Shri Dinen Bhattacharya (Serampore): In the amendment that has been made by the Government on the Bonus Commission report, while giving retrospective effect, may I know why the year 1962 was chosen and why not 1961?

Shri D. Sanjivayya: That is the recommendation of the Bonus Commission itself. The Commission recommended that the recommendations should have retrospective effect from 1962.

15.00 hrs.

Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly): So far as bonus regarding the banking companies is concerned, the Bonus Commission only wanted revision to the extent that the Desai Award needed change and after that the Bonus Commission gave a recommendation that the return on the reserve should be 4 per cent instead of 4½ per cent. This was the only change that was suggested by the Bonus Commission. Why did the Government of India, while considering this matter, come up to 7.5 per cent for capital and 5½ per cent for reserve because this was not at all a matter which was considered by the Bonus Commission in view of the Desai Award which is in force today?

Shri Sanjivayya: It is very difficult to explain this in answer to a question like this. When the Bill comes up, we will certainly clarify all this.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (देवास) : इस रिपोर्ट में जो परिवर्तन किये गये इस को क्या मूल कारट थे और उस पर विचार करने के लिए देश की जो कुछ प्रमुख मजदूर यूनियनें हैं उनके प्रतिनिधि बुलाये गये थे या केवल इंटक के ही प्रतिनिधि बुलाये गये थे ?

Shri D. Sanjivayya: We never invited anybody. Some people sent representations and we took them into consideration.

Shri A. P. Sharma (Buxar): Is the Government of India in a position to state as to why the public sector undertakings, particularly the employing ministries like the Railways, are excluded from the scope of the Bonus Commission and does the Government now feel like doing something in this regard so far as the employing ministries are concerned?

Shri D. Sanjivayya: Public sector undertakings are not excluded excepting those which are managed departmentally.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

FORTY-SEVENTH REPORT

Shri Hem Raj (Kangra): Sir, I beg to move:—

"That this House agrees with the Forty-seventh Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 16th September, 1964."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:—

"That this House agrees with the Forty-seventh Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 16th September, 1964."

The motion was adopted.

15.03 hrs.

RESOLUTION *RE.* RISE IN PRICES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES—*Contd.*

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further discussion of the following Resolution moved by Shri S. M. Banerjee on the 5th June, 1964:—

"In view of the growing discontent among the people of this country against Government's

[Mr. Speaker]

failure to check abnormal rise in prices of all essential commodities, this House recommends to Government the following for immediate adoption and implementation:—

(i) State Trading in foodgrains;

(ii) ban on speculation in foodgrains;

(iii) exemplary punishment to hoarders and blackmarketeers; and

(iv) formation of a Price Stabilisation Committee."

as also further discussion of the amendment moved by Shri M. Malaichami on the 5th June, 1964.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): Sir, may I make a submission? We have been discussing the food problem for four days and even during the No-Confidence Motion delate we have discussed it. All the issues have been thrashed out. Is it necessary in that case to proceed with the discussion of this motion?

Shri Ram Sewak Yadav (Bara Banki): Yes, it is.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): After the food discussion prices have gone up.

Mr. Speaker: Of course, a discussion has taken place, but so far as this Resolution is concerned, it does not confine itself only to food; there are other essential commodities also that are there. Therefore, other things are also covered. But when we come to voting, then the first and second parts, namely, State trading in foodgrains and ban on speculation in foodgrains, would be barred and others would be taken up. The amendment would also be barred. We will see that at the time of voting.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: (iii) and (iv) will remain?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, (iii) and (iv) will remain. Shri Malaichami was on his legs; he may continue his speech.

Shri M. Malaichami (Periyakulam): Mr. Speaker. Sir, the purpose of my amendment to the Resolution moved by my hon. friend, Shri Banerjee, has been effectively served by the motion moved by the hon. Minister of Food and Agriculture for a debate on the food situation in the country when the necessity for incentive remunerative prices for agriculturists had been highlighted. The House has also accepted the necessity for incentive remunerative prices to the producers, but considering the present position of the agriculturists and the Government's programme for the formulation of the Fourth Five Year Plan, I would like to bring out certain points considered essential for the consideration of Government to alleviate the suffering of the producers who form the backbone of the country.

15.05 hrs.

[SHRIMATI SAROJINI MAHISHI *in the Chair*]

70 per cent of the population is engaged in agriculture; even then their economic position and standard of living is at a very pitiable level. Land reform measures have failed to achieve the basic aim, that is, to attain a fundamental change in the production relation in agriculture. 20 per cent of the rural population has no land while 58 per cent of the land is owned by 10 per cent of the rural population.

Land reforms have accepted the existence of non-working cultivators. This results in absentee landlordism. The Tenancy Act and the Fair Rent Act brought forward by the States have failed to give the necessary protection to the tillers of the soil.

Rural indebtedness is on the increase, which means that the majority of the population living in the rural

areas, who are mainly agriculturists, are indebted. The Reserve Bank survey reveals that villagers are saddled with rural indebtedness exceeding Rs. 3,000 crores. These loans have been incurred not for any other purpose but for feeding, clothing and putting in schools the children of the agriculturists. The average family indebtedness is expected to be about Rs. 406. This will clearly show under what difficulties and hardships agriculturists are carrying on with their profession in spite of the fact that they are able to see luxury and extravagance in other fields of life in our country. This will clearly show that the agriculturist is carrying on with his profession under helplessness since there is no other occupation left to him if he is deprived of his agricultural operations. He is more or less dazzled and is in a helpless position. This should be remedied by suitable land reform measures.

