

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : If you so direct, we can collect all the information and make a statement tomorrow morning.

श्री रवी राय : नहीं, प्राज। (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : Whatever information is available, you make a statement. All the information may not be available. After all, these are days when we have quick communication.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI : At 6 O'Clock.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Is the adjournment motion admitted ?

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing as admitted. We await the statement of the Home Minister.

16.29 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET—GENERAL DISCUSSION—Contd.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Mr. Salve may continue his speech.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SALVE : Sir, I was in the midst of my speech on the Budget. When the murder of democracy and constitution was being discussed, it was impossible for me to evoke the same interest in my speech. You would appreciate, who would like to drink *rasam* when Scotch Whisky is available.

Sir, I was making my submission in respect of the levy of wealth tax, under the Wealth Tax Act, on agricultural properties.

I was making a point that to say that the proposed levy would hit the agriculturists or the farmers is an utterly erroneous proposition to make. To describe those people who will be within the purview of the new legislation as farmers or agriculturists is not merely a terminological inexactitude, it is rather the grossest misnomer, because 99 out of 100 assesses who will be hit by the proposed legislation are

not agriculturists by any means or manner but are those who have invested in agricultural properties. There is absolutely no mistake, there is no error, in the Finance Minister taxing these people and bringing them within the purview of the Wealth Tax Act. I can appreciate what Mr. Masani said ; he advocates the Swatantra philosophy and, therefore, he wants to save those investors from taxation ; this is something which I can understand. But what I cannot understand is that those who swear by socialism are opposing this type of measure.

However, I may point out that, of late, it has been seen clearly in Bombay that two sections of the society are showing increasing interest in investing in agricultural properties ; one section is the film artists who own fabulous agricultural properties and are amassing further wealth ; and the second section are the Ministers in the Maharashtra Cabinet, specially those who come from Vjdarbha region. I know that, before they became Ministers, they were briefless lawyers and moved about unknown and unheard of in the District Court of Vidarbha ; they hardly ever did any farming, but after they became Ministers they blossomed into great Krishi Pandits ..

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE (Bombay Central) : This is highly objectionable... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SALVE : Why is he objecting ? He is not a Minister either here or in Maharashtra..... (*Interruption*). Anyway, I can say that they were the most brilliant lawyers but were not patronised unfortunately ; that is to my knowledge. At any rate today some of the finest vineyards, orange orchards and agricultural farms are owned by these Ministers. Is there any justification to exclude these people from the purview of the Wealth Tax Act ? I submit that it would not be fair to exclude these investors in agricultural properties from the purview of taxation merely because they masquerade as agriculturists.

However, I am not willing to minimise the legal difficulty which the legislation is likely to encounter. Entry 86 of the Union List in the Seventh Schedule, which entit-

les legislation over the capital value of the assets, specifically excludes agricultural properties and, therefore, it is a matter which is going to create serious difficulties so far as the legal aspect of the matter is concerned. But I am not a Constitutional pandit and I am not going to opine about it; I would fear to rush where the angels would fear to tread. But, certainly, I have an alternative suggestion to make in this respect and I beg of the Finance Minister to give a very careful and considered thought to my suggestion, for, if my suggestion is accepted, it will achieve the objective and yet avert litigation and it will also silence the critics of the proposed legislation and also meet the requirement which the hon. Minister mentioned at the end of his Budget speech—to leave the genuine agriculturists out of it. My suggestion is that, instead of Wealth Tax being charged on agricultural properties as such, the agricultural properties should be included in the total wealth of an assessee only for purposes of rate and not for purposes of taxation. Further, the rates to be applied to an assessee who has agricultural properties should be prescribed in another schedule. These rates may be a little higher than the rates prescribed presently under the Wealth Tax Act. This will fully comply with the restrictions contained in Entry 86 of the Union List in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution.

The first merit of my proposal is that pure *bona fide* and genuine agriculturists who have agricultural properties exceeding Rs. 1,00,000/- would be left out from the purview of the Wealth Tax Act.

Secondly, while the agricultural properties in law remain untaxed, a higher burden of taxation would still be entailed on the assessee owning agricultural properties as investments and such tax shall be payable out of non-agricultural wealth to which the qualms of socialist conscience of the country should have no objection.

Finally, there will hardly be any valid ground left for constitutional litigation and estrangement of relations between the Centre and the States if my alternative suggestion in place of the proposed levy of wealth tax on agricultural property is accepted.

Next I come to the public sector undertakings. A memorandum has been circu-

lated making a mention of the performance of these undertakings. With great regret, I must submit that the whole memorandum tells a story of monumental inefficiency of the people in authority. So far as the management of these undertakings is concerned, these have been treated like playthings. No less than Rs. 3500 crores are invested in the aggregate in these undertakings and investment in running concerns is Rs. 3200 crores. Someone has called these 'white elephants'. I submit it is a disgrace to elephants to equate them with our public sector undertakings. They are nothing but massive malignant tumours in the body-economic of the country. It is necessary to take immediate steps to give a massive therapy to these undertakings and save the economy from their fatal effects. The bureaucratic overlords who have been deputed to look after these undertakings have had no training or tradition to carry on any business whatsoever.

Out of these undertakings, Hindustan Steel alone has an investment of Rs. 1000 crores. It is a sick child. Encomiums have been paid to it in the memorandum for having exported steel of the value of Rs. 31 crores. But they have not mentioned how much subsidy has been paid to these exports to enable these exports by HSL. If the performance of Hindustan Steel is seen in relation to the performance of other countries which are in the steel world, it would be found that HSL's performance is extremely below the mark. Steel production in 1960 was 341 million tons which rose to an all-time high of 527 million tons in 1968. As against that, we have an installed capacity of 9 million tonnes of steel, but actual production is not more than 6 million tonnes.

So far as exports are concerned, we are paying homage to HSL for exporting steel worth Rs. 31 crores. In fact, exports also rose to an all-time high of 62 million tons in 1967 as against 14 million tons in 1937. In 1950, Japan exported half a million tons and today exports 13 million tons. We are exporting half a million tons—which is as much as what Japan exported in 1950. This is a most lamentable performance.

Also going through the memorandum, I find rather puerile and childish explanations for the failure of our public sector units. I will only quote two contradictory

[Shri Narendra Kumar Salve]

statements which I am unable to understand in the context of the poor performance by these undertakings in terms of what has been said in the memorandum. In page 1, para 1, it is stated :

"Out of this, investment in the 55 running concerns (including Hindustan Steel Ltd.) accounts for nearly Rs. 3,200 crores".

