It is very surprising to me how he could make such a suggestion at all because, if that advice had been accepted by the Central Government which, fortunately, it did not accept—it decided that the Assembly should be dissolved—but if Shri B. K. Nehru's advice had been followed, then all these not very complimentary remarks which I just now quoted, which he has stated in his report about the Manipuri political life, would have been enabled to have full play, the Assembly would have been suspended and all these things, defections, corruption, attempts to intimidate people, wean away people, would have just run riot. Therefore, to that extent I am glad that the Centre decided that the Assembly should not be kept suspended, but should be dissolved.

There was not really any firm possibility of a stable government being formed in Manipur. Of that there is no doubt. I do not want to go into the details of that. This underlines, I would say, once again the urgent need for the Centre to bring forward that long-promised Bill on defections. Every day, every passing day, things are taking place in one State or the other which underlines the urgency of this. So long as that Bill is not passed and it has not come on to the

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

Statute Book these defections and counter-defections will gain from strength to strength and this is not the last that we have seen, the Manipur case will not be the last example. I do not know the reason for this delay. Why has it been kept in cold storage so long? Suspicion is gaining ground only because of that. I hope at least in this session, as soon as possible, we will be able to legislate on it.

The Speaker's role in the debate has been referred to which is also very extraordinary. First of all, he said that because there was some law and order situation existing in Manipur, or perhaps in Imphal, therefore he will adjourn the House *sine die*. Then the Governor had to call the meeting. I do not know why this unusual sort of thing happened. The Governor's Report says:

"I.....insisted with the Chief Minister and the Speaker that constitutional process must be observed and that no further impediment should be allowed to be placed in the strength of the Government being tested on the Floor of the House. They accepted my line of thought; the House was ressumoned to meet on the 22nd March, which was the date on which it would next have met in any case had not the *sine die* adjournment intervened."

So, the Speaker first adjourned the House *sine die*, when a motion of no-confidence against the Council of Ministers was pending. When the Governor advised them "no, this is not proper, you have to summon the Assembly", the Assembly was ressumoned and the motion of no-confidence was taken up, but the Speaker announced that there would be no time-limit on speeches. This is the first time I find that a Speaker is using his official power to openly encourage members to do filibustering so that the debate could go on day after day.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Members of this House would have been very happy to get such an opportunity.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: If the opposition in the House is so big that defection this way or that way....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am limiting it only to the time factor.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Very extraordinary things are happening there.

There have been some allegations in the press that some MLAs were virtually kidnapped and kept somewhere. I do not know whether it is true or not, but I do know that some MLAs belonging to the opposition were, for their own safety, staying together in certain places. One of these places was a camp at a place in Kalor. I know this definitely and I say it with all responsibility, that the Finance Minister of this ULP Government and some other Ministers did come to that camp along with a party of the Manipur Rifles in order to try to intimidate these people.

So, President's Rule has become inevitable in the course of events which took place. But we must not forget, I hope the Government will not forget, in view of what I quoted earlier from the Governor's own observations in the concrete background of the political developments and history of Manipur, President's Rule is more resented there than anywhere else. Therefore, our attempt should be to see as soon as possible, as soon as it is feasible and practicable, new elections are ordered so that the people do not feel stifled and they once again get the normal democratic right of electing their representatives. Sir, Mr. Tombi Singh over there spoke about the need for some sort of inquiry or investigation by some Commission into the kind of rampant corruption that is going on. Corruption has already become unfortunately, I should say, an institution in our country.

But, nevertheless, the fact remains that we have heard about very strange things. For example, when I was in Imphal, I was told that there are some lands in the town which have been absolutely illegally encroached upon by the relatives of certain Ministers and MLAs—These people have been brought from hill areas and other places and they have completely illegally occupied and settled on certain lands in the town. This kind of thing has been going on and these things must be looked into apart from other, whatever charges of corruption there may be.

