

श्री रामरतन शर्मा]

है तब राष्ट्रपति शासन लागू किया जाता। मैं सरकार पर यह आरोप लगाता हूँ कि आपने अच्छी तरह से जांच किये बिना केवल गवर्नर की रिपोर्ट पर यह कार्यवाही की, जिस का मैं निरनुमोदन करता हूँ और आप्रह्न करता हूँ कि राष्ट्रपति शासन में कम से कम जो बातें मैंने कही हैं उन पर ध्यान दिया जाय और मणिपुर को सांस्कृतिक, राजनीतिक और आर्थिक स्तर पर देश के समान लाया जाय।

15.05 hrs.

# COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

## TWENTY-SEVENTH REPORT

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We now take up the Private Members' Business.

The motion may be moved by Shri. Giridhar Gomango.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO (Koraput): Sir, on behalf of Shri Anurnath vidyalankar, I beg to move the following:—

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-seventh Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 9th May, 1973."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am sorry. Shri A. N. Vidyalankar is here. I did not see him. Mr. Gomango has moved it; he is also a Member of the Committee. Now, the question is:

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-seventh Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 9th May, 1973."

The motion was adopted.

15.08 hrs.

# RESOLUTION RE: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF EASTERN REGION

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we take up further consideration of the following Resolution moved by Shri Chintamani Panigrahi on the 27th April, 1973:—

"That this House urges upon the Government to take immediate steps for industrial development of the Eastern

region of the country, particularly Orissa in view of the utter economic backwardness of that part of the country."

Shri M. Ram Gopal Reddy was on his legs. He may continue his speech.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad): Shri Panigrahi has moved a Resolution which speaks of the patriotism he is possessing. It cannot be taken in a narrow sense that he is interested in Orissa only, or in the eastern zone only. He is interested in the eastern zone because it is very backward. If there is any other backward area, he would have supported development of that backward area in this country. Eastern zone was denied its legitimate due in respect of industrial development during the last four plan periods. Industrial backwardness was due to two major factors, nature and man. The eastern zone has got very rich potential. We cannot afford to waste any part of the country and keep it undeveloped. These undeveloped areas are becoming more and more backward, because, the advanced areas are developing at a much faster rate. That is the fate of our country. Sometimes we say that poor man is becoming poorer and rich man is becoming richer. The same thing can be applied here also. The undeveloped areas are becoming more undeveloped. The developed areas are becoming more developed getting rapid progress. Some of the talents which are in the backward areas gets migrated to cities and developed areas. The capital in the backward area gets diverted to the advanced and developed area. That is the fate of our country, Sir.

15.09 hrs.

[SHRI K. N. TIWARY in the Chair]

I want to quote certain figures. In regard to the small-scale industries, about 1.25,000 units are there, out of which 80,000 are in big cities, just like Madras, Bombay, Calcutta and Ludhiana. The rest of the country is devoid of any industrial activity. That is why the poor people are finding no means of livelihood and are migrating to the cities and the cities are becoming very much congested and slums are developing. Most of the cities have become places of slum dwellers and it is very difficult now to clear these slums. When a man goes to the city, city has to provide him many facilities and these facilities cost no less than Rs. 12,000 per head. If this much of amount is spent in backward areas the people from those areas will not migrate to the cities. That will reduce the congestion in the cities and also the people of those areas will be developing. That is why in our

Plan period we have been telling that the imbalances should go but as a matter of fact during the last five Plan periods the imbalances have increased. As no serious effort has been made so far the backward areas are still remaining backward.

Maharashtra accounts for 40 per cent of the total units whereas Calcutta and Howrah accounts for 60 per cent of the total units. So, this is a very genuine demand of Shri Chintamani Panigrahi. In our own country some of the developed areas can be easily compared to the cities of Washington, London and some other cities whereas some of the areas are so backward that they can be compared to the areas of Africa.

Then, Sir, these statistics are very deceptive. If you look at the national per capita income you will see it ranges from Rs. 150 to Rs. 600 in certain areas and in certain other areas it is not more than Rs. 150. If it is split in the villages the income does not go beyond 40 paise per day. Therefore, we urge upon the government to invest huge amounts in the backward areas irrespective of State consideration.

Sir, the amount given for backward area is spent on the salaries of the staff. The Central government should have an agency to see that the amount given for backward areas is spent for the backward areas. In several States the amount given by the Central government is spent on the salaries of their staff. That is a serious charge. Therefore, whenever the money is given the Central Government should see to it that the amount is properly spent otherwise the Central Government should have its own agency to spend this amount.

\*SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Ausgram): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wholeheartedly support the non-official resolution urging upon the Government to take immediate steps for industrial development of the eastern region of the country, particularly, Orissa which has been brought forward by the hon. Member Shri Chintamani Panigrahi. While lending my support, I would briefly try to touch upon the problems of the States in these regions.

Sir, under the British rule, the entire country was subjected to exploitation, the consequence of this exploitation was that the industry could not develop in our country. The lack of industrial growth was acutely felt in the eastern region of the country. But after the attainment of

independence 25 years have gone by and still today we find that there has been hardly perceptible improvement in the situation and the eastern region of the country continues to be backward. The States of Orissa, Bihar (Sir, you come from North Bihar and you know it too well how that part of the country is lagging behind industrially) Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura continue to be industrially backward. It has to be noted here Sir, that these are the regions where a very large number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes live and the economic upliftment of these economically weaker sections of the people depend entirely on the economic development of these regions. From the different survey reports we find that the composition of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people in comparison to total population of the region is as under:

Orissa	Assam	Bihar	West Bengal
40%	24%	23%	26%

The per capita income of the people of this region as compared to the other regions of the country is as follows:

Punjab	Maharashtra	Haryana	
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
945	778	788	
Orissa	Assam	Bihar	West Bengal
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
325	545	402	529

Now let us take up the question of unemployment. The severity of the problem can well be realised by the fact that even according to the Chief Minister of West Bengal and evidence given before the Finance Commission, the total number of educated unemployed in West Bengal is 28 lakhs. The corresponding figures for Orissa and Bihar are respectively 3 lakhs and 14 lakhs. These are the number of persons who have registered themselves with the employment exchange but according to an unofficial survey the number of unemployed people in West Bengal alone is 50 lakhs. I do not know the corresponding figures for Orissa and Bihar but surely the situation can in no way be better there than that prevailing in West Bengal.

\*The original speech was delivered in Bengali.

[Shri Krishnachandra Halder]

Sir, while the all India average of the persons below the poverty level is 41%, according to Shri Shankar Ghosh, the West Bengal Finance Minister nearly 71% of the population in West Bengal are under the poverty level. In Orissa too, 71% of the population live below poverty level and the situation is as appalling in Assam, Tripura and other States in the Eastern region. In the background of such grim economic situation we are astonished to find that far from encouraging the industrial growth rate in this area, the Central Government's own action has contributed substantially towards the continued industrial stagnation if we go by the number of letters of intents and industrial licences issued during 1971 and upto September, 1972. The State wise break up as given below will make it clear how this has been done :—

	Letters of Intent	Indus- trial licences
<b>1972</b>		
Gujarat .. ..	167	11
Maharashtra ..	385	29
Assam .. ..	25	1
Manipur .. ..	1	Nil
Meghalaya .. ..	2	Nil
Orissa .. ..	14	Nil
UP .. ..	191	11
West Bengal ..	93	19
<b>1972</b>		
West Bengal ..	47	54
Maharashtra ..	196	136
Gujarat .. ..	95	6

Sir, on behalf of my party—the Communist Party of India (Marxist) I would like to make it absolutely clear, and beyond all controversy, that we want that Maharashtra and Gujarat should progress economically and industrially. We have no quarrel on that account but at the same time after 25 years of independence, can we not legitimately hope that the other parts of the country, particularly those in the eastern region like Orissa, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Tripura, Manipur, Meghalaya etc., should also achieve the same level of development economically and industrially? Unfortunately it is not so. The people of these States, all during the past years have been treated with an attitude of neglect. They have received a step-motherly treatment and nothing has been done to remove the

economic disparity between these areas and the rest of the country rather the faulty Government policies have accentuated them to make it more difficult and more arduous for the people of this region. Sir, it is absolutely necessary that the regional disparities and the economic disparities that exist between one region and the other is removed and unless we are able to do it we would not be able to achieve national integration in the truest sense of the term.

I would now touch upon another point of importance. Sir, the port of Calcutta is not only a port for the State of West Bengal but it is the most important port for all the States in the Eastern region. All the States have to depend on this port to a great extent for their imports and exports and the country as a whole earns a substantial amount of foreign exchange through the export of tea, jute etc. which is effected through this port. But unfortunately the figures of total volume of trade handled at the port of Calcutta over the years will only go to reveal a sad story of degeneration, stagnation and economic decadence. During 1951-52 while the goods handled at the port of Calcutta was 9.7 million tons the volume of goods handled at the port of Bombay during the same period was 7.6 million tons, at Madras it was 2.19 million tons and at Vizag it was 2.9 million tons. During 1965-66 while the port of Calcutta handled 9.8 million tons of goods, the goods handled at the port of Bombay during the same period was 18.19 million tons, at the port of Madras it was 4.8 million tons and at Vizag it was 14.8 million tons. Thus it will be seen Sir, that during the same period while the goods handled at the port of Bombay increased by 2½ times the figures for Calcutta remained lamentably stagnant. If we proceed a little further then we will see that the situation worsened further. During 1969-70 the total volume of goods handled dropped down from 9.8 million tons (1965-66) to 6.1 million tons. The year that followed i.e. 1970-71 witnessed a situation, which was perhaps the all time worse. The quantum of goods handled during this period dropped further from 6.1 million tons to 6.01 millions tons. Why is it so? Is their any calculated design to starve the port of Calcutta and to make it cripple? Will not a cripple port mean a crippled economy of the State of West Bengal and the other States of Western region? Unfortunately, the port of Calcutta is not getting sufficient water that it needs. The people's representatives of West Bengal irrespective of their party affiliations had demanded that the port of Calcutta should be given a minimum of 40 thousand cusecs of water and even though a temporary arrangement has been made no efforts are being made to solve the problem on a permanent footing.

I must also say in this connection Sir, that along with the port of Calcutta the other ports of the region need to be developed at much faster pace than at present. The port of Paradeep must be developed and it is also necessary that the work on the shipyard at Haldia should be expedited. I would also demand that the capacity of fertilizer project at Haldia should be raised from 2.5 million tons to 5 million tons.

Sir, it is by now quite evident that the entire eastern region is having a treatment which is far from equitable and how long and for how many years more are we to remain content with the step-motherly treatment that is being given to us? Sir, the State of West Bengal contribute to the Central divisible pool a sum of no less than Rs. 250 crores but in return it gets a paltry sum of Rs. 60 crores a year only. How can you expect a State to progress and prosper economically with this small amount and more so when its own contribution to the national fund is so impressively massive.

