

matter up through proper channels in good time so that timely consultations are held and it is seen to that these people are not given this kind of raw deal?

Suddenly if it is found that these contemplated measures are aimed at only Commonwealth citizens who are coloured people and do not extend to everybody, I think our Government should be justified in registering a very strong protest about it.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN

Let us not speculate on matters and say anything prematurely about it. At the present moment, my only point is that the whole question is being studied by the British Government, so the question of consultation or our getting information has not arisen yet. At the same time, we did make informal enquiries after the news report appeared, whether they have taken any decision in this matter. They have told us that they have not taken any decision so far. (Interruptions). I cannot rule out and say that they will not take that decision. When we are talking here among ourselves, I should be somewhat clear in regard to this matter. We have seen this trend in 1962 and from that year onwards, in the first Immigration Act to restrict the entry of Indians and since then whenever there was any revision, the revision was stricter and stricter. If a further revision takes place, in what form it will take place, it is difficult to say at the present moment. Therefore, I have in my statement expressed our concern about it, and expressed our strong desire that our people should be treated with dignity and human consideration because they are making their own contribution to the British community life as well.

Naturally they are a sovereign country and they have certainly authority to pass whatever law they want, we should try to get information I do not know whether they will concede the right of consultation to us about

any law. I cannot say that. Certainly we should try to get information and let them know our views in this matter; we will certainly continue to do so. I agree with him that if at all any law is made if there is any distinction between white immigration and black immigration, certainly it will smack of racialism and that certainly is a matter which will need our voice to be raised against. That is all I can say at the present moment.

12.13 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, 1976—contd.

MR. SPEAKER. The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri C. Subramaniam on the 12th May, 1976, namely:—

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1976-77 be taken into consideration"

SHRI SUKDEO PRASAD VERMA:
May now continue his speech.

श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद वर्मा (नवादा) :
प्रध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं दिनांक 12 मई को वित्त विधेयक का समर्थन करने हुए माननीय वित्त मंत्री और उन के सहयोगियों को बधाई दे रहा था, और फिर उसे दोहराते हुए मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि वास्तव में वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने जो बजट इस साल प्रस्तुत किया है यह लोक सभा के इतिहास में प्रथम बजट है जिस के द्वारा तमाम लोगों को खास कर समाज के ऐसे कमजोर वर्ग जिस की चिन्ता प्रधान मंत्री को है, भारत सरकार को है और देश के अन्य लोगों को है कि देश के अन्दर कमजोर वर्गों की बढ़ती हुई संख्या, विषमता की जो खाई है उसे ध्यान में रख कर देश को समृद्धिशीली नहीं बनाया जा सकता है, इस साल के बजट में ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि सरकार खास कर ऐसे वर्गों को ऊंचा उठाने और

[श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद वर्मा]

सामाजिक तथा आर्थिक विषयनाओं को दूर करने के लिये कुल संकल्प है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने न सिर्फ इतना ही किया कि इस बजट को प्रस्तुत किया है, बल्कि विगत साल में तस्कर व्यापारियों पर जो अंकुश लगाया, काले धन को स्वेच्छा से लोगों से बाहर किया, टैक्स चोरी करने वालों पर जो कड़ाई की गई उस की एक बड़ी उपलब्धि है। इस के लिये वित्त मंत्री जी सबभुच में बधाई के पात्र हैं। अब प्रश्न यह है कि जो धन हमारे सामने आया है और भाने वाला है इस धन का सदुपयोग कमजोर वर्ग को ऊपर उठाने के लिये कैसे किया जाये। यह सब से बड़ा सवाल है और इसी प्रश्न को हल करने के लिये जो 1975 की हमारी उपलब्धियां हैं उन को अगर देखा जाये तो प्रधान मंत्री में इस प्रश्न के हल के लिये 20 सूत्री आर्थिक कार्यक्रम देश को दिया और उस के कार्यान्वयन के लिये आपातकालीन स्थिति एक वरदान साबित हुई है। आज इसे कार्यान्वित करने के लिये इस दिशा में हमें क्या कदम उठाना चाहिये? मैं एक निवेदन वित्त मंत्री जी से करना चाहता हूँ कि जिस कमजोर वर्ग को आप मदद देना चाहते हैं, देश के अन्दर 20 सूत्री कार्यक्रम के अन्दर ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में जमीन देने की व्यवस्था कर रहे हैं लेकिन जो जमीन आप के पास उपलब्ध हुई है या होने वाली है और जितनी बड़ी ताबाद इस देश के अन्दर खेतिहर मजदूरों की, भूमिहीनों की, हरिजनों और आदिवासियों की है, इस थोड़ी सी जमीन देने से उन की समस्या का समाधान नहीं हो सकता है और इस के लिये आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि जो आप इन लोगों को जमीन देते हैं तो साथ ही आप उन्हें

आर्थिक मदद भी दीजिये। आप की वर्तमान ऋण प्रणाली ऐसी है कि न तो ऋण संभन पर राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक दे सकते हैं, न सहकारी समितियां दे सकती हैं और न सरकार की और से मिलने वाला ऋण समय पर दे सकते हैं। मैं सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ मुझे स्मरण है कि कुछ साल पहले मैं ने यह सुझाव दिया भी था, किन्तु उस पर विचार हुआ कि नहीं मैं नहीं कह सकता। आज को आज ऋण प्रणाली को कमजोर वर्गों के लिये सुलभ बनाना होगा। आप ने जिस को जमीन दी है, चाहे वह सीमान्त किसान हो, या लघु किसान हो, जमीन का रेकार्ड आज सारे देश के अन्दर राज्य सरकारों के पास आ गया है कि किस व्यक्ति की कितनी जमीन है। तो उन जमीनों का आप मूल्यांकन करें और पास बुक इश्यू करें, और कृषि विभाग या अन्य विभाग इस बात का मूल्यांकन करें कि लघु किसान को, सीमान्त किसान को, या कमजोर वर्ग को जो खेतिहर मजदूर हैं जिन्हें जमीन दे रहे हैं, उन्हें साल में कितने रुपये के ऋण की आवश्यकता होगी। पास बुक इश्यू कर के चाहे सहकारी बैंक के साथ या राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों के साथ उसे लगा दे और सीमा निर्धारित कर दे कि एक साल में इतना २० कर्ज न सकेगा और समय पर भ्रूण ले कर ज़रूरी से अपने आर्थिक विकास के क्षेत्र में, खेती के विकास के क्षेत्र में या और अन्य क्षेत्रों में वह लगा सकते हैं। आज की ऋण की प्रणाली ऐसी है कि ऐप्लीकेशन देने के बाद 6,8 महीने लग जाते हैं लेकिन ऋण नहीं मिलता है। परिणाम यह होता है कि समय पर लोगों को पैसा नहीं मिलता है। और उस पैसे का दुसुपयोग होता है। से बचाना चाहिये। जितनी मेहनत के साथ आप पैसा इकट्ठा कर रहे हैं उस के सदुपयोग के लिये, उसे तेजी से काम में लाने के लिये अगर

आप ऋण प्रणाली को सुलभ नहीं करने को आप कमजोर वर्गों को सही ढंग के मदद नहीं कर पायेंगे। इसलिये मेरा सुझाव है कि जो कमजोर वर्ग हैं, सीमान्त किसान हों, लघु किसान हों, खेतिहर मजदूर हों या धीरे कोई कलाकर हों, जैसे गांव का कुम्हार, लुहार, बगई आदि इन के लिये आप बैंक का दरवाजा आसानी से खोलें और पासबुक की व्यवस्था करें। क्योंकि आप जानते हैं कि अभी तक राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों को दो गारण्टी की जरूरत पड़ती है, जो गरीब लोगों को मिल नहीं पाते हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में वह बेचारे पैसे का उपयोग नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। आज भी सीमान्त किसान के नाम पर ऋण का लाभ कौन उठा रहे हैं? जो भूमिपति हैं जिन्होंने अपने परिवार या बेतामी या अपने रिश्तेदारों के साथ जमीनों का ट्रांसफर कर के 5 एकड़ से कम कर के दिखाया है वही आज इस सुविधा का लाभ उठा रहे हैं। वही सम्पति वाले लाभ उठा रहे हैं जो पहले से उठाते आये हैं और आज भी उठायेंगे। आप को ऐसे लोगों के लिये बैंकों के दरवाजे बन्द करने चाहियें और गरीबों के लिये सुलभ तरीके से रास्ता खोलने का प्रयत्न करें।

इस संबंध में मैं एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ। आप जानते हैं कि मैं बिहार से आता हूँ। अभी मैं औरंगाबाद जिले की एक कमेटी का चैयरमैन हूँ, मैं उस क्षेत्र में गया तो नवी नगर और कुटुम्बा के धाने में चार हजार हथकरवा उद्योग में लगे हुए बुन कर पैसे के अभाव में परेशान हैं और उस के कारण 25 प्रतिशत भी हथकरवा नहीं चल पा रहे हैं। मैंने जा कर जांच की और कलक्टर को भेजा, तो पता लगा कि राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक 8 किलोमीटर से दूर जाने के लिये तैयार नहीं है और क्योंकि नवी नगर और कुटुम्बा,

जहां पर चार हजार हथकरवा उद्योग में बुनकर लगे हुए हैं, वहां से 8 किलोमीटर से दूर है, इसलिये वे लोग इस के शिकार हुए हैं। मैं वित्त मंत्री जो का ध्यान इस ओर आकृष्ट करवा कि वे इस ओर ध्यान दें। इस संबंध में मैं यह भी निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि उस क्षेत्र में स्टेट बैंक आफ इन्डिया की एक ब्रांच है। वे कहते हैं कि नवी नगर में हमारा पे आफिस है लेकिन हम वहां से ऋण नहीं दे सकते हैं। औरंगाबाद डेप्युटि क्वार्टर है और वहां से 8 किलोमीटर से ज्यादा दूर है। इसलिये वे कहते हैं कि हम वहां नहीं जायेंगे। आज वहां पर चार हजार हस्तकरवा उद्योग में लगे बुनकर इस बीमारी के शिकार हो रहे हैं और उन को कोई ऋण नहीं मिल पा रहा है।

बीम मूवी कार्यक्रम के अन्दर हम ने तय किया है, प्रधान मंत्री जो ने तय किया है कि वे हस्तकरवा उद्योग को पुनर्जीवित करेगी और उस उद्योग में लगे हुए व्यक्तियों को आगे बढ़ायेंगे और उन को आर्थिक विकास करेंगे लेकिन अगर आप के बैंकों का यह रवैया रहा, तो मैं नहीं समझता कि इस उद्योग में लगे हुए लोगों का आप उद्धार कैसे कर सकते हैं। इसलिये इस तरह को जो कठिनाइयां हैं, वित्त मंत्री जो को चाहिये कि स्टेट बैंक से कह कर दूर करावें और स्थानीय जो 8 किलोमीटर का बन्धन है, उस को तोड़ें या जो पे आफिस है उस से कहा जाये कि वह ऋण देने की व्यवस्था करे।

इस संबंध में एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ और वह यह है कि पंजाब नेशनल बैंक ने डिस्ट्रिक्ट मैजिस्ट्रेट से यह कहा कि हम अम्बा में अपनी एक ब्रांच खोल सकते हैं अगर हमें वहां पर मकान मिल जाये। औरंगाबाद के कलक्टर ने वहां पर उस के लिये मकान खोजा लेकिन

[श्री सुबोध प्रसाद वर्मा]

छ: नहीं हो गये हैं और अभी तक पंजाब नेशनल बैंक ने वहाँ पर अपनी शाखा नहीं खोली है। जब इस तरह की स्थिति है तो बिहार आने नहीं बढ़ सकता है और वहाँ के लोगों की तकलीफें दूर नहीं हो सकती हैं। इसलिये मेरी वित्त मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना है कि वह इस 8 किलोमीटर वाले बंधन को तोड़े।

एक बात और निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ और वह यह है कि आज बीस सूची कार्यक्रम के अन्दर आप जो कार्य कर रहे हैं उस के संबंध में भारत सरकार की चिन्ता है प्रधान मंत्री जी की चिन्ता है और राज्य सरकार की भी चिन्ता है किन्तु हमारी प्रधान मंत्री जी की चिन्ता से, या राज्य सरकारों की चिन्ता से, या वित्त मंत्री जी की चिन्ता से या भारत सरकार की चिन्ता से यह बीस सूची कार्यक्रम का कार्यान्वयन नहीं होने वाला है। इस में दो तरह के लोगों की जरूरत है एक तो सरकारी तंत्र की, प्रशासन के लोगों की और दूसरी ऐसी संस्थाओं की जो कि इस कार्यक्रम में विश्वास करते हैं जिस में संसद सदस्य भी आते हैं विधायक भी आते हैं और सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता भी आते हैं। अब देखना यह है कि क्या सरकारी तंत्र इस को ठीक तरह से इम्प्लीमेंट कर रहा है और इस के बारे में हमें मूल्यांकन करना होगा। राज्यों में और खास तौर से मैं बिहार के बारे में कहता हूँ कि वहाँ पर जो हमारा प्रशासनिक तंत्र है, उस में जातपात का बोल बाला है और खुद प्रधान मंत्री ने भी पटना में इस के बारे में कहा था। आज बिहार में राजनैतिक संस्थाओं में, समाज के लोगों में, प्रशासनिक तंत्र में यह व्याप्त है और इस को दूर करने के लिये सक्षम कदम उठाने की जरूरत है। मैं तो यह कहूँगा कि आज जब तक आप क्विटेड लोगों के अन्दर इस की जिम्मेदारी

नहीं डालेंगे तब तक यह कार्यक्रम को सफल नहीं बना सकते। इसलिये मैं कहूँगा कि हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी, प्रधान मंत्री जी राज्यों में जो प्रशासनिक तंत्र में जातपात के झगड़े हैं और खास कर बिहार में जो इस तरह के झगड़े हैं, उन को अगर वे दूर नहीं करेंगे और उन पर कड़ा प्रभुत्व नहीं लगायेंगे तो बिहार की कि आर्थिक दृष्टिकोण से और सामाजिक दृष्टिकोण से सभी सम्पदा होते हुए, पिछड़ा हुआ है, वह पिछड़ा ही रहेगा। उस को ऊपर उठाने के लिये कड़ी मेहनत करनी पड़ेगी और विशेष ध्यान देना पड़ेगा।

अध्यक्ष महोदय अब आप जल्दी समाप्त करिये।

श्री सुबोध प्रसाद वर्मा : भाव्यरी बात में बिहार में सहकारिता आन्दोलन के बारे में कह कर बैठ जाऊंगा।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : बिहार सहकारिता आन्दोलन का बहुत बड़ा स्थल बन सकता है लेकिन मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि आज बिहार का सहकारिता आन्दोलन कुछ व्यक्ति विशेष की संस्था ही बना हुआ है। आज वहाँ पर गरीब जनता को और कमजोर वर्ग के लोगों को मेम्बर नहीं बनने दिया जाता है और उस पर एक तरह की रोक सी लगी हुई है। इस लिये मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन करूँगा कि बीस सूची कार्यक्रम के अन्दर बिहार में जो कमजोर वर्ग के लोग हैं उन के लिए सब्सिडी सोसाइटियों का गठन किया जाये और उन के माध्यम से उन लोगों को ऋण दिये जायें। आज बड़े लोगों के हाथों में जो बिहार की सहकारी संस्थाएँ हैं वे उन कमजोर वर्गों के लोगों के लिये सहायक नहीं हैं। इस संबंध में मैं यह निवेदन करूँगा कि क्या मैं जो मगध सहकारी समिति द्वारा लोगों को ऋण दिये गये हैं, उन की आप जांच करावें। अगर आप

बाँच करवाये तो आप को पता चलेगा कि कैसे वैसे का दुरुपयोग हो रहा है और कैसे कुछ लोगों की पाकेट में गया है और कमजोर वर्ग के लोग कैसे इस के शिकार हुए हैं। आज कीस सूत्री कार्यक्रम के अन्दर जो कमजोर वर्ग के लोगों की प्रधान मंत्री जी को और आप को चिन्ता है, ऐसे व्यक्तियों के लिये आप सर्विस सोसाइटी बनाइये जोकि उन लोगों का ध्यान देने की व्यवस्था करें।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं समाप्त करता हूँ।

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: (Howrah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Finance Minister has announced further concessions to the business houses while introducing the Finance Bill. And this announcement of concessions is the continuation of the policy which the Government is pursuing and which has been fully reflected in this year's Budget. Today, I have brought one cartoon which is in the *Indian Express*. This cartoon shows how the Finance Minister is appeasing the big business houses 'Ah, well, what's 10 crores between friends?'. The real significance of this concession has been clearly stated in the editorial of the *Indian Express* today. I do not know whether the Finance Minister read it.