Now, I do not want, as you correctly said, to go into this question much more. We may probably get a chance to debate again on this. But, I would like to mention one point on this. It is high-time that we should think of removing from the minds of the people of not only Manipur, but a number of these North Eastern States, the feeling that they are still considered, even after being given Statehood, as a sort of second class States when 4 or 5 of them are under one Governor. Mr. Nehru is simultaneously the Governor of Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Manipur. People did complain to me that there are times when it is very urgent to have the Governor available in Imphal for certain consultations and work, he is not available when he has got this huge area to look after and he is wandering about. I suppose he is coming to Delhi also frequently with the problems of these States. I would suggest that, for the future, we should create some sort of a feeling of affinity among these people.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: How can Mr. Ganesh answer that?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: He is not representing his Ministry only. He is representing the Government of India also. He can convey these things.

Coming to the Budget yesterday, in his statement on the Budget, Mr. Ganesh said that a huge amount of

money—I do not know whether the amount is specified—I have not had time to go through the papers—has been locked up in Manipur because they want to store a lot of foodgrains in case of any emergency. This is said to be the primary cause of the deficit in the Manipur Budget. These amounts have been locked up by the State Government for the purpose of storing quantities of foodgrains as a sort of reserve. I am really surprised to read this because, one thing you find in Manipur is that no foodgrains are available. Rice is selling at Rs. 230 per quintal. The normal retail price of rice in Manipur used to be Rs. 1.60 or at the most Rs. 1.80 per Kg. Now, you cannot get it for less than Rs. 2.30 and even that you cannot get. The ration for an adult for a whole month is 5 Kgs. of rice. No atta is available at all. For a minor, it is 2½ Kgs. per month. The price has gone up, it has shot up like anything. Whenever people come to ration shops they are told that there are no stocks. But, here, we have been told that the main cause of the deficit in the Budget is that huge amounts have been locked up for storing huge quantities of foodgrains in case of emergency. This seems to be another additional ground on which some probe should be carried out. Was that money actually spent for this purpose or spent for something else? If it were spent for purchasing and storing foodgrains, where are those foodgrains? Where they have gone? This is the condition in which people are living. No procurement has taken place.

I would agree with the other Members who have very rightly emphasised the need for some concrete development programmes to be undertaken without delay. There are no irrigation works in Manipur. There is no drinking water. I was staying in the M.L.A. Hostel for two days. I could not have a bath for two days. One bucket of water was somehow procured for me. Of course, I was told the first night when I was there, "Don't worry. Tomorrow morning, you will find water

(on Acctt.)

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

coming in the tap in your bath-room." With that hope, I put the bucket under the tap and went to sleep. Next morning, I found not a single drop of water in the bucket. Something must be wrong with the water supply.

Then, there are no industries at all in Manipur. There are natural resources. There are a lot of good forests. Timber is available there. Some pulp industry, some paper industry, could be established there. Some possibilities of putting up industries there could be explored. It is such a lovely place. Sir, you must have tasted the luscious pineapple of Manipur. Some canning industry can be set up there. All these things could be done if the people are really bothered about that, instead of only being bothered about how to feather their own nests.

During the period of President's Rule which, I hope, will be a brief one, at least some of the schemes should be worked out and formulated and put into operation. Let them be started so that something happens.

There is another problem also. Imphal town has grown quite a lot and there is a problem of extending the area of the town. One of the biggest obstacles to that is the present location of the camp of the Assam Rifles. It is located in such a place—if you are familiar with the topography of the town, then you will be able to appreciate it that you cannot go from the eastern part of the town to the western part of the town because of this intervening huge area which has been taken up as the camp of the Assam Rifles. The people say that is the only area available which can be used for further extension of the town. Everybody there was saying that the Assam Rifles camp can be shifted from there to some other site, that this huge area should be vacated, so that it can be used for purposes of town development. I hope, these things will be gone into.

Finally, I would say one thing. The main thing is to keep in mind that the President's Rule is not at all liked there by the people, more so than in other places, and to see that the elections are held as soon as possible so that normal democratic rule can be restored there.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Gauhati): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I must refer to certain uncharitable remarks made against my party by Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu. Of course, that is not new because like a gramophone record, he always repeats it, whatever may be the subject-matter and the best way to treat him is to ignore him. He said that it is because of the defections encouraged by the Congress party that the President's Rule has been imposed in Manipur. You will realise, unless you have seen it with the jaundiced eye, that the President's Rule in Manipur was inevitable because the Ministry which was given the power by the Governor was a still-born child which was being kept alive by artificial respiration.