In para 2, it is stated :

"Owing to lack of sufficient demand accentuated by the recent recessionary trend in the economy, the capacities which have been built up in these enterprises remain unutilised to an appreciable extent".

Then in para 4 :

"Most of the running concerns are also in the process of implementing substantial expansion schemes".

My submission is that we should not start a new process of construction. When we start from the top and then go to the bottom, we reach the bottom sooner than is good for us.

A word about the fancy sort of collaboration which Hindustan Steels want to have. We are told that the Central Engineering and Design Bureau, one of the departments of Hindustan Steel which is supposed to develop proper capacities for engineering construction and designing, a very laudable objective, is going for collaboration with the Russians. I have no objection to collaboration with the Russians, or with any one else for that matter, as long as that is going to help the country, and provided such facilities are not available in the country, but no assessment has been made by the Steel Ministry in this respect. When a question is specifically asked if they have made an assessment of the available talent and capacity in the country before going in for this expensive collaboration, there is complete silence. The Finance Minister should clarify this point on the floor of the House clearly and categorically, whether the cost of the Russian collaboration is or is not fantastically high, whether there is or there is not Indian capacity already in existence which can give the necessary expertise in designing and engineering construction in India.

I am told that the Soviet collaborators have, *inter alia*, asked for a fee of nearly Rs. 50 lakhs only for the instruction book, a book which deals with only how to prepare feasibility reports, project reports, design assignments, techno-economic surveys and marked analysis, which I am told in their entirety can be done here.

The next point is regarding the proposed Taxation Laws Amendment Bill which the Finance Minister intends bringing later in this very session. Our tax laws, you are aware, are actually growing under an endless stockpile of amendments. In six years from 1962 to 1968 there have been more amendments, about 600 amendments, than there were in the 40 years preceding that. I submit that to a student of taxation, these evanescent amendments, these flitting shadows, these ill-conceived and half-baked insertions, omissions and deletions constitute the very travesty of public justice because I suggest that sometimes or other we have to give a modicum of stability to our tax laws so that we enable them to have a healthy growth, and for that purpose it is my most respectful suggestion to the Finance Minister that if he wants to bring a Bill to amend all the tax laws, let him by all means do so, but then let such a Bill be not brought in a hurry, let there be a comprehensive survey of the entire position as it is today in respect of the various tax laws, let him once for all bring a comprehensive tax law making all the amendments that he wants to make. Thereafter he should make an announcement that for a duration of the next three years he is not going to make any changes in the substantive law. Unless this is done, unless we ourselves show respect for these laws, it is impossible to expect that others are going to show the same for us.

About indirect taxes I have only one respectful suggestion to make for the consideration of the Finance Minister. Fertiliser is used even by the smallest farmer and this levy of indirect duty on fertiliser is going to hit efficient productivity of food.

Before I end, I must express my very great dissatisfaction about the obsolete, out-dated and inadequate apparatus of the government for budgeting process. There is complete absence of modern and scientific norms and methods of collecting data,

making analyses and applying proper budgeting norms to determine whether or not rates and levies of taxation are the best, the best at which the ex-chequer garners the maximum golden grain. The dynamic and revolutionary trends of fiscal philosophies seen in countries achieving unparalleled growth of economic prosperity are completely absent in our country. The theory of enlarged levies and taxes for larger collection of revenues has been despatched to the limbo of exploded myths, in the countries which have achieved unparalleled growth of economy. There they concentrate on enlarging the very source of revenue so that the revenue flowing into the ex-chequer by way of taxes and levies increases, but such a bold experiment will never be possible until we have an absolutely modern and well-equipped budgeting system. The compelling urge of the hour is a dynamic investment and fiscal philosophy which will not merely erase the bruises of recession but shall cure for ever the wounds caused by the past errors of policy and errors of judgment. Unless we do this, I submit that our pace of economic growth is likely to hasten but slowly. Otherwise, we shall not in our life time be able to see the signs of redemption of our people from the wrath of poverty, illiteracy and misfortune.

16.45 hours.

[Shri R. D. Bhandare *in the Chair*]

DR. KARNI SINGH (Bikaner) : Every year the Budget is introduced and it produces groans from all over the country from different sections of the community. The hon. Finance Minister has proved to be a very great Finance Minister and I have great respect for him. I would, however, like very much to see that at least one year he presents a balanced budget without any additional taxes. We all know that crores of rupees are wasted both at the Centre and in the States every year and the Rs. 170 crores gap which he has tried to bridge by additional taxation could easily have been saved by plugging loopholes in expenditure by the Centre and the States.

Tax on agricultural land has evoked a great deal of comment and I very respectfully submit to my hon. friend Mr. Morarji

Desai that the Centre is no longer strong enough to push any kind of legislation they like through, unless they have the support of the States and I feel that he and his Government would be well-advised in the years to come to get used to the idea of consulting the States before any such legislation is brought in here.

Talking about the agricultural wealth tax, I realise perfectly well that the Finance Minister had brought in this measure because there are perhaps some businessmen who had gone into agriculture perhaps to make their black money white, and I understand that the attempt is to plug that loophole. But those businessmen have brilliant lawyers and they will get away with it. Right now I am sure their lawyers are working on it and I can assure the hon. Finance Minister that the big businessmen will never be touched. It will be the average farmer who will be punished. Therefore, I suggest to him that this tax should not be imposed at this juncture.

Another question which may not be directly under him is the question of land and property tax being raised in Delhi. Properties which were taxed at Rs. 1500 a year—tax on them had been enhanced right away to Rs. 15,000 a year,—that is ten times. I am as much a socialist as the next man—and in fact I may even say that in some ways I even feel that communism may be the answer to our ever-increasing problems and save our country from the destruction that we are heading for. However the point is that if you profess socialism, let us have a socialism in which a citizen can survive. If you profess communism, let us go all the way. There is no use in these half-hearted measures. Therefore, the Deputy Prime Minister should see that the authorities concerned are reasonable with this taxation in Delhi State.

There is then the big problem about the dearness allowance to be paid to ex-army personnel. Those men who have fought for our country—many of them gave their lives and they even today do not get any dearness allowance on their pensions and have to live on their meagre pensions when the living standards are going up. The land allotment that was promised to the ex-army personnel has a proviso that it will be given only to those who are either maimed or injured or killed in battle. I feel that

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the brave men who fought for our country deserve to be given a better deal. The same applies to the land being allotted in the new colonies all over the country to ex-servicemen. I appeal to the Finance Minister to use his influence to see that these people get certain types of priorities in housing.