Sir, Bankura, Birbhum and Purulia are the backward regions of the State of West Bengal. Paradoxically enough these regions though poor economically are quite rich in mineral resources. I would therefore demand that a Mineral Development Corporation should be set up which will pay exclusive attention for the exploitation of the mineral resources of these backward areas and if it so done I am sure it will go a long way to contribute to the economic upliftment of this region. Not only this Sir, we have to pay our urgent attention for the development of necessary infra-structure in this region. A proper economic growth of Bankura and Purulia can be achieved through the creation of rail link connecting Durgapur and Jamshedpur via Bankura while more roads should be constructed to reach the interior parts of the region. Sir, the monopoly houses are being asked by the Government to set up industries in the backward areas and they are also being offered incentives for this purpose. But the net result so far achieved varies from "negligible" to "nothing". I would therefore demand Sir, that the public sector projects should be set up in backward areas if we want to achieve an industrial breakthrough in these regions instead of waiting and depending upon the monopoly houses for an indefinite period.

So far as North Bengal is concerned it is necessary, rather imperative that a detailed master plan should be drawn up and implemented vigorously.

Therefore, Sir, in the end I will appeal to all the Members of Parliament coming from

the industrially backward States of the Eastern region that we should sink our political differences and should try to exert pressure on the Central Government not only in Parliament but outside it. Let us initiate a joint movement to focus the grievances of our States many of which not only suffer from frequent famines but in many even the drinking water is not available, let us work jointly to remove the economic backwardness in the whole area. With these words Sir, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order please. 19 hon. Members have given their names; they would like to speak on this subject.

SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA (Balasore) : Sir, I would like to submit—

MR. CHAIRMAN : When I am standing, you have got up. I am informing the House of my difficulty. But you have got up and have begun to say your own story. Now, there are 19 hon. Members who have submitted their names and they would like to speak on this subject. I think if they take not more than five to six minutes or at the most, seven minutes, then, most of them can be accommodated. Otherwise, if I go on ringing the bell and the hon. Member does not sit, on the one hand it does not look nice and on the other hand the other friends would suffer.

SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA : Sir, I may submit, apologetically, that I may be allowed to speak now, because my plane is at 4-30. I will not take more than three minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But I am calling according to the serial number. By what time you are going?

SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA : 4-30. Because it concerns Orissa also, I wanted to speak for three minutes only.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right. I called Mr. Arjun Sethi. I will call him again, afterwards. Mr. Mohapatra.

SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA : Mr. Chairman, Sir Mr. Panigrahi's resolution focuses on the utter frustration through which the people of Orissa particularly are proceeding now, because there is no economic development in that State which was once is called by Mahatma Gandhi the poorest of all the States in India.

Harijans and people in the tribal areas and remote villages have nothing to stand upon and are working under a sense of great frustration. I personally feel that there is great regional imbalance in our country. Unless the economic imbalance is wiped off through policies and programmes



[Shri Shyam Sunder Mohapatra]

and through action oriented programme, there will be discontentment in certain States which are under-developed in the economic map of India.

Orissa is a State which can be probably called the Ruhr of India, because Orissa has 8 per cent of the total manganese reserves in the country, the best dolomite in our country, 35 per cent of the chromite reserves of India and two lakh tonnes of bauxite reserves, something very spectacular. China clay which is available in many districts is considered to be one of the best reserves of the world. Coal reserves amount to 1.2 per cent of the reserves in our country. With all this deposit, I do not understand why Orissa cannot have mineral based industries.

Out of 13 districts in Orissa, seven districts are predominantly tribal and great reserves of forest products are available in the States. That being so, having an eye on the resurgence of the tribal economy is it impossible for us to have medium sized bamboo industries, and medium sized furnishing industries in the tribal areas? The potential of the forest reserves is 8,05,000 tonnes per annum. That being so the Government of India, particularly the Planning Commission, should consider the setting up of the forest based industries in all these areas.

Orissa has 250 miles of coastal belt. If a similar belt was available anywhere in Europe, probably maritime enterprises would have grown up. I cannot understand why we cannot have a large fisheries department and fishery industry working in the coastal areas, particularly, Balasore, Chilka, Puri, etc. We can even export and earn foreign exchange.

Orissa has an underdeveloped economy, if we can lay stress on medium sized industry and village type of industries which Gandhiji once thought of, Orissa's economy can be changed. Dr. P. S. Lokanathan who once visited Orissa suggested industries such as slate pencils, asbestos bleaching power, sanitary wares, etc. Since 70 per cent of our people depend upon agriculture they will appreciate some industries based on agriculture products. That being so Mr. Lokanathan suggested, tomato canning, straw pulp board manufacture, cashew nut curing, confectionary bone meals and leather curing units to be set up in the rural areas.

Orissa had demanded two jute mills, if I am right. I shall now quote from a Government publication:

"The production of jute in terms of number of bales each weighing 180 K.G.

is; about 2.9 lakhs in 1968-69 and 3.15 lakhs in 1969-70 out of which Cuttack district alone accounts for 2.35 lakhs in the year 1969-70."

This need is felt very much by the people of Orissa. Orissa's production of jute is not negligible, compared to other States.

So, we must have that. There has been a certain other proposal also lying with the Government of India which they should kindly consider so as to improve the lot of the tribal people—rural people—who constitute quite a large population in Orissa.

\*SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER (Nilgiris): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, I rise to say a few words on the Resolution of my hon. friend, Shri Panigrahi. Through this Resolution he has tried to focus the attention of this House on the economic backwardness of the eastern region of our country. Shri Panigrahi has done the right thing by placing before this House the just demands of the people of the States in the eastern region of our country. I wholeheartedly support this Resolution. I would also like to point out that the Members belonging to the Opposition Parties never hesitate to extend their wholehearted support to such Resolutions though they are moved by Members of the ruling Congress Party, because they are convinced of the correctness in drawing the attention of this House to the problems of the people living in this region and to the necessity for taking necessary steps in finding lasting solutions to them.

Sir, I need not say that the social and political unrest in the eastern region of our country is an indication of the backwardness of this region. Meghalaya, Mizoram, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal and Orissa are the States in the eastern region. I feel strongly that it will not be possible to narrate the innumerable woes and miseries of these people even if I am allowed to take one whole day. I will confine myself to referring to a few instances so that you can understand the magnitude of the problems being faced by these people. I am personally ashamed to say these things in this House 25 years after our independence and after implementing four Five Year Plans. The very fact that Shri Panigrahi belonging to the ruling Congress Party has brought forward this Resolution shows conclusively that the Central Government have not paid adequate attention to the economic development of the eastern region.

You take for example Orissa. Out of 46,000 villages in Orissa, only 5,000 villages have so far been electrified in 25 years

\*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

after our independence. Throughout Orissa there are only 1,400 pumpsets. How can we expect the peasants in Orissa to help in the achievement of self-sufficiency in foodgrains production? Without adequate supply of power, how are they going to produce foodgrains even to meet their needs? At this rate, they may have to depend on their neighbouring States for the supply of foodgrains for some more centuries to come. Sir, you know that in our country 80% of our population is engaged in agriculture. If the agriculturists in Orissa are placed in this unfortunate situation, there will not be any surprise if they take to violent means for achieving their ends. Sir, three lakhs of educated and vibrant young men in Orissa are unemployed. They seem to have lost their faith in the capacity of any Government for giving employment opportunities to them. Their frustration naturally reflects in social and political unrest. One of the main reasons for the frequent change in Government in Orissa is the lack of faith of the people in the administration which has failed to meet their hopes and aspirations. I would say that the State Government alone can be blamed for this miserable and unhappy situation. The Central Government by their indifference and negligence have accentuated the intensity of the problems. The Central Government unfortunately are not guided by any economic norms in the matter of helping the States in Orissa. They are inclined to become over-considerate and over-zealous if the Congress Party is in power in that State. They do not mind showing their annoyance through their closed fist if an Opposition Party is in power in the State. Whatever may be the political hue of the party in power, ultimately the victims are the innocent people of the State.

Even if the State Government happens to take real interest in the economic and industrial development of the State, it cannot do much on its own. It has to approach the Central Government for industrial licences and such other facilities. The Central Government have their own criteria in issuing such industrial licences. More than the industrial needs of any particular State, the political calculations sway the decisions of the Central Government. I am sure that even the mover of this Resolution will agree with me in this matter. This kind of working on the part of the Central Government has inevitably ended in creating large patches of economic backwardness in many parts of our country, more patently in the eastern region.

It is not in Orissa alone that this situation obtains. You can take Manipur, which has recently become a State. Manipur is a beautiful little valley, like a shining diamond in a crown. Even after 25 years of independence, there is not an inch of nar-

row-gauge railwayline. Who is to lay the railway line? Not the State Government. The laying of a railway line is in the hands of the Central Government. I wonder how we can call Manipur a State without even narrow-gauge railwayline? One can legitimately arrive at this conclusion that the Central Government have concentrated everything in their hands and the States have got to the servile for centuries to come. I would like to substantiate my contention by saying that, out of the total financial assistance given by the public financial institutions in the central sector during 1971-72, the States in the eastern region have got less than 25%. Similarly, out of the total industrial licences issued by the Central Government, the eastern States have got less than 20%. I am sure, Sir, that the Central Government have for long neglected the needs and requirements of the States in the eastern region.

Sir, the fact that the youth wing in the Congress Party has given an ultimatum to the Chief Minister of West Bengal portends the things to come. This also reveals the scant regard displayed by the Central Government in redressing the genuine grievances of the people living in the eastern region.

The Central Government cannot afford to forget the strategic importance of the eastern region. They should also remember that economic backwardness is a standing threat from within to the nation's survival. I am sure, Sir, that the Government will accept the Resolution of Shri Panigrahi and take effective steps for the economic upliftment of these entire eastern region of our country. Two and half decades is too long a period to contain the misery of the people and unless their problems are solved with the help of planned economic programmes, the Central Government may have to pay the price ultimately.

With these words, I conclude.

**SHRI ARJUN SETHI (Bhadrak):** Sir, at the outset, I am thankful to the mover of this resolution, Shri Panigrahi, for bringing it before the House and providing an opportunity to focus and discuss the major problems of the eastern region. I support this resolution. Mr. Panigrahi, in his speech, has vividly described the uneven economic growth of the eastern region in general and the State of Orissa in particular. I would like to give certain further facts and figures in this regard.

In 1971, only 24 per cent of Orissa's population were engaged in non-agricultural occupations as against 30% in Assam, 35% in Gujarat, 51% in Kerala and the all-India average of 31%. Orissa's urban population in 1971 stood at 8% only as

[Shri Arjun Sethi]

against the all-India figure of 20%. So, 76% of Orissa's population are engaged in agriculture in 1971. The situation is aggravated by the fact that its productivity is one of the lowest in the country. Rice, which is the principal crop of this State, registered a very low yield of 960 kgs per hectare during 1970-71, as compared to the all India average of 1,134 kgs and 1974 kgs in Tamil Nadu, 1,725 kgs in Punjab and 1,369 kgs in Andhra.