I can understand the feeling of the Governor to saddle this Ministry with power because, as Mr. Indrajit Gupta said, the people of Manipur rather do not like further imposition of the President's Rule. Therefore, the Governor tried his best to keep some sort of popular Ministry alive and, probably, he called upon the M.P.P., even though it was a minority party in the House, to form the Ministry.

We know how the Ministry behaved. A suggestion has come from my hon. friend Shri Tombi Singh, that there should be an inquiry into the activities of the Ministry. It is upto the Government to consider that.

I would humbly beg the Government to consider very seriously that such defections or such short-lived Ministries create a sense of lack of confidence in the minds of the people towards the democratic system itself, particularly, in those areas where

there is lack of communications or in tribal areas. I think, the Government should seriously consider as to how we can keep the democratic institutions alive.

A reference has been made by Shri Indrajit Gupta about the Defections Bill. I also feel that the Bill should come. But at the same time, we should remember that merely bringing the Defections Bill will not solve the problem unless a sense of responsibility grows upon all the political parties and amongst the people who have been called upon to represent the population. A reference has also been made by Shri Indrajit Gupta to the behaviour of the Speaker. How can a law of defection take note of the behaviour of the Speaker or can suggest a remedy to it? Therefore, I feel it is the duty of all political parties, not only the ruling Congress but also the Opposition, to act with a certain amount of responsibility so that we can make democracy a success not only in that small State but throughout the length and breadth of this country.

With these words, I come next to the Budget proper itself. In Manipur or so to speak in the entire north-eastern region, the potentialities of development have not been tapped to the extent it ought to have been tapped. My friend, Mr. Tombi Singh, referred to tourism. We know tourism is one of the main exchange-earners and it comes next to oil. Next to oil tourism is the greatest revenue earner for a country and there is a tremendous potentiality for tourism in Manipur because Manipur is a place, rich in cultural heritage and a place where the hills and plains meet with splendour and verdure. But nothing has been done so far to improve the potentialities of tourism either in Manipur or in the entire North-eastern region. The State from which you come has tremendous potentialities for development of tourism. In spite of the fact that repeatedly we have urged the Tourism Ministry to take note of these things, unfortunately, not much

has been done and now that the State of Manipur has come under President's rule and has become the direct responsibility of the Centre, I will request Mr. Ganesh to take note of it and pass this on to the appropriate Ministries. Unfortunately, the entire Budget is silent about any allocation regarding tourism.

So far as industries are concerned, there is no industry in Manipur.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is the use of tourism without tourists and the tourists can go there only after getting political clearance?

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI: There is no industry for that matter, not to speak of large scale industries. There is a tremendous scope for development of small scale industries, particularly, handicrafts industry. We know how the weavers of Manipur weave various patterns of cloth. I think it has tremendous potentialities of an export market, but nothing has been done so far. An effort was made by the Central Silk Board, thanks to the initiative of my friend here, Mr. Inderjit Malhotra, who was the Chairman of the Central Silk Board, to set up a tussor industry there, but I think one of the constraints that has come in the way of the Central Silk Board is the constraint of finance. I will request Mr. Ganesh to look into it and give adequate help to this project which has been taken up by the Central Silk Board and given utmost priority.

From the report itself we find—if you look to page 14—that for famine relief they have taken quite a substantial grant because at page 14 it has been said:

“The increase in the Revised Estimates, 1972-73 is due to inclusion of provision of Rs. 4000 thousands for Test Relief Works being taken up in view of the drought in the State. The Budget Estimates, 1973-74 contains a provision of Rs. 8000 thousands for Test Relief Works.”