Mr. Chairman, one of the biggest matters of concerns to Independent Members like me has been the straining in the Centre State relations. These relations have been strained mostly after the last general elections, when our great magician, Mr. Chavan, tried to come in the way of the democratic functioning in the Opposition-run States. And I can say it with a little bit of hurt, because the State I represent, Rajasthan, was badly and unfairly treated in this direction. But I would like to salute my brothers from West Bengal who have vindicated democracy, and have avenged the wrong done to their State. I do not say that I can support the particular way of thinking or the way the West Bengal Government has functioned before or will function now; that we shall have to see. But the fact remains that the Centre has been taught a good lesson, the Congress party has been taught a lesson they won't easily forget. That the Centre cannot meddle in the affairs of democratically-elected governments, be they communists, socialists, Jan Sangh or any other parties. You know, Sir, that grave injustice was also done to Bengal. The same happened to Haryana. And worse than that happened to Rajasthan.

We know perfectly well that when the election took place in Rajasthan in 1967, the Opposition claimed that they had a majority in the Assembly. As an Independent Member of Parliament, I do not mind whether the Congress had the majority or the Opposition had the majority. But it was the business of the Governor to have called one of the two leaders, either of the two parties, the Congress or the United Front, and asked him to form the government. But instead of that, a bare 12 hours before the trial of strength was to take place in the State Assembly, they clamped down President's rule. And many of us, Members of Parliament, and I am sure other leaders all over the country,

met the Home Minister and asked him to remove the President's rule. He waited for enough time to give the Congress party time enough to win over defectors and thereby helping the cause of defections. When enough people had defected to the Congress side, they removed the President's rule. Now, the joke is that when the Congress party came to power in Rajasthan through defections, through horse-trading Mr. Chavan calls a meeting of all members of the Opposition and the Congress in both Houses of Parliament to try and prevent defections. (*Interruption*).

We know what is happening in Uttar Pradesh. The Congress would welcome defections. In a situation like this, it makes us think that "सौ सौ बूहे मारकर बिल्ली हज़ को चली" metaphor is applicable here. It is an extraordinary situation that has developed. On the one side the Congress decries the defections and on the other side they encourage defections. Surely, from the Home Ministry and the Government of India, we could at least expect something better.

What is going to come out of the worsening Centre-State relation? What has happened in Rajasthan or in West Bengal? Nothing but bitterness. You saw what happened this morning when the Adjournment Motion was moved about West Bengal. All this has come as a result of meddling by the Centre in the affairs of States where democratically-elected governments were functioning. Exactly the same thing will happen in Rajasthan. I am quite sure that in the 1972 elections, when they come about, this spirit of revenge in the Opposition—after all we are also human beings—will come to the fore, and will sweep aside the Congress organisation in Rajasthan. I am not opposed to the Congress. I had great respect for the Congress party in the past, because the Congress fought for our Independence and produced a Gandhi and Nehru. But I will never support any party that comes and strangulates democracy, and therefore I hope the Centre has really learnt a good lesson from West Bengal. I sincerely hope whichever party is going to rule the country, probably the Congress today and probably the communists tomorrow, will

follow the healthy democratic principles, and establish conventions whereby the Centre and the States can learn to live together.

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam) : The communists can never do that.

DR. KARNI SINGH : May be somebody else. Now, Sir I have always believed that in our country there would be three groups of political thought : the Congress the democratic opposition, which means the democratic socialist groups together, and the Communists. The democratic socialist opposition groups can never unite as we have seen in the last 20 years. Therefore, the choice before the country will be the Congress or the communists. If you seriously believe—and this is a fact—that an opposition government constituted by the democratic, socialist forces must come to power as an alternative to the Congress, the time is now for the Opposition to unite. If they do not, then do not blame the country for going either Congress or communist. And the choice is obvious.

I would briefly now refer to the Shiv Sena activities in Bombay recently. This has disturbed many serious-minded people, to think how law and order can be taken in the hands of a few anti-social elements. The police forces have also been blamed for sitting idle when Bombay burnt. It reminds me of Nero fiddling when Rome was burning. The same can be said about the Bombay police. They watched on while Bombay burnt. I was told by responsible people of cosmopolitan thought in Bombay city that the Centre must insist that police forces in metropolitan cities which are cosmopolitan should be recruited from all over the country. I know in Bombay city, people from the south often find it difficult to stay. If there were an adequate number of policemen who came from the north, south, east and west, life and property in big cities could be protected. I strongly recommend that not only Bombay, but Calcutta, Madras, Bangalore, Delhi and other large cities should also have police recruited from different parts of the country, so that people from all over the country would be protected.

I have been very intimately associated with sports activities in our country. I

have had the honour of representing my country in international contests nine times. I feel that one single man who made possible the success we achieved in shooting sport is the Deputy Prime Minister sitting there. This is an absolute fact. I know I would never have been able to achieve the results without his help. He was the one man in the Government who appreciated that sportsmen had to be given a helping hand if we were to keep up with the keen international competition.

I had the opportunity of watching a few of our hockey matches in Mexico. A great issue has been made of our hockey debacle in Mexico. I am sure many members in this House who are sportsmen will feel that to attach national prestige to sports is wrong. I have no love for Pakistan, other than the fact that they are our neighbours. But as a sportsman, I can say that Pakistan fielded a better hockey side than we did in Mexico. In fact, very few people in the Indian Olympic contingent were surprised when Pakistan won. They won because they had a better side. The question now is, India must also produce a better side.

Let us be quite clear in our minds that all your probes by experts who know jolly little about sports will be able to achieve virtually nothing except dampen the spirits of our sportsmen. If you want to build sports, you have to invite active sportsmen who have played sports in the fields to help and advise. Only they can effectively help you. It makes me laugh when I think of one of the ministers who started giving me a lecture on clay pigeon shooting. I had to listen with great admiration and respect, but after a little while, I realised that he was talking about something he had never seen! If the fate of India's future sportsmen hangs in the hands of such people, I can forecast that at the Munich Olympic games in 1972, we will lose every single sport including hockey. The rest of the world is not waiting for us. We have got the toughest countries to fight within every sport and nobody will let India get back the hockey crown without a grim fight for which they are preparing from now. If we want to gain back our gold medals in hockey, we have to work for it from now. If you feel India is a poor country and there is no prestige attached to sports, it does not matter if we lose.