Similarly, Orissa's backwardness could be found in literacy, health services, rail and road communications and other fields of economic growth. As against 60 per cent in Kerala, 39 per cent in Maharashtra, 33 per cent in West Bengal and Punjab, and all India average of 29 per cent, Orissa's literacy according to the 1971 census stood at less than 26 per cent. And to this is added the high incidence of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population, which is 38 per cent. If you compare it with the four neighbouring States, the figures are Andhra Pradesh 17 per cent, Bihar 23 per cent, West Bengal 25 per cent and Madhya Pradesh 33 per cent.

While the backwardness of Orissa is not disputed and there will be unanimity in supporting its strong case for special consideration, no concrete and worthwhile steps have been taken in this respect, especially for the development of key sectors like agriculture, industry and irrigation and power. The State planners have catalogued a series of high investment industries, including a nickel project, a lead smelter, an iron ore raising mechanical plant and a ferro-vanadium factory.

Two multi-purpose irrigation schemes at Bhimkund and Rengali across the rivers Baitarani and Brahmani have been initiated by the State Government and sent to the Centre for its technical clearance. But no technical decision has been taken yet although these two projects have been accepted "in principle". Even their sites have not yet been selected. To finalise the location of sites the State Government have been requesting the Ministry of Irrigation and Power to depute a team of engineers and experts to resolve the dispute for all times to come, but no action has been taken so far.

The development of the essential rail communications would most certainly have led to the exploitation of Orissa's bountiful natural resources and would have brought about considerable progress on the industrial front. But, unfortunately, these have not taken place. After the achievement of independence, the railways completed two projects, exclusively intended for export of iron ore from Bailadilla of Madhya Pradesh and Kiriburi of Bihar. The fact that these

rail lines passed through Orissa is an accident of geography. Though the entire district of Koraput is traversed by the DBK railway, no goods traffic has so far been allowed at any of the wayside stations in Koraput district. This has impeded the growth of any industry in the region. This has also seriously affected the establishment of an integrated alumina and aluminium plant in that area for which all preliminary investigations were completed and for which the availability of power would have been no problem.

The necessity of developing a major port at Paradip arose out of the need for export of large quantity of iron ore from its rich hinterland in Keonjhar and Sundargarh and proximity of these areas from the port. The port has been languishing all these years because adequate steps have not been taken to provide the essential facilities required for functioning as a major port. It has been denied the chance to play its intended role because an access along the shortest route to its mineral rich hinterland has not been provided. The establishment of a direct rail link between Banspani and Jakhapura is being delayed on some pretext or the other. A traffic-cum-engineering survey for this line was undertaken about eight years ago. A fresh survey has again been ordered. This gives one the impression of deliberate delay in executing the most viable and essential project.

What is required perhaps is a re-appraisal of the traffic potential and not a full-fledged engineering survey. From whichever angle one may see traffic potential on techno-economic consideration or overall development of a backward region of the country, there is more than adequate justification to proceed with the construction of this vital link forthwith. We have lost enough in iron ore export trade. Still, a lot can be salvaged if we decide to act quickly.

My senior friends here have already said how the Nickel Plant headquarter is now situated in Delhi which is more than thousand miles away from Orissa. I do not understand what is the logic behind such a decision. If the headquarters is situated in Delhi and the project site is in Orissa, how the work will be carried on, how soon it will be completed and the way in which it will be good for the project and the country. I again request the hon. Minister that he must immediately shift the headquarters from Delhi to Orissa so that employment opportunities are given to the local people, specially below Rs. 500 range.

श्री भूष लिमये (बांका) : सभापति महोदय । सबसे पहले मैं अपने मित्र श्री चिन्तामणि पाणि-ग्रही जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ—एक बहुत ही आवश्यक विषय पर संसद में चर्चा करने का

उन्होंने मौका दिया है। मैं सबसे पहले पर्वोत्तर भारत की व्याख्या करना चाहता हूँ। मेरी राय में पूर्वोत्तर भारत लखनऊ के पूर्व से शुरू होता जाता है। लखनऊ के पूर्व से लेकर यानी पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, उड़ीसा, पश्चिमी बंगाल, असम, सारे पहाड़ी राज्य—यह है पूर्वोत्तर भारत और आज ये तीन प्रकार के अन्तर्विरोध और शोषण का शिकार हैं। एक अन्तर्विरोध—केन्द्र-बनाम-राज्य। दूसरा अन्तर्विरोधी और शोषण शहर-बनाम-ग्रामीण इलाका। कलकत्ता के पूंजीपति इस पूरे इलाके का शोषण कर रहे हैं। तीसरा पहाड़ी-और-मैदानी। इस में जितना पहाड़ी इलाका है या वनवासियों का इलाका है, चाहे वह बिहार में हो, उड़ीसा में हो, नागालैण्ड में हो, मणिपुर में हो, त्रिपुरा में हो—ये वनवासी पहाड़ी लोग और—दूसरी ओर मैदानी लोग—यह तीसरा अन्तर्विरोध है। सभापति महोदय, यदि इस इलाके के विकास की समुचित व्यवस्था आप करना चाहते हैं तो सबसे पहले यह जरूरी हो जाता है कि इन तीन अन्तर्विरोधों और शोषणों का आप कोई समाधान निकालिये।

सभापति महोदय, जब मैं उदाहरण के तौर पर बिहार की चर्चा करूंगा तो इस का यह मतलब नहीं है कि इन सूबों के इन इलाकों और अन्य सूबों में कोई फरक कर रहा हूँ। मैं उदाहरण दे रहा हूँ, जिस के आंकड़े मेरे पास हैं। आज फ्री व्यक्ति राज्य-वार आमदनी की एक मात्र कसौटी को ले लीजिये—इस दृष्टि से उड़ीसा इस देश का सबसे गरीब राज्य है और तकरीबन बिहार भी उसी कोटि में आ जाता है। मेरे पास जो आंकड़े हैं उन को देखते हुए मैं कह सकता हूँ कि जहां पंजाब में फी-व्यक्ति औसत आमदनी तकरीबन एक हजार रुपये है, उड़ीसा में, 400 रुपये से कम है और बिहार में 402 रुपये है। आप इसी से प्रारम्भ कीजिये।

सभापति महोदय, आप जानते हैं कि 1965 के प्रारम्भ से मैं इस सदन में इस बात पर जोर देता आया हूँ कि केन्द्र के द्वारा जितनी पंचवर्षीय

योजनाएं बनाई गईं, दो-तीन साल बीच में कोई योजना चल ही नहीं रही थी, वार्षिक योजना चल रही थी, मैं लगातार मांग करता रहा कि आप क्या खाक योजनायें बनाते हैं जब आपको इस बात का ही पता नहीं है कि राज्यवार फी-व्यक्ति आमदनी क्या है। राज्यवार फी-व्यक्ति केन्द्र ने क्या सहायता दी है—आंकड़े भी आप के पास नहीं हैं तो आप क्या योजनाएं बनाते हैं। तीन साढ़े तीन साल की कोशिश के बाद, सभापति महोदय, योजना आयोग के उपाध्यक्ष प्रो० गाडगिल साहब ने 1968 के अन्त में एक पत्र द्वारा मेरे पास यह जानकारी भेजी और इस जानकारी को, जो उन्होंने मेरे पास भेजी थी, आप सुन कर दंग रह जायेंगे। 17 वर्षों में सब से कम सहायता व्यक्ति-पीछे औसत सहायता बिहार राज्य को दी गई थी—99 रुपये।

उसके बाद उत्तर प्रदेश का नम्बर था—101 रुपया, फिर आपके दूसरे जो पूर्वोत्तर भारत के राज्य हैं, उन का भी उसमें नम्बर था। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ—क्या उस के बाद विगत चार-पांच वर्षों में स्थित बदली है या वही सिलसिला जो 1950 के बाद 17 वर्षों तक चला, वही आज भी, चल रहा है—इस के आंकड़े उनको मदन के सामने रखने चाहियें।

सभापति महोदय, अब मैं कुछ तौलनिक अध्ययन मंत्री महोदय के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। आप सब से पहले खेती की बात को ले लीजिये। आप स्वयं जानते हैं कि बिहार के दो हिस्से हो जाते हैं—एक मैदानी हिस्सा और दूसरा पहाड़ी हिस्सा—छोटो नागपुर का हिस्सा यदि मिसाई, खाद और बीज का समुचित प्रबन्ध किया जायगा तो बिहार के मैदानी इलाकों में जो गंगा के उत्तर और दक्षिण में है, इन इलाकों में इतनी क्षमता है—मैं पूरे देश की बात नहीं करता, लेकिन समूचे पूर्वोत्तर भारत को खिलाने की क्षमता इस मैदानी इलाके में है। 1966 में मैंने सुझाव दिया था कि रांची ह्यूी इन्जीनियरिंग कारपोरेशन को काम नहीं मिल रहा है, उस में बाटा है, आप उस में

[श्री मधु लिमये]

“रिंग” पैदा करने का काम करो। आज 7 साल हो गये, फिर बिहार में अकाल संकट है, गुजरात, महाराष्ट्र, उड़ीसा, राजस्थान, सभी राज्यों में है, लेकिन क्या वजह है कि रिंग पैदा करने का जो सुझाव दिया था, अभी तक कार्यान्वित नहीं किया गया। सभापति महोदय, इस का नतीजा यह हुआ। सिंचाई में प्रगति नहीं हुई—सिंचाई के जो दूसरे अन्य साधन होते हैं, कौन नहीं जानता कि फी—एकड़ सिंचाई का प्रबन्ध करना है तो उस में सब से कम खर्चा बिहार में है और सब से अधिक मैसूर में है। बिहार में बहुत कम पैसा खर्च कर के सिंचाई का इन्तजाम हो सकता है, लेकिन यह सरकार कुछ नहीं कर रही है।

16 hrs.