"The direct effect of these concessions on the revenues of the Government may be small. But they undoubtedly underline the responsiveness towards the representations of industry which characterises the Union Government's approach in these matters.

The Government's anxiety at present is to create conditions in which private enterprise—small, big and foreign—is encouraged to save and invest. This explains the decision to widen the scope of concessions in inter-corporate dividends and extend excise duty relief on higher production from established capacities from one to three years and to

enlarge its coverage. Foreign capital also gets a share of concessions by way of exemptions from income tax on royalties and interest earnings in selected areas."

So, the whole policy of the Government of India at present is, in order to save the economy from crisis, to give more and more concessions to the big business houses, both Indian and foreign and this is now held as a new turn in our economy. I saw from the newspapers that the Prime Minister had said that we were now poised for a big advance. The other day, Mr. T. A. Pai, the Industry Minister, criticised our spokesman for mentioning the question of recession. He explained that now the FICCI was talking of recession and our spokesman were also talking of recession. This effort to deny recession, to deny crisis, does not show the sense of reality. At least, the Government has no sense of reality in this respect. What is the position in the industry now? On the one hand, production has increased, on the other, there are lock-outs, lay-offs, closures and a large number of retrenchments. Nearly five lakhs workers have been laid off and retrenched. This is one feature. The other feature is that production is increasing and stocks accumulating. The internal market is shrinking. Why? Because lakhs and lakhs of workers are thrown out of jobs; and so they lose their purchasing power. In agriculture, production has increased. But what is the reality whenever there is increase in production, there is a crash in prices of foodgrains, raw jute, cotton and various other commercial commodities. And this crash in prices means that the peasantry is completely ruined. So, the more the production, the more is the economic life of the peasantry ruined. When the production is more, workers are thrown off jobs. Is this the health of the economy? Does it show that there is no recession and no crisis? What is the ultimate result? We are shown figures that production has increased by some 30 per cent. But what is the

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figure of unemployment in the employment register? Last year, the figure was 84 lakhs. This year it is 94 lakhs. So, you just compare these two things together. Then you will understand what is happening in our economy—Production up by 30 per cent and unemployment by 13 per cent. So, the slogan of more production to solve unemployment, is absolutely misleading. The reality is just the contrary. That is why the economy is facing the crisis more and more.

Now, Sir, the propaganda is going on that there has been stability in prices. But already, prices have started rising. I have brought 2 or 3 paper cuttings only to show to you. They say

“Price is rising”—This is ‘Economic Times’ of 27th April, 1976.

“Prices looking up. Inflation is raising its ugly head again.”

It is only a few months since the budget, you have presented it in March. Now it is May. You have created an impression that already the crisis is over, and the economy is stable because prices have been stabilized. Already, the attack on workers has started on the basis of this fall in prices. Three instalments of DA-cut have already been made, and the workers are losing between Rs 30 and Rs 90 per month already. Now, the prices are again rising. Why is it so? Why is this happening? Thousands and thousands are thrown out of their jobs. On the other hand, production is increasing. It is because the system which you are defending, developing and trying to develop is a capitalist system, based on exploitation. Here, the motive force behind production is only profit; and the capitalist system is to function, is to operate within the basic laws of capitalism. If the market shrinks and if the production increases, it indicates a dead-lock. That is why you find export as the only outlet. Export at any cost. If the

people are starving, let them purchase sugar at a higher price in the country, but we should export sugar at a cheaper rate. Otherwise, our sugar mills will close down. A large number of sugar mills have already been closed down. I had been to Tamil Nadu, the State of the Finance Minister, to attend a meeting of the consultative committee. In the meeting, I reported—many Congress MPs and even the CPI MP Mr. Kalyanasundaram also reported—that all most the sugar mills have been closed. Textile mills are closed. Still you are saying that the economy is poised for a big advance. Then, what is the measurement of advance? Only production? For whose benefit? Benefit for the common and poor people? No; because poor people do not get the benefit of this increased production. Why this? Because, the entire economy is under the control of the monopolists, black-marketeers and hoarders, and the Government is giving full protection and maximum concessions, to them. Now you say that a new era has opened. What is that new era? Big Indian companies are joining hands with multi-national corporations, and they are finding new schemes of investing their capital in the Middle East, Near East and other neighbouring countries. Since the internal market is shrinking export is the only way out. For that special concessions are being given to the multi-national corporations and monopolists for export. Even one hundred per cent foreign equity you have allowed. This ‘joint-investments’ means you will exploit the market of the other countries. As the investors are capitalists, their main purpose is to earn profits and a time will come when the people of those countries will resent this terribly, and the image of India will be affected.

Now world capitalism is in a crisis. There will be hard competition in the world market, as in the cases of jute. What is the result? One after the other, all the mills are being closed. In the jute industry, already ten mills have been closed. 33,000 perma-

ment workers have been thrown out of jobs. More mills are going to be closed. I have received a letter from the General Secretary of the Bengal Chatkal Mazdoor Union, Shri D. Kamal Sarkar, which is addressed to Shri Raghunatha Reddy, which says that 50 workers have already died due to starvation during this period. This factory at Khardah was closed last year. There are starvation deaths in other areas also. We have got the names of 22 workers who have died of starvation. When I went to Tamil Nadu I received letter from the workers of India Meters Limited, saying that the conditions of the workers there is pretty bad, because the factory has been closed long before. That report says that one girl and another worker, committed suicide. The girl poured kerosene over her body and let it catch fire. The boy threw himself into a pond and ended his miserable life. Another threw himself before a running train and erased himself. Some of them are really begging in the industrial estate of Ambatur. This is the real picture.

What is the image you are creating outside? That India is poised for a big advance, we have warded off the crisis and that production is picking up. Shri T. A. Pai has said "we should not consider ourself a developing country, we have become a developed country." This is the image which you want to create. In that case, in the Nairobi meeting you have to sit with America and Britain. And the image of Britain and America throughout the world is that of capitalist countries. I think that India at least should be spared from that image. Those countries are treated as exploiters of the whole world and we do not want to be dubbed like that.

The real position is that recession is very much in this country. It is raging and the way the Government is pursuing the policy it is bound to aggravate. I am reading only two comments made day before yesterday by some Congress MPs. Shri Nathu

Ram Mirdha welcomed the budget and your concessions. But, after welcoming them, he said

"It is a peculiar feature of our economy that when farmers brought about larger agricultural production, the producers got about 50 per cent lesser price for their produce than the prices they had got when the production was far less."

This has to be understood seriously. So, the slogan of more production is going against whom? Against the poor peasants the toilers because they are helpless. Immediately after the harvest they have to rush to the market, and at that time there are manipulators who are fully in link with the State machinery, and Government's policy is not to defend the toilers, but to help these exploiters and hoarders. That is why immediately after the crop passes out of the hands of the peasantry, prices start rising. This is happening in the case of raw jute, cotton and other raw materials, and millions and millions of peasants are ruined in this way. This is the substance of Shri Mirdha's speech.

Then, Shri Bibuti Mishra is not an opposition M.P. He is not here now. He supported your budget and welcomed it, but he has also stated.

"Agricultural production had exceeded the target, but it was a strange feature that when farmers produce more, they got a lesser price for their produce"

They are speaking from experience. This is how the capitalist economy is bound to work. It is a feature of capitalism that the more the production increases the more the unemployment grows and the poor people's lives are ruined.

I have got a document here entitled "A Critique of the 1975 Report of the President's Council of Economic Affairs, America", prepared by the Economics Department of the University of Massachusetts. On this ques-

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tion of recession, this is what they have to say:

"The economic function of a recession in a capitalist economy is to create the pre-condition for a new expansion of profits by taking away the jobs of millions of people and by threatening the jobs of millions of others. Recession reduces workers' demands, unit labour costs are brought under control, the decline in profit margins is eventually stopped and inflationary pressure weakens."

Our Government is developing capitalism in our country, and the world capitalist system is in the midst of a deepening crisis. Because you are linked with world capitalism, you cannot make this economy free from the capitalist crisis, and that is why these things are happening. Ultimately where will it lead to? This has to be seriously thought over.

Side by side, I am quoting a few lines from a Chinese document published about a month ago. It says:

"There is no unemployment in new China among the 800 million population. Even the blind and deaf mutes take part in work that is within their power under the care of the party and the State. Article 27 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates: 'Citizens have the right to work. The State guarantees employment to all able-bodied people.'"

They are continuously applying higher forms of technology.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI (Sholapur): Please tell me whether there is democracy and freedom of speech in China.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: In India, there is democracy to die, to throw ourselves before the running train, to drown ourselves in a pond, because of starvation. But in China

they have solved the unemployment problem, they have solved the food problem, they have removed poverty from their country.

You do not try to learn how in our country we can develop such a society. Our whole economy and the entire machinery of the Government is dominated by big business houses.

In China among the workers who were freed by technical transformation some of them were given the job of excavating new oil wells while others were given some other work. Nobody is unemployed there. These are the comparisons which are bound to come up day by day.

Now, in other countries also people learn through bitter experience how this unemployment problem can be solved. If you look at the World, one after another, the people of other countries are taking to the path of socialism under the leadership of the working class and with the banner of Marxism and Leninism. This is a world phenomenon. If you try to prevent it, you cannot do so. This is a historical process. Nobody can prevent it ultimately and by pursuing the capitalistic economy, you are creating a base for your own destruction by throwing millions and millions of people out of jobs. What will they do? Will they die and praise you because you have created very favourable conditions for their deaths?

Whenever we have raised the question of starvation deaths on the Floor of this House, it has been denied and said that there are no starvation deaths. I am giving you concrete names. If you want, you can just enquire about them. With this economy, the questions of discipline, emergency and the law and order are directly related, because in order to get rid of this crisis or recession, the capitalist class always wants to pass on the burden on the working employees and the common people. In order to get the market through com-

petition, they are continuously putting pressure on the Government to give tax concessions. All jute mills have been given tax concessions. The excise duty has been completely removed. Now, they are given cash subsidy and other things. But they are not satisfied. So, they are raising their demand, but at the same time, they are saying that the cost of production must be reduced. What is the meaning of reduction of the cost of production? As far as this is concerned, it immediately goes against the workers, because with less number of workers, they want more production. They know that workers will resist. That is why, the trade unions must be crushed. If there is democracy, the working class will protest through struggles, through *bundhs* and through other types of agitations. So, the democracy should be completely crushed, and, that is, an atmosphere of discipline is indispensable. Now when people die of starvation there are no protest against it due to emergency. This is the most favourable situation for the monopolists. It has been repeatedly said by the leaders of the Chamber of Commerce that in India now the situation is very favourable. There is no trade union movement and the cadres and leaders of Opposition Parties are put under MISA. Even on the Floor of this House, those Members who were more vocal to expose corruption and voice protests were made silent by putting them behind bars. In the last speech, Mr. Subramaniam said, "This atmosphere must be maintained. This is the most favourable atmosphere for the advancement of our economy." This is how we feel that this emergency is an instrument in the hands of the exploiting class who raised their profit unhindered and are making huge profit at this stage of emergency when you are taking away bonus and when you are reducing the income of the workers and the employees.

In this House, you had brought the Bill for the abrogation of the agreement which the LIC employees had

in 1974. This Bill was brought shamelessly. Now, I have before me one review written in this "Economic Times," This is a review made of 199 big houses regarding higher profitability. This means money is being concentrated in the hands of a few big houses, capitalists and the profiteers with the result that the economic life of the people is being ruined. According to the Directive Principles in the Constitution, disparity should be reduced, but in practice, it is being increased. Money is concentrated in the hands of a few; big business is profiteering more and more; the economic life of the workers is completely ruined; the employees are ruined; the peasantry is ruined. Is this the policy of removing or reducing disparity among the people? This is bound to increase disparity. That is why we are heading towards a situation where the resentment of the people is bound to erupt. In which form it will erupt and when that future developments will show. You are leading the country to that position.

The common people, the toiling masses, have no other alternative but to protest. That is why the terrible repression is going on. We are totally opposed to it. We want that democracy must be restored. Otherwise, the poor peasantry cannot have the real prices for their produce. They require an organisation; they require an agitation. Otherwise, they cannot fight the domination of hoarders and blackmarketeers. The workers must be given their full rights. Total democracy, democratic atmosphere, must be restored so that this type of oppression, this type of dismissals and retrenchment can be resisted and stopped. You do not fight for them. On the other hand, you help the employers. That is why democracy is so much essential for the existence of the common masses. That is why we demand that this Emergency must be withdrawn; all leaders released and civil liberty restored.

While concluding, I want to deal with one more point about the cons-

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titutional amendments, about amending the Constitution. The issue has already been on the anvil. The talks are there. The Prime Minister has also declared several times that there will be a national debate. We are concerned to know that an attempt is being made to rush through and no opportunity is being given to discuss the constitutional amendments. These are linked with the futures of all sections of the people. If article 311 or article 211 is taken away, the right of Government employees to make representation to the Government in the case of dismissals is taken away. This is a basic fundamental right given to them. You are going to take it away over their heads without giving them an opportunity to express their view-point.

You are going to strengthen the executive and curb the rights and functions of the legislature and the judiciary. These are known things. That is why we are very much interested in participating in the national debate on the constitutional amendments. We have upheld all along that the fundamental rights which are enshrined in the Constitution except the right of property are the gains of the people through their long struggle. The Constitution provides that the Government, through the President, has the right to declare Emergency and take away all the rights. They have been deprived even of the right to go to the courts. The writ petition right is gone. Even the right to live is not there. In these circumstances, we want that the entire people, not only the ruling party but the Opposition parties, should be in this debate.

This should be an issue for the coming General Elections. This Parliament has lost the mandate of the people, after 18th March. This House is not at all competent to bring about such basic fundamental changes in the Constitution. The people's mandate is essential. That is why this debate

should be allowed to develop into a national debate and this should be an issue for the coming General Elections on the basis of which the newly elected Parliament can take up the issue of constitutional amendments.

These are some of the points we want to highlight.

Just now I got a telegram requesting earnestly for intervention in the lock-out by Braithwaite & Co. of 4,000 workers. You know this Braithwaite & Co. is a big company. Many engineering factories have been closed and National Iron of Howrah, which has 2,000 workers, has also declared closure and lockout; so also, J. K. Aluminium. These are very serious questions. Government and the ruling party are resorting even to gangster methods to break up the Unions—and our CIT Union has been singled out for attack. The most surprising thing is that Government did not allow even May-day meetings to be held throughout India: only in one or two cities some hall meetings were allowed. This shows the attitude of the Government. The Government is totally anti working-class. The way Trade Union movement is being suppressed and even May-day rallies are banned shows the real character of the Government. The policy that the Government is pursuing will land us in a deeper crisis and it is only under compulsion that Government will change its policy. That is why serious thought on the part of all is necessary as to what will be the outcome if Government continues to pursue this policy whereby factory after factory is being closed, and there is no remedy for it. That is why I oppose this Finance Bill and ask the Government again to withdraw the Emergency in order to give full scope to the people to express their opinions freely so that a healthy condition created in the country.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO
(Bellary): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was depressing to have heard the speech

which has just now been concluded: I felt really depressed listening to it. I have no doubt that the speaker was perfectly sincere in the expression of his views and I could also understand his ideological position that unless there is Marxist-Leninist organised socialist society no economic problem is likely to be solved. I can understand that because that is a point of view held by him sincerely. But I was a little surprised that, in holding this point of view, he should have joined hands with the very people whom he has been denouncing—what he calls big business, business community, industrial interests commercial interests and so on because those interests are the people who have been saying there is recession: a cry of recession has been raised. This is the first time I have heard it. Maybe, it was raised somewhere outside and I have heard it, but this is the first time I have heard a reputed Member of socialist persuasions—Marxist-Leninist persuasions—coming forward to suggest that production is bad. I never heard any socialist spokesman, either in this country or in the Marxist-Leninist countries saying that production is bad. I have never heard for example anybody saying in China or Soviet Union or the East European countries that production is bad, that production has brought about this crisis or that increase in production has brought about this crisis.

If the Hon. Member is in a position to bring about a Marxist-Leninist transformation of the society....