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Let us then forget about gold medals and enjoy our sports but then why all these probes? If you feel that prestige is attached to sports and hockey in particular, then give your sportsmen an equal opportunity to train with the Sputnik countries. I know that people are coming for the shooting sport in India, but there are no proper match cartridges and no competition guns available in India. And, you order us, please bring back the gold medals from Russia and America! It is like pacing your Thumba rocket against the Apollo-9! There is absolutely no comparison. If we are a poor country, let us be happy with poor standards. But then don't eat out the hearts of our poor sportsmen who are trying to sweat it out on the field and are doing their best with meagre training facilities in our country.

If we continue to make hockey a prestige battle, you will lose it. Here I would make an appeal to the press also. I think one of the biggest reasons why we lost in hockey at Mexico this time is because of the pressurisation of the sportsmen by the government and the press. They made a national issue of it. I can tell you as a man connected with sports that when pressure builds up like that, your knees feel like jelly, no matter how good sportsman you are. The best thing is to adopt the motto of the British, Russians and Americans "you cannot do better than your best; so do your best and best of luck." If we adopt that attitude in sports, we have a better chance of winning.

17.00 hrs.

So far as the question of this hockey probe is concerned, I would like to say that the Hockey Federation should be included in this probe if you want to get any really worthwhile results. Also on the probe committee should be men who serve the Mexico games.

When we were in Mexico we saw a very large contingent of dancers from India, known as the "cultural delegation." Now, many sportsmen were not sent for one reason or another as some were not considered good enough. But a 28-member cultural delegation, more than the active sportsmen's contingent, went to Mexico

City. We sportsmen are not opposed to such cultural delegations going to foreign countries. But the Olympics is primarily a sports event. If the government was prepared to spend money and foreign exchange on a cultural delegation, they could have done it a year later. But, surely, this year sports should have got a higher priority. I would appeal to the hon. Deputy Prime Minister that in future whenever there is a sports meet, sports should get higher priority and whenever there is a cultural meet, the cultural delegation should have a higher priority.

Now, take the discrimination shown to sportsmen as regards aeroplane tickets to Mexico. Only the Hockey Federation received two-way tickets. All the other sportsmen went by paying one-way from their own pockets. Now, if any sportsmen leaving the shores of India feel that they are only half as good as other sportsmen, you are thwarting all their enthusiasm. Incidentally the cultural delegation were paid both ways air fare, I believe.

Today two girls, Rajyashree aged 15 and Bhuvanesh Kumari aged 23 have equalled the third position in the world in our shooting championship in Bhopal. What is the government going to do to train these children to come up? They may be anybody's children, rich or poor, but they are the national youth and national wealth. A man who could come up in sports today has to be basically a freak. It is not just anybody who can go and get a medal in a world contest. World championship or the Olympics are virtually becoming highly professionalised although they may go in the name of amateurism. To compete with men trained like machine you will have to pick up boys and girls under 20 from today and train them. How long for example can a man like me last in shooting? You must plan for Munich from today. I am sure the Deputy Prime Minister will pay attention to this because he is sympathetic to sports and the problems of our youth.

I shall conclude by saying a few words about the famine conditions in our State of Rajasthan. I am very grateful to the Government of India, and also the neighbouring States of Punjab, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh for all the help that they

gave us in our grave need. However, in the matter of wages, what is paid to the famine labour is not for a whole month. Sometimes it is only for two weeks. Since these poor people are starving, they have to be paid their full wages in time.

I have drawn attention of the authorities to the difficulties faced by people on famine camps and I am glad that most of these problems have been rectified. But I do feel that the insistence by the government that every man or woman working on famine camps, emaciated though they are, should do a full one-man's work daily, that condition should go. Today they have to do full work to get a wage of Rs. 1.50 per day. Many people are old and they cannot work. Many women are close to labour. In such a situation to expect that one should do a full-man's job on an empty or half-empty stomach is not fair. There are also men who are above 50 years. I hope government will give consideration to this aspect.

The other point is about residual labour. Now if in a village there are 1,000 potential employable labour, only 50 per cent of them are given employment for some reason or another. The other 50 per cent have no employment until such time as new works are taken up. Government will have to provide specially for these men as long as they remain unemployed.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA (Barh): Mr. Chairman, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to say a few words on the Budget. I do appreciate the difficulties of any Finance Minister in the month of February. The day the present Finance Minister was reading his Budget speech I was thinking that there was nothing to envy the Finance Minister: actually, we all must have sympathy for him. He was doing a good job of what he had to do. He had come to the conclusion that the Indian economy had become so inelastic that he could indulge only in the ribbling of the resources.

We do realise that we have to have a plan. These few years when the plan had not been in existence, we had seen disparities growing in this country, and employment opportunities for the young diminishing. The various features in the political

life of the country are due to the economic stresses and strains which this country has faced in the last two or three years. Therefore I feel that the Finance Minister was really, as somebody put it, breeding lilacs in dead land, so to say; in his Budget speech there was no rosy picture of new economic horizons. The picture was that of a Finance Minister who was trying to give some blood transfusion to an anaemic patient who will have to live in convalescence for a long time. Therefore I do not really envy the job of the Finance Minister today; he really needs a lot of compassion and sympathy.

All the same, how can we deny that there are certain ifs and buts in the Budget? I would come to those points later on, but before I come to those points, I would certainly commend some of the basic achievements that he has been able to make in the Indian economy. The first and foremost achievement of the last year's Budget, which this Budget has also seen to, is stability in the price line. He had promised stability in the price line and most of the Members on the other side of the House had doubted it; they had rather been taunting him when they said that in spite of his pious wishes he would not be able to maintain a stable priceline. You know, Sir, how important stability of the priceline had become for the Indian economy, considering the way inflation was galloping and the Indian economy could not find breathing time. The Finance Minister gave a little stability and consistency to the Indian economy. He has again brought a kind of sense of stability in the Indian economy which I think, will be the basic phase of the post-Budget period. As Shri Salve pointed out, the buoyancy in the capital market shows that the capital market and the Indian economy have accepted his Budget proposals in that sense. It is a fact and it has been a big achievement for the Finance Minister that last year prices declined by 1 per cent. Prices had gone up by 40 per cent between 1965 and January, 1968 and the declined of 1 per cent has been a terrific achievement of the Finance Minister. I do know that it is impossible for any Finance Minister—and this country also should not pine for it—to achieve a reduction in the priceline very much because a considerable reduction in the price ratio would create imbalances in the eco-

[Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha]

nomy which nobody would be able to check. Therefore a little reduction in the priceline was a magnificent achievement of the Finance Minister. He has done it and has shown to the country that he can achieve something in a very, very difficult situation.