अब खाद को ले लीजिये—पंजाब में औसत 52 किलोग्राम खाद का इस्तेमाल किया जाता है, जब कि बिहार में यह आंकड़ा 9.5 किलोग्राम है। बिजली की खपत की बात को ले लीजिये—जहाँ महाराष्ट्र में 153 किलोवाट-आवर व्यक्ति पीछे बिजली की खपत है, बिहार में केवल 44-किलोवाट है। साक्षरता के बात को ले लीजिये—जहाँ केरल में 60 प्रतिशत से अधिक लोग साक्षर हैं, बिहार में यह अनुपात 20 प्रतिशत से भी कम है। इस सरकार ने एक और करिष्मा करके दिखा-लाया है—10 साल पहले 1961 में जनगणना के समय जितने निरक्षर लोग हमारे देश में थे, उस से बहुत ज्यादा निरक्षर लोगों की संख्या बढ़ाने का काम किया है। ऋण के बिना, कर्जों के बिना न बिरला चल सकता है और न टाटा चल सकता है। कर्जों पर सब कुछ चलता है। बिरला को गावों में फटिलाइजर का कारखाना बनाने के लिये आपने लाइसेंस दिया। 55 करोड़ के वे मालिक बन जायेंगे। उन्होंने अपने पास से कितना लगाया ? बिल्कुल नगण्य। अपनी कम्पनियों का पैसा लगाते हैं। अमरीका का कुली फंड का पैसा मिलता है। वित्तीय संस्थाओं से मिलता है और राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों से मिलता है लेकिन पूर्वोत्तर भारत के जो गरीब किसान लोग हैं

उनके लिए कर्जों का कोई इन्तजाम है ? कोई इन्तजाम नहीं है ? मैं आपसे उदाहरण के लिए कहना चाहता हूँ एक लाख आबादी के पीछे महाराष्ट्र में जहाँ 5 से अधिक बैंक की शाखाएँ हैं वहाँ एक लाख के पीछे बिहार में एक भी शाखा नहीं है, उससे कम है। उड़ीसा की हालत भी उतनी ही खराब है। अगर मुझे मौका होता तो और आंकड़े पेश करता तो बैंकों के द्वारा जो कर्जा दिया जाता है व्यक्ति पीछे उसकी आप चर्चा कीजिए। महाराष्ट्र में जहाँ व्यक्ति पीछे 262 रुपया दिया जाता है, बिहार के लिए यह आंकड़ा 14 है। उड़ीसा की भी यही हालत है। कभी कभी आंकड़े जब दिए जाते हैं पश्चिम बंगाल के और महाराष्ट्र के तो वह ऊपर उठते हैं लेकिन मैं आपकी जानकारी के लिए कहना चाहता हूँ कि कलकत्ता शहर और बम्बई शहर को छोड़ दीजिये, महाराष्ट्र के मराठवाड़ा और कोंकण इलाके में जाइये तो वहाँ बिहार और उड़ीसा से हालत अच्छी नहीं है। उसी तरह कलकत्ता को छोड़ दीजिए, औद्योगिक इलाके को—श्री समर मुकर्जी भेरी इस बात की पुष्टि करेंगे—तो पश्चिमी बंगाल की भी उतनी ही हालत खराब है। वहाँ पर जो कंगाली और गरीबी है उसको देखकर रोना आता है।

16.04 hrs.

[SHRI S.A. KADER in the Chair]

जहाँ तक तीसरा संघर्ष है पहाड़ी, बनवासी और मैदानी का, पूर्वोत्तर भारत की समस्याओं को ठीक तरह से समझने के बजाये नौकरशाही ढंग से और उद्दंडता से पहाड़ी लोगों के साथ केन्द्रीय सरकार ने जो व्यवहार किया है। केन्द्र शासित इलाकों में, यहाँ से जो अधिकारी बनकर जाते थे वे सोचते थे कि मनिपुर, त्रिपुरा यह जो सारे केन्द्र शासित इलाके हैं वह भारत के उपनिवेश हैं, जबकि वे इस देश के अविभाज्य अंग हैं और उन की भी नागरिकता के और लोकतन्त्र के वही अधिकार मिलने चाहिये जो भारत के दूसरे इलाकों के हैं। खैर, धीरे धीरे अकाल और वृद्धि सरकार में आ रही है और पूर्वोत्तर भारत की जो जनता है उसके लोकतान्त्रिक अधिकारों को यह

धीरे-धीरे मानने लगे हैं। चूंकि राष्ट्रपति शासन का अलग विषय है इसलिये उस पर मैं बोलना नहीं चाहता हूं केवल आर्थिक पहलुओं पर ही जाना चाहता हूं। मैं आपसे केवल यह कहना चाहता हूं क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार पंचवर्षीय योजना में कोई ऐसा इन्तजाम करेगी, कोई ऐसी विकास निधि बनायेगी अखिल भारतीय स्तर पर, जिससे पूर्वोत्तर भारत के जो पिछड़े हुए इलाके हैं उनकी सर्वांगीण प्रगति के लिए कोई अच्छी योजना बनाई जा सके? यदि इस तरह की योजना बनाने की उनकी आशा है तो सदन को उन्हें विश्वास में लेना चाहिए। जिस तरह की जानकारी मैंने मांगी है हर राज्य के लिये वह देने की मेहरबानी वह करें, खासकर केन्द्रीय सहायता के बारे में—दो किस्म की सहायता, एक तो सीधे राज्य सरकारों को दी जाती है और दूसरे केन्द्रीय परिकल्प जो विभिन्न राज्यों में लगते हैं उस पर भी पूजी लगती है, तो दोनों का अलग अलग विवरण सदन के सामने पेश करें। इस बात के साथ पाणिग्रही जी का जो प्रस्ताव है उसका मैं तहेदिल से समर्थन करता हूं।

**SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY** (Kendrapara): This is a Resolution which relates to the Minister of Planning. Planning Minister should have been present here instead of the Deputy Minister of Industrial Development. It is really trifling with this House that the Planning Minister should have been absent when an important Debate takes place concerning Planning. You may kindly summon the Planning Minister.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Industrial Development Minister is in charge of it. His Deputy is present here. That is all right.

**SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA** (Serampore): Not all right, Sir. This Resolution is about Planning.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Please sit down. This is not the way to address the Chair.

**SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA:** Otherwise, what is the good of this discussion, Sir?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** When the Chair gives the ruling, you should not challenge the Chair.

**SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA:** I am not challenging you. My submission to you is this. This relates to development of

the eastern region. This is what is being discussed. The Planning Minister should have been present. Otherwise what is the good of the Private Members' Resolution at all? It has no importance, it seems...

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Shri Goswami.

**SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI** (Gauhati): I express my gratitude to Mr. Chintamani Panigrahi for bringing this important resolution before the House. I hope the Minister will take note of the few suggestions and points that are made during the course of this debate. I hope he will treat it not merely as a Private Members' Resolution, but with some amount of seriousness. I feel, not only the question of economic development of the eastern region is dependent upon the successful implementation of this resolution, but, to a great extent, I feel, from the security point of view, from the integrity point of view of the country, both these will be in jeopardy, if some serious steps are not taken in regard to development in the eastern region. I come from that region. I have some experience regarding this region. I can tell you with my personal knowledge that various external forces are trying to penetrate in that region. My own feeling is that some imperialist powers are trying to create another type of Vietnam there in the eastern region. They have been aided by many factors. There are many factors which are aiding these forces. As you will appreciate, eastern region is composed of States with wide differences in language, culture, etc. and because of these differences they are susceptible to a certain extent and there is some element of mutual suspicion with one another. External forces are trying to take advantage of these issues. Government should take serious view of the entire question. Unless something is done, the future security of the country itself will be in danger. I do not agree with the statement of Mr. Madhu Limaye that the proper scope of the Resolution starts from U.P. In that case...

**श्री मधु लिमये :** पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश।

**SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** However, I will not go into the controversy. I will confine myself to the needs of the eastern region. Take NEFA the territory bordering China. Because of various restrictions and various constraints nothing much has been done in this area uptill now. NEFA came nothing much has been done in this area until now NEFA came to importance in 1962 when the Chinese forces put their foot-steps there. It is one of the territory which abounds with various types of wealth. Nothing has been done to improve or explore these things. Two studies were made to which I would like to make a reference. One is the techno-economic survey which was conducted by the Small-

[Shri Dinesh Chandra Goswami]

scale Industries' Service Institute in 1971, and also eight members of Industrial Development Bank of India made another survey and their conclusion was that the inner line regulation should be relaxed in NEFA which has not been done uptil now. I do not understand why? We allow people to go to Gulmarg and other strategic areas of Kashmir. What is there so much of NEFA that we cannot allow people to go to NEFA, of course subject to normal restrictions. The report of this team is that there is tremendous possibility of exploitation of hydro-power, minerals, forests, etc. The minerals which one can find in NEFA are: limestone, soap-stone, marble, graphite, coal, iron-ore, copper, etc. According to Geological Survey of India all these minerals are there. The entire character of the country can be changed if proper exploration of these minerals can be done. I think these reports have gone in some waste paper basket. It is high time that the government should try to find out these reports and make use of them. I know in NEFA if you want to do something it may not be easy. Some outside houses had shown some interest to penetrate into NEFA but infiltration of these business houses will not help unless you put in the mind of the local population an energy to develop their mind on industrial line. It is not an easy task but we must try to educate and motivate the local people avoiding at the same time the risk of sudden change.

Then I come to Assam which in my view is a paradox in itself. Assam today contributes the second largest foreign exchange to this country by way of tea. Assam produces oil the blood of modern development and has many other resources which if properly tapped will transform the entire region. The paradox is that Assam is a poor State in plenty. We express our deep gratefulness to our hon. Prime Minister that it is during her time we could see some amount of interest from this government towards the industrialisation of Assam. She offered a package deal to Assam in December 1971 for a petro-chemical complex; a power and paper mill and other industries. We felt very happy but, unfortunately, again the bureaucratic bungling to a certain extent has come in the way and we request the hon. Minister to impress upon the other Ministries to see that these things are developed.

I have found two constraints have come in the way of development of backward regions. One of the constraint is you cannot have industrial development unless you have proper infra-structure in the region. Unfortunately, when you ask for infra-structure the reply is because there is no capacity for the infra-structure to stand we cannot give you the infra-structure. This has happened when I asked for a

particular line on the south bank of Brahmaputra the reply was that because we feel the freight will not be profitable we cannot give you a train. When I asked for industry the reply was: you do not have the infra-structure and, as such, we cannot give you industry. Therefore, Sir, I say we are moving in a vicious circle. Unless somebody takes interest to get out of the vicious circle obviously the backward regions will remain backward.

There is another vicious circle which I would like to point out. Often, private business-houses or other industrialists are not interested in going to a backward region, because they feel that the atmosphere in the region is not conducive for industrial development, and they feel that the atmosphere is not conducive because sometimes unstable situations have occurred. This instability is there for various reasons, let us say, language, communal reasons, regional differences and so on. It is because of lack of economic development that there is mutual suspicion between one group of people and another; this suspicion may express in the name of prejudice of religion, language and so on, but the main reason is that one is not feeling sure of one's economic position. Therefore, the industrialists would not like to invest money in these backward regions because these regions are not stable, and these regions cannot be stable unless Government try to get out of the vicious circle and make a concerted effort towards industrialisation of these regions.

I hope that the hon. Minister will take note of this view. It is not that the Industrial Development Minister or the Planning Minister will be able to do anything alone. There should be proper coordination between them. I must say here with a certain amount of lamentation that there is no coordination today between the Railway Ministry and the Industries Ministry and the Planning Ministry. If we want to develop the backward regions not only in the eastern region but in the entire country, then there must be absolute coordination between the Railway Ministry, the Aviation Ministry, the Power Ministry, the Agriculture Ministry, the Industries Ministry, the Ministry of Heavy Industries, the Mines and Metals Ministry and the Planning Ministry.