[Shri Dinesh Chandra Goswami]

But we should consider that by mere granting of some amount for test relief works, we may not bring solace to the poor, to those people who suffer. The entire approach should be to create a condition in the State so that these works of famine relief and test relief may not be necessary. Unfortunately, that is only possible if top priority is given to rural electrification. The hon. Minister for Rural Electrification, Dr. K. L. Rao, in answer to one of my questions a few days back said that because the Eastern States have not taken any initiative in regard to rural electrification, rural electrification in these States has not been a success and that there is no dearth of money. If there is no dearth of money and it is because of lack of initiative on the part of the Eastern States there is no rural electrification, I am sure that now that the State has come under President rule and has become the direct responsibility of the Centre, the Central Government will initiate schemes there to see that rural electrification is a success. If nothing is done in that direction, it will give us an opportunity to accuse the Central Government and obviously, I am sure, Mr. Ganesh will not give any opportunity to criticise the Government for not taking steps in this direction and put us, the Members of the Treasury Benches in an embarrassing position.

When you talk about industry, when you talk about tourism, nothing can be done unless there is proper infrastructure there. There is not even a Railway line to Manipur. I want to emphasise that railway is not only an infrastructure for the purpose of the growth of industry or communications but it is also a matter of the source of national integration also. Railway-line leads to the national integration. These are vulnerable areas and I would suggest that the Central Government should take up detailed plans for the growth of railways. I would like to emphasise the points already made by some of the hon. Members that there

is need for entire coordinated development of the whole of the north-eastern region along with this area.

To conclude, I would say that there should be efforts made to reduce expenditure on administration and non-production activities. At page 10 it is said that one of the reasons for increase in General Administration has been due to provision for more ministries. It is rather unfortunate. The budget states:

"The increase in the revised estimates of 1972-73 is mainly due to the provision for more Ministries."

I hope that care will be taken in regard to this aspect. And, to satisfy Mr. Viswanathan, I support the Budget.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There Demands have got to be passed today. Tomorrow is 31st, Saturday and therefore, we must finish this business and pass it on to the other House. I would request hon. Members to co-operate with the Chair and I would request them to take five minutes each and not more, because, they will have another occasion when the Resolution comes up before the House. I am only stating the difficulty which we face.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN (Wan-Diwash): This is the third State budget which is going to be passed in this House in the month of March. I hope this is the last budget, at least as far as the month is concerned. I don't know how many more are in store for us, whether Gujarat or Mysore or Bihar will be coming in April. But, I do not support the view, Sir, that if there is any trouble in any State, in whatever form, immediately President's rule should be imposed on that State, the Assembly should be suspended or dissolved and all that. President's rule is nothing but a strangulation of parliamentary democracy in this country. In the course of his letter to the President, the Governor said:

Needless to say it is undesirable to continue Presidential Rule anywhere any longer than is absolutely necessary. In Manipur this is doubly so because Manipur was under President's rule for 2½ years continuously before the last elections and in a sense for many years before then, because it was a Union Territory. President's rule is consequently very much more strongly resented here than it would be elsewhere.

So, Sir, people are not happy with President's rule because they want their representatives to discuss those problems and to pass their budget. Normally any State Budget would take at least a month to pass the Budget in the Assembly. We pass it here in two or three hours, with 15 or 20 Members present. This is not a good phenomenon in our democracy. In the letter of the Chief Minister to the Governor he has pointed out how MLAs are kidnapped. I would like to read out this portion. I quote :

"The defector MLAs have now been kept in a Concentration camp under police guard round the clock without permitting even to meet their relatives. All the time they were brought to the Assembly in group and under vigil and as a result they have not been in a position to exercise their free mind to decide what is right or wrong."

This is something extraordinary. One of the erstwhile Ministers made the charge that CRP was used for kidnapping one MLA. I want Government to thoroughly enquire into the matter. If this is found to be true necessary action should be taken against the CRP or whoever the person may be who may be concerned with this. This is a very dangerous disease in the political life of the country. After the last general election in 1967 Lok Sabha took note of this fact and pass-

ed a Resolution and a Committee was formed and that Committee of Defections submitted its report. Why are you taking two years or three years over it? That report was given in 1969. As the biggest political party of this country it is the duty of the Congress party to set an example in this matter in stopping defection. But what is happening? The Congress Party is encouraging defections. Even recently a candidate was selected for Rajya Sabha—I think from Bihar—who has defected ten times. This is how they are encouraging defections. Once upon a time two to three years back they needed MLAs and MPs but after the massive mandate why still they want MLAs to defect.