Even though agriculture is considered to be a State subject, since the entire food situation in the country is the concern of the Central Government, it is necessary that suitable directives should be given to the States for enunciating proper land reform measures so that the tenants and tillers of the soil are given a place of surety in their occupation.

Credit facilities provided to the agriculturists are inadequate. Co-operatives are able to give only 8 per cent of the loans required by rural householders. The agriculturist has to invest more money and his cost of production has also increased in view of the fact that he has to do intensive cultivation to improve the marginal productivity of land.

Further, sometimes the agriculturist is subjected to the vagaries of nature. He is affected by floods as well as droughts. In order to help him in not incurring indebtedness on account of natural calamities, there should be a crop insurance scheme so that whenever there is failure of crops on account of natural calamities Government goes to his help and sees that his economic position is not affected on account of nature.

To encourage him to increase production there should be proper price relationship between the goods produced by him and the inputs required by him. Sometimes increased production results in a fall in prices. This should be averted and the agriculturist should be given a guaranteed price for his produce.

Marketing studies have revealed that marketing costs 40 per cent of the price in the case of durables and still more in the case of perishables. The producer gets only six annas in the consumer's rupee. To enable the cultivator to get incentive remunerative price and provide goods to the consumers at reasonable cost, the marketing cost should be reduced by eliminating the intermediaries, that is, the middlemen.

It is also proposed by Government to have a Foodgrains Trading Corporation which will help to regulate the market in a fair manner both to the agriculturist and the consumer. Fixing producers, wholesalers and retailers prices will enable the agriculturists to have a fair knowledge of their income and expenditure. Since the extent and area of agriculture is wide and dispersed, it will be helpful if marketing cooperative societies are also enabled to undertake the functions of the Foodgrains Trading Corporation in the rural areas.

So, Sir, in order to eliminate the middle-man and to assure the agriculturist a fair return for his produce, to protect the interests of the tiller of the soil which will help him to have a remunerative price for his produce and also to have some independent economic footing in his profession, I would like that the agriculturists are enabled to carry on their profession by passing some legislation and giving suitable directions to the States. With these words, I would

[Shri M. Malaichami]

request the Government that my amendment also may be taken into consideration.

Shri Khadilkar (Khed): Madam Chairman, in the Resolution under discussion now certain items are mentioned requesting the Government to take suitable action. I must confess that broad aspects of our food policy, most of these points, were discussed threadbare during the food discussion as well as during the debate on the motion of no-confidence. However, this Resolution tries to emphasize that we need a co-ordinated, well-thought-out, long-term, all-India, food policy.

Sir, unfortunately in this country for the last 17 years or so, as today, the condition of food is from ship to mouth, so far as the food policy was concerned, it was, more or less, from hand to mouth. If a season was slightly better, the Government thought that everything was all right, that there was no necessity of keeping a watch over the foodgrains supplies as well as distribution, and if it deteriorated, certainly Government awakened to their responsibility and tried to do something. For the first time, in my opinion, our present Food Minister is trying to evolve an all-India policy. It is a welcome step. Why I say this? If we look back and try to be a little self-critical and self-analytical, we would realise, as you know, that in the first period after the Gregory Report, instead of taking that report seriously and thinking out or chalking out a plan of action for a long-term period, Government acted on the spur of the moment and the general tendency was, as there is inherent opposition to some type of control on the foodgrains trade, foodgrains distribution and its supplies, to do away with the controls. During the War time, I remember, particularly in the then Bombay State, the distributive machinery that was evolved was of an exemplary character and it ought not to have been just disbanded without giving some forethought that in case of emergency such a machinery would be of some use. But it was disbanded.

Then, the policy of free movement, free market, was enunciated in 1953 by late Rafi Ahmed Kidwai and he was fortunate that the supply position was better and he could meet the demand. The free movement, free market, as it was then brought into existence for supplies of food did work well and people thought that all the discontent that was prevailing before, because it was a controlled market, the distribution was controlled and there was the compulsory procurement, was no longer there. Some people thought that even some political parties considered them irksome. So, once they were removed, all people expressed a little sense of relief.

Again, the situation changed because our food production, on the whole, is not very steady or stabilised. Our policy regarding land reforms was socially oriented which has a social objective of doing justice. It was never production-oriented, that is, giving certain rights in land with an obligation that he would do some better work and produce more. That was completely lacking and in such an atmosphere when the review was taken, as I mentioned the other day, by our former Finance Minister, Shri C. D. Deshmukh, in delivering Dadabhai Naoroji lectures in Bombay, he has criticised this aspect of our economy with particular reference to the food policy. As we all know, today we are maintaining a subsistence economy so far as food is concerned. If we take the average during the last 10 years, 25 per cent of our wheat consumption comes from P.L. 480. So far as the producers' price of wheat is concerned, a study has been undertaken by the foremost economic institution in our country as to how P.L. 480 has affected the producer, what effect or impact it has had on our food distribution and other things. They have reached a conclusion that, except in 1958-59, in this