Therefore, let me urge what had been urged even by Mr. Kennedy when he came to India, namely that there should be a proper perspective planning for the entire north-eastern region. The north-eastern region is a region of which many of us do not have a proper grasp. It is a difficult and peculiar region. Therefore, not only in the interests of this region but in the interests of the entire country, I plead with the Government through the hon. Minister that

they should have a proper and comprehensive planning for the development of the region. Let me hope that the planning will not just drop in the bungling of the bureaucratic machinery but will result in some time-bound programme for the development of this region.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before I call the next speaker, I would like to point out that as usual, there is a race against time. The time allotted was 2 hours, out of which 50 minutes were taken on the last occasion and 1 hour 10 minutes remained today. We started the debate at 3.5 p.m. and now it is 4.15 p.m. This means that we shall have to extend the time. We have to take up the second resolution also.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: The second resolution can only be moved.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): One minute would be enough for him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I quite see that. But we must finish this by 5.15 p.m., because at 5.30 p.m. we have to take up the half-an-hour discussion. Till 5.15 p.m. we would have one more hour for this resolution.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar): Let it be 5.20 p.m. including five minutes to me for reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why is he so much in love with 20? Let it be 5.15 p.m. The hon. Minister may take some time to reply. By 5.15 p.m. we must finish this. How much time is the hon. Minister likely to take?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): About 20 minutes.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: I would take about 7 minutes for reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him have five minutes.

SHRI CHAPALNEDU BHATTACHARYA (Giridih): I would also request that I may be given five minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, there has to be a time-limit on speeches. Except for Shri Surendra Mohanty who will be speaking now, for the others, let it be five minutes for each.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY: Mr. Chairman, the House must be beholden to the Mover of the Resolution for his having been invited its attention in a very pointed manner to an issue of considerable importance.

Having said that, I wish to enter a caveat, that Orissa is never a backward State. The people who were once famous in the history of India as empire builders, as carvers and architects of immortal temples, poets of rich literature and navigators of maritime trades refuse to accept that they can be backward. Orissa's backwardness emanated from the fact that Orissa was one of the last States to come under the British in the 19th century. It was only in the later half of the nineteenth century, when we had participated in the war of Indian independence in 1857, that Orissa came under the British. Hence, the British had wrecked vengeance on us by treating Orissa as a colony within a bigger colony that was India. My regret is that the same attitude is being pursued by Delhi today, treating Orissa as a colony of the Indian Union.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: That is the contention of Shri Chintamani Panigrahi also.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY: I say Orissa is not backward, it is not depressed but it is Delhi which is keeping it backward and depressed.

Therefore, when we consider this issue, we have to consider it in proper perspective. That perspective is the removal of regional disparity. I wanted the Planning Minister to be here, not out of any disrespect to the Deputy Minister of Industrial Development, who I know is competent enough to handle this debate, but I wanted to impress on the Planning Minister that since the First Five Year Plan, one national desideratum that has remained is the removal of regional disparity. But my regret is at the conclusion of the Fourth Plan we are where we began in the First. Yet we have taken no meaningful, purposeful step towards removal of regional disparity.

For removal of regional disparity, we have to change the occupational structure. Without it all talk of removal of regional disparity is sheer moonshine. In Orissa, 90 per cent of the people are still dependent on agriculture. Agriculture is so precarious an occupation since according to figures, only 15.12 per cent of the land is irrigated, the rest has to depend on a capricious rainfall. This is the condition of agriculture, but depending upon this precarious agriculture, 70 per cent of the people are living below the poverty line. Herein lies the backwardness, the poverty and depressed condition of Orissa.

When we think of changing the occupational structure, how do we do it? By lifting the people engaged in primitive agriculture from land to factories. But what is the position of factories? In Orissa, we find that the factories are dwindling. In



[Shri Surendra Mohanty]

1968, we had 1129 manufacturing factories; in 1971, it had dwindled to 938. This is the downward trend.

It is really shameful that the Government while acknowledging the fact that 70 per cent of the people of Orissa are living below the poverty line, has not taken as yet any meaningful step to find out why the manufacturing units in the State are dwindling, why no letters or intent and licences are issued, even though Orissa has got all the mineral resources and all the raw materials for processing industries.

One of the great drawbacks has been the lack of infra structure. As you know, Orissa has got the lowest routeage of railway, which is of the order of 1700 or 1800 kms., and even though many demands have been made to open new railway lines, the Government have turned a blind eye to those demands.

We have asked for a second steel plant because we have the richest iron and steel deposits. We have manganese; we have all the necessary raw materials and resources, yet, the steel factories could be located elsewhere for political reasons and on economic grounds, on technical grounds, Orissa's case was given the go-by. Now, we hear that a fertiliser plant will be located in Paradip and also a shipyard. There seems to be a competition now in the announcement of new units for Orissa, perhaps keeping the next elections in view. This kind of political double-crossing . . . (Interruption) . . . Otherwise, the Prime Minister till the other day had refused, saying that there would be no shipyard in Orissa, in Paradip.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you allow me, the Chair, to listen to the speech of the hon. Member? No cross-talk please.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY: What I was venturing to submit is, for those persons who had categorically denied that there will be no shipyard in Paradip, no fertiliser plant in Paradip, to suddenly turn round and talk of new units in Orissa—though it is welcome—we must say that it partakes of the nature of political double-crossing, perhaps keeping the next elections in view. This kind of very alluring promises have been made and whether they will be fulfilled or not only the future will show.

Be that as it may, what I was saying—and this is the most important aspect to which I would like to draw the attention of the Government—is that as yet we have not calculated the growth rate for the various States and territories of the Indian union. It had been promised in the first five year Plan that an index of disparity should be worked out and on the basis of these indices, steps should be taken for the

removal of regional disparities. You will be surprised to learn that even today the Planning Commission has not worked out what is the growth rate for the various parts of the Indian union. Unless we have the growth rate, how can we identify particular areas which require specific measures for removing the disparities and imbalances.

As has been very ably pointed out by the mover of the resolution, Orissa has got all the natural resources. It has got all the water resources; it has got all the human resources. But what it lacking is a purposeful planning, and when we come to purposeful planning, we find a most unenviable position that under the five year plans the rich States are becoming richer and the poor States are becoming poorer.

If you look to the financing institutions, whether they are the Unit Trust of India, or the Life Insurance Corporation or the IDB, you will find most of them investment go to the rich States like Maharashtra, whereas Orissa is being denied its proper share. For instance, the Life Insurance Corporation's investment in Orissa in 1971-72 was a mere Rs. 6.82 crores; similarly, the Industrial Finance Corporation in the same period had invested merely Rs. 5.23 crores in Orissa. The Industrial Development Bank had invested merely Rs. 12.72 crores, whereas for States like Maharashtra and Gujarat, these were much higher: 10 times and may be 20 times higher.

In a State where the per capita investment capacity is the lowest, it is for the Government and for the financing institutions which are commanded by the Government to come to the aid of the people and the entrepreneurs and to make investments so that new units may grow. But this is the result that we find; whether it is the LIC, the Unit Trust or the IDB or whether they are the nationalised banks, all are turning a blind eye on Orissa.

This is at the root of the anger of the people of Orissa. They are more than convinced that the Government of India in Delhi is still perpetuating that colonial attitude, that colonial economy under which Orissa had suffered during the British period.

Therefore, while I welcome the hon. mover's resolution—and I pray and hope that Government will accept it—I sincerely expect, and the people of Orissa expect, that something meaningful something purposeful, would be done by the Government of India to see that these regional disparities are removed and not only Orissa, but the entire eastern region which earns a large measure of foreign exchange resources for this country really gets some benefits and comes at par with the developed areas of the Indian Union.

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE (Basirhat): I thank the hon. Member Shri Panigrahi for moving this resolution. I assure him of my support. Any Indian who moves about in the western part of India feels proud of India because there is so much of economic activity in the western part and various types of engineering industries are coming up. One feels that India is progressing. We, in the eastern region would also like to feel the same sense of pride in the east but development is very much lacking and we do not have that feeling and we do not create that feeling in the eastern region. The western part is growing. We are not envious. But has the western part the infrastructure necessary for the growth of industries? It does not have coal or iron ore. Even then that part of the country is growing everyday and it is growing at the expense of the eastern part. While coal and iron ore are abundant in the eastern part and engineering industries could have been developed very rapidly in the eastern part, the licensing policy of the Government of India has been encouraging industries in the western part, contrary to the laws of economics. We were never able to follow the implication of this policy.

The cash crop of the eastern region, namely, jute earns foreign exchange for the country. As early as 1930 a Commission was appointed which said that the price of one maund of jute should be equal to the price of three maunds of rice. Since then and or of today the price of rice and the price of jute had almost become equal. Nothing has been done to retain the high price of jute. The Government of India imposes excise duty for exporting jute. The Government of India earns money by the toil of agriculturists of the eastern zone. This earning does not go back to this region for its development. This earning is never ploughed back for the development of this industry in that part of the country or for making research for the improvement of the quality of the jute, so that we can face the challenge in the international market. Even today most of the foreign exchange is earned through the export of the jute. The plants and machines that are coming are being installed in some other parts of India. What part of it is installed in the eastern zone? Is the case of Orissa or West Bengal taken into consideration? Early this year, I had been to Assam and I did not find any industry in Assam. It is a matter of shame. How can this country progress together? If one area is developed at the expense of the other, if Gujarat is developed at the expense of Assam, are you not encouraging the feeling to grow in the minds of people that they are being exploited for the benefit of others?

This has to be stopped. If we have got natural resources in one particular part of

the country, that area must be developed. That would bring about unity; that would bring about more strength; that would bring about more prosperity for the entire country. Steel plants have been installed in eastern parts of the country, in Orissa and in West Bengal. If production takes place who will be the beneficiaries? It is the Indian people who will be the beneficiaries. Take for example steel. If you get the steel in Calcutta for Rs. 5 a pound you do get that steel in Bombay at that very price. But, take for example, coal. There is plenty of coal available in West Bengal and in Orissa as also in Bihar. For carrying coal from Raniganj to Calcutta look at the tariff that is added to the price of coal. That will be equal to the charge that you have to pay for its transport from Raniganj to Bombay which is eight times the distance from Raniganj to Calcutta. Has anybody heard of such a contradiction anywhere?

We, in West Bengal, have enough of textile mills. You know the history of this region. Bengal used to produce muslin in huge quantity which was sold at the price equal to the weight of gold. Now, cotton sells merely at Rs. 22 per seer in Bombay and it is sold at Rs. 70 per seer in Calcutta. Why steel sells at Rs. 5 a pound in Calcutta and at the same price in Bombay as well? May be, this is the policy of discrimination. This discrimination must come to an end for the benefit of the Indian people, for the all round prosperity of Indian people. If the Government gives up this policy and looks upon all areas of India as equals then and then only this regional imbalance of which the Government is so much worried about can go. Otherwise this regional imbalance will be there and that would be a sore point in the Indian politics.

I wholeheartedly support this Resolution of Shri Chintamani Panigrahi and sincerely hope that the Government of India will develop the entire India equally and follow that policy which would be suited to the development of all the areas.