But I would also like to mention that even though the priceline has come down by 1 per cent and has achieved stability, even today when I am speaking in this House I do realise that the prices are high, as much as by 37 per cent, compared to what they were in 1965. I do not propound the theory that they will come down considerably. What we should achieve is the stability of the priceline and then give a boost up to the economy so that more income is generated and that is absorbed in a particular stable priceline.

Talking about the food production, everybody is talking about the Green Revolution. Even the Finance Minister in his Budget speech has mentioned this very attractive word, the Green Revolution.

A lot of fashionable people have started talking about green revolution which they have not seen but only heard. Most of the people who talk about green revolution only talk from their files and statistics sitting in cities like Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay. That is the plight of agriculturists. I would have wished if those people who talk about green revolution in agriculture should have gone in the villages and then come to the conclusion after looking to the conditions of the peasants.

Sir, we are talking about as if we have achieved something wonderful on the food front. On the food front also—the figures may be quite high today—compared to the earlier figures, what have we achieved? What are the achievements in the agricultural sector of our economy? I would like to give some figures. In 1964-65, the production was 89 million tonnes; in 1965-66, it came down to 72 million tonnes, in 1966-67, it came up a little to 76 million tonnes and in 1967-68, it came up to 95 million tonnes, that is, 6 million tonnes increase from the year 1964-65. Is this the revolution? Does it look like a green revolution which every newspaper is singing about, which every fashionable economist, every fashionable society member,

is talking about? Even with the Finance Minister's Budget and stability of the price line, today, in 1968-69, the figure of production is 98 million tonnes and, in 1970-71, we might achieve, if everything goes right, if the economists go right, if the rain-gods are kind, if everything happens according to schedule, the production figure of 102 million tonnes. That is the achievement of our green revolution. What we are talking about green revolution is something which is a misnomer. Even the increase of production is not that much which can allow you to think that agriculture has really started becoming a paying proposition. It might have paid to those who have been very resourceful people, whether they are businessmen or factory-owners or big entrepreneurs or big farmers or big land-holders. The Finance Minister knows that they are very resourceful people and that they would create something out of sand that you give them in their hands.

I am reminded of a story of Akbar and Birbal. Once Akbar asked Birbal, "Who is the most intelligent person in my kingdom?" Birbal brought a gentleman to the *darbar*. He asked that gentleman, "You go with these *laddoos*. You see that not even one *laddoo* is broken. Otherwise, you will be beheaded. You come back after a month. You will not be given anything, no wages, nothing of the sort. You will have to come here and appear before the Majesty after one month." That gentleman came back after a month. He was quite healthy. He did not look like as if he had starved for a month because he was not getting anything. Somebody asked him, "What is the secret of your health? You look quite healthy." He replied, "What can I do? You denied me the wages: you denied me everything. Therefore, I asked my servant, 'Look here' these *laddoos* have been counted and the king has ordered that they must remain intact. If ants go inside the *laddoos* they might eat the inside of the *laddoos* and the *laddoos* will break and they will get reduced in number. So, you pick up all the *laddoos* and put them at different places everyday.' That way, with whatever could be available, the small portions of the *laddoos*, by picking them and putting them at different places everyday, I used to fill my stomach."

Now, that is exactly what has happened. The people who are talking in the name of green revolution, the people who are saying so many things about agriculture, are the people who are exploiting agriculturists. I would request the Finance Minister to stop the exploitation of agriculturists. Those who exploit belong to a very distinct class of people. Somebody has said that society is composed of two classes, those who have more dinners than appetite and those who have more appetite than dinners. Now, these people have more dinners than appetite. I would like the Finance Minister to curb their appetite as well as their dinners. They may have a little appetite but they always get more dinners.

I would like the Finance Minister not to go in for the mere exemption of genuine agriculturists who might be harassed in the present situation. Of course, he has assured us that genuine agriculturists will not come in. But this is a system which will create a lot of harassment to the agriculturists. Therefore, I would request the Finance Minister to protect the agricultural population from this exploiting class which has come to be called *bara Sahib*.

All retired ICS officials, the Chairmen and Managing Directors in public sectors, the Birlas and so on are all going for agriculture. Please keep them away from agriculture: they will demolish the rural classes.

I would like to give some figures. This is a cutting from the *Indian Express*, a reliable paper and not one of the yellow journals. I do not know which is the authority of the paper, but the despatch given by a special correspondent reads thus:

"According to an authoritative survey 85 per cent of India's rural population spent less than one rupee a day in 1967-68..."

He further goes and says:

"... In 1967-68, India's 'projected' population was 51 crores, about 10 crores in the urban areas add 41 crores in the rural areas..."

These 41 crores of the population are the suffering population. I am not giving my own figures. I would like to quote the figures given by the Planning Commission, the Programme Evaluation Committee's report. This is quite contradictory to all

fashionable talks of 'green revolution'. The Programme Evaluation Committee has taken the period covering from 1951 to 1965, and their study has revealed that the average size holding of the rural areas has diminished considerably. On the one hand, the average size holding of the rural areas has diminished, but, on the other hand, the landless who have been given land like Harijans, have not been given inputs, with the result that they are compelled to sell their lands to big people like Tatas and Birlas. All the vineyard and grapeyards which are flourishing in Hyderabad are owned by big industrialists. I was in Hyderabad during the Congress Session and I could know that. Most of these orchards are owned by them: they all bought the land very cheaply from most of the people who were landless and were given land by Government; the landless people gave them the land because they were doing nothing on that land and, therefore, it was better for them to dispose of that land and get some money to maintain themselves. Why were inputs not given for these landless people, these Harijans, the people who are downtrodden? We are talking of agricultural reforms. We are talking of Bataidari. When in Bihar the Bataidari Bill came—it was a very noble intention—the landowners snatched the land away from the people who had no land, with the result that for two or three days there was no food in their houses and most of the people started thinking in terms of going to the city. I am glad that Mr. Vajpayee and his Party restrained that Bill because they realised the plight of those people who had no land. For the owners, it did not matter if they cultivated ten *bigas*. But if those landless people were denied their employment and their resourcefulness, the result would have been that most of them would have come to cities. Whatever we do, whatever may be our intentions, the thing is that we have to be very very practical and cautious in our programme.