The President of the Manipur People's Party in his letter to the Governor has said:

"If history proves an eloquent testimony one will find it astounding if communists who once shook the valley with bloody violence become members of the cabinet in this most-sensitive border state. As at present finalised the hard core of the communists Shri M. Meghachandra Singh has been tipped as Cabinet Minister in charge of Finance. Once the communists seize the opportunity to infiltrate in the Government they will never relent in their underground activities in all branches of the Government, but more intensely them. The fate of this tiny state which is no bigger than a district and can be to all intents and purposes treated as no better than a small pocket will be deemed if the communist find their way in the Ministry."

This poor President of the Manipur People's Party does not know the fact that infiltration has not started in Manipur but it started at the top. The infiltrators are given the place in the

[Shri G. Viswanathan]
Central Ministry. This is the strategy of the Communist Party of India which is the closest ally of the ruling party. They are trying it everywhere. They started in Pondicherry but they failed there before DMK. They succeeded in pulling out Mr. Subbaiah out of the Ministry but they have not succeeded in pulling down the DMK Ministry.

Now, Sir, I would like to congratulate the Communist Party of India for thoroughly demoralising Congressmen—at least a section of Congressmen. They have been thoroughly brain-washed. They think that but for the Communist Party of India, they Congress cannot implement any policies.

But from the CPI I want to know why this policy of running with the hare and hunting with hound is followed? They want to demonstrate against the Government outside and hob-nob with the Government inside.

Regarding Manipur the hon. Member, Shri Indrajit Gupta, pointed out that not even a single industry has been started there. I had the opportunity to visit that beautiful State and found that it is completely neglected. If the Ministry and the Government takes interest it can be developed as another Kashmir, if not more beautiful. Apart from the Tourism Ministry other Ministries should also take interest in developing Manipur so that the people of Manipur who are at the borders of our country feel secure and safe and get employment opportunities which are available in other parts of the country.

SHRI INDER J. MALHOTRA
(Jammu): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, most of the Members have dealt at length with the political aspect of the President's Rule in Manipur. Since I have very little time at my disposal I would like to limit my observations to the economic development which should reflect in this Budget. I am rather disappointed to find that very

little allocation has been made as far as the development of industries is concerned. Sir, in a State like Manipur, the development of small scale industry like sericulture is very important. Recently, a new specie of tasar silkworm has been found which can be feeded on the foilage of an oak tree. Sir, you come from that part of the country where oak tree is available in abundance. It is unfortunate that we have not been able to develop this. My colleague Shri Goswami mentioned about the Central Silk Board Project. I would only like to mention a few of the main features of this project for developing tasar in Manipur. This is employment oriented industry and uptil now as you are well aware this oak tree is being used for fuel purposes and if the foilage of this tree can be put to the tasar silkworm which in turn can produce good quality tasar silk yarn which uptil now has not been produced in our country.

In terms of employment, it will generate employment for 9000 full-time workers directly. It will also generate part-time employment for more than a lakh of people. You can very well imagine that in a State like Manipur, if such an employment potential exists and if time is lost to develop it, I think we are not doing justice to our country and we are not discharging our duty properly.

It is unfortunate that the hon. Minister for Industrial Development is not in the House at the moment and he is now dealing with the sericulture subject. I would, therefore, appeal to the hon. Minister for Finance that no effort should be spared to see that whatever amount is required for developing this industry in the Manipur State should be made available in this Budget and if already allocation has not been made, immediate steps should be taken to make proper allocation for the development of tasar in the Manipur State.

In the end, I would like to mention only this. I happened to visit that State last year and it is really a fantastic site to see how this beautiful oak tree is existing and how this potential has been discovered and how interest has been created among the local people—not only among the farmers but among the educated persons also.