country, more or less, wheat price has remained stable, all other prices having gone up. The producer was never given any incentive. Looking to the other prices, the wheat price was depressed. This is one aspect of the matter. Another aspect of the matter is, as I said, that recently a study has been carried out by an American expert in the land reforms in our country. He has submitted a report to the Planning Commission last year, that is, June, 1963. So far I do not know why this document has been kept secret. There, he has stated very clearly—I have seen the report—that these land reforms have completely failed to achieve their objective—it is not our immediate concern; I am just referring to it—and he has also drawn a conclusion that if land reforms had been properly implemented, it would have given a little impetus to production. I am referring to this report to Shri C. D. Deshmukh's observations and the impact of P.L. 480 on the food production and different levels of consumption in general because I want to point out to the present Government that they have made a small beginning by starting the Foodgrains Trading Corporation—it is a very good thing—but you cannot have half-hearted measures. Partially, you cannot control food trading and unless you take the overall control, if after three months you take 30 per cent of the produce and 70 per cent is with the private traders, you will be at the mercy of the traders. So, let the Government give thought afresh to the whole aspect and take over the wholesale trade completely. I do not know if we in this country realise the gravity of the problem; if we admit, as the Prime Minister today has said, that this crisis of food will continue for seven or eight years more, we shall have to live on a subsistance level with P.L.-480 support. With all this made very clear, I feel that the food procurement and distribution in this country must be done as a welfare measure. You can apply commercial standards, but, ultimately, if the responsibility of Government is to provide the minimum requirements of food for every citizen of the country, then an overall measure ought to be taken.

Therefore, I would like to utter a warning, a word of caution that this beginning is good, but if you make half-hearted attempts, if you are going to have mixed economy in the agricultural trade, you are bound to collapse and come to grief and later on come before this House and plead 'What can we do? We have taken this measure, but the people have not co-operated.'. Do not expect the traders in this country to co-operate with you. You have to enlist their services, and conscript their services. I am making a serious suggestion. Conscript the services of wholesale traders in this country because you have no independent machinery; tell them that they should procure for you at such and such a price, and make the stocks available to you for distribution. Let the retail trade at a certain margin be left free. And this is the time when you should be prepared to take this measure.

As I observed the other day, in this country, unfortunately, the trading community has inherited a certain colonial tradition. They have inherited a tradition of speculation, hoarding and taking a higher margin. This type of commercial community is certainly collecting more capital, but the essential and basic characteristic is to trade at the cost of the consumer and not to have a fair margin. If you take into account the profit allowed to the distributive trade in other countries and in this country, you will be astounded. In other countries, it is hardly 1½ per cent, but in this country, there is no limit, and the only limit is the sky, as we know.

From the latest reports that I have seen this morning, the conditions are bad in Poona, Nagpur and other places. If no action is taken, and only an assurance is given that Government are going to do this or that, that is not going to satisfy the people.

[Shri Khadilkar]

So far as the resolution under discussion is concerned, you may not accept it, and I do not plead that it should be accepted, but action should be taken on this basis so as to reassure the people. Accept that you have committed mistakes in the past, there are no good days ahead; we shall have to go through the crisis; but the people will be ready to sacrifice and go through the crisis only when they are assured that Government mean business and Government want to have overall control on the trade in foodgrains. All forward markets, and speculation in foodgrains must be considered a crime. If these measures are taken, and Government give an assurance to that effect, then I think this resolution has served its purpose.

Mr. Chairman: Now, Shri Hukam Chand Kachhavaiya.

Shri Hukam Chand Kachhavaiya rose—

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barrackpore): May I request the Chair to permit me to speak now? If my hon. friend would have no objection, I would like to speak now.

Mr. Chairman: I have called Shri Hukam Chand Kachhavaiya now. If he has no objection to speak afterwards then I would not mind it.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I have got an important engagement and I have to go now. So, let my hon. friend start.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (देवास) : सभापति महोदय, मेरे मित्र बनर्जी साहब ने जो यह प्रस्ताव इस सदन के सामने रखा है और जिसमें कहा गया है कि जो भी वस्तुओं के भाव दिन-प्रतिदिन बढ़ते जा रहे हैं, इस पर रोक लगनी चाहिये, इसका मैं समर्थन करता हूं। मेरे दल में इस बारे में दो राये नहीं हैं। इसमें कोई सन्देह नहीं है कि आज सारे देश के अन्दर हर चीज के भाव बढ़ रहे हैं। मैं कुछ साफ साफ बातें आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूं, कुछ उदाहरण भी आपको दे देना चाहता हूं। गरीब क्षेत्रों में आज रोजमर्रा के काम में आने वाली सारी चीजों के भाव बढ़ रहे हैं, उसके कारण से वहां के लोगों को बड़े कष्टों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। जो भाव लिखे रहते हैं, टंगे रहते हैं, उन पर वे चीजें उपलब्ध नहीं होती हैं। हमारे देश में बहुत सी बड़ी बड़ी कम्पनियां हैं जिन के ऊपर कांग्रेस दल की बड़ी छाया है, जिन पर इस दल का बड़ा प्रभाव है और उस प्रभाव की आड़ में वे कम्पनियां बहुत से घोटाले किया करती हैं। उदाहरणस्वरूप मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूं कि देश में कई प्रकार की आग पेटियां चलती हैं। मैंने बीस प्रकार की माचिसें इकट्ठी की हैं और मैंने सब को देखा है और मुझे कोई भी माचिस ऐसी नहीं दिखाई दी है जो कि जो दाम उस पर लिखा रहता है, उस दाम पर वह मिली हो। किसी पर छः पैसा लिखा हुआ है और किसी पर सात पैसा लेकिन दस बारह पैसे से कम में कोई नहीं मिली है। जो स्टैण्डर्ड की कम्पनियां हैं, जो अच्छी कम्पनियां हैं, और जिनके द्वारा कांग्रेस दल को लाखों रुपया चुनावों के लिए मिलता है, जो कांग्रेस दल की बहुत मदद करती हैं, वही कम्पनियां ज्यादा से ज्यादा दाम लेने की कोशिश करती हैं। इसमें कोई शक नहीं है कि पैसे लिये गए हैं। घोटाले किये गए हैं। लेकिन इसके साथ साथ आप एक दूसरी बात की तरफ भी ध्यान दें।