श्री नार खन्डे राय (घोसी) : सभापति महोदय, मैं पाणिग्रही जी के प्रस्ताव का हार्दिक समर्थन करता हूँ। अभी एक सज्जन उड़ीसा के बोल रहे थे, नाम मैं भूल रहा हूँ, उन्होंने उड़ीसा को दिल्ली की कालोनी, उपनिवेश शब्द से विभूषित किया। मैं इस दृष्टिकोण को गलत समझता हूँ। यह परवर्टेड आउटलुक है और हमारे देश में नहीं चलना चाहिए। इस तरह से एक सज्जन ने भाषण देते हुए कहा कि साम्राज्यवादी शक्तियाँ भारत में एक नया वियतनाम बनाने का प्रयास कर रही

[श्री आर.बड़े रायपद]

हैं। मानो वियतनाम का सृजन इम्पीरियलिस्ट पावर्स ने किया था। यह भी गलत समझदारी है।

हैं भेरा भी संबंध एक पिछड़े इलाके से है। उत्तर प्रदेश का पूर्वांचल उत्तर प्रदेश के तीन पिछड़े इलाकों में है। देश के सभी पिछड़े जिलों में 22 पिछड़े जिले हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश में हैं जिस में 13 पूर्वांचल में हैं। उन में से एक आजमगढ़ जनपद भी है। इसीलिए पाणिग्रही जी की पीड़ा का अनुभव मैं बहुत अच्छी तरह से कर सकता हूँ। यों तो संसार के उन्नत पूँजीवादी देशों में भारत पिछड़ा देश माना जाता है। उस पिछड़े भारत में भी बहुत से प्रदेश हैं जो अपेक्षाकृत अन्य प्रदेशों से पिछड़े हैं। एक प्रदेश का एक अंचल भी दूसरे अंचलों से पिछड़ा है। उस एक अंचल में भी एक जिला दूसरे जिला से पिछड़ा पड़ा है। उस एक जिले के अंदर भी एक क्षेत्र दूसरे क्षेत्रों से पिछड़ा हुआ है। यह पिछड़ा-पन वैभव विकास की विषमता का परिणाम है। औद्योगीकरण जब विषम स्थिति में होता है किसी देश में तब पिछड़ापन पैदा होता है। इस पिछड़े पन की दो पोटेंशियलिटीज हैं, दो क्षमताएँ हैं। यह विस्फोटक स्थिति है हमारे देश की। मैं इस बात से सरकार को आगाह करना चाहता हूँ, यह वरदान का रूप भी ले सकता है और अभिशाप का रूप भी ले सकता है। आप को अच्छी तरह से मालूम है कि हमारे ही देश के बंगाल सूबे में दारजिलिंग जिले में नक्सवाड़ी हैं, जहाँ से नक्सल-आन्दोलन का सृजन हुआ, जिसने विश्व कोष को एक नया शब्द दिया और हिन्दुस्तान की रीजनीति को इक नई दिशा दी। 1946-47 से लेकर 1951-52 तक उस समय के हैदराबाद के बारंगल, नालगुण्डा, सूर्यपेट और करीम नगर चार जिलों में तैलंगाना का जो किसान विद्रोह हुआ था, वह भी पिछड़े इलाके में हुआ था। पिछड़े इलाकों में क्रांतिकारी सम्भावनाएँ हमारे देश में हैं। हमारे देश ही नहीं, आप दुनियाँ के इतिहास को ले लीजिये—दक्षिण अमरीका में, चीन में क्या हुआ, इन देशों में भी क्रांति पिछड़े इलाकों में, सुदूरपूर्व इलाकों में शुरू हुई। लेकिन

साथ ही साथ एक दूसरी सम्भावना भी है—यह अभिशाप भी बन सकती है। मौजूदा तैलंगाना आन्दोलन पिछड़ेपन से पैदा हुआ और यहाँ तक बढ़ा कि तेलगू भाषा-भाषी उस को दो टुकड़ों में बांटने के लिये तैयार हो गये और उनमें से कुछ उत्साहित लोग तो यहाँ तक पहुँच गये कि स्वतन्त्र मार्क्सवादी सर्वसत्ता सम्पन्न आन्ध्र प्रदेश बनाया जाय। इस लिये दोनों सम्भावनायें देश के लिये हितकर नहीं हैं। अब रियासत के आधार पर ही इस विषय पर विचार करना चाहिये।

मान्यवर, अगर क्रांतिकारी सम्भावनाओं को देखा जाय तो वे क्षेत्र प्रगति के शुभारम्भ-बिन्दु बन सकते हैं, लेकिन प्रतिक्रियावादी शक्तियों के हाथ में इन का अस्मत्त्व चला गया तो देश की राष्ट्रीय एकता की खतरा पैदा हो सकता है, देश की स्वतंत्रता की खतरा पैदा हो सकता है, देश की आजादी की डृढ़ता को खतरे में पड़ सकती है। इस लिये सियासी दृष्टिकोण से भी सरकार, संसद और जनता को इन पिछड़े इलाकों के विकास के प्रति ध्यान देना चाहिये।

मेरी समझ में इस के तीन उपाय हैं—जिन की तरफ सरकार की तेजी से कदम उठाना होगा। पहला—तीव्रतम गति से क्रांतिकारी भूमि सुधार। वे इलाके पिछड़े हुए इलाके नहीं हैं, वे सामन्ती सम्बन्धों से जकड़े हुए क्षेत्र हैं। पुराने राजे-महाराजे, ताल्लुकेदार, जिस तरह से पहले पूरे प्रदेश को अपने नांगफास में बांधे रहते थे, वैसे ही वे लोग आज भी बन्धे हुए हैं। इसलिये सामन्ती सम्बन्ध पूरी तरह से तोड़ कर क्रांतिकारी भूमि सुधार लागू करना जरूरी है—विशेषकर आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में।

दूसरा—औद्योगीकरण की तरफ बढ़ना चाहिये जिस की सम्भावनाओं के बारे में, पोटेंशियलिटीज के बारे में, काफी कुछ कहा जा चुका है।

तीसरा—यातायात के साधन, खास कर पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में बहुत तेजी से बढ़ाये जायें। इन तीन कामों

को कर के हम अपने पिछड़े प्रदेशों के पिछड़ेपन को दूर कर सकते हैं और अपने देश के अन्य उन्नत क्षेत्रों में समकक्ष ला कर पूरे देश को एक समान गति से चलाने के लिये सक्षम हो सकते हैं।

SHRI TARUN GOGOI (Jorhat): Sir, although the country has made progress in various fields, the country is passing through a most difficult period and is confronted with so many problems. The most important problem is poverty and unemployment. The problem of unemployment is becoming more and more alarming. There has been an increase of 35.2 per cent in 1972 over 1970. So is the case with poverty. 40 per cent of our people are living below poverty line. Availability of food and clothing has declined because of the slow progress in the field of agriculture and industry. It is a matter of concern that there is no uniform progress or development in the field of agriculture and particularly in the field of industry. Although one of the main objectives of Government is removal of regional disparity, in fact there is still regional imbalance in the matter of economic development and as a result of which some States are left behind while other States have made considerable progress. Particularly the States from the eastern side, namely, Bihar, Bengal, Orissa, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura and the hill States are lagging far far behind even though these are the States which have got mineral and other natural resources and development potentialities. In spite of all this, these States are still lagging behind while other States which have less development potentialities have developed much and made faster progress in the field of industry. The reason is that these are the States which have been benefited by the five year plans and by the assistance of the public financial institutions.

Coming to my State of Assam, it occupies a strategic place in the whole of India. It is a State which is the largest producer of tea and tea is the second largest foreign exchange-earner in the country. It is the major industry in Assam and the whole progress of Assam is linked up with the progress of the tea industry. It provides employment for five lakhs of people. There has not been much of improvement of this industry though there is great scope for its development. The quality of tea has not improved and the export of tea has declined. There is discrimination in the imposition of excise duty. While in other parts of the country the excise duty is 25 paise, in Assam it was raised to Rs. 1.15.

Coming to oil, Assam is known to have the largest deposits of oil and natural gas, much more than Gujarat. While Assam have a deposit of 69.27 million tons

crude oil, Gujarat has got only 62.02 million tons. While Assam has got 42,460 million cubic metres natural gas, Gujarat has got only 16,780 million cubic metres. In spite of all this, these industries have not developed as much in Assam as they deserve to be. Even though crude oil in Assam was discovered in 1950, it took ten long years to establish the first refinery, the Gauhati refinery, and that too after a great agitation. Now the capacity of the Gauhati refinery is not as much as we want it to be. It should be increased. We have a petro-chemical complex at Bongaigam. Considering the resources of Assam, the capacity of that complex should be increased.

Now I come to the financial assistance received by Assam from the public financial institutions. The contribution of the Indian Development Bank to Assam is only 0.10 per cent while the contribution of the Agricultural Reliance Corporation is 2.87 per cent and that of the Industrial Finance Corporation 2.28 per cent. This is the low amount of assistance which Assam is receiving from these institutions.

In respect of infra-structure like communications, railways and electricity and power my State has got the lowest priority.

In the country there are about 30,000 km. of broadgauge lines, but in my State the percentage is very negligible, only a small distance up to Bongaigam. These are the most backward areas in the country and unless the Government come in a big way to assist these areas to come up they will continue to remain backward. And so long as one part of the country remains backward, there cannot be any unity and there cannot be any integrity. For the purpose of unity and integrity the first and foremost thing is that all parts of the country must be developed equally and looked after equally so that there is no discrimination.

That feeling is also one of the most important factors for the purpose of achieving the object of national integration or national unity.

It is also heartening to learn that the Government has realised the importance of developing that area. They have established a North-Eastern Council. Unless the Council is provided sufficient assistance, just establishing a Council for the development of that area will not serve any purpose.

I hope, the Government will see that all the backward areas throughout the country receive due consideration.

With these words, I extend my support to the Resolution moved by my hon. friend, of Shri Chintamani Panigrahi.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Resolution is really an expression of agony not only of Orissa but of the whole of eastern region. By "eastern region", I mean Orissa, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya, Arunachal and other small States, like Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram.

I will not make any speech today, but I only want to draw your attention to facts and figures. Taking jute, tea, iron ore, coal and other minerals, like, mica, manganese and also iron and steel industries, engineering industries—taking all these together, perhaps the eastern region makes the largest quantum of contribution of national income to our country. But what to speak of proportionate return of benefit it does not get even equitable financial and other benefits from the Centre.

I will not make any speech but I will only cite certain statistics and most of the statistics I have got in reply to my Questions put to the Government during the budget session. I will quote only a few replies to my Questions.

According to a reply to my Question, 69 lakhs of registered unemployed educated youths are there in the whole of our country out of which 14.7 lakhs are in West Bengal alone which means 22 per cent of total educated unemployed. If you take the whole of the eastern region, it will be about 37 lakhs. But, unfortunately, under the Central crash programme of employment, not even 20 per cent of the benefit has gone to the eastern region.