I can tell you a very very tragic thing which has happened. Government decided that nobody can buy land from the landless people, mostly the Harijans. But do you know what has happened? They need money and so, they go to a big man, a *baniya* or a village merchant or a village landholder and ask him to buy the land because they need money.

[Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha]

But then the big man says that Government has farmed a rule that he cannot buy the farmer's land, he has to go to the Block Development Officer, get this permission and so on. So, the big man suggests, if the price of the land is Rs. 2,000, then he will give him Rs. 1,900 because he has to spend the balance of Rs. 100 on giving bribery to B.D.O. and for going here and there. Ultimately, the poor landless person gets only Rs. 1,900 and government laws do not become applicable. Therefore, I would like the Finance Minister to consider this aspect. Howsoever pious the wishes may be, if they do not get implemented effectively, it will create more chaos and in a decentralised society that we have in the rural areas, it will be very difficult for you to implement the reforms or regulations that you want to propose.

Let these people who talk about a green revolution spend a year in the villages. I would give them the place. Let these big people, economists and others who advise the Finance Minister, and the Secretaries and Joint Secretaries, go and spend a year in the rural areas and then talk about these things.

I would also quote here a very famous philosopher, Thoreau. I would appeal to the Finance Minister to listen to the advice of Thoreau meant for persons like him and me. He said :

"A man who goes alone can start today, but he who travels with another must wait till that other is ready."

Please prepare the rural areas, prepare their mood, prepare their psychology. Let them live well. They have been living with a very high ratio of rural indebtedness. Allow them a breathing time. You allow the industrialists tax-holidays. Can I not demand a moratorium for the agriculturists? Give us a tax holiday and when we have readily built up, sound health, surely you have every right to ask from us something for economic development, because development is taking place for us.

If you kill agriculture, please ponder over the consequences. As I said, earlier, in agriculture actually there is no green revolution. Actually the increase in production from 1964 is only 11 million tonnes.

According to Dr. Parapias's report, 11 million tonnes of foodgrains are eaten up by insects, rats and other creatures. So 11 million tonnes go. Therefore, today agricultural development has not taken place so well as we assume and presume.

I would like to advise the Finance Minister that he has been misguided by these experts who have advised him on the last three Plans. In the Second Five Year Plan, everybody was saying that industrial development has come up and the target had been achieved beyond expectation. We had 151 per cent growth. But they did not realise that other sectors had to come up proportionately. Fulfilment of the target in industrial development and its sky-rocketing would leave a big vacuum between that sector and the other sectors. Even today, when the consumer industries have done so well, even today in some of the sectors you have a situation where 60-70 per cent of the industries are working with unutilised capacities; they are not working to full capacities. Do you realise the investment involved in industry and agriculture? Do you realise when capacity remains under—or un-utilised, how much wastage there is in the economy? We have been talking of economy. But this talk must be in a concerted manner. Economy also lies in utilising capacities to the full.

The Finance Minister says that the public sector was supposed to contribute Rs. 126 crores per year. Where are these Rs. 126 crores? Get Rs. 50 crores from them and give relief to the needy classes. Goad them. If the Finance Minister can goad them, he can certainly make them work better. Do not allow the public sector to work under the charge of deputy secretaries, who sit and boss over these public sector concerns. Let the managing director, the manager, and the chairman of these public sector undertakings be the persons who can guide the destinies of these undertakings. Get into touch with them directly. Let the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Ministers make them feel that what they are doing is the dignified way of achieving some results.

Talking about industrial production, it is a fact that it is higher by 6 per cent in

1968-69. It is expected to go higher by 7½ per cent in 1969-70. But have you compared it with the export performance? According to Shri Manubhai Shah, ex-Commerce and Industry Minister—I am quoting him because he is supposed to be an authority and he has worked in Government for a number of years—there has been a steep decline in the value of India's exports in terms of foreign currencies after devaluation.

And our exports are recovering just above the pre-devaluation level by annually about Rs. 63 crores when the year 1968-69 is expected to touch an over-all export of Rs. 1,350 crores.

It is a fact that exports have risen, but while there has been a 100 per cent increase in world exports, our achievement just touches the fringe. Even if devaluation had not taken place, probably the exports would have risen to the extent that has taken place now. There is no very rosy picture of exports, and something must be done to increase exports, and I commend the Finance Minister for introducing an export-oriented budget.

The more important achievement to my mind is that imports have been lowered by Rs. 1,10 crores, to Rs. 1,840, as pointed out by the Economic Survey. It is because of the little green revolution which has taken place because of the co-operation of the people in the agricultural sector that the import bill has come down. So, if we can reduce food imports, you can imagine how much foreign exchange we can save. All your problems of economic stagnation, increase, import substitution etc., can be met considerably if we reduce the food import to them inimum. Do not import a single food-grain, and see how your economy bounces in health.

I am quite conscious of the growing debt repayment obligation of our country. (Interruptions) These people do not realise because they have been living at the mercy of other people. I do not know whether they have felt the pinch of being in great debt, but the Government of India cannot ignore this problem. On the one hand, the European and American market is not very favourable for raising loans. Grants are not going to come also very much, because the mood of the European coun-

tries is different. The Americans are also in a different mood, and therefore the debt obligation in 1969-70 is going to be Rs. 544 crores, and in 1970-71 Rs. 627 crores. This is the picture of our growing debt, and therefore the Finance Minister has to plug all the loopholes whereby we can reduce our foreign exchange burden, either by earning more or reducing our imports.

17 28 hrs.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

A word about regional disparities. We are having so many movements. In Tamil Nadu there is agitation against Hindi, but actually it is not against Hindi, they are not Hindi-haters. The agitation is because of economic disparities, the suspicion that employment opportunities may be denied. It is a kind of nerves or jitters that we find in the country. How can we fight it? Today 40 to 60 thousand engineers are unemployed. I was talking to the General Manager of the Bank of Baroda, and he told me that for the vacancy of a clerk 3,000 engineers had applied. Many engineering colleges are not getting full admissions, because everybody thinks there is no use studying engineering and spending so much money on it. Therefore, the regional disparities have to be checked.