माचिस पर लिखा रहता है कि इसके अन्दर पचास सीख हैं। आपको एक माचिस भी ऐसी नहीं मिलेगी जिसके अन्दर पचास सीख हों, पूरी पचास सीखें निकलें। मैं बीस प्रकार की माचिसें लाया हूं। सभी सीलबन्द हैं। मैं चाहता हूं हमारे मन्त्री महोदय अपने मन्त्रालय में जा करके सबको खोल कर देखें कि इनके अन्दर कितनी सीखें हैं। उनको कोई भी माचिस ऐसी नहीं मिलेगी, जिसके अन्दर

उतनी सीखें हों जितनी लिखी हुई हैं । जो कम्पनियां लाखों और करोड़ों की तादाद में माचिसें निकालती हैं, अगर वे हर माचिस के अन्दर पांच सीखें कम भरें तो कितना लाभ उन कम्पनियों को हो जाता है, इसका आप अन्दाजा आसानी से लगा सकते हैं । कोई विदेशी अगर माचिस को खरीदता है और खरीद करने के बाद सीखों की गिनती करता है और कम पाता है तो हमारे देश के बारे में क्या धारणा वह बना लेगा, इसका अनुमान भी आप लगा सकते हैं । वह कहेगा यह चोरों का देश है, कैसा चोर देश है । लिखा हुआ है पचास सीख, निकलती हैं 40 और 45 सीख । लिखा है छः पैसे इसकी कीमत है लेकिन लिये जाते हैं बारह पैसे । एक चीज नहीं अनेकों चीजें मैं आपको बता सकता हूं, जिनमें ऐसा होता है ।

मैदे का जो मिल रेट है, वह भी शासन ने तय किया हुआ है । उसने तय कर रखा है कि 90 किलो का जो बोरा है उसकी कीमत 52 रुपये 20 पैसे होगी । आज वही बोरा 113 रुपये 50 पैसे का बिकता है । अगर माननीय मन्त्री जी सारी बात को जानना चाहते हैं और इसकी जानकारी लेना चाहते हैं तो वह मेरे साथ चलें परन्तु यह घोषणा करके नहीं कि वह मन्त्री जी बन कर जा रहे हैं बल्कि खुफिया तौर पर चलें और जितनी मैदे की बोरियां चाहें मैं पकड़ा सकता हूं ।

सोडे का भाव जो कण्ट्रोल भाव है वह 62 पैसे किलो है लेकिन 80 पैसे में भी वह प्राप्त नहीं होता है । इसका कारण यह है कि टाटा ने सरकार के ऊपर दबाव डाल कर विदेशों से सोडा जो हमारे देश में आता था, उसका आना बन्द करवा दिया है । यह जो कपड़े धोने का सोडा जब से बन्द हुआ है बाहर से आना तब से उसने दाम भी अधिक लेने शुरू कर दिये हैं । यह बन्द भी इसीलिए किया गया है ताकि उसको दाम अधिक मिल सकें मार्किट में । उसके बन्द होने के बाद मार्किट में यही सोडा अकेला बिकता है और इसके मनमाने दाम लिये जाते हैं । जो ऐजण्ट लोग हैं, जो बेचने वाले लोग हैं, उनका कमीशन अलग बंधा हुआ है । जितनी मात्रा में यह मिलना चाहिये उतनी मात्रा में मिलता भी नहीं है । हर बिजिनेस के अन्दर इसी तरह के घोटाले चलते हैं । जितनी भी उपभोक्ता की वस्तुयें हैं, जितनी भी आम जनता की खाने की वस्तुयें हैं, उन सब के दाम बढ़े हुए हैं ।

अपने भाषण में प्रधान मन्त्री जी ने भी इस बात को माना है कि कुछ मूल्य बढ़े हैं । उन्होंने कहा है कि हम भी इसको मानते हैं और सारा देश भी इसको मानता है । लेकिन इसके साथ साथ कुछ कांग्रेसी नेता कहते हैं कि जो मूल्य बढ़े हैं ये विरोधी दलों के चिल्लाने के कारण बढ़े हैं । बड़े दुख के साथ मुझे कहना पड़ता है कि इतने बड़े समझदार आदमी को, इतने बड़े जवाबदार लोगों को ऐसी तत्वहीन बात सदन में नहीं कहनी चाहिये थी । यह कहना कि विरोधी दलों का भाव बढ़ाने में हाथ है, चूंकि इन्होंने हल्ला मचाया इसलिए भाव बढ़े हैं, सही नहीं है । अगर मैं यह कहूं कि शासन का इसके पीछे हाथ है, शासन की गलत नीतियों के कारण ये बढ़े हैं, तो गलत न होगा । उदाहरण के तौर पर मैंने बताया है कि माचिस कारखानों के ऊपर शासन का हाथ है । इस में एक माचिस ऐसी है जिस की निशानी है दो बैलों की जोड़ी, कांग्रेस का चुनाव चिन्ह । वह कांग्रेस के चुनाव चिन्ह की माचिस जिस में 45 सीखें निकलती हैं, उस का दाम है 9 पैसा, जबकि उस पर छपा है 6 पैसा । उन के आड़ में लोग ऐसे घोटाले करते हैं । अनेकों कम्पनियां शासन द्वारा पाली जाती हैं । मैं इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूं और सरकार को बिना किसी हिचकिचाहट के इस पर पुनर्विचार करना चाहिए । इस में कोई दो रायें नहीं हैं ।