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: I never said that production is bad; it is a distortion.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: Oh no; I don't believe in distortions. I am prepared to challenge the Hon. Member; let him start a national debate within his own Party. We also read journals. I would like to know whether the Marxist-Leninist Socialist position in this country is

that increase in the production is bad, that we are suffering from a recession for which obviously the remedy is.

13 hrs.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: I have never said that increase in production is bad; I have only said that the benefit is not going to the common masses. I have quoted Shri Bibhuti Mishra. He has said that they have produced more and they are the worst sufferers. That does not mean that production is bad..

MR. SPEAKER: You did say that there was recession.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: When he says that I have said that production is bad, he is putting in my mouth something which I have not spoken. It is wrong. What I mean is that the distribution machinery should be such that the common man is benefited..

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker..

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: It must be clarified; otherwise, this type of slander is going on. Recession is an international phenomenon. In the Reports of the Ministries, the word 'recession' is there. You can go through the Reports. They have accepted the position of recession in their Reports.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: I do not want to irritate my hon. friend further. I began by saying...

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: It is not a question of irritation. Do not distort.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: I do not believe in distortion. I am prepared to challenge the hon. Member to show how I have distorted the position. Let us check the records. I do not want to keep quiet now, after having heard all these. The records will show quite clearly that he spoke

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about increase in production and the crisis. Any person reading the full text of his speech will see very clearly that the increase in production has been linked up with the crisis. In answer to what I said about Marxist-Leninist position, the hon. Member has now clarified his position. If he had clarified at that time..(Interruptions)

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Unemployment has increased. I have made a statement of facts.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: I am not talking about unemployment. What I wanted to raise my voice against was this. If you say that changing the entire social and economic structure of this country is the only solution, that is a point on which there can be an opinion. But if you talk about increase in production and the crisis, that the agricultural production has increased and the farmers have got 50 per cent less than what they had got before—I do not know how this particular figure has been arrived at; he did not give that figure; he quoted from the speech of another Member...

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: You do not go to the villages.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: I have gone to the villages. I represent a rural constituency.

The point is this. I know, when there is a big increase in agricultural production, there is a fall in price and this has happened in the past. In fact, I have written articles on that and I have spoken on that. It happened in the past in the mid-Fifties when increase in production was actually accompanied by a decline in the total income of the farming community. But I do not think that that is the position today, because there has been no reduction....

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: That only shows your ignorance,

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: It is not a question of ignorance. The procurement prices, to the best of my knowledge, have not been brought down. The Agricultural Prices Commission have not suggested reduction in the procurement prices. What has happened is that the open market price has come down. But, as far as procurement price is concerned, it has not come down. If the Member were to say—which I would welcome—that the official machinery for the purpose of purchasing all the foodgrains that are offered in the market is not adequate, if he were to say that the storage facilities are not adequate, that the State Governments and the Food Corporation of India are not functioning with the amount of efficiency with which they should in making purchases and, therefore, there is distress among the farmers, then I can understand, because there are problems which we are facing this year on account of the enormous increase in agricultural production.

13.05 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

At the same time, I would like to go on record by saying that for a country like this, while there may be problems of distribution which may have to be dealt with, and on that perhaps I will go at a distance with my hon. friend in regard to what we should do on the problem of distribution, but I do not think, we should give any suggestion even impliedly, mistakenly or misunderstandingly, we should not give any room for the suggestion that any socialist party in this country is against or does not view with pleasure increase in production. We can say that we like the increase in production, but we do not like the way in which the increase in production has not benefited the masses. That position I can understand. It is important for me to say this because after a long time this very Government has now started talking of production. Two or three years ago, in this very House I made speeches ask-

ing the Government to talk a little more about production, because unless there is an increase in production, no amount of distributive legislation is going to bring out a reduction in poverty. I am not talking about the vast socio-economic change that my hon. friend was talking about. That is a different issue altogether, but with things as they are, without any increase in production of a substantial character, it would be difficult for us to deal with the distributive problem, with the problem of unemployment and so on. This is what I wanted to say as far as production is concerned and I would say that this is a good thing that production has increased; it would be a better thing if it increases more and this economy has no future and the implementation of social justice and social economic programmes is not possible unless there is a basic substantial and significant increase in production of goods and services of essential commodities, wage goods and mass consumption goods in this country.

Having said that, I would like to take up one more point from the points the hon. Member made and then would like to take up my own points. The hon. Member, in his speech, has drawn attention and I would like to underline that, to two factors which are really interlinked, and that is that the increase in production to the extent it has taken place has not been accompanied by an increase in employment. I do not know how much increase in production has already taken place in the industry. I do not have the figures, but if there is an increase in production, what is happening on the employment front? Is it not a fact that there is a considerable amount of retrenchment? Is it a problem of few industries or is it a problem of all industries? I think, the hon. Member's speech, while I may not agree with many other things that he has underlined, and emphasised, the point which I should also like to underline is that the retrenchment, lay-offs, lock-outs etc. which are going on in the face of a massive attempt

to stimulate the economy is something which is paradoxical to my mind. I would, therefore, suggest to the hon. Finance Minister that some specific enquiry should be made into this and some specific policy measures, fiscal or otherwise, must be formulated for the purpose of dealing with this problem of lock-outs, retrenchment and lay-offs, which is particularly hitting West Bengal. The State which is most affected by this is West Bengal, because engineering industries, jute industries and a number of other industries are there. There is a very genuine problem. It is not affecting the other States to the same extent, but it is a phenomenon that has got to be dealt with. I would request the Finance Minister to take up this problem as a specific problem and have it investigated in depth, either by himself or through his colleagues handling other Ministries for measures which will be specifically aimed at dealing with this problem of retrenchment, lock-outs and unemployment, which is taking place in these industries.

I would now leave my friend alone, after having supported this particular point that he has made. I hope, he would not interrupt me now. I am one of those persons who believe that the economy is on the verge of breaking. Maybe because I am a bourgeois economist, having studied economics in Delhi, Bombay, Cambridge etc and having taught economics in Delhi University and other places. Maybe I suffer from bourgeois inheritance. But as a bourgeois economist I say that all the signs of a first-class breakthrough in the Indian economy are present here to-day. In fact, I would say that I have known no year in the recent history of the Indian economy where the situation is so favourable for economic growth and for an economic upsurge. Look at the situation with regard to foodgrains prices. Look at the situation with regard to the buffer stocks of foodgrains you have got. Look at the situation with regard to the vast quantities of foreign exchange you have got. Look at the

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increase that is taking place in our exports. I would not talk about the enforced emergency, industrial discipline and so on because that might raise a controversy, but, whatever the reason, look at the fact that we have much fewer days lost through industrial disputes and so on. Then, with this kind of situation, why is it that the economy is not moving fast? It should move much faster

Till recently, the business community was pointing an accusing finger at the public sector and was telling us that it was all losing and that it was the public sector which is the villain of the piece. But in the last one year hard and cold facts have been given to this country which are not propagandist facts but which show that the public sector has done very much better in terms of production, in terms of target fulfilment and in terms of profits. Now, therefore, I do not want to call it the villain because again it might be misunderstood by the spokesman on the other side, Mr. Samar Mukherjee. I do not also want to call the private sector as the villain of the piece because that word has got moral value association. But, obviously, the whole thrust of the Budget, as I see it, was to stimulate the private entrepreneur, whether corporate or non-corporate, in industry and also in other walks of life, to come forward to produce more, to invest more and keep the economy on the move so that there is an increase in the purchasing power which will be a result of the increased production, increased employment and increased wages and not as a result of an increased pumping of money by the Government of India through the Reserve Bank into circulation or through deficit financing. These are the thrusts of the Budget.

Here, I would like to say that I have been somewhat disappointed at the reaction of the business community to the Finance Minister's Budget proposals which he has now further strengthened by the concessions which

he has announced which, I think, are all part of a piece. They are all part of the package plan. There is a whole of what I would call—because I do not know the distinction between a 'strategy' and 'tactic' because I am not well-versed in Marxist literature, but which ever is smaller and shorter, I would use—tactic....

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: That is military terminology.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: Anyway the whole philosophy behind the tactic was to create a situation where taking advantage of the very many things happening in this country in favour of the economy, the economy should start moving and hundreds and thousands of private entrepreneurs and others in the private sector should take to increase the production and not to hoarding. But, what do I find? I think to-day there is going to be a meeting of the All India Manufacturers' Organization. I do not know whether the Finance Minister is going to attend that meeting or he is going to sit in the Parliament. But I have no doubt that this meeting will not in any way be different from the meeting of the Federation of the Chambers of Commerce and as usual, they would say, Yes, Yes. All this is all right. We like what the Government have done. But what about other things? So, in other words, it is like Oliver Twist. Oliver Twist, at least one can understand. He was rather in a poor condition but our industry to-day is not badly fed. So, it is like Oliver Twist asking for more and more. It is this thing which is causing me some concern. When I heard the very powerful speech of my hon. friend sitting on this side. I felt depressed because I thought he was sounding a note of warning and that note of warning may be sounded for those people who do not accept his ideological persuasion. If the private sector does not operate and fulfil the expectations which are entertained of its behaviour by this year's Budget and by the concessions which have been

given to the private sector, the Government should do something. The corporate sector got nothing much out of it, but something has been given to the corporate sector by the concessions announced yesterday on the inter-corporate dividends. Maybe you want to reduce the corporate tax by another 5 per cent. Whatever it is, I do not know. But the concessions given so far both administrative and in fiscal terms are such that, I think, the private enterprise should move forward. I would say, therefore, as a Member of this House belonging to the ruling party that one should not think that the Government is on the run. The Government is not on the run. The Government is very much in control. The Government has adopted this policy deliberately and purposely in order to see that the economy gets a push forward and if the policy which they are following in giving a push forward does not yield dividend (I have no right to speak with authority as I am only an ordinary Member of Parliament, but speaking as an ordinary member of the Parliament who belongs to the ruling party) there is nothing to prevent the Government of India from taking the lesson. Therefore, I would appeal to all my friends in the business community—I have got many friends amongst them—to stop asking for more concessions. If you ask for them, ask in a very quite kind of way. You write letters to the Prime Minister or the Finance Minister. But do not organise meetings. Your speech gets more publicity. If I make a speech somewhat critical, it is not published, not because of the Government censorship but some other kind of censorship—unofficial censorship. The papers are full of complaints, unsatisfied demands and requirements and so on of industry, of commerce, about more tax concessions, more credit relaxation recession. When they use the word recessions. They want reflation more deficit financing, more pumping of money and less taxes.

I am surprised, it was only six months ago, this whole House was

talking about inflation, compared to 1972-73, now the prices have fallen by 15 to 16 per cent. But the rise in price that took place between 1972-73 and 1973-74 is something of the order of 55 to 60 per cent. Our prices are at a base which is about 45 to 50 per cent above of what it was only five years. We cannot afford any risk of inflation. We cannot afford a risk of using recession as an excuse for reflation and reflation for deficit financing and credit and all that—of a type that would once again bring inflation in to this country. This the major thing which I wanted to say.

Since my time is coming to an end, I want to make one or two points with your permission, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I am not against the tax concessions. One must try to do everything because we want the economy to move, production to increase, more employment to be created, and incomes to increase. Therefore, Government is right in coming with this policy and, therefore, those for whom it is intended should enable Government to be in a position to say that the Government's policy adopted this year has been wise and not just a speculation.

I would like to come to an important feature of the Finance Minister's statement which I would very much welcome. It is a matter of regret that it has not received much attention from most of the Members who have spoken on the Budget or even on the Finance Bill either from the opposition side or from the ruling party. I am saying about the reference which he has made to integrated rural development. I think this is a very salutary change and a change which I welcome for all times. It is not a tactics. It is something which is fundamental to the recovery and restoration of the economy. It is something to meet a long standing problem of this country viz., the rural development.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: In your speech on the Budget, you made the same point.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: I do not think so. My memory is not as good as yours because I am 20 years older than you.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have almost taken 23 minutes. Of course, interruption was there.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: Will you give some allowance for the interruption?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have done that already.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: Since you justifiably want to do justice to the Members, I would not prolong my speech.

I am saying, I welcome the emphasis which has been brought on integrated rural development. I hope this will follow in a much bigger way.

The last thing I would like to mention is that something should be done about national integration. Just as integrated rural development has been a long standing problem on which we are not making an attempt to do something.

National integration is also a subject where something needs to be done. It can only be done by Central initiative and I want to make two or three suggestions here. The first is, there should be national policy regarding school textbooks, with necessary financial provision made for the implementation of that policy. Secondly, there should be a national policy regarding the publication of literature for adult literates again with the necessary financial provision made by the Central Government for the implementation of that policy, and lastly, transliteration of books in various languages, in one additional common script, Devanagiri. If these three things are done, I am sure, these will go away. Of course, they may not by themselves bring about national integration but certainly they will help in providing a background which can help

to bring about national integration. With these words, I thank you for the consideration you have shown to me by giving me some more time and I hope that these suggestions of mine will be considered by the hon. Minister.

SHRI H. M. PATEL (Dhandhuka): I listened to Prof. Rao's speech with great interest. I am not as much distressed as he was with the speech of his predecessor, Shri Mukherjee. He said something about increase in production being a matter which should always be welcomed. I think there can be no two opinions on that. The question however is: Is this increase in production resulting in the kind of benefits which it should produce for the community as a whole?

What is happening today is that there is in fact recession, although Prof. Rao was not willing to concede it. Many industries are in difficulties today. No industry would close down unless it is in difficulties. It is not that they are making money and at that stage they want to close down. It cannot be so. Therefore the question which we have to ask is this. When so much relief has been given, so many things done, in this Budget, which ought to make things easier for these industries why is it that even then there is no buoyancy in the economy, why should there be this stagnation? The answer is really, as far as I can see, that there is not sufficient demand for the produce of a great many of these industries. If you see the textile industry for instance, it is in considerable difficulties chiefly because there is not enough demand for cloth. So the question arise: Why is it that there is not enough demand for cloth? The answer is, there is not enough purchasing capacity with the people, that is to say, the purchasing capacity of the people is greatly reduced. And who are the purchasers of cloth? The bulk of the people you would rely upon are people in rural areas. There is lot of unemployment and under employment prevailing in the rural areas; unemployment in urban areas

also is actually on the increase, rather than on the decline.

With the number of the unemployed running into millions and with purchasing capacity of the rural areas not increased in spite of a good agricultural year, how can purchasing capacity increase? That has not increased because, with the increased production that they have and with the increase in other agricultural crops, the prices have fallen. Professor Bao said that only the open market prices have fallen but not the procurement prices I am afraid he is very much out of touch with the reality.

Procurement prices have been maintained on paper; Government's instructions are there that the purchases should be made so that no farmer has to sell his produce at a lower price than the procurement price. But, in reality, that does not happen. A farmer has to sell at prices which are below procurement prices because, the Government machinery is not as efficient as is imagined. In any case, the fact remains that the purchasing capacity of the farmer has not risen. In fact, I think that, in many cases, it may be said without any exaggeration that it has gone down.

Therefore, when the purchasing capacity is so low, it is understandable that industries suffer in spite of these tax and other concessions, and be unable to respond and find it difficult to increase their production. Even so, there are industries which could increase their production if there were adequate credit facilities available. In regard to this, it is said, that the private sector is asking for too much. This is not so. The private sector does not want to ask for money or borrow money just for no purpose at all. They want to borrow money because, with the help. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, order. I can't hear the hon. Member. It is not my habit to sit here like a stone. I follow every sentence of the

hon. Member out of respect. I should not be distracted like this. Now, let Shri Patel continue.