I would like to give a little more detail about the employment potential. This project, in a period of five years, will employ 305 graduates, 1,215 matriculates, 624 miscellaneous workers and 7,000 labourers. These people will be employed full-time and in addition to this as I was saying earlier, over a lakh of people will get part-time employment. Therefore, I would only appeal to the hon. Finance Minister that he should kindly see that the proper allocation of the amount is made for the development of tasar in Manipur.

श्री फूलचन्द बर्मा (उज्जैन) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मणिपुर को जब राज्य का दर्जा देने के लिए इस सदन में पिछले समय चर्चा हुई थी तो सरकार की ओर से कहा गया था कि मणिपुर का पूरी तरह से विकास हो क्योंकि वहां पर प्राकृतिक सम्पदा प्रचुर मात्रा में है इसलिये राज्य का दर्जा दिया जाना जरूरी है। इसमें कोई दो मत नहीं कि वहां पर प्राकृतिक सम्पदा है और उसका विकास होना चाहिये। लेकिन उस बात को आज एक वर्ष पूरा हो गया है, लेकिन आज तक वहां पर एक भी उद्योग नहीं खोला गया है।

जहां तक मणिपुर का सवाल है वह सुन्दर रमणीक पहाड़ियों के बीच में बसा हुआ हमारा सीमावर्ती प्रान्त है और सैनिक महत्व की दृष्टि से भी उसका विशेष स्थान है। जैसा माननीय विश्वनाथनजी ने कहा, मैं उसको दोहराना नहीं चाहता, लेकिन मणिपुर एक ऐसा स्थान है कि उसके बारे में सरकार को जो विशेष रूप से ध्यान

देना चाहिये था उसने अभी तक नहीं दिया।

आज मणिपुर के अन्दर यातायात के कोई साधन नहीं हैं। बरसात के दिनों में अखबार और डाक आठ-आठ दिन तक नहीं जाती है। इतना ही नहीं बरसात के दिनों में हवाई जहाज तक की सेवायें रद्द रहती हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में मणिपुर का अधिकांश हिस्से का संबंध भारत के अन्य भागों से टूट जाता है। चूंकि मणिपुर सीमावर्ती प्रान्त है इसलिये सरकार को गम्भीरता पूर्वक विचार करना चाहिये कि उसको किस प्रकार रेल मार्ग से, सड़क मार्ग से जोड़ा जा सकता है जिससे अराष्ट्रीय तत्वों को वहां पतनपने का मौका न मिल सके और वहां के दैनिक जीवन के अन्दर नागरिकों को जो कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है उन्हें दूर किया जा सके।

अभी दलबदल के सम्बन्ध में बहुत सारी बातें कही गयी हैं। मैं दलबदल के सम्बन्ध में इस में से कुछ उद्धृत करना चाहता हूं, यह पत्र श्री जोगेन्द्र सिंह का है, जो राज्यपाल की रिपोर्ट के साथ संलग्न है। इन्होंने लिखा है कि : "पद की लालसा में स्थानीय कांग्रेस ने बड़ी ही बेधर्मी के साथ, हाल ही में निष्कासित कांग्रेसी श्री टी० बी० रासिंह को, उनके विरुद्ध अनुशासनिक कार्यवाही को औपचारिक रूप से क्षमा किए बगैर ही अपनी ओर मिला लिया। प्रजातन्त्रीय और राजनैतिक नियमों के अनुसार इस प्रकार के राजनैतिक आचरण को निरस्तहित किया जाना चाहिये..." लेकिन उन्हें पद लोलुपता के कारण कांग्रेस में सम्मिलित किया इसलिये कि उन की सरकार बनी रहे।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, पिछले समय से इस सदन के अन्दर अनेकों बार मांग होती आयी है कि प्रजातन्त्र की जड़ों को यदि खोखला करने वाली कोई वस्तु है तो वह दलबदल की राजनीति है। वह

[श्री कृष्णचन्द्र वर्मा]