बहुत से मंत्री कहते हैं कि अरे भाई, अनाज के भाव तो बढ़े नहीं । वह क्या जानें,

[श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय]

उन को तो लेना नहीं पड़ता । जिन लोगों को क्यू में खड़े हो कर लेना पड़ता है, जिन लोगों को चार चार घंटे लाइन में खड़े होने के बाद भी अनाज उपलब्ध नहीं होता है, जरा उन को तो देखो । मैंने स्वयं लाइन में खड़े हो कर देखा है कि कितना संकट होता है । लेकिन आज अनाज बांटने की व्यवस्था कैसी है । अनाज बांटने की दुकान उसे दी जायेगी जो टाई आने का ठक्कन लगा कर बैठा है, यानी सफेद टोपी । उस व्यक्ति को अनाज बांटने की दुकान दी जायेगी ।

श्री चं० ला० चौधरी (महुआ) : माननीय सदस्य ने टाई आने की टोपी कहा, यह बड़ी गैरजिम्मेदारी की बात है । मैं आप से कहना चाहता हूं कि यह कोई शाहजहां और मुमताज का ताज नहीं है, यह कांटों का ताज है, जिस को इतनी बड़ी संख्या में पहन कर कांग्रेस वाले बैठे हैं ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर जब अंग्रेजों का शासन था और अंग्रेजों को भगाने में हिन्दुस्तान की जनता लगी हुई थी, उस समय सरकार के पास बहुत से लोगों की एक लिस्ट रहा करती थी कि कौन कौन जेब काटने वाला है, कौन कौन लूट करने वाला है । वह गुण्डों की लिस्ट थी । जब कभी गड़बड़ होती कोई वारदातें होतीं, उन को जेल में बन्द कर दिया जाता था । 1947 जब देश की आजादी मिली तो आज वे ही लोग कहते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान की आजादी की लड़ाई में जेल गये थे । वे यह नहीं कहते हैं कि वे गुंडागर्दी के मुलजिम हो कर पकड़े गये थे । उन में से यह भाई भी बैठे हुए हैं, जो कहते हैं कि हम जेल गये थे लेकिन यह नहीं कहते कि किस नाम से जेल गये थे । वे कांग्रेस के नाम पर ऐसी बातें करते हैं ।

सभापति महोदय : आप ऐसी चीजें न कहें ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मैं यहां पर उन लोगों की बातें कह रहा हूं जोकि मजदूर हैं, जिन को पूरी रोटी नहीं मिलती है, जो कहते हैं कि बढ़ते हुए दामों के कारण हम अपनी गुजर नहीं कर पाते, इस बढ़ती हुई महंगाई के अन्दर जो तदख्वाह मिलती है उस में वह अपनी नजरूरतें नहीं पूरी कर पाते, उन की तन्ख्वाह बढ़ाई जाये । जो उन के परिवार के सदस्य हैं उन की रोटी अच्छी तरह से नहीं चल पाती, उन की रोटी की बात आप कीजिये । लेकिन जब वे रोटी मांगने आते हैं तो उन को जेल मिलती है ।

मांगी रोटी, मिली जेल,
देखो कांग्रेस शासन का खेल

इस तरफ कांग्रेस सरकार को विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिये । ऐसी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये कि अधिक तादाद में दुकानें खुलें और इस काम में पक्षपात नहीं होना चाहिये कि यह कौन है और कौन नहीं है । हर प्रकार के लोगों क दुकानें खोलनी देना चाहिये । यह नहीं होना चाहिये कि जो आप की मदद करे उस के नाम में आठ दस दुकानें दे दें । इस से व्यवस्था बिगड़ेगी । आज लोगों को सही चीज दुकान में मिलनी चाहिये और अधिक से अधिक तादाद में मिलनी चाहिये । जहां पर ब्लैकमार्केटिंग होती है, जहां पर ऐसे लोग पकड़े जाते हैं उन्हें वाजिब सजा मिलनी चाहिये । उन्हें दंड मिलना चाहिये । इस के लिये सीधा तरीका भी आप के पास है । हमारे यहां कहा जात है कि हां बहुत से राजे महाराजे थे जो जनता की मदद करने वाले होते थे । वे खुफिया बन कर जाते थे । आज खुफिया बन कर कौन मंत्री जाता है । उन के पास समय नहीं है । आज खुफिया लोगों की जो रिपोर्ट मिलती है वह चापलूसी के तौर पर दी जाती है, गलत दी जाती है । इस सम्बन्ध में जांच करने के लिये हमें ज्यादा से ज्यादा खुफिया छोड़ने चाहियें और मंत्री महोदय को भी देखना चाहिये ।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि इस प्रस्ताव को मंत्री महोदय को बिना संकोच के स्वीकार करना चाहिये ।