SHRI H. M. PATEL. The industries want to borrow money in order to produce more or in order to increase their production. To-day, because the demand is not picking up as much as it should, the industries find it difficult to manage within the normal or reasonable working capital that they have

Government consider that these constraints on credits should be maintained by the Reserve Bank. I would strongly urge upon them to reconsider looking upon each industry's problems in a realistic way and, take note of the difficulties that genuinely exist. If there is demand for what they produce and can sell it freely, then, of course, there would be no difficulty. They can manage then within the credit facilities that are extended today. But, because of the special difficulties that exist today, when demand fails to pick up, and when it is not as buoyant as it should be, then their credit requirements go up. If you wish production to be maintained and if you wish that industries are not to be forced to lay off, then you must see that adequate credit facilities are extended. You may say quite reasonably and justifiably that you do not want inflation once again to rear its head. But, I think, a certain measure of risk has, of course, to be taken. If you want the economy to grow, then a certain measure of inflation is almost inevitable. You can keep a vigilant watch over the situation and if you find that more credit is being extended than is justifiable by the production growth, then, certainly, you may again restrict credit. In fact, I think, at the initial stage, it would be worthwhile or it would be worth the country's while to see that adequate credit facilities are extended to industries. That is so because, to-day in spite of everything, that Government has done, the demand is not picking up; the industries are not in buoyant as they should be. The eco-

[Shri H. M. Patel]

nomy is indeed stagnant to-day and, because, the economy is stagnant, special measures have to be taken to see that the purchasing power of the Community increases. That is not necessarily in your hand. But, I do suggest that there is a great deal of force in what several Members of this House said that steps should be taken to ensure that the agriculturists get a remunerative price for what they produce, whatever the quantum of production, and not have to face the situation that they have to face today. The more they produce the lower the price they get. The following year, therefore, they are almost compelled to draw in their horns and the production goes down. I do not think that Government can be unaware of the fact that last year cotton production was remarkably good. The prices fell. It became necessary for the Government to export cotton in order than farmers may not lose and they may have some reasonable return for their produce. This year the consequence was immediately seen. Cotton production went down and, therefore, prices have gone up and we are talking about importing cotton! This kind of pendulum in agricultural prices must be stopped and definite steps should be taken to ensure it. In the case of cotton it affected the cotton industry and the cotton growers but in the case of foodgrains it affects the entire community. If this year we had a first-rate crop, we should have seen to it that the farmers did not suffer in any way by a fall in prices.

Sir, there are denials that the farmer has not lost but, I think, these denials come from people who only look at statistics, sit in the urban areas and do not even go to the rural areas to see things for themselves. If these people go to the rural areas they will see for themselves what a great deal of suffering there exist among the agricultural community this year.

I must say, Sir, that in the formulation of Government's basic fiscal policies certain realities have to be faced.

There are fiscal realities, economic realities and political realities. Fortunately for the Finance Minister he did not have to worry about political realities about which normally he would have had to worry. He could formulate his policy entirely on the basis of merit and I would like to congratulate him that he has gone to a considerable extent on the basis of merit in formulating that policy. Having come to the conclusion that production must be increased, he has adopted these very realistic fiscal policies. I fear, however, that he has not faced economic realities to the same extent that he should have done. And among those economic realities, this is the most important, that the farmer does not suffer whenever production goes up. He must also benefit from increased production. After all, he as a producer has to pay for costly inputs and so on. In fact, Government must realise that the very arguments that weigh with them in putting forward the claims that they do at meeting of the UNCTAD. There they say the developed countries are being unjust to the developing countries because they push down prices of the commodities whenever production is ample. Precisely the same argument should weigh with them when they consider the situation within the country. It is not merely the balance of payment position which need worry the Government. Of course, balance of payment should cause concern but for the same reasons that they are pressing their demands on the UNCTAD they should also be fair to agriculturists in particular because they constitute such an enormous percentage of the total population. Let it not be forgotten that the common man of the country is not minus the agriculturist or minus the people who live in the rural areas. The 70 per cent or more of the people who live in rural areas are also common men. They too would like their essential requirements at reasonable prices. Therefore, I say this is one matter the Government should take special care to face this question of prices of agricultural produce.

It is not easy for me to understand why the Finance Minister has not included the mining industry in the list of new industries specifically mentioned in cl. 25 of the Bill, because it seems to me to fulfil all the criteria that the Finance Minister has laid down for including an industry in that list. He said in his budget speech:

"I have already drawn attention to the sharp increase in the capital cost that has taken place. This has not only prevented faster expansion of the capacity, but has also imposed a heavy strain on the existing undertakings which are obliged to replace wornout and obsolete equipment. Unless the corporate sector is enabled to provide adequately for renewals and renovation, employment and industrial growth will be jeopardised. Fiscal policies should, therefore, be reoriented to provide the necessary stimulus for the growth and modernisation of the corporate sector. I have, therefore, decided to introduce a scheme of investment allowance for certain priority industries".

Now there are few industries more capital-intensive than the mining industry, the beneficiation of iron ore, the pelletisation. And few are also as export-oriented as this industry. Therefore, its exclusion from this list is somewhat surprising. I would suggest Government reconsider this matter.

I do not wish to take more time. While congratulating the Finance Minister on having made the bold approach that he has adopted in the formulation of this fiscal policy, I repeat once again that it is a matter for regret that he has not been courageous enough to face the economic realities to the fullest extent. That is really the reason why the economy of the country is not showing the buoyancy it should have been showing in many sectors of the economy.

When there is so much of unemployment, I think.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I thought you had come to the conclusion.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I will conclude. In conclusion, I would like to refer to something that does not pertain to the Finance Bill...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Finance Bill takes in everything under it.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Therefore, I would just make two observations in regard to the constitutional amendments which are today under consideration.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is too big a subject.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: That was what was permitted to Shri Mukherjee.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is too big a subject. He might take another occasion for it.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: My observations are merely these. They are not on the merits of the proposed amendments.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You just mention it.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The Prime Minister had said that here is a matter on which she would like to have a national debate. I would like to urge upon her and the Government that if they do want a national debate, then they should at least provide as many facilities as possible to enable the Opposition also to get together to do their thinking etc., opportunity for them to meet together, get together and formulate their views on these matters.

श्री श्री० एन० सिन्हा (गोपालबांज) :
उपाध्यक्ष जी, हाउस के दोनों तरफ के सदस्यों ने, सिवाय एक पार्टी के, वित्त मंत्री को धन्यवाद दिया है और बघाई दी है कि उन्होंने बिलेन्स बजट पेश किया। मैं श्री एसा बजट बिल

[श्री जी० एन० तिवारी]

करने के लिए वित्त मंत्री को बधाई और धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ। लेकिन दो एक ऐसी बातें हैं जिनकी तरफ मैं उनका ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ।

मैं इस सदन में दोतीन वर्षों से बकवर्ड एरियाज के लिये बोलता आया हूँ। इस समय मैं उन बातों को दोहराना नहीं चाहता हूँ जो गत साल या उस से पहले फैंक्ट्स एण्ड फिगर्स के साथ कहीं थी, लेकिन मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि मेरे इतना कहने के बावजूद भी उस तरफ इतनी तवज्जह नहीं दी गई, इतना काम नहीं हुआ, जितना होना चाहिये था। अभी उन जगहों की स्थिति वैसी ही है जैसी पहले थी। मैं खास कर नार्थ-बिहार और ईस्टर्न यू० पी० का उल्लेख करना चाहना हूँ, जहाँ की आबादी करीब 5 करोड़ है, जो नेशनल पापुलेशन का 13 या 14 परसेन्ट है। आप वहाँ पर क्या खर्च करते हैं, कितनी सुविधा देते हैं, जरा अपने रिकार्ड को देखें, तब आप को मालूम होगा कि उस जगह की बैकवर्डनेस को दूर करने के लिये वह कितना इनएडीक्वेट है। क्या आप कभी इस के बारे में सोचते हैं, अगर सोचते हैं तो आप जरूर इस नतीजे पर पहुँचेंगे कि उन को आगे बढ़ाने के लिये नेशनल मेनस्ट्रीम में दूसरी स्टेट्स के बराबर लाने में आप के प्रयास काफी नहीं हैं। यदि आप समझते हैं कि आप ने बहुत कुछ किया है तो कृपा कर मुझे बताइये कि आप ने क्या किया है तथा उस के क्या परिणाम निकले हैं?

वहा बिजनेस इस्टेब्लिश करने के लिये, उद्योग घन्धे लगाने के लिये आप ने कुछ कन्सेशन देते की घोषणा की थी, लेकिन कोई बिजनेस इस्टेब्लिश नहीं हुआ, कोई इण्डस्ट्री वहाँ नहीं लगी—खास कर नार्थ बिहार में। उस कन्सेशन का लाभ हम लोग उठा नहीं सके, हो सकता है कि हमारे पास पैके की कमी है या एन्टरप्रायर्स नहीं

हैं। लेकिन ऐसी स्थिति में आप को देखना चाहिये कि कहीं बाहर से लोगों को ला कर इस्टेब्लिश करते, दूसरे राज्यों के एन्टरप्रायर्स को आमन्त्रित कर के वहाँ के उद्योग घन्धे लगवाते—लेकिन ऐसा कुछ नहीं हुआ।

आज स्टेट्स में प्राइवेट मनी-लेण्डिंग करीब करीब बन्द हो चुकी है, प्राइवेट मनी लेण्डर्स अब गरीबों को पैसा देना नहीं चाहते, करल एरियाज में आज यह स्थिति पैदा हो गई है कि रोजवर्ती के कामों के लिये भी पैसा उधार नहीं मिल रहा है। आप बतलाइये—बीकर सैवशन के लोग ऐसी स्थिति में क्या करें, कहाँ जायें? हम लोग वाण्डेड लेबर भिस्म को हटा रहे हैं, लेकिन दूसरी तरफ उन गरीबों की मदद के लिये कोई व्यवस्था नहीं कर रहे हैं। आप ने बैंक्स खोले हैं, लेकिन उन का आपरेशन केवल 10 मील के एरिये में ही हो पाता है। हम को कोई आर्गेनिजेशन ऐसी जरूर बनानी चाहिये जो उन को एग्जीक्यूटिव आपरेशन के लिये, प्राइवेट के लिये उन की जरूरत के अनुभार फोरम पैसा दे सके। या तो आप ने जो बैंक खोले हैं उन के आपरेशन के एरिया को बढ़ाइये, यदि यह सम्भव न हो तो हर 10 मील के रेडियस के बाद किसी दूसरे बैंक की ब्रांच को खोलिए, जिनमें लोगों को उधार की सुविधा मिल सके। अगर आप ड्रग तरह का कोई उपाय शीघ्र नहीं करेंगे तो ये गरीब लोग मारे जायेंगे और मनी-लेण्डर्स उन को और ज्यादा नग करेंगे, पहले स ज्यादा तकलीफ इन गरीबों को उठानी पड़ेगी।

तीसरी बात—आप अपनी बजट प्रपोजल्स को इम्प्लीमेंट करने के लिये जो बिल लाये हैं, इस के पास हो जाने के बाद इन को इम्प्लीमेंट कौन करेगा? आप की व्यूरोक्रेमी इस को इम्प्लीमेंट करेगी। अगर आप अपनी व्यूरोक्रेमी को पहले से लाकीव नहीं करेंगे तो इस का बहुत मिश्रण होता है, सही सही इम्प्लीमेंटेशन नहीं होता है। आप

की संज्ञा क्या है और वे लोग क्या करते हैं— मैं एक बिहार का उदाहरण आप के सामने रख रहा हूँ। आप के कस्टम डिपार्टमेंट में ही एक हैड-आफ-दि-डिपार्टमेंट हैं उनकी गति विधि संदेह से परे नहीं हैं। जब एक हैड-आफ-दि डिपार्टमेंट ही अनस्कूपलस हो जाता है, मोटिवेशन से काम करता है, उस का परिणाम यह होता है कि न केवल आप का रेवेन्यू मारा जाता है, बल्कि सारे डिपार्टमेंट में एक तहलका-सा मच जाता है, सब लोग तकलीफ में पड़ जाते हैं। आप जरा एम्कशायरी करा कर देखिये— दो वर्ष पहले उन की लड़की की शादी हुई थी, 50 हजार रुपये के मिफ्ट्स आये—कहाँ से आये, क्यों आये? अभी उन्होंने मकान बनवाया है, कैसे बना? यह कहा से आता है। ट्रांसफर वगैरह भी बिना कंसीडरेशन के नहीं होते। सोही एक जगह है पटना में वहा एक पोस्ट थो सुपरिन्टेण्डेण्ट की, एक आदमी को ऐकॉमोडेट करने के लिये उस जगह को डिग्रेड किया गया और इंसपेक्टर की पोस्ट बनाई गई और वहाँ उस इंसपेक्टर को रखा गया। जब वह इंसपेक्टर सुपरिन्टेण्डेंट हो गया तो उसी पोस्ट को प्रमोटेड कर दिया गया। अभी मुझे मालूम हुआ है कि एक आदमी का कैम्बर का अपरेशन हुआ था वह पूरी तरह स्वस्थ भी नहीं हो सका उस का ट्रांसफर पुरनिया कर दिया गया। क्यों ऐसा होता है? कहीं कहीं अच्छी जगह पर लोग 5, 6 वर्ष तक रहते हैं, और कहीं लोग एक, दो वर्ष में ही ट्रांसफर कर दिये जाते हैं। इस प्रकार की अनुचित बातें रोकी जानी चाहियें, नहीं तो विभाग में रिसेन्टमेंट होगा और अनस्कूपल-सबर्निस बढ़ेगी।

आप ने उल्लेख किया है और श्री बी० के० प्रार० बी० राव ने भी इन्टेग्रेटेड रूरल डेवलपमेंट की बात कही। यह होगा कैसे, और खास कर बैकवर्ड एरियाज में जब तक वहाँ फीसिलिटीज आप नहीं देंगे

जिनको कि श्रीर जगह हूँ, ना कैसे काम हुआ? शहरों में तो हों जायगा, लेकिन बैकवर्ड एरियाज इंटैग्रेटेड रूरल डेवलपमेंट कैसे होगा जब तक वहाँ इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर नहीं है। इस की कोई स्कीम बनना चाहिये। के। बात कह देने भर से काम नहीं होगा इसलिये एक स्कीम होनी चाहिये और उ में ऐसा होना चाहिये कि केवल वही बिल नहीं जो कुछ भागे बढ़ गये हैं बल्कि छोटे छोटे गाँव जिन का डेवलपमेंट अभी नहीं हो सका है वह पहले इंटैग्रेटेड डेवलपमेंट में लिये जायें। तब आप देखेंगे कि देहानों की हालत अच्छी हो जायगी। आप का ध्यान उस तरफ जाना चाहिये जहा बेरोजगारी बढ़ रही हो, उन इलाकों की तरफ जाना चाहिये जहा पर कैपिटल इंकम कम हुई हो या स्टैटिक हो या जहा आवश्यक चीजें मुहैया न हो जैसे बिजली आदि। सारे देश का एवरेज कितना है और वहा कितना मिलता है। तो उन जगहों को लीजिये और उन का विकास कीजिये तभी सारा देश एक साथ बढ़ सकेगा। नहीं तो किसी अंग को कमजोर कीजियेगा जो मजबूत अंग भी नीचे आ जायगा और देश का कर्सीनीडेटड विकास नहीं हो सकेगा। इन बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए ऐसी स्कीम बनाइये जिस में सारे देश के बैकवर्ड एरियाज आये और वह भी समझें कि हम भी नेशन की मेन स्ट्रीम में आ गये हैं और हमारे लिये भी सोचा जा रहा है।

SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR (Joynagar). Sir, while supporting the Finance Bill, I would like to say, at the outset, that I am a man who does not generally like to give compliments to anybody because I have some ill-repute. But in this respect, I would like to convey my compliments to our Finance Minister because everybody today is feeling a sense of relief. It is because there is a substantial reduction, that is, to the tune of Rs. 100 crores, made in respect of direct taxes. Now, we can feel that a sense

[Shri Sakti Kumar Sarkar]

of realism has actually been dawned in our economy and also from the beginning of the budget up till this day when we are discussing the Finance Bill, it can be said that there is a real attempt to a pragmatic stand as a result of which the country can really get relief and recover from the stagnation. Of course, they do not agree with me that stagnation has taken place. But stagnation is there; it cannot be denied. It is also true that for the first time a simplification and also rationalisation in tariff and fiscal policies has been done and this will, I am sure, generate an economy for the betterment of the nation's economy. I again congratulate him on taking this drastic step, which is actually a sort of changing the gear of the national economy.

Of course, there are some features which cannot be denied that in spite of these things, retrenchment, lay offs and closures are taking place and the organised sectors are suffering. At the same time, there is no demand for the consumer goods in the market. If you see the newspapers, every article is given for sale with reduction in price. It indicates that the people's purchasing capacity has been completely shattered. That is why so much allure-ment is given to the purchaser. This hard reality cannot be ignored at all. Only giving tariff concessions or some sort of reduction in taxes by the centre is not enough. We cannot ignore the fact that State Governments are also trying to impose duties and taxes which may wash out our programme which you have envisaged for the amelioration of the distress of the people. The real fundamental question is still unanswered, whether we can generate our economy in this way or whether there is any sign of the generation of this economy at all. The minister has been very generous in giving the concessions and I congratulate him on that, but the hard reality is, though we give, there is no receiver. The men for whom we are giving are not in a position to take advantage of it. This is the crux of

the problem. If we ignore it, we will again fail to satisfy the conditions for which we are giving so much to improve our economy. This lacuna of the economy should be taken into consideration seriously.