Then, although there are many denials from the Centre, the West Bengal Government has made a complaint that during the last three years, Rs. 800 crores of capital has been shifted from West Bengal to outside. A large number of industries have been allowed to shift from West Bengal to outside.

In reply to my Question, the Government has given a list of 160 engineering and other units in West Bengal in which there is idle capacity. They have admitted that there is idle capacity in these industrial units, which can be utilised. They have said:

"..... there is some idle capacity in West Bengal in respect of industries, such as, electric motors, commercial vehicles, road rollers, railway leaf springs, industrial machinery and auto ancillaries."

Instead of trying to utilise the idle capacity, in reply to my question, they have given an interesting reply and the reply is that new licences have been given—almost the same industries outside West Bengal.

The Minister has referred to me that "these

reports are given in the Weekly Bulletins of Industrial Licences, Import Licences and Export Licences; the weekly Indian Trade Journal and the monthly Journal of Industry and Trade" to avoid identification of these licences outside West Bengal. I have got a lot of data which gives figures that are fantastic. Although idle capacity is there, similar licences for same industries are given to other western regions.

About foreign companies having more than 50 per cent equity capital, in reply to one of the Questions, the names of 16 companies are given and all the 16 companies are located in Bombay.

Coming to rural electrification which is the base not only for agricultural growth but even for small-scale industries and, ultimately, large-scale industries also, fantastic figures are given. Take, for instance, 1969—72 figures.

The figures in respect of pumpsets energised are: Assam only 50, Orissa 592, West Bengal 291, Andhra Pradesh 99,300, Haryana 55,800, Maharashtra 1,14,000, Mysore 58,000, Punjab 37,000, Tamil Nadu 1,84,000, Uttar Pradesh 84,000. There is no necessity for making any comments. The disparity is so obvious.

I now come to the number of closed industrial units showing the position as on 31-10-1972. In the case of West Bengal it was 234, Assam 2, Orissa 4. West Bengal has the largest number in this regard, and no substantial effort has been made to reopen these closed industrial units.

I now come to the financial assistance given by IDBI to various States. Here also the disparity is very much. This is in respect of 1971-72. In the case of refinance, the figures are: Assam Rs. 12 lakhs, Orissa Rs. 31 lakhs; West Bengal Rs. 63 lakhs, Bihar Rs. 82 lakhs, Gujarat Rs. 378 lakhs, Himachal Pradesh Rs. 128 lakhs, Kerala Rs. 100 lakhs, Maharashtra Rs. 550 lakhs, Mysore Rs. 230 lakhs and Tamil Nadu Rs. 275 lakhs. Comments are unnecessary.

Coming to the distribution of financial assistance to the different States, the figures for 1971-72 are: Assam Rs. 6 lakhs, Orissa Rs. 134 lakhs, West Bengal Rs. 103 lakhs, Maharashtra Rs. 684 lakhs, Mysore Rs. 182 lakhs, Uttar Pradesh Rs. 268 lakhs. Comments are unnecessary.

The number of industrial units is backward areas sanctioned concessional finance by financial institutions by 31-12-1972 in respect of various States is: Assam 4, Orissa 15, West Bengal 5, Gujarat 93, Haryana 37, Maharashtra 53, Mysore 52. Comments are unnecessary.

I now come to housing scheme. The grants sanctioned to the various States for 1972-73 are as follows: Orissa Rs. 2.10 lakhs, West Bengal Rs. 4.85 lakhs, Bihar Rs. 11.45 lakhs, Gujarat Rs. 76 lakhs, Kerala Rs. 205 lakhs, Maharashtra Rs. 41 lakhs, and Mysore Rs. 59 lakhs. Comments are unnecessary.

The State-wise break-up of Scheduled Commercial Bank's advances to farmers as at the end of June 1972 is as follows: Assam Rs. 82 lakhs, Orissa Rs. 99 lakhs, West Bengal Rs. 1,000 lakhs, Gujarat Rs. 2,800 lakhs—this is a rough figure—, Kerala Rs. 1,400 lakhs, Maharashtra Rs. 4,769 lakhs, Mysore about Rs. 3,000 lakhs, Tamil Nadu about Rs. 3,600 lakhs. Comments are unnecessary.

About import and export figures, what a horrible figure it has pointed for the Eastern region . . .

17 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I am not making any speech. I am just giving the information that I got in reply to my questions.

By Agricultural Refinance Corporation, the commitment is: Assam—Rs. 1.02 crores, West Bengal—Rs. 1.60 crores, Tripura, Meghalaya and Nagaland—Nil, Maharashtra—Rs. 17.68 crores and Mysore—Rs. 29.85 crores.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You give only the lowest and the highest figure.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Then with regard to the commitment by the Agricultural Refinance Corporation of the Reserve Bank of India with regard to State-wise schemes is: Assam—Rs. 0.18 crores, Orissa—Rs. 1 crore, West Bengal—Rs. 0.04 crore, Gujarat—Rs. 12.10 crores, Punjab—Rs. 5.13 crores, etc. Sir, I do not want to burden you with any speech. This is all in reply to my questions . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should consider that there are others also who want to speak and I have to call the Minister to reply.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Then, what is the number of backward areas chosen by the Government for development? I just give you the figures. For Andhra, they have identified 11 areas. Assam—2 areas, Maharashtra—17 areas, Madhya Pradesh—14 areas, Gujarat—37 areas and Orissa—2 areas, UP—10 areas, West Bengal—only one area.

Lastly, my concluding comments . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: No comments.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Only last comment. As I have said, I started saying that the largest quantum of national income for the centre is contributed from this eastern region and what in return they get—I have

quoted from the Government figures. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to consider that this is a serious matter of disparity and the Central Government should consider whether equitable distribution of national wealth and equitable benefit is going to the eastern region also. I do not grudge the development of other regions, but ours is a country having a national policy. There should be harmonious, synthetic and equitable distribution of income, opportunities and benefits to all States. My statistics have shown enough to justify this remark.

SHRI CHOPALENDU BHATTACHARYA (YIA) (Giridih): In the context of population explosion in the eastern region, a sort of the Alice in the Wonderland picture has emerged where you have to do all the running just to remain where you are and if you cannot do the running, you slide back and you regress. That has been the picture of the past 20 years of development of this eastern region that has brought about regional variations. The rich have become richer and the poor regions have become poorer. That is the sum total that has been brought out very clearly by the two monographs published by the Planning Commission itself.

As a result of this, the Eastern Region has been losing a sense of participation and of belonging and a self-generating growth and frustration and alienation stalks this region. Just as 'Garibi Hatao' means equality, reasonable equality between the rich and the poor, so also this holds good as between rich and poor regions as it is between rich and poor nations.

But we have no data *anchal* by *anchal*, block by block and regarding *per capita* income, productivity and production of food-grains, of rate of savings and rate of investment in that *anchal* itself, the level of unemployment and consequently regional variations. As against the total per capita consumption of Electricity of the all India average of 84 units, in Bihar, the per capita consumption of electricity comes to 8. We can describe how this has come about. There are columns of statistics which have been rattled off by my previous speakers. My time is very limited and I will not like to go into the details. I wish to say about some policy decisions. Matching-grant policy is one such dangerous policy. If a State gives Rs. 20 crores, Planning Commission will plough in another Rs. 20 crores. Richer States always got more. Poorer States got less. The end-result of this policy of matching-grant which was presented to promote selfreliance really ended by increasing disparities of regional development.

I will give you one example relating to cooperative financing. The overdues to Reserve Bank by State Cooperative Banks. In 1970-71 works out as follows.

[Shri Chopalendu Bhattacharyya]

Maharashtra—241 crores.

Gujarat—176 crores.

Tamilnadu—130 crores.

Andhra—110 crores.

Bihar—27 crores.

West Bengal—22 crores.

Assam—Only 5 crores.

These overdues have adequately primed the pumps of economy of those regions whereas of the eastern region, the pumps were not primed at all.

I come from the region of Chotanagpur where the total income is hardly Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 per acre. The people just now in some regions are literally living on tree leaves. 20 years of planning has not benefited this region. No infra structure is there; no electricity is there; no new cropping pattern are there, such as sunflower, soyabean, virginia tobacco and all that. There were enormous possibilities which these locust years have eaten. We have to take purposeful action to remove these regional variations. How can India reach its destiny unless all these regions move forward? Thank you.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): While listening to the speeches on the Resolution moved by my hon. friend Shri Chintamani Panigrahi, it seems to me that perhaps in the main contention of the speeches and the points made by hon. members, and the idea of the government on the development of the backward region there is no substantial difference. At the same time it is a fact that large number of statistics have been quoted and it is very difficult for me in what context these statistical figures have been mentioned. I do not want to challenge their validity but at the same time I am to submit that the figures which are with me are at variance with some of the figures quoted by some of the hon. Members.

If we start with the presumption that an area has been developed at the expense of the other perhaps that line of argument would lead us to a very dangerous conclusion. It has already been pointed out by some hon. Members even in a particular area there are certain areas which are affluent and which are backward. There are certain pockets which are industrially and economically developed and at the same time a neighbouring area is not so sound from economic point of view. If we start from this presumption that at the expense of the other area one area has been developed perhaps it would lead us to that point in which the whole structure will be shattered and broken into pieces. If we stick to this sort of argument that at the expense of the East-

ern region Western region has developed perhaps it would be very difficult for the States of the Eastern region itself to refute the argument that at the expense of other parts some States of the Eastern region have been developed.

No doubt, there are problems of the backward areas. For the solution of those problems certain broad guidelines have been mentioned in the mid-term appraisal of Fourth Five Year Plan and in the approach paper to Fifth Five Year Plan. According to the recommendations and observations of the Pande Committee certain areas have been identified as backward areas and those backward areas have been surveyed by various agencies for their industrial potentialities, economic development, arrangements through which these areas may be established on a firm economic footing have been looked into and certain broad principles have also been enunciated.

With your permission I can mention some of the broad guidelines which have been taken up in regard to the tribal areas. It has been pointed out that Orissa, which is the crux of the discussion, there is a large number of population belonging to the tribal people. For the development of tribal areas Rs. 32.5 crores have been allocated during the Fourth Plan for 489 tribal development blocks under the Centrally sponsored schemes. Regarding rural electrification, I can tell you, a rural electrification corporation has been set-up recently and gave finance on concessional basis to State Electricity Boards to implement their schemes for backward areas. Special programmes of large magnitude are being implemented for the benefit of the weaker section in the rural population and, as such, 46 Farmers development agency projects; 41 sub-marginal farmers development agency projects and 24 projects for farmers in dry areas have been sanctioned.

An amount to the extent of Rs. 100 crores has already been provided for the integrated programme of road works in 54 chronically drought-affected areas. Apart from that, for rural unemployment scheme, under the provisions, Rs. 50 crores has been allocated. I am mentioning these things not only to point out that something has been done, but to impress upon the hon. Members, through you sir, that Government are taking a serious note of backwardness and backward areas, and measures are being taken in right earnest to fight out, these problems.