श्री राम सेवक यादव : सभापति महोदय, जो मौजूदा प्रस्ताव माननीय श्री बनर्जी ने रखा, मैं उसका समर्थन करता हूं ।

जब कभी जिन्दगी की जरूरी चीजों के, जिन में अन्न, कपड़ा और दूसरी वस्तुयें आती हैं, बढ़ते हुए दामों पर इस सदन में चर्चा होती है, चाहे बजट के समय पर या किसी संकल्प के समय पर या और किसी अवसर पर, तो सदैव यह कहा जाता है कि जिस देश में विकास होता हो, जिस देश में आर्थिक विकास हो रहा हो, वहां चीजों के मूल्य बढ़ने आवश्यक हैं, जरूरी हैं । साथ ही साथ दूसरा तर्क यह दिया जाता है कि दुनिया के सभी देशों में दाम बढ़ रहे हैं, कोई हिन्दुस्तान में ही ऐसा नहीं है । इस सम्बन्ध में मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि मैं मानता हूं कि जिस देश की आर्थिक तरक्की हो रही हो, आर्थिक विकास हो रहा हो, वहां चीजों के मूल्य बढ़ेंगे, लकिन इस के साथ साथ एक जरूरी चीज और लगी हुई है कि आर्थिक विकास में जब चीजों के दाम बढ़ते हैं तो लोगों की आमदनी भी बढ़ती है । अगर आमदनी और चीजों के बढ़ते हुए दामों में रिश्ता कायम रहे तो बढ़ते हुए दामों को देख कर के किसी को कष्ट नहीं होगा, दुःख नहीं होगा । लेकिन अगर बढ़ते हुए मूल्यों के अनुपात में आमदनी में बढ़ोतरी नहीं होती, खास तौर से मध्यम वर्ग, निम्न मध्यम वर्ग और छोटे लोगों की, तो वहीं पर संकट पैदा हो जाया करता है । अगर हम इस उसूल और इस सिद्धान्त को ले कर अपने देश में देखते है तो जिस अनुपात से आवश्यक वस्तुओं के मूल्य बढ़ रहे हैं उस अनुपात से आमदनी नहीं बढ़ रही है, बल्कि अगर मूल्यों की शक्ल में हम अपने रुपये की कीमत आंकें, मजदूरों की तनख्वाह को देखें, इस कार्यालय के दफ्तर के जो कर्मचारी लोग हैं, उनकी तनख्वाहों को देखें, तो यह कहना पड़ेगा बरबस कि हमारी आमदनी बढ़ नहीं रही है, घट रही है । लेकिन यहां इस तरह के तर्क दे दिये जाया करते हैं ।

इसी तरह से जहां तक दूसरे देशों का सम्बन्ध है, मैं अभी बाहर गया था । मैं लन्दन की बात कहूंगा, अमरीका की बात कहूंगा, जर्मनी की बात कहूंगा । उन सभी देशों में प्रगति हो रही है और उन सभी देशों में लोगों की आमदनी बढ़ रही है, लेकिन मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि खाद्यान्नों के दाम, जिन्दगी की जरूरी चीजों के दाम जिस तरह से इस देश में बेतहाशा बढ़ रहे हैं, उस तरह से दुनिया के किसी देश में नहीं बढ़ रहे हैं । यह जो तर्क दे दिया जाया करता है उस के सम्बन्ध में मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि लन्दन, जर्मनी और अमरीका में यह स्थिति है कि खाद्यान्न और जिन्दगी की जरूरी चीजों के दाम अगर बढ़े हैं तो वे रेंगे हैं, लेकिन हमारे यहां यह दाम घोड़े की चाल से, मोटर की चाल से बढ़े हैं । मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करूंगा कि जब वे किसी दूसरे देश का उदाहरण दिया करें तो एक बोली में सभी देशों को न कह दिया करें । क्या मंत्री महोदय यह भी बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि खाद्यान्न के दाम, जिन्दगी की जरूरी चीजों के दाम किस हद तक दूसरे देशों में बढ़े हैं और किस हद तक इस देश में बढ़े हैं । हां ऐश व इशरत के सामान के दाम यहां जरूर बढ़े हैं, लेकिन इन चीजों के नहीं । अगर हिन्दुस्तान में मंत्री महोदय यह करते कि अनाज, कपड़ा, सीमेंट, दियासलाई, साबुन और दवाओं आदि के दामों पर प्रतिबंध होता और लोगों को उन की आमदनी के अनुसार और आवश्यकता के अनुसार चीजें मिलतीं और शौकीनी की चीजों, ऐश व इशरत की चीजों के, जैसे मोटर, रेशम, साटन आदि के, दाम बढ़ते तो मुझे शिकायत न होती । लेकिन दुःख की बात है कि यहां जिन्दगी की जरूरी चीजों के दाम बढ़ रहे हैं ।

[श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय]