The tall claim is made that we have increased agricultural production. I am not denying it, but what is the result of it? Have the agriculturists come forward to invest anything in the mainstream of our economy and strengthen it? Agriculture is still the dominant part of our economy. The agriculturists constitute 80% of our people. If they do not come forward to contribute anything to the mainstream of the economy, can you except anything by which our economy can be strengthened? This aspect cannot be ignored. Who will generate the sheltering capacity to give shelter to those who are shelterless at present, the poor proletariats, for whom we are thinking to help by bringing in socialism and by other ways? For them the sheltering capacity of the economy has to be generated. Who will generate it? If the larger sections of the community, namely, the agriculturists cannot dare to contribute anything, how can you except it? The prices which we are giving to the producers of agricultural commodities are not remunerative. So long as they are not remunerative, they cannot create any surplus which will go automatically to strengthen the economy of the nation. To this fundamental question, answer has not been given. Of course, it is very welcome that a 31% increase has been made for generation of the economy in the core sector. But I want to give one warning in this respect. There is every possibility of heavy wastage and heavy leakage of the amount which will be incurred on the core sector because our implementing machinery is very corrupt and I have so many things to prove that. I am firmly of the opinion that if you take up this increased expenditure for coke section, you will not be able to get the desired results. So, I want to put this point before the Minister concerned for serious consideration.

I do not want to pose any more problems and I do not want to dwell on statistics. I have got many more statistics which are favourable to me but which may neither be favourable to the Opposition benches nor to the Minister.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: They reveal everything except the essential parts.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): They are like the Japanese bikini suit.

SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR: Yes, Sir. We have made Agricultural Pricing Commission. They are deliberately doing injustice to the agriculturists. Their recommendation to some extent, is motivated. I am ready to take that challenge. I want to make this thing clear that they are not scientific economists.

I want to put one humble submission before this august House for consideration. I come from a poorer section of the community and I feel that the problems of that section should be taken care of in order to help regeneration of economy. I have some proposals in this respect. This is some sort of a package deal and I am sure, there is no other parallel suggestion at present which can be more fruitful to what I suggest. I suggest that the economy of backward regions can be tagged with all the big projects and complexes which have been undertaken by us, spending crores of rupees on them. Let a mechanism be evolved so that under developed economy of a backward region can come under the direct radiation to the project. I want to clear this point 'radiation'. It means, that firstly assess the necessities of life and other requirements of the people of the newly growing up town, such as food, clothing, oil, meat, eggs, etc. etc. and other necessities, including semi-luxury goods. Suppose we are making a complex like Haldia or Bokaro where crores of rupees are to be spent. First, assess the actual needs and requirements of the people

who are going to work and settle there and then tag one backward region to that growing town and allow to generate the economy accordingly. Suppose, the newly growing up town requires thousand tonnes of wheat. By tagging the backward region let us give extra input to the farmers so that we can get that much of quantity from that backward region by extra production. In this way, I want to say, tag one backward region with one project and get all the produce that are required. Introduce a package programme to producers and ask them to supply to those towns. If some control system is required and if you feel it inevitable, impose it mercilessly. I think the emergency could help us in creating that production of climate. I am ready to submit the details. It would enable us to check the tendency of inflation by corresponding production. I have prepared to submit that paper in details. I am also ready to undertake a survey, if asked for, by which I can suggest the scientific processing that is necessarily to be taken up for experiment.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am sure the Ministry will be benefited by it.

14 hrs.

SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR: The country will also be benefited. I do not want to quote things as a big economist. But I am a student of economics. I have a reputation in my area that I know something about economics.

With these words, I thank the Minister and the Ministry for their realism and pragmatism shown for the first time during the last five years, and for trying to rectify the errors committed throughout these two decades. Thank you.

श्री गेंडा सिंह (पदरीना) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं कुछ विशिष्ट बातों की तरफ माननीय श्री सुब्रह्मण्यम साहब और इस

[श्री गेंदा सिंह]

सरकार का ध्यान बिलाना चाहता हूँ। हम उस जगह के रहने वाले हैं जो प्रदेश नदियों का घनी है। बहा दरियाएं बहुत हैं। मालूम नहीं कैसे, केवल दरियाएं ही नहीं, बहा चीनी मिलें भी बहुत हो गई हैं।

पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार नदियों का बहुत घनी है, इसी कारण से बहा प्राकृतिक आपदाएं बहुत आती है, बाढ़ आती है, सूखा पड़ता है और बरबादी होती है। यह तो सब होता ही है।

सन् 1931 में इसी बिहार और उत्तर प्रदेश में चीनी की मिलें बन गई, जिससे एक बड़ी सम्पत्ति बहा आई। लेकिन कुछ ही दिनों में इस इलाके को इन्होंने डेजर्ट बना दिया। इसको ऐसा बना दिया कि हिन्दुस्तान में इसे सबसे गरीब हिस्सा बना दिया। आज आर्थिक दृष्टि से बिहार और यू० पी० शायद 15 वे या 16 वे नम्बर पर हैं। मैं बारबार इस बारे में कहता हूँ, लेकिन इस ओर ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता है कि ये क्यों इस दुरावस्था में हैं ?

यू० पी० और बिहार में बहुत नदिया होने के कारण हमको बाढ़ का बहुत सामना करना पड़ता है, लेकिन उसका समुचित इतजाम आज तक नहीं हो सका है। मेरा निवेदन है कि केन्द्र सरकार नेपाल वालों से मिलकर इसका कोई बन्दोबस्त बने और हमें इससे बचावे। अब कुछ बातचीत शायद हो रही है, शायद कुछ रास्ता निकल आये, लेकिन यह जल्दी हो तो कुछ लाभ हो।

हमारे प्रदेश में चीनी मिलें बहुत हैं। सारा भारत चीनी मिलों का घनी है, इस वर्ष तो और अधिक घनी साबित हुआ है। यह दो वर्षों से सारे ससार को चीनी देने वाला हो गया है। हम पहले बाहर से बहुत चीनी मगाते थे, भरतों रुपया बिदेष्टों

को देते थे। लेकिन वही भारत देश आज बहुत रुपया आरैन-एक्सचेंज की शकल में इससे प्राप्त कर रहा है।

कुछ दिनों पहले जो भारत सरकार ने सोचा था कि यू० पी० और बिहार के किसानों को कुछ राहत देने, उस तरफ से ध्यान कुछ हट गया है।

श्री सुब्रह्मण्यम् इस सदन में मौजूद नहीं हैं—शायद वह अपने कमरे में सुनते होंगे। मैं चाहता हूँ कि श्री प्रणब मुखर्जी इस बात को ध्यान से सुनें कि भारत सरकार, बिहार सरकार और उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने किसानों से—दरिद्र और पीड़ित किसानों से—यह वादा किया था कि हम इन मिल-मालिकों से तुम्हारा पिंड छुड़ा देंगे, जो 1931 के बाद से चले आ रहे हैं।

महात्मा गांधी के प्रयास से जब अंग्रेज नील बाले निकाल दिये गये, तो उस के बाद चीनी मिलों के क्षेत्र में ये लोग कायम हो गये। जो जुल्म करने की आदत नील बालों की थी, उस को इन लोगों ने अपना लिया।

स्वराज्य पाने के बाद भारत सरकार ने 1951 में यह सोच लिया कि सब प्राइवेट चीनी मिलों को ले लिया जायेगा। उस ने यह भी फौमला किया कि सारे भारत में को-ऑपरेटिव चीनी मिलों की स्थापना की जायेगी। उस का नतीजा यह हुआ कि आज सारे भारत में को-ऑपरेटिव चीनी मिलों का बोल-बाला है। बहा गन्ना और शक्कर ज्यादा पैदा हो रहे हैं, डेबलपमेट हो रहा है और हर तरफ से किसान का भला हो रहा है। लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार का क्या कुसूर है ? अम्बारन में महात्मा गांधी घाये और उन्होंने नील बालों से उद्धार कराया। लेकिन चीनी मिल बालों से उद्धार कौन कराये ? मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर चीनी मिल बालों से कोई उद्धार करा सकता है, तो श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी करा सकती हैं।

बस मार्गब कमीशन बैठे, तो मिरु बालों ने कहा कि चीनी मिलों का नेशनलाइजेशन नहीं होना चाहिए। परन्तु उस से कितने ऐसे आदमी थे, जिन के पास कुछ बुद्धि और देगभक्ति थी, उन सब ने नेशनलाइजेशन का समर्थन किया और कहा कि समूचे देश में कोआपरेटिव चीनी मिलों को छोड़कर बाकी सब चीनी मिलों को नेशनलाइज कर दिया जाये।

आज जहाँ को-आपरेटिव चीनी मिल हैं, वहाँ किसान रज कर रहा है, वह सुखी है, वह उन को अपनी मिल समझता है और इस के साथ साथ कनज्यूमर को भी लाभ हुआ है। को-आपरेटिव चीनी मिलों की एक काफ़रेस हुई है। उन्होंने यह फैसला किया है कि हम कनज्यूमर का भी ध्यान रखेंगे और जो गड़बड़ हो रही है, उस को दूर करेंगे।

आज उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार में प्राइवेट चीनी मिल-मालिक कोआपरेटिव चीनी मिलों को भी बर्बाद कर रहे हैं, उन को बराब आदत डालने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। लेकिन आज कोआपरेटिव मिलों हमारे देश के लिए रीढ़ के समान हैं, वे देश के इकानॉमिक डेवलपमेंट में बहुत सहायक हैं और उन से सब का उत्थान हो सकता है।

प्राइवेट मिल 31 बरस पुरानी सड़ी हुई मिल हैं। उन लोगों की कोई पूजा नहीं है, लेकिन फिर भी वे मालिक बने हुए हैं। मालिक कौन है? किस को मैं बताऊँ? जरा पढ़िए चेला पति राव की टिप्पणी को। चेलापति राव जो नेशनल हेराल्ड को एडिटर हैं उन से इन मिल मालिकों की सत्ता के बारे में सुनिए। आज उन्होंने एक टिप्पणी लिखी है कि स्टेट शूगर मिल और कोआपरेटिव शूगर मिल के अलावा शूगर मिलों का कोई अस्तित्व नहीं होना चाहिए। चेला पति राव उन लोगों में से हैं जो स्वतंत्रता प्राप्ति के नाम पर उस जमाने

से कुछ करते रहे हैं। चेलापति राव इस काफ़रेस शासन की बचाने वाले हैं। उन से इन के बारे में सुनना चाहिए। मैं समझता हूँ कि वह कमीशन जो बैठा उम कमीशन में भी वहाँ लोग मिलने गये जो मिनो के लोग थे, नहीं तो जो पब्लिक बँकर थे और एच बिप्रीती जैसा आदमी जो केन कमिश्नर था उत्तर प्रदेश में उस ने भी कहा कि शूगर मिलों को नेशनलाइज करो। आज कहा जाता है रूपया चाहिए। कितना पया चाहिए उन मिलों को लेने के लिए? सुब्रह्मण्यम् साहब और प्रथम जी नहीं समझे इस बात को, क्या पया देने की जरूरत है? उन को आज भी रूपया क्यों दें? 31 वर्ष से जो उन्होंने देश को लूटा है, कनज्यूमर्स को लूटा है, लेबर को लूटा है, किसानों को लूटा है उस बूट के बाद आज कितनी पूजी उन के पास इकट्ठी हो गई है। इसका बाद भी उन को और रूपया चाहिए? मैं समझता हूँ कि आज बकत है जब इस के ऊपर निर्णय लेना चाहिए। कल सालिडरिटी डे मनाया गया, उस में प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा और सब ने कहा कि ना-बराबरी वाला काम नहीं चलगा। तो हम को ना बराबरी में क्यों रख रहे हैं आप? मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आज बिहार और उत्तर प्रदेश के किसानों को, गन्ना बोनो वालों को महाराष्ट्र के किसानों से, तमिलनाडु के किसानों से, कर्नाटक के किसानों से और गुजरात के किसानों से हमारा किसान क्यों आप समझते हैं? जरा इस बैंकवर्ड एरिया को देखें। भाई शिवा जी ने बैंकवर्ड एरिया की बहुत चर्चा की। बैंकवर्ड क्यों हैं हम। हम बैंकवर्ड इसलिए हैं कि ये गन्ना मिल वाले भिन्कियत बना कर बैठे हुए हैं और ये हम को नहीं उठने देंगे जब तक कि इन को उठा न दिया जाय, इन को दूर न कर दिया जाय। जो हम कहते आए हैं बहुत पहले से, सन् 48 से हम बात का जिन्क करते आए हैं कि प्राइवेट मिनों को खत्म किया जाय, तो उन को आज स एमर्जेंसी के समय में खत्म करे।

[श्री सेवा सिंह]

मैं खन्त में यही निवेदन कर रहा हूँ कि इस से ज्यादा और किसी तरह से मैं कह नहीं सकता। मैं एक सिपाही हूँ, सिपाही की तरह से कहता हूँ कि इन प्राइवेट मिलों को आप खत्म कीजिए। उत्तर प्रदेश बिहार या और जगहों में छोटी छोटी मिल हैं इन को खत्म कर के ऐसी दुनिया बनाइए जिस ना-बराबरी की दुनिया में हम रह सकें।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur):
Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, some of the concessions that have been recently given have been hailed by all sections. But I was expecting the hon Finance Minister to announce something, to give relief to the middle class employees, at least to those employees who are drawing about Rs 1000 per month. I was expecting that the exemption limit would be raised from Rs. 8000 to Rs 12000 or at least to Rs. 10,000. But it is most unfortunate, when concessions after concessions have been given to those who do not want them, to those who do not deserve any concession, this demand of the salaried people that the exemption limit should be changed and should be raised to Rs. 12,000 or Rs 10,000 has not been conceded. I hope the hon. Minister will still consider whether, after the Pay Commission, after the merger of the D.A. or other allowances, the time has come when exemption limit has to be raised. I would request the hon Minister Mr. Mukherjee kindly to say something about this, telling us or informing this House as to the reasons why this particular demand has not been met.

Coming to the continuance of the CDS, I do not know why this scheme is being continued for another year. What is the benefit out of it? When the prices are coming down, according to the hon. Minister when there is no question of giving another instalment of D.A.—six instalments are already there which have not

been paid. It is under the custody of the Government of India—I do not know what they are going to do with it. How is it that again this CDS is being continued for another year? What is the utility of it? I want that this should be scrapped and it should be done away with, and the money so deposited should be left with the employees—if they want to get it back, let them get it back or if they want that this should be credited to their provident fund account, they should be allowed to do so. But this scheme should not be continued any more. It is just like the gold control scheme. If it was continued, it was continued till it was completely wasted out. This was done with a particular motive. Of course, we are opposed to it. But still if the hon. Minister wants to continue it, let him continue it, because of the huge majority at his command. But we are opposing it and I hope every employee throughout the country,—whether there are middle class or other people,—is opposed to it I still oppose it on behalf of my Party and request the hon Minister kindly to give a second thought to it and see whether this should be withdrawn to the advantage of the working class.

As far as bonus is concerned, it has been reduced to 4 per cent. I do not know what is going to happen to those agreements which were registered under the Industrial Disputes Act? When the quantum of bonus has been reduced, when every employer will not pay more than 4 per cent, why should you punish the workers again with the CDS scheme and why should it be continued for another year? I would request the hon Minister kindly to apply his mind and let us know the reasons why the scheme should be continued?

Now, I am coming to the problem of unemployment and under-employment in the country. There is a race going on between unemployment and under-employment; there is a race going on between lay-off and retrenchment; there is a race going on

between partial closure and closure of many units. What is the total number of units which are closed today? What is the total number of workers today who are out of job because of lay-off and closure? It comes to nearly 5½ lakhs. In Bengal, there were nearly two lakhs of people who were out of job or were having some sort of allowance.