At the same time, what should be the criteria for the development of backward regions? If we merely inject certain industrial units or initiate certain projects or take up certain schemes, would it be sufficient to develop the backward regions? If we look

at the economic development of the country, we cannot forget that the entire economic structure of this country was based on a colonial system in which certain areas were developed, having the interest of locational economic advantage and the interests of foreign rulers in view. In a country like ours, there was no other alternative but to accept, in spite of our unwillingness, some of these phenomena, some of the resultants of that economy, as a result of which the country was liberated, even on that day certain areas were economically backward and certain areas were economically advanced. During these years, if we say that nothing has been done to do away with the backwardness of these areas, perhaps, it would be unfair and unkind.

It has been pointed out that most of the eastern regions have been neglected. Even the word 'colonialism' has also been used.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister may refer or may not refer to the points raised by those hon. Members who are not present in the House now.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: One hon. Member who had raised it is present. . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: When the Members who had made certain points are not present in the House what is the necessity to refer to those points? He may refer only to those points which were raised by hon. Members who are present in the House now.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: I can only point out that so far as Bihar is concerned, a sum to the extent of Rs. 1300 crores was invested in Central public sector projects, which is the biggest one so far. Bihar stands first, so far as public sector investment from the Centre is concerned and West Bengal stands third in this regard.

It has been pointed out that licences have not been issued to the States, and various statistical data have been quoted. I do not like to go into all those things in detail. I would only point out some of the recent figures regarding the Central assistance to Plan allocation which would clearly point out that there is no scope for discrimination while making allocation from the Central resources. Among the Eastern States, in Bihar, the Central assistance for the annual plan of 1973-74 was Rs. 77.78 crores, while the State's own resources came to Rs. 55.26 crores. In the case of Orissa, the corresponding figures are 37.03 crores and Rs. 28.57 crores respectively in the case of West Bengal, they are Rs. 50.89 crores and Rs. 40.97 crores respectively. As regards some of the advanced States which have been mentioned, in

the case of Maharashtra, for instance, Central assistance which was provided was Rs. 56.60 crores in the case of Bihar, the figure was Rs. 77.78 crores, in the case of Assam Rs. 45.34 crores and in the case of West Bengal Rs. 50.89 crores.

It has been pointed out that while identifying backward areas, discrimination has been made. Out of 87 districts declared backward and entitled to 10, now 15 per cent outright subsidy grant out of these schemes, the following are the States belonging to the eastern region: Bihar 6 districts, Orissa 6 districts, West Bengal 3 districts. For assistance on concessional rates from financial institutions, the figures are: Bihar 9 districts, Orissa 8 districts and West Bengal all 13 districts except Calcutta, Howrah and 24 Parganas. As for licences, Orissa has been provided 15, Bihar 64 and West Bengal 179 during 1970-72.

A complaint has been made that some of the factories registered and working there have come down. I would like the hon. member to pass on those statistics if he has them with him to me so that I can get them verified and correct my statistics. But the figures I have with me relating to factories registered with the Directorate of Industries of course, the State Directorate are: Bihar 600 in 1961, 16,395 in 1972; Orissa 14,000 in 1961, to 2967 do to day; West Bengal 3,022 in 1961 and 29,137 now.

As regards advances to small scale industries by the scheduled commercial banks, I would like to quote certain figures. In 1968, Assam obtained sanction of Rs. 2.06 crores for 141 units and in 1972 it got sanctioned Rs. 7.95 crores for 1,118 units. Bihar got sanctioned Rs. 4.54 crores for 355 units in 1968 and Rs. 18.56 crores for 2,178 units in 1972. For West Bengal, the figures are: 1,636 units sanctioned Rs. 25.08 crores in 1968 and 7,026 units sanctioned Rs. 72.85 crores in 1972. The same is the case with other financial assistance.

In this connection, keeping an eye on the special problems of West Bengal, the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India has been established. It is the main job of the Corporation to see that the West Bengal units sick or closed are converted into viable units. Out of the assistance given by the IRCI, 95 per cent goes to the units in industrial sectors in West Bengal.

Therefore, if assistance from the IFC or the IDBI is not according to the proportion in other States, should I come to the conclusion from those figures that West Bengal is neglected and other areas are being developed at its expense? At the very outset, I pointed out that I entirely agree with hon. members that each and every backward area of the country should be developed.



[Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee]

There is no second opinion on it. There are no two opinions on it. Each and every part of India should be equally developed. And for that, what sorts of arrangements, financial, institutional, plant, etc., are to be made, are being made, and I can tell you, and through you, the hon. Members of the House that the Government of India has taken up the problem of the backward areas with all seriousness. It has been pointed out that the big houses, the large house—and the licensing policy—are not in favour of development of the backward areas. It has been pointed out that if any large house wants to establish any industry in the backward regions, it will be given preference; the large house will be given preference even if they want to establish the industry in the backward region. But should we not develop the infra-structure there?

I can tell you in this connection that the West Bengal Government has taken up a decision to build up the infra-structure in all the backward areas. If the various State Governments can institute the infra-structure and taken up the building of the infra-structure, it will be good. And infra-structure does not mean merely Railway link, it means various things like providing electricity, providing roads, establishing industrial estates, etc. These things have to be developed.

I have, already mentioned some of the programmes in which assistance is being directly given by the Centre. Even for the planning machinery, for the establishment of planning institutions, two-thirds of this expenditure is met by the Government of India. Therefore, if the State Governments want to establish these institutions, for maintaining these institutions, they will get assistance from the Government of India.

In view of this, I can tell the hon. Members that the Central Government is serious and it is taking all measures for the development of the backward areas. In view of this, I would request the hon. Member, the mover of the resolution, to withdraw the resolution.

**SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI** (Bhubaneswar): Mr. Chairman Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members belonging to all sections of the House who have extended their overwhelming support to this resolution. I think that the Government in their wisdom should have accepted this resolution because it was so simple and innocuous. It is just a request to the Government to develop the backward regions in the eastern area. I thought that the Government should have accepted the resolution.

I was very happy when the Deputy Minister was given the responsibility to reply to this debate, though I thought that Mr. Dharja or the Planning Minister could have come here to reply to the debate and then they could have done justice to this debate. However, I thought that a chance was given to the Government to explain to the people of backward areas, especially knowing fully well what is coming in Orissa. At the time when the Government should have come forward with certain proposals for the development of Orissa, they have lost this opportunity.

However, I would just like to briefly mention—you have given me only five minutes' time—to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister, certain points. I do not know whether he has read the approach paper of the fifth five year Plan very seriously. In the approach paper of the fifth five year Plan, it has been said:

"The development of backward regions assumes critical importance in view of the emphasis laid on increasing the level of living of the lowest 30 per cent of the population, a significant portion of which is found in the backward areas."

Therefore, this is the crux of the problem, and the Planning Commission is really giving serious attention to it, but that seriousness was not well revealed in the reply of the hon. Minister.

Here, I would like to point out that so far as Orissa is concerned, 80 applications for industrial licences were received from Orissa, and only 15 licences were granted during the last three years, 1969 to 1971. The Cement Corporation of India had received a proposal from the Government of Orissa for the setting up of a cement plant in Orissa, and for the last three or four years it is pending with the Cement Corporation of India. The Government of India also is not taking as much interest as it should take so that the cement plant could come up. Government should give thought to this problem. In this House there was a debate on the setting up of a jute mill in Orissa and the Minister of Foreign Trade Shri L. N. Mishra promised in this House that a jute mill would be set up soon. Since then two years have passed, and nothing has happened. That proposal should be implemented soon.

31 applications for licenses and letters of intent from Orissa are still pending with the Government and have not been cleared. In answer to a question it was stated

that the process was laborious and therefore it took a little time. I hope the hon. Minister will try to clear these letters of intent and licences pending with the Government. They refer to the setting up of plants for sponge iron, shoddy yarn, paper and pulp, soap, refractories etc. The licenses should be given.

The demand for a second steel plant in Orissa is pending with the Government. We got a very favourable answer when the Prime Minister went to Orissa and in this House also. Orissa has rich deposits of iron ore. So this should be considered in the Fifth Plan. I thought that the hon. Minister would throw some light on the progress that has been made because a Committee had been appointed to go into the location of the future steel plants. I wanted to know what the Government had done for undertaking locational survey etc. for future steel plants. The work should start even in the Fifth Plan.

Lastly I want to mention this. Respected Ministers like Dharía and Dhar—the names sound similar—have mentioned a particular sum for the development of the backward regions, but the approach paper to the Fifth Plan does not clearly mention the figure. Mr. Chairman, you also belong to the backward region and there was a conference of Members of Parliament and we had approached the Prime Minister, the Planning Minister and other Ministers also and they have gone on record that Rs. 3,300 crores had been allotted separately for the development of the backward regions, but that has not been mentioned in the approach paper. I think this should be mentioned. Secondly Rs. 3,300 crores is insufficient and this sum should be raised to Rs. 8,000 crores. The outlay on the Fifth Plan is estimated to be Rs. 51,000 crores. The value of the rupee is only thirty five paise and so it would increase to Rs. 61,000 crores if you actually want to achieve what you have planned and it may even go up to Rs. 71,000 crores, the way the prices are rising.

I would have been glad if the government had accepted this resolution. My friend has requested me to withdraw this resolution. I request your permission to do so. I thank the hon. Members who had given overwhelming support to this resolution. Though I am withdrawing the resolution, I hope the eastern region of India will develop very soon with the assistance of the Central Government and the Planning Commission so that at the end of the Fifth Plan no-body would complain that the benefits of planned deve-

lopment were not as widespread as they were expected to be and that the benefits had not gone to all sections of the people.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw the resolution?

*The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn*

17.35 hrs.

#### RESOLUTION RE: PEASANT DOCTORS

DR. G. S. MELKOTE (Hyderabad): Sir I beg to move the following resolution:

"This House welcomes the scheme of Peasant Doctors to serve the rural population and urges upon the Government to take steps to implement the same expeditiously."

I have pleasure in mentioning that during the last two or three years certain significant developments have taken place.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can continue next time.

17.36 hrs.

#### HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

##### PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATING IN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF FIFTH PLAN

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall take up half-an-hour discussion by Shri Samar Guha. There are four Members who want to ask questions and they must be given five minutes. So, Samar Guha may take ten minutes.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): Fifteen minutes should be given to me.

Sir, Lenin will be remembered by the whole humanity—not only as one of the greatest revolutionaries of our century but also as the integral father of planned economy for evolving the concept of planning. Had he lived his full life, perhaps, his idea of 'All Power to Soviets' would have given a different orientation to the concept as also the structure of planning in Soviet Russia. After him, the planning got a completely different orientation—a totalitarian orientation in Russia—at the cost of millions of lives and at the cost of the sufferings of millions more in the concentration camps and slave camps in Siberia.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a second. Are we dealing with Planning in Soviet Russia