मैं कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता हूं । अनाज और जिन्दगी की दूसरी आवश्यक वस्तुओं के दामों को बढ़ने से कैसे रोका जा सकता है यह देखना हो तो मैं पहले अनाज के बारे में निवेदन करूंगा । जहां ऐसे संशोधन और अन्य सुझाव दिये गये हैं कि यह कार्रवाई करने से चीजों के बढ़ते हुए दामों पर रोक लग जाती है, वहां मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि उपज बढ़ाने की भी आवश्यकता है । जब तक उपज नहीं बढ़ती तब तक हम इन चीजों के दामों को बढ़ने से रोक नहीं सकते । लेकिन उपज बढ़ाने की दिशा में इस सरकार ने अब तक कोई कदम नहीं उठाया है हां, अखबारबाजी हुई है और कभी कभी इस सदन में आंकड़ों का भ्रमजाल फैला दिया जाया करता है । कभी कभी मैं उस को संख्यासुर कहता हूं । यह इस देश के लिये एक समस्या हो गई है । लेकिन इन आंकड़ों से प्रश्न हल नहीं होगा ।

यहां भूमिसुधार की बात कही जाती है, लेकिन इस सम्बन्ध में मैं एक बात बतला दूं कि जब तक इस देश में इस प्रकार का भूमिसुधार नहीं होगा कि लोग अपने हाथ से हल चला कर खेती करें, तब तक काम नहीं चलेगा । जब तक लोग हाथ से खेती करना कानूनी तौर से और सामाजिक तौर से पाप समझते रहेंगे, तब तक देश में अन्न नहीं उपज सकता, और आज इस देश में 69 या 70 प्रतिशत जमीन ऐसे लोगों के पास है जो चाहे उन के पास कम जमीन हो, चाहे उन के पास जिन्दगी का कोई जरिया न हो या वह सामाजिक कुरीतियां चलती रहें जिन के चलते वे अपने हाथ से खेती करना पाप समझते हैं और उन की जमीन में अन्न उपज नहीं रहा है ।

दूसरी चीज यह है कि इस देश में किसान को अधिक अन्न उपजाने के लिए कोई प्रोत्साहन नहीं दिया गया । मैं आप के सामने एक पूंजीपति देश की मिसाल रखना चाहता हूं । अमरीका में सरकार चाहती है कि कम अन्न उपजे क्योंकि ज्यादा अन्न उपजता है तो चीजों के दाम गिरने लगते हैं । तो किसान को इसके लिए प्रोत्साहित किया जाता है कि वह अपनी खेती की जमीन का कुछ हिस्सा छोड़ दे, उस पर खेती न करे । उसके लिए सरकार उनका कर माफ करती है और १८ डालर एक एकड़ के लिए अनुदान देती है । और हमारे यहां अधिक अन्न उपजाने के लिए आज तक न प्रान्तीय सरकारों की ओर से और न केन्द्रीय सरकार की ओर से गरीबों को सहायता दी गयी, न लगान माफ किया गया । सारे किसानों को तो जाने दीजिये, पर जिन किसानों की जोतें अलाभकर हैं और जिन के लिए कांग्रेस वाले कहते थे कि हम तुम्हारा लगान माफ कर देंगे, उनका लगान भी माफ नहीं किया गया, सहायता और अनुदान की बात तो दरकिनार रही । जब तक इस दिशा में कदम नहीं उठाया जायेगा तब तक इस समस्या का समाधान नहीं हो सकता ।

अब मैं मूल्यों की ओर आता हूं । जब तक चीजों के मूल्य को नीचे नहीं किया जायेगा तब तक यह समस्या हल नहीं हो सकती । इसके लिए मैं दो तीन सुझाव देना चाहता हूं ।

एक सुझाव यह है कि अनाज के दाम निश्चित किये जायें और यह सिद्धान्त बना लिया जाये कि दो फसलों के बीच में किसी खाद्यान्न के दाम एक आने सेर से ज्यादा न बढ़ें । इसी तरह से जो जीवनोपयोगी वस्तुएं कारखानों में बनती हैं जैसे कपड़ा, चीनी, मिट्टी का तेल, सीमेंट, लोहा, दवायें आदि, उनके दाम लागत के दाम के डेढ़ गुने से ज्यादा न हों ।

मेरा दूसरा सुझाव यह है कि खेतिहर उपज और कारखाने के उत्पादन में कोई अनुपात कायम कर दिया जाना चाहिए । अगर एक अनुपात में खेतिहर उपज के दाम बढ़ें तो उसी के हिसाब से कारखाने की चीजों के दाम बढ़ें और अगर कारखानों की चीजों के

दाम बढ़ते हैं तो एक खास अनुपात में कृषि की पैदावार के दाम बढ़ें ।

जब तक इस सिद्धान्त को नहीं अपनाया जायेगा तब तक दामों की निश्चित नीति नहीं हो सकती । तब तक संतुलन कायम नहीं हो सकता । तो मैं आप से निवेदन करूंगा कि इन सुझावों पर ध्यान दिया जाये । आप रोज दाम रोकने की बात करते हैं लेकिन दाम नहीं रुकते । वे नहीं रुकेंगे जब तक आप इन ठोस उपायों पर अमल नहीं करेंगे ।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूं ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon. Deputy Food Minister is here. This resolution deals not only with foodgrain prices, but the prices of all essential commodities. So, I wish to know from you whether the same Minister is going to touch the general price policy of the Government on all essential commodities, or whether he is going to confine his reply to foodgrains. If the latter is correct, I would request the Minister of Planning or the Finance Minister or his Deputy to be here to reply to that also.

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): We will try to give a reply to all the points.

Mr. Chairman: I shall call the hon. Deputy Minister to reply at 4 o'clock.