Now some of the mills are going to be taken over by Government. A decision was taken and an announcement was made by the hon. Minister, Prof. Chattopadhyaya that a few textile mills in Kanpur would be taken over. He made a solemn promise here and assured this House that some sort of legislation was being introduced to bring it within the fold of that particular Act, within the schedule of those 103 mills which were taken over by the National Textile Corporation. Even today, when Mr. Raghuramaiah announced the business of the House for the next week, I was waiting to hear whether that particular Bill was also coming and amending that particular Act and bringing these two Kanpur mills under the schedule of this particular Act, but I could not get anything. Why is this happening? Why can the Government not take a decision? Is it because of the employers? I want a clear assurance to this effect when the legislation is coming and when these mills will be taken over?

Another point which I would like to refer to, since my hon. friend, Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee is here, is about the legislation which is likely to come before the House for nullifying the Agreement entered into between the Life Insurance Corporation and the LIC employees' federation. The federation belonging to the INTUC was also a signatory to it. I am told that the Bill will be discussed in the House. We were assured in this House that we will be consulted before the Bill is discussed in the House and that the employees' representatives will also be consulted.

The hon. Minister was kind enough to meet one of the delegations which I led, the representatives of the All-India Life Insurance Corporation Employees Federation. He assured that he would give them a patient hearing. I would like to know when the Bill is likely to come before the House and whether all the employees' organisations—I am not only talking of my own—will be consulted, whether a fruitful discussion will take place and an effort will be made to see that this Parliament is not dragged into this controversy for nothing because the Agreement was neither ratified by Parliament nor presented before Parliament. Why should Parliament be dragged into it? I do not know. I am at a loss to understand.

Then, 15 per cent bonus has not yet been paid because the matter is disputed and there are some cases lying in the courts. I do not know the fate of those writs. Parliament is supreme sovereign and they can take a decision while the cases are pending in any High Court. I am not concerned with that. But a solemn Agreement which was registered under the Industrial Disputes Act should not be nullified like this. This will be something unique. It will be a bad precedent. The representatives of the people who were approached by the Life Insurance Corporation employees throughout the country have given a solemn assurance, whether they belong to this side or that side, will see that the Bill is withdrawn and the Bill is not brought before the House. I would request the hon. Minister to consider this matter and give a categorical reply to this.

Coming to the rise in prices, the prices of all essential commodities are again rising in the country. I know what is happening in Delhi and in Kanpur. The prices did come down. What is happening today? The prices of all essential commodities, whether it is mustard oil or Postman, whether it is meat or fish or egg, everything, are going up. Even the prices of

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

vegetables have gone up. Naturally, I would like to know what concrete steps have been taken to see that the prices are stabilised and brought down.

The other day, I was talking about *padyatras*. The people thought I was ridiculing it. In Delhi, it was arranged so ceremoniously that when the big people or the big shots went on a *padyatra*, when they walked on the streets, immediately, we found that the prices went down and the reduced prices were written on the boards but the moment the *padyatra* was over, the prices went up again. I have seen this happening. What is the use of having this sort of *padyatras*?

DR. RANEN SEN (Barasat): There should be continuous *padyatras*, non-stop

SHRI S M. BANERJEE: I may tell you, unless the wholesale prices of essential commodities are reduced, unless they are controlled at the point of source, the prices of essential commodities are not going to come down.

About multinationals, we have had enough discussion in the House. I am really at a loss to understand why expansion licences are going to be issued to these multinationals, the Philips, the Hindustan Lever Ltd. and to all others. Under what guise are these licences being given? They say, they are manufacturing something which is very sophisticated. What is sophisticated? Is a bulb sophisticated product? I do not understand. Any Tom, Dick and Harry can manufacture a bulb. What about soap, lux, Surf and all these things? These things can easily be produced by our own people. We have to see what we can do about these multinationals and whether permission should be accorded to them to expand their business.

These multinational corporations have exploited our country beyond expectation. They have bled our coun-

try white. This the history of multinational corporations in any country. In every country, they have disturbed the economy of the country. They have also indulged in subversive activities. So, I would request the Hon. Minister to kindly reply to my points.

Last but not least, I want to know about the sixth instalment of D.A. Employees, today, cannot even hold meetings because they are not permitted. So Parliament is the only forum. But now we are having practically a secret Session; the galleries are empty practically, and only those who are interested in Parliament are here. So I would like to know what has happened to the sixth instalment of D.A., whether this money will be paid or not. Nothing will go to the Press, as the Hon Minister tells us.

Then, coming to the pensioners, something has been done for them, for which I congratulate this Government and the Finance Minister. But is that enough for the pensioners? When other people have got six or seven instalments of D.A., what about the pensioners? I would request the Hon. Minister to kindly throw some light on this and to see that the unfortunate plight of the pensioners is also considered with utmost sympathy.

With these words I conclude and would request the Finance Minister again to give thought to the points raised by me.

श्री चिरंजीव झा (सहरसा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं वित्त विधेयक का समर्थन करने के लिये खड़ा हुआ हूँ। समय कम रहने के कारण निकल आयी मैं बिहार राज्य की विशेष स्थिति और खास कर के उसके पिछड़ेपन की और वित्त मन्त्रालय का ध्यान आपके माध्यम से आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। बिहार की जो आबादी है उसका 74 प्रतिशत से अधिक भाग गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे है। बिहार की जो

स्थिति है शायद ही आज हमारे राष्ट्र में इस तरह की स्थिति किसी दूसरे राज्य की हो। फिर भी बिहार को जो कुछ भी उचित हिस्सा उचित सहायता उसको भिन्नता चाहिये वह नहीं मिल पा रहा है। इसके जो भी कारण हों, आज की परिस्थिति में सरकार को विशेष रूप से इस ओर ध्यान देना चाहिये कि देश के जो पिछड़े राज्य हैं, जो गरीब हैं उन्हें समृद्ध राज्यों के समकक्ष लाने के लिये कुछ विशेष परियोजनाओं प्रारम्भ की जानी चाहिये, विशेष व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिये। अगर पुरानी पिटी-पिटायो नीति पर हम चलते रहेंगे तो निःसन्देह बिहार के जैसे इस तरह के जो पिछड़े राज्य हैं उनको आगे बढ़ाने में मदद नहीं मिल सकेगी।

आप जानते हैं 1967 से जो बिहार में अस्थिरता रही है। 1967 के चुनाव के बाद जो अस्थिरता आयी उसने उम राज्य की गरीबी में और भी बढ़ोत्तरी कर दी। सरकार स्थिर नहीं रही इसलिये कोई भी कार्यक्रम सुचारु रूप से नहीं चल पाया। 1973-74 में प्रवेश करते हैं तो देखते हैं कि सम्पूर्ण क्रांति का नाम पर बिहार को अन्धाड़ा बनाया गया और जैसी परिस्थिति वहा की बनी और उसको जिस तरह बरबाद किया गया वह नर्वेदिन है। ऐसी स्थिति में बिहार में जो आर्थिक स्थिति पहले से थी वह भी बरबाद हो गई, वहा की अमन चैन की व्यवस्था कायम करने तथा सुरक्षा में ही भारी शक्ति लगी रही, आर्थिक स्थिति को सुधारने की दिशा में कुछ नहीं हो पाया। गत वर्ष 11 अप्रैल, 1975 को डा० जगन्नाथ मिश्र के नेतृत्व में नई सरकार गठित की गई। यही एक सरकार है जो आज इतने दिनों तक कायम है तथा राज् में स्थायित्व दे पायी है। जब से डा० मिश्र मुख्य मन्त्री बने हैं तब से उन्होंने बिहार के नकशे को बदलने के लिये, बिहार को भारत के नकशे में ऊंचा उठाने के लिये सतत प्रयत्न करते रहे हैं। लेकिन बिहार के पास जो साधन हैं, जो शक्ति है, सिर्फ उसके बल पर ही यह सब कर पाना

कतई सम्भव नहीं है। डा० मिश्र को आन्तरिक अतिरिक्त साधन के बदले में 104 करोड़ का ओवर ड्राप्ट ही बिरासत में मिला था। मैं आभार प्रकट करता हूँ भारत सरकार के प्रति कि ओवर ड्राप्ट से निपटने के लिये इन्होंने बिहार सरकार की काफी मदद की है। लेकिन इतने ही में तो काम नहीं चलने वाला है। बिहार की गरीबी और पिछड़ापन को दूर करने के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार को और भी आगे आना होगा। चतुर्थ पंचवर्षीय योजना की अवधि के अन्तिम वर्ष 1973-74 में जो केन्द्रीय सहायता दी गई है, उसी के आधार मान कर ही पंचम पंचवर्षीय योजना के प्रथम दो वर्षों में यह सहायता दी गई है। श्रीमन्, मैं पहले कह चुका हू कि 1973-74 में बिहार की क्या गति थी और अब अगर उसी के आधार पर इसको आंका जाए और उसी आधार को कायम रखा जाए, तो निःसन्देह बिहार अपने चलने पर खड़ा होने की शक्ति नहीं पा सकेगा। 1960-61 के स्थायी मूल्य पर राज्य का प्रति व्यक्ति डोमेस्टिक प्रोडक्ट 1972-73 में मात्र 229.9 रुपये ही था। जबकि पूरे देश का औसत 333 रुपये था। इस तरह से इस राज्य की प्रति व्यक्ति आय भारतीय औसत आय से 31 रुपये कम थी।

श्रीमन्, चौथी पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत गाइडिग फार्मूले के आधार पर ही सहायता दी गई है। इस फार्मूले का सूत्र क्या है? इस फार्मूले का सूत्र यह है कि 60 प्रतिशत सहायता राज्य की जनसंख्या के आधार पर दी जाती है, 10 प्रतिशत सहायता राज्य के पिछड़ेपन के आधार पर, 10 प्रतिशत राज्य की विशेष परिस्थितियों के आधार पर और 20 प्रतिशत दूसरी दूसरी आधारों पर दी जाती है। अगर इन आधारों को देखा जाए, तो बिहार की जो आबादी है, जो उसका पिछड़ापन है, जो उसकी विशेष परिस्थितिया हैं, उन सब को ध्यान में रखते हुए बिहार को सर्वाधिक सहायता मिलनी चाहिए अपने को ऊपर उठाने के लिए, अपनी शक्ति को बढ़ाने

[श्री चिरंजीव झा]

के लिए और राज्य का आर्थिक स्थिति को सुधालने के लिए लेकिन ऐसा नहीं हो रहा है। अगर इस को इस रूप में धांका जाए कि 80 प्रतिशत सहायता राज्य की आबादी तथा पिछड़ेपन और विशेष परिस्थिति के आधार पर इस दस प्रतिशत है, तो हमारा अनुमान है कि 96 करोड़ रुपये हर साल इसको केन्द्रीय सहायता मिल सकती है लेकिन अभी 68.68 करोड़ रुपये ही सहायता मिलती है। इस तरह से 28 करोड़ रुपये की उस को क्वानि है यानी जितनी उसको सहायता मिलनी चाहिए उससे 28 करोड़ कम ही मिलती है। इस तरह गरीब और पिछड़ा बिहार कैसे सम्भल पायेगा ?

श्रीमन्, जहा तक अधिक साधन जुटाने की बात है, सर्वप्रथम वर्तमान राज्य सरकार ने आन्तरिक साधन जुटाने पर बल दिया है। बिहार की गरीबी तथा पिछड़ापन अपनी जगह पर है, लेकिन इस स्थिति में भी बिहार सरकार ने काफी साधन जुटाने की व्यवस्था की है और अनुमान है कि इस वर्ष वह 47 करोड़ पये की प्रतिरिक्त आमदनी कर पाएगी।

इस तरह 1976-77 के लिए जबकि बिहार सरकार ने अपनी योजना 279.42 करोड़ की बनाई है योजना आयोग ने सिर्फ 242.04 करोड़ रुपये की ही स्वीकृति दी है। यदि इस राज्य को पिछड़ेपन के दुष्परिणाम से निर्यातना है और दूसरे राज्यों के समकालाना है, तो छोटे प्रकार की योजना से काम नहीं चलेगा। अतः इस वर्ष कम से कम 37 करोड़ रुपये की जो पूरक मांग बिहार सरकार ने की है और जिसका मुख्य भाग 20 सूची कार्यक्रम से सम्बद्ध है जिसमें विद्युत्, सिंचाई, लघु उद्योग, ग्रामीण पेय जल के साथ साथ पंचायतों में लघु-निष्ठ हेतु साधन उपलब्ध कराना है तो बिना उसकी स्वीकृति मिलनी चाहिये।

श्रीमन्, मैं कुछ और भी स्थिति आपके सामने रखूँ तो वहाँ के लोहा पिल के बारे में बिहार के साथ किये जा रहे नेद के बारे में आप को कुछ स्पष्ट मान्य हो सकेगा। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि

Against a total borrowing programme of Rs. 1277.77 crores by the State Governments during the Fourth Plan, Bihar's share was only five per cent while certain advanced States having much less population got a higher share of such borrowings, e.g., Maharashtra 13 per cent, Gujarat 8.5 per cent, Karnataka 7.8 per cent, Tamil Nadu 8 per cent and West Bengal 9.8 per cent. The per capita borrowings of individual States varied from Rs. 50.8 to Rs. 11.4, with Bihar's being the lowest at Rs. 11.4. The average for all the States was Rs. 23.4. The relevant figures, for the sake of comparison, are given below: Haryana Rs. 50.8, Gujarat Rs. 41.1, Punjab Rs. 36.8, Maharashtra Rs. 33.2, Mysore Rs. 32.8, Kerala Rs. 30.7, West Bengal Rs. 28.2, Tamil Nadu Rs. 27.6, Rajasthan Rs. 26.5, Orissa Rs. 19.1, Andhra Pradesh Rs. 18.4, Madhya Pradesh Rs. 15.5, Uttar Pradesh Rs. 12.3, Bihar Rs. 11.4, the average for all the States Rs. 23.4

The percentage of investment-cum-credit in Bihar to the total deposits in the nationalised commercial banks in Bihar is given below.

जहा टोटल डिपॉजिट्स 186 10 करोड़ के हैं वहा इन्वेस्टमेंट के लिए बिहार को मिला है 50.6 करोड़। इस तरह से 1971 में जहां 231.99 करोड़ के डिपॉजिट्स थे वहां 52.59 करोड़ इन्वेस्टमेंट के लिए मिला। इसी अनुपात क्रम से आगे वर्षों में भी मिला है; प्राप्त आंकड़े के अनुसार 1973 में भी 448.99 करोड़ की जमा राशि के विरुद्ध में सिर्फ 189.21 करोड़ मिला था जो कि मात्र 41.47 प्रतिशत ही होता है। बाद के

बच्चों का प्राधिकार जो अब संभव नहीं है, किन्तु सहज में ही अनुभव किया जा सकता है कि इस प्रतिफल में वृद्धि नहीं हुई है। फिर बिहार में द्रुत विकास कैसे हो सकेगा ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is granted that discrimination against Bihar is there. It is agreed that not enough justice is done to Bihar as to other States because of the difficulties, but statistics are not going to convince us further; make some concrete suggestions, what should be done.

श्री. जे.ए.ए. : इतना ही नहीं, स्थिति का विश्लेषण आपके समक्ष रखना आवश्यक है ताकि इसके सम्बन्ध में सरकार कुछ सोचे और बिहार को मदद करने के लिए कुछ निर्णय ले। एक बात और है :—

The Fifth Plan resource document of the Government of India indicates a projected market borrowings of Rs. 7,232 crores. If 40 per cent of this devolves to the States, as was done during the Fourth Plan period, the borrowings by the States would be around Rs. 2893 crores, of which Bihar should legitimately get around Rs. 290 crores. This means an average of Rs. 58 crores per annum. However, the market borrowings programme for Bihar State has been pegged at Rs. 25 crores during the first two years of the Fifth Plan period. There has been therefore, a shortfall of about Rs. 33 crores per annum during the first two years. Even if we ignore the shortfall of the last two years, it would be legitimate to expect that during 1976-77 the State Government should be allowed a market borrowing of the order of Rs. 60 crores instead of Rs. 25 crores.