I wish Government consult their own records. The Planning Commission have a very valuable encyclopaedia, from which you can get all the information you want. According to the Planning Commission's Programme Evaluation for 1951-1965 there is a continuance of wide inter-State and intra-State disparities. I therefore submit that there should be a real, serious discussion between the Centre and the States to have a financial devaluation. I agree with some of the States which want better decentralisation of economic priorities. Let them go in for their own economic priorities. If my State of Bihar wants to spend more money on agriculture and irrigation, why should it not be allowed?

SHRI NAMBIAR : In your State there is no Government.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA : We will have a Government over soon, don't worry. Most of these Governments,

[Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha]

whether Congress or Non-Congress, insist that there should be financial decentralisation. The hon. Finance Minister should study the suggestions contained in the Setalvad Report on inter-State relations about financial devolution. It also suggests that more powers should be given to the States in fixing their priorities under an overall Plan that you would give them. He was very much impressed by that report and I hope he would ask his colleagues to sit with him and do something about it. I am reminded of a chariot drawn by four horses. The Prime Minister is very fond of giving as an example, that four horses were pulling in different directions. The Finance Minister also finds his position in the Cabinet just like that. This is what appeared in the newspapers. At least he must tell the Prime Minister that the Cabinet must think like one and act like one. Otherwise what will happen? It can be a dangerous proposition. We must realise that wishes are not policies; nations which have had only wishes have met a dangerous end. Effective action to implement the policies is needed. The Finance Minister should not put up a lonely battle but a concerted battle with all his colleagues on his side. From newspapers, it seems that he is the lonely custodian of the country's economic ills and nobody else.

I have argued enough against tax on pumping sets and fertilisers. I come from the rural area and represent that area in this Parliament and I represent the ryots. They have no Institute of Economic Growth or the statistical Institute of the Government of India and they have no panel of economists at their command. The poor dump population should not go by fault and that is why I say that their sentiments and emotions should find an echo in Parliament. They may not be able to give you figures. That is how the rural India is. Some of us have also doubts about the legal implications of wealth tax on agriculture land and I request him to re-examine the legal implications and reconsider the entire proposition and give us a tax holiday.

One last word about the States. The Finance Minister gave figures in this House about the debt owed to the Centre by the

States; it totals Rs. 5,191 crores. They want to hunt with the hoard and run with the hare...*(Interruptions.)* I do not know how the Centre has kept its solvency with all these dues. Most of the representatives really speak on behalf of the states, including myself...*(Interruptions.)* My State is also a defaulter.

SHRI NAMBIAR : Write it off.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA :

Let us all sit together and devise a way we can also consider whether the entire loan can be written off without creating economic complications. Some of us know and Mr. Limaye knows too, that there is some talk in the Calcutta and Bombay markets, but mostly in Calcutta that the Ministry of Foreign Trade had decided to decontrol a particular type of gunny bag.

At the present moment, the feeling is that this decision has been taken and that will increase the market price of gunny-bags by Rs. 40. Even today, 100 bags are being sold at Rs. 230, and there is no surprise that the price will go up again. I think Mr. Madhu Limaye knows much more about it. But I would like to tell you, "Please see that these jute manufacturers, these monopolists, are not in a position to take advantage of the situation."

I also understand that the Supply Department has been bargaining for a big, large-scale purchasing of these gunny-bags. I do not want to say anything because I have no proof. But let us not have another scandal of a very, very eye-opening nature. I request that this matter should be examined by the Finance Minister, so that he could come to a conclusion whether this kind of de-control should be given or not. I would like to see that no order of de-control is given to this industry. All kinds of complications will arise. There are many things which are being said. I do not want to repeat anything and I do not want to indulge in scandal-mongering. Certain things are being said in the market, that they are cornering goods. That will be a big scandal. I would request the Finance Minister to keep the entire bargain in

check and stop this country and party from another big scandal.

SHRI NAMBIAR : I wish the Home Minister gives us something about West Bengal.

MR. SPEAKER : Kindly sit down. The parties have not given names. Well, Shri Sreekantan Nair.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR (Quilon): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I cannot applaud the budget presented before this House by the Finance Minister. The rosy picture of the finances given in this budget does not bear close scrutiny. The Finance Minister's speech gives a rosy picture of the industrial expansion and agricultural development and says that all aspects of our economy are going up. But, as a matter of fact, as a trade unionist, I know what industrial development there is in this country. In the textile industry in South India alone, about 28 mills have been closed down. Almost all the engineering firms are working with half the load, and I am told that this aids industrial production! I do not know what industry has produced so much as to cover the deficit. Anyhow, the Finance Minister admits that during the last year the financial position of the Government weakened and for that admission we are thankful to him. But the proposals he has made, giving concessions to certain export items, and concessions to certain industries, do not meet the actual requirements. Anyhow, I do not oppose them because they are intended to help the industries to stage a comeback.

What I am worried about is his insistence on getting external assistance through the supply channels. The one item on which he is banking is food aid. As Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha has been saying, if we can stop this food aid and if we refuse to import even a single grain, certainly our economy will be well-established, but unfortunately, the entire attitude and the approach of the Finance Minister seems to be to encourage this food import. He is lamenting over the fact that we have got a very fair crop according to him, which, if it continues in future, would bring down the import level of food-grains. He has based his economy fundamentally on this,

as would be clear from the last paragraph of his speech, where he says :

"On capital account, the position has not shown undue deterioration only because food assistance has been maintained at a high level due to spill-over of imports from this year to next year. As self-reliance in food-grains is achieved, this resource will progressively dwindle..." etc.

So, he is certainly aggrieved at the expansion of our economy on the agricultural front, because he thinks he would not get any huge sums of subsidy under PL 480. I make a specific charge that he has tried to sabotage the industrial growth as well as agricultural growth by cutting at the root of our agricultural economy.

When he imposes a tax on fertilizers, he forgets that the poor peasant uses manure and by increasing the expenditure on production of food-grains, the price of food-grains not only in the open market, but in the controlled market and in ration shops also will go up. Naturally the farmers will raise a hue and cry that he must get back at least the cost of production of the food grains he has surrendered to Government. And, Government will have to pay him that price. When ration shop prices go up, the unemployed people—educated and uneducated—will suffer much more. When the peasant finds that his cost is not met, he will abstain from cultivating on a large scale. There will be a downfall in production and the money that circulates in the country will be less. Therefore, even the industrial boom or spurt, as he calls it, will be nipped in the bud. Therefore, at one stroke this duty on fertilisers will cut at the root of our progress in the agricultural and industrial sectors.