चाहे उड़ीसा के छन्दर हो, चाहे मणिपुर के छन्दर हो। यहाँ सदन में सदैव मांग की जाती रही है कि सरकार तत्काल दलबदल का विधेयक ला कर इस बीमारी को रोके। लेकिन मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि सरकार का इसमें स्वार्थ है। कुछ प्रान्तों में सरकार दलबदल के आघार पर ही टिकी हुई है। मैं चाहूंगा कि मंत्रीजी इसी सत्र के छन्दर वह विधेयक ला कर पास करायें जिससे दलबदल की बीमारी को रोका जा सके और प्रजातन्त्र की जड़ें मजबूत हो सकें। चुने हुए प्रतिनिधियों का एक कैरेक्टर होना चाहिये, नहीं तो जनता क्षमा नहीं करेगी, और आने वाले समय में प्रजातन्त्र का भविष्य खतरे में है।

मणिपुर में आवागमन के साधनों और उद्योगधंधों की कमी है। वहाँ पर प्रशासनिक दृष्टि से ला ऐंड आर्डर की हालत भी ठीक नहीं है। जैसा अभी कहा गया विधायकों को बन्द करके रखा गया और इस प्रकार विधान सभा के छन्दर पेश किया गया जिस प्रकार अदालत के छन्दर कैदियों को पेश किया जाता है। मान्यवर, हम स्वतंत्र लोकतन्त्र के नागरिक हैं, हमारे लिये यह अच्छी बात नहीं है कि जनता द्वारा चुने हुए विधायकों को बन्द मोटर के छन्दर ले जा कर विधान सभा में खड़ा कर दिया जाये। यह प्रजातन्त्र पर कलंक है। चाहे किसी दल द्वारा किया जाता हो, इसे सहन नहीं किया जा सकता है।

अन्त में एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ, और वह यह कि मणिपुर का चाटे का बजट प्रस्तुत किया गया है, लेकिन मणिपुर के समुचित विकास को ध्यान में रखते हुए, यह देखते हुए कि यह सीमावर्ती प्रान्त है, इसलिए उस को अधिक से अधिक मदद दे कर मणिपुर को जिस भावना के साथ प्रान्त का दर्जा दिया गया था उसको ध्यान में रखते हुए अधिक से अधिक सहायता देनी

चाहिये और वहाँ पर नये उद्योग धंधे खोलने चाहिये और लोगों को रोजगार के साधन उपलब्ध कराने चाहियें।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members who have participated in this debate. I am also conscious of the fact that this is the second time that I have to present the Manipur budget before this hon. House. Coming from another border State, may be more distant than Manipur..

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN: Beyond the borders.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Geographically it is; but politically, it is not.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: May I correct the hon. Member by saying that the borders of India extend to the territory which I represent? So, it is possible for me to understand the various problems which the hon. representatives from Manipur have placed before the House. As you yourself had observed, when the proclamation comes before this House for its approval then the hon. Members will have an opportunity to discuss some of the points that they have already raised in this budget itself. Therefore, it will not be possible for me, and I do not wish to take the time of the House, to go into the circumstances in which the Ministry has had to resign and the President had to take over the governance of the State of Manipur and the powers of the Governor.

The report of the Governor to the President has itself indicated the various factors that were involved in this situation. This is one of the cases in which the hon. Members would agree that there was absolutely no escape as far as the President was concerned, because, as the Governor's report had indicated, in the political circumstances of Manipur and the

fact that as many as 18 MLAs had defected, and they had defected a number of times earlier also, the only way out was to impose President's rule and create the necessary conditions for an election. Hon. Members have stated that the election should be held early. The Government will endeavour to see that as early as possible, consistent with the administrative and other constitutional requirements, the election is held there.

This budget was introduced in the Manipur Assembly on the 5th March. As many as 27 demands were voted by the State Assembly on March 14th when the conditions had deteriorated resulting in political instability. Therefore, this budget is, for all practical purposes, a budget which the Ministry in Manipur itself had prepared and placed before the House. If the political instability was not there, the Assembly would have passed this budget. Therefore, much of the criticism which some of the hon. Members made, particularly, by Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu, has lost its edge. I am referring only to Mr. Bosu's criticism of the budget and not to other points that have been raised because they do not require a very serious reply, and I tried to point out that this budget was presented by the Alimuddin Ministry, a Ministry which the hon. Member has supported.