यही बिहार की स्थिति है। मैं आपसे माध्यम से भारत सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार की परिस्थिति को सम्मान देने के लिए बिहार के ऊपर सहानुभूतिपूर्वक विचार कर उचित एवं

उपयुक्त धनराशि देने की व्यवस्था करें। इस वर्ष के लिए 37 करोड़ रुपये की जो पूरक मांगें बिहार सरकार ने दी हैं, उनको स्वीकृति प्रकृतिक दो जारी चाहिये।

प्रो० एस० एच० सक्सेना : (महाराजगंज) उपाध्यक्षमहोदय मैं आपका आभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझे बोलने के लिए समय दिया। मैं वित्त मंत्री जी का भी आभारी हूँ कि उन्होंने करों में 10 करोड़ रुपये की छूट दी है। मैं दोनों चीजों के लिए शिकायत भी करना चाहता हूँ। पहली शिकायत तो मेरी यह है कि उन्होंने इन्कम टैक्स की लिमिट को बारह हजार नहीं किया है। इससे देश में मिडल क्लास के लोगों को फायदा हो सकता था।

मेरी दूसरी शिकायत यह है कि खांड-खोरी पर उन्होंने पिछले साल एक्साइज ड्यूटी बढ़ाई थी। हमने तब भी इसका विरोध किया था। तब उन्होंने इसको वापिस नहीं लिया था। अब की बार भी उन्होंने इसको वापिस नहीं लिया है। मेरी प्रार्थना है कि आप उसे वापिस लेने का एजान करें।

तीसरी शिकायत मेरी यह कि मिट्टी का तेल बहुत महंगा है। देहात में किसानों को वह मिलता भी नहीं है। किसान के लिए यह एक आवश्यक चीज है। इसको उन को सस्ता करना चाहिये या और साथ ही साथ ऐसी व्यवस्था करनी चाहिये थी ताकि किसानों को वह आसानी से मिल जाते।

फिर भी मैं उनको बधाई देता हूँ कि उन्होंने इस साल प्लान साउटले 7852 कर दिया। इससे इण्डस्ट्री को बढ़ावा मिलेगा और हमारी इकोनोमी सुधरेगी...

श्री इन्द्रजीत गुप्त (अजमेर) : पैसा कहां से आएगा ?

प्रो० एस० एच० सक्सेना : वह कहते हैं कि उनके पास पैसा है।

इस साल के लिए एक्सपोर्ट का टारगेट उन्होंने 4500 करोड़ का रखा है जबकि

[श्री० ए० ए० सक्सेना]

पिछले साल 3800 करोड़ का ही एक्सपोर्ट हुआ था। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर वह इस टारगेट को अचीव कर लेंगे तो यह एक कनाल की बात होगी।

1974-75 में जहाँ हमारा इंडस्ट्रियल प्रोद्युक्शन परसेंट था वहाँ वह बंद कर 1976-78 में साढ़े चार परसेंट हो गया जो कि बहुत अच्छी बात है। यह इसलिए हुआ है कि जो कैमिस्ट्री थी उसका पूरा मुटिलाइजेशन हुआ है। नई इण्डस्ट्रीज लगाने की वजह से यह नहीं हुआ है। यह भी एक अच्छी बात है।

नई इण्डस्ट्रीज भाँदि लगाने के लिए आपकी जो फाइनेंसियल इस्टीमेट्स हैं उनकी तरफ से जो कर्ज दिए जाते हैं उनकी तरफ मैं आपका खास ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। उनका जो रकबा होता है वह बहुत बराबर होता है। मैं गुजरात स्टेट फाइनेंशियल कारपोरेशन की मिसाल देना चाहता हूँ। इस केस को देख कर मुझे बड़ा खुश हुआ। मेरे बहनोई मेजर हांडा 1969 में रिटायर हुए। उन्होंने कुछ ट्रक चलाने का बिजनेस किया। पहले पार्टनरशिप में श्रीर बाद में स्वतन्त्र रूप से। उन्होंने बिजनेस करने के लिए गुजरात स्टेट फाइनेंशियल कारपोरेशन से 73000 रुपये का लोन लिया। एक ट्रक उन्होंने खरीदा जिसमें उनका एक लाख दस हजार खर्च हुआ। बाकी रुपया उन्होंने अपने दोस्तों से उधार लिया। वह ट्रक टाटा मरसेडीज वैज का था। आज उसकी कीमत करीब सवा लाख होगी। उन्होंने उसकी कीमत में से 73,000 रुपया लोन से भ्रदा किया। 1974 में ट्रक को चला करके अपने दोस्तों का रुपया भ्रदा कर दिया। ट्रक दिसम्बर, 1973 में लिया था। उसके बाद वह बीमार पड़ गए। उनको हार्ट अटक हो गया। वह लगातार बीमार रहने लगे। वह कारपोरेशन का लोन वापिस नहीं कर पाए। वे लोग आए श्रीर उन्होंने कहा कि क्यों आप सुद बढ़ा रहे हैं, ट्रक का दाम सवा लाख के

करीब है क्योंकि वह एक्सपोर्ट बाइल है, स्टील बीन इसकी है, और नावलत के टायर इसमें लगे हुए हैं और इससे 22 गीयर बाक्स लगा हुआ है। यह बाइल भिलता नहीं है इस वास्ते इसकी इतनी कीमत भिल सकती है। 12-2-76 को वे ट्रक ले गए। 13 सारीज को बल लिया कि 78,000 रुपया आपको देना है और अगर आपने फोरन नहीं दिया तो ट्रक बेच दिया जाएगा। उन्होंने लिया कि ट्रक कुल 25,000 में बिक रहा है। इसलिए या तो 78,000 रुपया जना कर दे नहीं तो इसको बेच दिया जाएगा। उन्होंने फोरन तार से जवाब दिया कि ट्रक मत बेचो ट्रक वापिस कर दो, यह कहीं ज्यादा पर बिक सकता है। 85,000 का आफर तो मैंने प्रेशीकार कर दिया था।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Why do you not write to the Minister? Why give all the details here?

श्री० ए० ए० सक्सेना : उन्होंने खुद कहा था कि सवा लाख का बिक सकता है। मेजर हाण्डा का 29 अप्रैल को स्वर्गवास हो गया।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : मिनिस्टर को लिखिये न।

श्री० ए० ए० सक्सेना : मैं बता रहा हूँ कि किस तरह मे आपके फाइनेंशियल कारपोरेशन बर्क करते हैं। उन्होंने जिस ट्रक के दाम सवा लाख के करीब लगाया था उसको पच्छीस हजार में बेच दिया। यह बड़ा संघीन माबला है। अगर हमारे फाइनेंशियल कारपोरेशन इस तरह से बर्क करगी सवा लाख, की चीज पच्छीस हजार में बेचगी नो किस तरह से आशा की जा सकती है कि वह हमारे देश की इण्डस्ट्री डिनेव करेगी। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस तरह के मामले जो हैं इन पर बहुत सखी से कार्यवाही करे। आप साथ ही ऐसे लोग जो इन के लिए रिशतसिबल हैं, जैसे डापरेक्टर, मैनेजिंग डापरेक्टर और बोर्ड प्रास डापरेक्टर

के बेयरमैन इत्यादि उनके खिलाफ फीरन बीसा के अन्तर्गत कार्यवाई करें। ऐसा आपने किया तभी हमारी फाइनेशियल इंस्टीट्यूशंस ठीक तरह से काम कर सकेंगी और इण्डस्ट्री डिवेलप हो सकेंगी। इण्डस्ट्री डैवलप नहीं हो रही है। यह इसलिए कि फाइनेशियल कारपोरेशन जिसने हैला करती है, उसमें करप्शन है, ठीक से लोन नहीं देते हैं। इससे लोग बड़े परेशान होकर काम छोड़ देते हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस प्रोर ध्यान दिया जाये। प्रोर उपरोक्त मामले की तुरन्त सी बी आई से इन्वैयरी कराई जाये और गुजरात फाइनेशियल कारपोरेशन के सब डायरेक्टर्स को तुरन्त मिमा में गिरफ्तार कर लिया जाये। किसानों के साथ जो बर्ताव हो रहा है, जो प्राइस उनको दी जा रही है, उसमें उनको कुछ मिलना नहीं है। होता क्या है, कि मार्केटिंग आफिपर लोग बनिया लोगों से मिल जाते हैं। प्रोर वह उन बनिया लोगों की मार्फत किसान का माल खरीदते हैं, इससे किसान को वही 85, 90 रुपये मिलता है प्रोर जो फायदा उसको मिलना चाहिये वह नहीं मिल पाना है। मार्केटिंग अधिकारी और उनके एजेंट बीच में मुनाफा आपस में बाट लेते हैं। इस तरह से किसान मर रहा है, उसकी तरफ ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये।

इसके अतिरिक्त मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि फ्रांस से मिलकर पाकिस्तान एटम बम बना रहा है। हम तो ऐलान करते हैं कि हम एटम बम नहीं बनायेंगे, लेकिन हमारा दुश्मन, जो हम पर कई बार हमला कर चुका है, वह एटम बम बनाने की तैयारी कर रहा है, यह बड़े दुख प्रोर शोक की बात है। मैं इसकी मुखालफत करता हूँ कि हम एटम बम नहीं बनायेंगे। जब चीन ने एटम बम बना लिया है, प्रोर हम भी बना सकते हैं, तो हम क्यों न बनायें? हम को एटम बम बनाना चाहिये ताकि हम दुश्मन का मुकाबला करने के लिये तैयार रहे।

यह बहुत आवश्यक चीज है, मैंने पहले भी कई बार कहा है, लेकिन इस की तरफ ध्यान नहीं दिया गया है।

मैं इन्दिरा जी को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ प्रोर उन से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने एटम बम बना ही लिया है, पीकरण डैजर्ट में उसका एकसप्लोड भी कर लिया है, तो यही क्यों कहे कि वह पीसफल परपञ्च के लिये है, साफ कहे कि हम एटम बम बना रहे हैं। वह झोंग न करें, मेरे ब्याल मे प्रगर साफ कहेंगे तो हम दुनिया में ईमानदार माने जायेंगे।

मैं चाहूंगा कि किसानों को जिन चीजों की जरूरत पड़नी है, उन की कीमत घटाई जाये। फटिलाइजर की कीमत कम की जाये। यह पहले 52 रुपये थी, उसके बाद 104 रुपये हो गई थी, अब वह कीमत 96 रुपये कर दी गई है। यही काफी नहीं है, मेरा कहना यह है कि पुराने दाम किये जाये तो ज्यादा किसान को फायदा हो सकेगा।

इसी तरह से प्रोर भी सामान है, पानी का खर्चा प्रोर लगान भी उनका बढ़ गया है, लगन भी बढ़ा दिया गया है। पर किसान को दाम बहुत कम मिल रहे हैं। जो चीज किसान खरीदता है, उस की लागत कम होनी चाहिये। चावल, गेहूँ, गन्ना, काटन आदि पर जितना किसान का खर्चा पड़ता है इसकी साइटिफिक जांच करनी चाहिये।

मैं प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि आप इस तरफ ध्यान दें ताकि किसान के साथ ज्यादाती न हो सके। फाइनेन्स बिल का हम सब ने स्वागत किया है, मैं भी स्वागत करता हूँ प्रोर प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि इस के माध्यम से हमारे देश को पर्याप्त लाभ होगा प्रोर विकास होगा।

SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA (Balasore): Mr. Deputy Speaker, I feel it as my bounden duty and not an exercise in futility, to shower praises on the Finance Ministry, particularly the senior Minister Shri Subramaniam and our young dynamic Minister Shri Mukherjee for the egalitarian process they have been initiating to reach the socialist economy.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, during the emergency, our agriculture has received a booster. Our industrial production is up. There is enough discipline everywhere in the country—in the Government offices, in the schools and colleges, in the Railways and everywhere. There is peace among the workers and everywhere there is a sense of regeneration that the country is moving towards the path of prosperity and progress.

I must, particularly, praise the work in the Foreign Exchange Control Department, the way in which they have tried to check the foreign exchange racket in this country. After the Chandigarh Session of the Indian National Congress, the Department was able to unearth about Rs. 1,500 crores of black money. The Wanchoo Committee long back ago, felt that the country had Rs. 8,000 crores of black money. But by voluntary disclosure we could have Rs. 1,500 crores. During 1974-75 the foreign Exchange Control Department had earned Rs. 500 crores. This is certainly to mean achievement by the Foreign Exchange Directorate. But I do personally feel that the Department has got to be strengthened by more vigilant officers. Those officers who are corrupt should be weeded out and bold steps have got to be taken in this regard. Also, the Income Tax Department was another seat of corruption; it was a hub of corruption for many years. Although we give credence to the fact that they have achieved some good success in unearthing income-tax arrears, regarding hoarding, concealing of income and all that, my contention is,

what is it that they were doing for all these 25 years in our country? Actually this emergency and this bold step of the Prime Minister has created a sense of fear in the minds of the officers and others that anybody who is doing wrong will be punished and that he will not be able to go scot-free. It is not only the income-tax officers alone, but others in many other fields, who are very vigilant and who are trying to prove that they are very correct in the steps they are taking. What I feel is that the hon. Minister should take bold steps to strengthen the hands of these Income-tax officers who are honest, and he should try to weed out the corrupt elements from the Income-tax Department. To my personal knowledge I know that there are many income-tax officers who have amassed a lot of wealth, to the tune of lakhs if not crores of rupees. I do not know how much their bosses have amassed. There should be a probe in such matters. For the last 20 years they were remaining like feudal lords in this country. In this connection the question arises as to what is it that the Government has been doing for the poor agriculturists, the middle classes and the lowest strata of our society. The small entrepreneurs, the poor people and middle-class people were completely out of the picture before nationalisation but after nationalisation, they do get a share in the economy of the land. The red-tapism and the bureaucratic attitude of the top echelons of the banking department have created many difficulties for the middle class people and they have to break their heads to get even simple forms from these banks to fill in the requisite data. The hon. Minister should be vigilant enough to see that some public relations officers are appointed or some committee goes into it, with public representatives associated with it, so that the cases of these poor down-trodden people, the middle-class people, etc. do not go by default.

I have experience of the performance of the autonomous bodies in this coun-

try and I know that the public sector undertakings are behaving in a manner which is not conducive to the prosperity of this country, in this new atmosphere or new system which has been created in the country after emergency. There is increasing expenditure, there is no economy in expenditure and the directive of the Prime Minister has been practically thrown to the winds. I can give the example of Rourkela Steel Plant, a joint complex, in the steel world of India. Mr. Darbara Singh who heads the Committee on Public Undertakings may take note of what I say. For achieving the targeted production of 10 million tonnes capacity, they had a huge celebration. Do you know how much they had spent? The Government report is Rs. 6½ lakhs, but my report is, Rs. 20 lakhs. I say Government report because in answer to my question the Minister said that this was Rs. 6½ lakhs. But I know that the expenditure was more than Rs. 20 lakhs. If all public sector undertakings go on celebrating like this, the country will lose even Rs. 500 crores in one year by way of these celebrations alone. Is there any instance of celebration being held because target has been reached anywhere in the world? If Bokaro, Durgapur, Bhilai and other units go on celebrating like this, we will be losing even Rs. 500 crores in one year.

Sir, the hon. Minister may kindly send a note to the Steel Minister to enquire into the fact as to what justification was there for celebrating the achievement. Who took the lion's credit in the celebration?—General Manager, the Directors and the Officers. But, nothing went for the Prime Minister's 20—Point Programme. It is the emergency which has emboldened the workers and the management; it has made the workers to put in their heart and soul to reach the target. It should have been a celebration to give a booster to the workers, the labour population in the country and not a celebration to highlight the achievements of the management.

What are we finding generally in the public sector undertakings? We only find officers who are corrupt and against whom there are C.B.I. Reports and the report of Vigilance Commission, and who are going scot-free. The small employees against whom there are flimsy charges of some lacunae, some irresponsibilities or something, are being driven out because in the emergency, they have no means of redress.

So, I bring this before the notice of the hon. Minister. This ministry may be coordinated in a manner to see that the fruits of emergency are enjoyed by the country in general and the workers and peasants in particular and not by the management, by the bureaucrats and by top police officials.

Sir, I shall also bring before the hon. House one thing. The cycle industry is to-day facing hardship. Sir, to be frank, it is we who are the users of these cycles. Hardship has been created to the bicycle industry because of the change in the entry of item No. 35 the Fourth Schedule dropping the cycle from the list. As a result, 1 per cent *ad valorem* is introduced in the last year's budget and it has become leviable on the bicycles manufactured in the country. Sir, the Unions in the cycle industry came to me with this and said that it would be the users who would suffer and not the cycle industry.

So, the hon. Minister may kindly see whether the officers on the Central Board of Excise and Customs have done justice to this. They have made the whole thing ambiguous by making the new order. The definition given to the cycle is cycle (Assembled). Everybody is aware of the fact that the cycles are despatched from the factory in loose parts and the assembly is done by the dealer at his shop. The main reason for the rural people for going for the cycle is the fact that the buyer gets the cycle because of this fact that he gets his cycle assembled at the shop in his presence. So, I hope that the hon. Minister will kindly look into it and see that this one

[Shri Shyam Sunder Mohapatra]

per cent excise duty which has been now levied is done away with.