The Finance Minister says that the increase of 40 per cent on imported cars will give an additional status to the owners. That may be so. But he has increased the levies on his pet targets—cigarettes and motor spirit. By this levy on motor spirit, the ordinary man will be affected. He has to travel from place to place by bus, if not by taxi. Even the ordinary labourer sometimes has to travel four or five miles by bus to his place of work. He will have to pay a higher bus fare now. Therefore, it is difficult to accept the contention that what the Finance Minister is

[Shri N. Sreekantan Nair]

doing is to mop off the extra profit of the rich men.

The duty on kerosene has been increased. Every man cannot live under city lights. In all the villages, we cannot hope to have electricity. The villager must have a non-smoking decent lantern, which requires good kerosene. If you give him rotten kerosene, in five minutes, the whole glass will be covered with smoke. No poor child in the village will be able to read, because you are increasing the duty on kerosene. The Finance Minister claims to represent the socialist pattern of society. He says, he is a disciple of Mahatma Gandhi. He even brings forth the name of the Father of the Nation and connects it with this year.

This year the budget proposals try to cut the poor man's throat at every step.

Now I come to the duty on cloth. The Finance Minister has made a general statement that *ad valorem* duties are better than particular duties. We all know that the Finance Minister is very much interested in textiles for parochial reasons. So, when ever any duty is imposed on cloth, it is always per yard of cloth irrespective of the quality or price of the cloth. This differential is introduced to put the textile mills of South India in a disadvantageous position. Whereas in the case of all other commodities the duty is *ad valorem*, on cloth alone it is imposed on finer and printed counts per sq. metre. Why is he going it? So that the Ahmedabad mill owners may gain and the South Indian mill owners may lose. Here I am not talking on behalf of any mill-owners; I am talking on behalf of the workers engaged in mills. Now I would like to read a telegram which I have received from a big textile owner of South India. It reads:

"Budget very disappointing relief given to spinning mills in South totally negligible stop as excise duty on sized yarn consumed by Maharashtra and Gujarat powerlooms was apparently not fully realised Finance Minister has totally abolished it in the guise of relief also to the spinning mills in the South stop therefore suggest interpreting the amount of revenue expected and actually collected last year which

may reveal the true reason for this seeming concession."

This is by Karumuttu Thiagarajan, Chairman, Tamil Nadu Mill-owners Association. Partiality to the big mill-owners of Ahmedabad who manufacture finer counts and higher varieties and discrimination against the poor mill-owners of South India who produce lower counts and coarse cloth has been confirmed by this budget. The only industry in which he is interested in is textiles and here duty has not been imposed *ad valorem*.

Coming to the introduction of wealth-tax, that is one of the few items in the budget proposals which I am inclined to support wholeheartedly. There also there is one snag, and that is the right of the State to raise that revenue in future when it is in difficulties. Suppose the financial position of a State is difficult and it wants to raise resources. Now the Finance Minister has made a very generous offer that the tax collected on this score will be passed on to the State. But will he give an assurance in future also that all the tax collected under this head will be passed on to the States?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI : It will be so for all times to come.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR : If that is made very clear and if all the States are made to accept, there is no difficulty. It should be given statutory validity. Otherwise, a future Finance Minister may say that he will give the States only 50 per cent of the collections. After all, he is not going to be the Finance Minister for all times to come. With that qualification, it is a good suggestion and I am sure all progressive-minded people will certainly support it.

Except this, all the taxation proposals are hitting at the root of development of this country and are intended to go against the people of this country.

Regarding petty leaves thrown out to the States' finances, no State in India, whether ruled by the Congress or by any other party, is satisfied with the portion that is given by the Central Government. If you look at the Budgets of the States,

you will find that a deficit of Rs. 16 crores, Rs. 14 crores, Rs. 12 crores, Rs. 10 crores or Rs. 8 crores is deliberately put down with the hope that it will be covered by the Central Government. If you do not try to cover it up and give sufficient assistance to the States, even the Congress-administered State will go against you, pool their resources, start a common fight and take the matter to the Supreme Court or to the people who are the highest authority in this Country. Therefore you have to find finances for them and for yourself also.

You say that you cannot touch the non-development revenue expenditure. Why can you not do it? When India became free, how many Secretaries did you have? If my recollection is correct, you had eight. Now how many have we? Their number has gone up ten times. And what are they doing? Of course, some of them are very intelligent, honest and harding, working but a vast majority of them are doing nothing. Signing a file in one day is sometimes very difficult for some secretaries, deputy secretaries assistant secretaries and so on. Every Minister wants five or six secretaries under him so that his stature goes up.

And what about the non-gazetted officers? They are claiming that they are workers, that they are the fellows of the workers and should be supported by us. But we are not going to support those who are wasting their time and are doing nothing and who receive bribes. Therefore you should see that only those people are retained who are useful in the administration. Cut out the other posts. I do not want you to retrench a single employee even if he is a high-salaried person. But you should see that these posts are not filled up so that there is no question of imposing hardship on anybody and, at the same time, our overall expenditure on the revenue side comes under some sort of a control.

Then, many things have been said about the public sector. We have invested Rs. 3,500 crores in the public sector and have given it another Rs. 450 crores as loans. We have spent about Rs. 4,000 crores on it. And what do we get? We get every year a loss of Rs. 40 crores or Rs. 50 crores and the Finance Minister

allots some money for the next year and for future years.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member should try to conclude now.

SHRI NAMBIAR : He can continue his speech tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you giving your party's time to him?

SHRI NAMBIAR : We are very much agitated. We do not know what is happening in West Bengal?

MR. SPEAKER : He has taken 20 minutes.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR : The only axe with which he tries to slash down expenditure falls upon developmental expenditure in backward States such as Kerala. We have a minor port in Quilon. Work was going on but the work was stopped in the guise of raising it to the status of a major port; so also many industries. 20,000 workers in the bidi factories have been thrown out of work recently. As has been pointed out by Shri Sreedharan, one lakh workers in the cashew industry are facing unemployment. The coir industry and the handloom industry, traditional industries of my State, are languishing and are almost on the point of extinction. What have you done to revive these industries? You say that there has been an increase in industrial production. But such kinds of platitudes are not going to take this country anywhere. If you do not tackle the problems honestly and sincerely, the people of this country will rise and, as has been said by the Leader of the PSP, there cannot but be a revolution to throw out this Government.

17.55 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thirtieth Report

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS, AND SHIPPING AND
TRANSPORT (SHRI RAGHU-
RAMAIAH) : Sir, I beg to present the
Thirtieth Report of the Business Advisory
Committee.