There are some positive aspects of this budget which I would like to place before the House. There has been a serious drought in Manipur and the production of paddy, the main crop in Manipur, is expected to be lower by about 30 per cent, and the emergency agricultural production programme during the *rabi* season and the shortfall during the *kharif* season also could not succeed and be made up due to the failure of the winter rain. The State Government is concentrating on early paddy campaign and about 5,000 to 10,000 hectares are proposed to be covered. As a result of the drought, the Manipur Government needed Central

assistance through some relief. A Central team was sent there and the report of the Central team is under study. An interim release of Rs. 40 lakhs has been made, with a view to tide over the difficulties as far as the problem of relief is concerned. This House is aware that Manipur is a backward area and tribals constitute a large percentage of the population. Its economic development is therefore not only the concern of the Manipur Government but also of the entire nation. So the entire State has been selected for 10 per cent outright grant for new industrial units as also for concessional finance from all-India financial institutions. A composite MFAL/SPDA scheme has been started in Manipur and covers five of its 26 blocks; four of these are in the hill areas. As part of the Fourth Plan, various schemes for the welfare of backward and Scheduled Castes been taken up.

The Fourth Plan of Manipur was initially of the order of Rs. 30.25 crores; another Rs. 4 crores was further added. For 1973-74 the size of the State plan has been fixed at Rs. 8.91 crores of which Central assistance will be Rs. 8.51 crores.

There are other Central sector schemes such as the Loktak hydro-electric project and the road from Churchandpur to Tipaimukh near Mizoram and the Area development programme involving an outlay of 28 lakhs in the coming year. The Loktak Hydro-electric project involves an outlay of Rs. 22 crores and the road project mentioned involves equally large amounts.

Shri Indrajit Gupta raised some points about the Assam Rifles. I am informed that this matter is being discussed with the Home Ministry because that comes under the Home Ministry. As for industries, a provision of Rs. 56 lakhs had been made in the 1973-74 budget. As for the development of Tasar culture, the financing aspect is under discussion between the IDBI and the State Gov-

(Shri K. R. Ganesh)
ernment Planning Commission. It is contemplated to have a body in the corporate sector,—the details are being worked and a token provision has been made in 1973-74 budget for State's equity participation in this corporation.

Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu raised the question of police expenditure. The House knows that it is a border State and a vulnerable State and its policing is the responsibility of not only the Manipur Government but also of the entire country. Shri Tombi Singh raised the point about industries. About the spinning mills, I may say that it is a 25,000 spindle spinning mill and the construction of quarters has started and the National Industrial Development Corporation has been retained as consultants and Rs. 31 lakhs are provided for the mill in 1973-74.

As I said earlier, this budget was prepared by the former State Government itself and we hope a situation will once again have a popular Government.

Before I finish I shall refer only to one particular point.

It seems that Shri Viswanathan is disturbed about infiltration. The political parties have grown during the last twenty to twenty-five years. Their history does not reflect the aspirations and the urges of our people. The political parties do not have the tradition that the Congress Party has. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, order. The hon. Member had raised a point and the Minister heard him. You should have the same courtesy to hear him. Anyway he has to reply. Then, what for is this orchestration?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Sir, I was only trying to submit—I am not

referring to the hon. Member—that we belong to a party which is like an ocean, and in this ocean many rivults flow. And this party continues to remain the same party. This has survived all the attacks of a political party like the hon. Members or the attacks that the hon. Members launched. We know how to settle our own problems and we also know how to set our own house in order. We do not need any advice from the hon. Members.

With these words, I commend the budget to the acceptance of the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now I shall put the Demands to the vote of the House.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): But, Sir, I see that there is no quorum. When voting on Demands is taking place there should be quorum.

15 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You should have drawn my attention before. Let the quorum bell be rung.

Now there is quorum.

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President on account, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur, to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1974, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 1 to 44.

The motion was adopted.