Another fact I want to bring to your kind notice is this. India has great, potentially developed, hotel industry. I have found that the reputation of the Indian hotels has gone outside the country. I can say this with confidence because our Ashoka Hotel, Janpath Hotel and even the little Ranjeet Hotel have all been built by the ITDC and they are remarkable showpieces in our country which can be compared with the many best hotels of the world. There is a great demand for the Indian hotels, technical knowhow in the Middleeast countries, in Iran, in Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Iraq and everywhere. When I went there they said that they wanted the Indian Hotels. The ITDC has the expertise. They want their expertise and the technical knowhow. This should go there. ITDC has earned a profit. Our Ashoka Hotel, Akbar Hotel or Janpath Hotel have earned profits. With the expertise that we have developed, we must try to despatch it to foreign countries.

In this connection, I would like to stress one more thing and I shall conclude before 3 P.M. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, about the public sector undertakings, our Government recently spoke that they are making profits and that they are not losing. It is only the private sector which is prospering. We have to depend on the potentiality of the workers in the public sectors. Government must have faith in the workers and they should not repose faith only on the managerial class. I know of one public sector, namely, the NMDC which has made a remarkable progress. In Calcutta newspapers, *Business Standard*, they have spoken in unequivocal language on the management of NMDC that it has done remarkably well during the last two years. I do not know what has provided the leadership there in NMDC. Probably the Chairman, Shri Billimoria is responsible for that be-

cause he is considered as one of the senior managerial personnel. I feel that it is good management and labour relations which give the prosperity that can give a firm backing to the public sector undertakings, and if the Government reposes faith in the leadership of the workers and gives a booster to the workers' union and strengthen their hands there is no denying the fact that all the public sector units will be successful.

15.00 hrs.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members for making their observations and it is really encouraging to note that most of the Members have appreciated the viewpoints from which the budget of the current financial year and amendments of the Finance Bill have been presented by the Finance Minister.

In the customary way after presenting the Budget when we get the reactions and representations also from the various institutions and Chambers certain amendments of the provisions are made and this year also there was no exception but at the same time it is interesting to note that perhaps we had to make minimum number of changes in the Finance Bill because neither the Members of Parliament nor the persons outside have much to suggest.

15.01 hrs.

[SHRI P. PARATHASARTHY *in the Chair*]

One point has been raised. It was raised during the general discussion on Budget and has been repeated by some Members also during the discussion of the Finance Bill. Whether the concessions we have given—both on the direct tax side as well as on the indirect tax side—would produce the results and pondering on that thesis some of the hon'ble Members have

come to the conclusion that it has failed because the expected buoyancy in the economy as a result of the concessions is not visible. I would like to submit most humbly and respectfully that today is the 14th May and just eight weeks back we presented the budget proposals on the Floor of the House and, perhaps, it is too early to come to the conclusion that the various provisions made have not yielded the result and, as such, they have failed. Sir, it takes some time and it will be too early to arrive at a decision that it would not go in the desired way. The basic principle which prompted the Finance Minister to introduce these concessions is clearly known and I would not like to repeat it. I would only like to add one point, that is, in a developing economy like ours the taxation policy can never be confined merely to realise the revenue and fill the coffers. Sir, this is one of the most important instrument at the hands of policy makers to guide the production and the general health of the economy. That is why this annual exercise is being made by utilising this lever to guide and direct the economy in the desired way. Considering the stress and strain in which Indian economy was suffering for quite some time, I can say, but for these measures there would have been no other alternative but to face more difficult situation for us.

I have explained it earlier, and I would like to repeat it, that when we give concession to a particular industry, it is not merely a concession granted to the individuals thereof, but it is something done to see that the capacity which has been created in the country for which scarce resources of the country have been invested yields the full dividend out of that investment. Therefore it is not a question of whether we are giving concession to a monopoly or to the affluent sections of the community by reducing the prices of articles of elite consumption, but the basic principle behind it is to see that the capacity created, be it in air-conditioning or in TV or in refri-

gration, yields the desired full dividend out of the investment made. If we do not want investment in an area, I submit most respectfully the remedy would not lie in raising the taxes. The remedy would lie—of course, it is with the Government of India—in the field of licensing, if we do not want to create any capacity particularly in an industry, we should see that that industry is not created, that that capacity is not installed. But once the capacity is installed, we shall have to see that it becomes profitable and it stands on its own feet.

While making his observations, one hon. member pointed out and asked why we are not making the credit policy more liberal. I would submit most respectfully that the credit policy of the country, as enunciated by the RBI, is neither credit curb nor in a sense credit restriction. The phraseology which we used and would like to use is selectivity-selective credit policy. In a situation like ours when we have taken some risk, there is no denial of the fact that by keeping some unbridged gap, by placing our confidence on the producers of the country they would respond to the desire of the Government, we would at the same time see that distortion does not take place in another area of the economy.

I would just like to submit one thing in reply to the observations of the hon. member who strongly advocated liberalisation of credit that it is a very fundamental principle of the economy to see that borrowed capital does not become cheaper than savings. Therefore, I do feel this is an area where perhaps we will have to be more selective. If you look at the money circulation in the last few weeks, you will yourself find that no industry is suffering for lack of credit where, according to the national priorities, we want credit flow. But if the resources are limited, we shall have to apply the theory of selectivity, we shall have to see that scarce resources are not invested in producing those commodities which, for the time being, we can do without.

[Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee]

Coming to the area of direct taxes I should like to reply particularly to two or three points mentioned by Mr. Salve. As was usual with his observations in the general budget, this time also he raised the question of drafting of the clause in the Income-Tax Act regarding investment allowance. I should not like to dwell the legal complexity and phraseology of that clause; he raised two points: in which year investment reserve is to be created and in which year investment allowance will be deducted. On those two points sub-section 4 of section 32 (A) is quite clear. The year in which investment allowance is granted, in the same year investment reserve fund is to be created. Regarding the year of allotment, the year in which the aircraft or ship was acquired or the new machinery or plant has been installed, in that year he will be eligible to that investment allowance and if it happens in any particular year he is using the aircraft or ship or installed machinery, if it had been installed in the immediately previous year, he will be entitled to have the investment allowance from the succeeding year of its installation. Therefore, I do not find that there is much ambiguity in it. Of course it is the prerogative of the lawyers, by putting their talent, to make simple procedure complex and you will agree with me that many amendments and changes which we have to bring in are mainly because of their contribution.

Secondly, he has raised the question about the high-handedness of the revenue officers. Certain other hon. Members have also referred to it; I do not rule out the possibility; certain excesses might have taken place here and there and whenever it comes to our notice, we take care of it. As regards those people who are working under me, I would not say that every wrong committed by them has to be defended by us. We shall have to take care and we shall have to look into the problem in totality. In regard to the particular case mentioned by Mr. Salve yester-

day, I looked into that case in detail. My predicament is that there are a series of court cases that have taken place on that particular matter. Still it is sub judice and that is why I cannot explain the view point of the department in great detail. When some decision is arrived at the highest court of the country, you will be astonished to find that the much maligned commissioner had tried his best to protect the revenue of the country. I should not like to cast any reflection on the court; but the way certain courts behave just cannot give an opportunity to the officer concerned to explain the view point and also explain the situation in which he had to act. Unfortunately I cannot discuss that case in detail. At the same time, I should like to submit to the hon. Members that if they bring to our notice any cases of excess or injustice committed by the revenue officers, we shall take action immediately. There will be no denial of the fact. Many times I have given figures to the hon. Members of the House. We have taken action against economic offenders. At the same time I do agree, without I would not say connivance, but negligence to some extent on the part of officers concerned, those problems could not have taken the present dimension. That is why simultaneously measures of an administrative nature have also been taken. I have given the figures many a time as to how many officers have been suspended, how many of them have been dismissed and whoever has the doubtful integrity, we are taking action against him. But at the same time, it has to be kept in mind that they are working under very difficult situation. In a country like ours, we find that out of three-lakh new assesses quite a large number of the people belong to the liberal profession like engineering or medicine or legal profession who are the elite of the community, who are the cream of the society and when they indulge in either to avoid tax or evade tax, it is not an easy job for tax collection officers to discharge their duties properly and fairly. One hon. Member has particu-

Early mentioned that quite a large number of persons belonging to medical profession and legal profession have avoided and evaded taxes. I would not like to make a reflection on any profession on the score of tax evaders or tax avoiders but whatever profession they may belong to, they ought to be condemned. This is a very peculiar situation in a country like ours. That is why instead of condemning them in a blanket manner we shall have to realise the difficult situation under which they are working. It is true that with the same set of people it has been possible for us to augment the number of searches and seizures, more than four times in 1973-74. The total number of searches and seizures conducted by the Income-tax raid party were of the order of five hundred and odd. Just within a period of two years, it has been possible for us to increase the number to 2625 and to increase the value of assets seized from Rs. 4.0 crores to more than Rs 20.0 crores. Therefore, you will agree with me that these people are working as a result of which it has been possible to put a fear in the minds of tax evaders and tax avoiders. The voluntary disclosure scheme is one of the major contributions which has created an atmosphere by way of intensifying searches and seizures, by way of increasing the number of raids both by the Customs Department as well as by the Income-tax Department. One hon. Member has very rightly mentioned that as a result of these measures, our economy is strengthened and the rupee value of our country is being appreciated abroad. I can give you the figure just now. Just before September 1974, the remittances from abroad through legal channel were of the order of Rs. 35.0 crores per month and today they are more than Rs. 100.0 crores. It has increased three times. I would most respectfully submit that it is some achievement, if not a big achievement and this has been done by these officers either working in the Income-tax Department or working in the Directorate of Enforcement or in the

Customs Department. But at the same time, as I had mentioned earlier, I am ready to look into any allegations against these officers, against any particular individual for examination and for act of commission. While making his observation, Shri Damani wanted to know the figures for voluntary disclosures. We have given the figures of the voluntarily disclosed income and wealth. But we have not given the figures of the number of people who have disclosed their concealed income and wealth. The number of declarations on the Income-tax side is 2,45,570 and on the wealth tax side, it is 13,449. The total works out to 2,59,019.

SHRI M RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad) I want to know what is the figure for new assesseses

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE That would be difficult to say. As to whether, for the first time, they have come forward to make voluntary disclosure, I am sorry I do not have that break-up with me

Now, I would like to submit another point regarding the tax administration and improving the customer service. Recently, we had a Conference of the Commissioners of Income tax and in that Conference this point was highlighted to them that on the one hand, we would like to have the legitimate dues of the Government from the tax dodgers and on the other hand we can see that those who are law abiding with all sorts of assistance. Simplification of tax formalities, should be provided with all sorts of assistance. Simplification of procedure, education of the assesseses, bringing out leaflets on how to fill the forms, etc. are the measures being taken now. With the introduction of various schemes taken under the the action plan initiated by the Chairman of Direct Taxes, it would be possible to simplify the procedure and see that we provide better service to the customer.

Quite a number of hon. members asked why we are not raising the exemption limit from Rs. 8,000 to Rs. 10,000.

[Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee]

In 1973-74 the per capita national income of the country was Rs. 890. If we take Rs. 8,000 as the exemption limit, it is more than nine times the per capita national income. A part from that, a salaried man getting Rs. 11,000 per annum will not have to pay any taxes. It is reasonable to expect that a man getting Rs. 11,000 per year will have some provident fund and insurance or other savings of the order of Rs. 900, and if we take into account the standard deduction to which he is entitled, he need not pay any tax. If a man getting Rs. 11,000 per year does not save even Rs. 900, he is not a friend of the society; he should be induced to save something either by way of provident fund or life insurance or some other saving.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I have no life insurance.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: You are not a salaried man. Your electorate is your insurance. I do not think there is any justification for raising the exemption limit. It has to be kept in mind that the total number of assesses in this country is less than 1 per cent. Their number is 36 lakhs while the population is more than 600 million.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: The highest rate of tax was brought down from 97 to 77 per cent and from 77 to 66 per cent. Why not give some concession to the people with lower incomes also?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: We have given some concessions. From Rs. 6,000 it was raised to Rs. 8,000 only last July.

I come to the banking department. I have had two years of experience in attending budget sessions as Minister in the Finance Ministry. Last Year most of the questions were related to anti-smuggling and customs department. This Year the emphasis has been shifted to banking. It is right we are laying emphasis on an important sec-

tor of our economy. I would like to dispel two or three misunderstandings in the minds of hon. members. As I was saying in the morning, by one-stroke we can do away with the territorial jurisdiction and say that a bank can operate in any area it likes. But it has to be kept in mind that the resources available to a bank have some limitation. Only if they function in a limited area, may be 10 miles or 15 miles or any other figure, they can function properly and efficiently. On the other hand, there is need for credit in unbanked areas. The answer to that is not to expand the territorial jurisdiction of a branch office but to vigorously pursue the branch expansion scheme. I can give some figures about the branch expansion, though I do not say that we have been able to take care of the problem completely. What was the situation before nationalisation and what is the situation after nationalisation?

Name of the State	Total number of rural branches before nationalisation	After nationalisation
Assam . . .	20	119
Bihar . . .	47	384
Madhya Pradesh . . .	77	400
Orissa . . .	26	170
West Bengal . . .	42	293

But I do agree that the area under which we are to operate is so enormous that we shall have to expand rapidly. And the problem has been aggravated by the introduction of the legislation on rural indebtedness. Moratorium has been declared and the farmers are not getting money from the money-lenders. That is why, what could be the alternative agency? We are trying to establish the rural branches of the commercial banks as fast as possible. If we could do it with this machinery within a period of

7 years from 1700 to 7000, by no stretch of imagination it would be possible to cover 600 thousand villages within a period of 10 or 20 years. That is why, we are bringing a new institution, the zonal rural banks. Even if we are in a position to have 50 regional rural banks, within a period of one year, they will add an additional 5000 branches. That is why, the answer would be to develop large number of cooperative societies who could be financed by these regional rural banks and who could take care of the problem of the rural indebtedness to a large extent. This is the point on which we are emphasising by re-vitalising the credit societies. And where cooperative credit societies do not exist and it is not possible to strengthen them we have requested the State Governments to take care of the problem and to institute an alternative machinery through which we can provide assistance. The Sivaraman Committee which looked into this point have suggested that even to take care of the problem of the lowest stratum of the society who have holdings of half-an-acre, we have to provide Rs. 170 crores to them so that they can meet their requirements. Money could be available but the agency through which this assistance is to be disbursed—this credit is to be provided—that agency is to be created and the three existing agencies working there could be streamlined, large number of multi-purpose farmers service societies and cooperative credit societies could be built up. I can assure the hon. Members of this House that we can take care of the problem in a big way, if not totally. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members to one point. While answering a question in the morning, I have said that certain State Governments have received funds from the LIC for their housing plan and you will be surprised to find that for housing Rs. 34 crores have gone to three States because they could build up their cooperative structure and they could take the assistance of it. Therefore, if you can create the cooperative credit societies, multi-purpose farmers

service societies and strengthen co-operative movement, taken together with the rapid expansion of the branches of the commercial banks, I hope, it will be possible for us to take care of the problem of rural indebtedness. But, at the same time, I would like to utter a word of caution that we should not be over-enthusiastic and we should not have our expectations to a high pitch because the problem is really serious. Until and unless we can have that organisation and we can mop up adequate resources to take care of the problem, the problem would remain serious for some time to come and that is why, we shall have to put our mind and head together to sort it out.

SHRI D. D. DESAI (Kaira): The agricultural production will get inhibited because we have not provided credit to a large number of small and marginal farmers. Now, having dissolved the indebtedness to money lenders through a decree, those people are not getting credit from any other source. If they are to go to commercial banks and cooperatives, then the possibility of financing them is limited or nil. The credit worthiness of the people are being continuously questioned. Therefore, the Minister is asked to establish rural banks immediately.....

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: The zonal banks are meant for the farmers. These banks are meant for the small and marginal farmers, as also artisans. We have already established 20 regional rural banks; and by the end of this year, we are expecting to have 30 more. We are asking them to expand their branches more vigorously. But at the same time, we will have to keep in mind that we have to take care of the problems of the six hundred thousand villages. That is the enormity of the problem. I am suggesting that if we can build up the cooperative credit societies in a big way within the shortest possible time, to some extent the problem can be taken care of.