Shri Nambiar (Tiruchirapalli): He may take 15 minutes. The next resolution is there.

Mr. Chairman: He will take 15 minutes.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I have taken only 18 minutes at the beginning, with the hope I will have 8 or 10 minutes for reply.

Mr. Chairman: I do not think he should compensate for that. I shall call the Minister to reply at 4 o'clock. Therefore, I request the hon. Members to co-operate with me and conclude their speeches in five to six minutes.

डा० महादेव प्रसाद (महाराजगंज) : सभानेत्री महोदया, श्री बनर्जी का जो प्रस्ताव है उसमें कोई दो राएं नहीं हो सकतीं कि इस देश में चीजों की कीमतें, खास तौर पर जो जरूरी चीजें हैं, उनकी कीमतें बढ़ती गयी हैं। यह सभी जानते हैं कि सरकार इस कोशिश में है, और उसको होना चाहिए, कि जरूरी चीजों की कीमतें ज्यादा न बढ़ें ।

श्री बनर्जी ने कीमतों को बांधने के लिए कुछ सुझाव दिये हैं । आम तौर पर इस से भी किसी को ऐतराज नहीं हो सकता है । लेकिन यह बात जरूर गहराई में जा कर सोचने की है कि चीजों की कीमतें किन किन वजूहात से बढ़ी हैं । इसमें कोई शुबहा नहीं है कि जहां तक खाद्यान्नों का प्रश्न है चीजों के दाम में जो बढ़ोतरी हुई है उसके लिए जखीरा बाज, मनाफाखोर और ब्लैकमार्केटियर जिम्मेदार हैं, और हम ने देखा कि सरकार ने जो थोड़ी बहुत सख्ती की कार्रवाई करनी शुरू की तो चीजों की कीमतें कुछ नीचे आयीं । मुझे अपने जिले गोरखपुर की बात मालूम है, वहां चीजों की कीमतें कुछ नीचे आयीं ।

मैं आप को एक मिसाल दूं । मैं अपनी कांस्टीट्यूएंसी में घूमता हुआ आ रहा था तो एक गरीब बुढ़िया ने बादल को देख कर एक बात कही, जिससे अन्दाजा मिलता है कि जो मामूली आदमी है उसे भी यह मालूम है कि खाद्यान्नों की कीमत क्यों बढ़ती । उस बुढ़िया ने अपनी भाषा में कहा :

> "दई बरसो जोर से कि यह बीच बनिया का अनाज भरा है वह सड़न रह जाए उनके गोदाम में ।"

[डा० महादेव प्रसाद]

मतलब इसका यह कि इतनी बारिश हो कि जो होरडर्स ने अपने गोदामों में अनाज भर रखा है वह सड़ जाए । इसलिए यह जरूरी है कि हर कोशिश की जाए कि कोई जमाखोर इस संकट से फायदा न उठाने पाये ।

जहां तक राजकीय व्यापार का सवाल है, मझे उस पर कोई ऐतराज न होता अगर सरकार का व्यापार पर पूरा नियंत्रण होता । अधूरा नियंत्रण होने से किसी पर जिम्मेदारी नहीं डाली जा सकती । सरकारी आदमी रोजगारी लोगों को दोष देते हैं और रोजगारी लोग सरकारी आदमियों को दोष देते हैं । मेरा इसलिए सुझाव है कि अगर सरकार का नियंत्रण हो तो वह सारी चीजों पर पूरा नियंत्रण होना चाहिए, लेकिन अगर हम ऐसा नहीं कर सकते तो हम इसे छोड़ दें और एकदम मुक्त व्यापार हो । वह भी किसी न किसी जगह पर पहुंचेगा । लेकिन अगर एक स्तर पर नियंत्रण रखें और बाकी जगह न रखें तो इससे फायदे के बजाय नुकसान ही होगा ।

अपने देश में जब हम चीजों की कीमत बढ़ने पर आलोचना करते हैं तो यह भूल जाते कि कीमत का मांग और पूर्ति से सम्बन्ध है । जब पूर्ति कम होगी और मांग ज्यादा होगी तो चाहे कितनी भी कोशिश की जाए, अगर कीमत को सब्सीडाइज न किया जायेगा या दूसरी ओर कोई अनार्थिक व्यवस्था नहीं की जायेगी, तो कीमत अवश्य बढ़ेगी । हम लोग यह भूल जाते हैं कि जब तक देश में चीजों का उत्पादन नहीं बढ़ेगा तब तक सरकार चाहे कितनी भी कोशिश करे चीजों के दाम उस हद तक नीचे नहीं आयेंगे जितने आने चाहिए ।

अभी कुछ दिन पहले यह सिलसिला उठा कि हमारी राष्ट्रीय आय में जो वृद्धि हुई है वह कहां गयी । हमारी आय 47 पर सेंट बढ़ी तो वह कहां गयी । उसका एक विश्लेषण किया तो जिससे मालूम हुआ कि उस आमदनी का जो ज्यादा हिस्सा था वह उस वर्ग के पास गया जो उत्पादक श्रम नहीं करता है । इसलिए मैं यह सुझाव रखना चाहता हूं कि जहां और दूसरे उपाय किये जाएं वहां उत्पादन बढ़ाने का प्रयत्न किया जाये तब कीमत नीचे आवेगी । आज देश में यह हालत है कि कम से कम उत्पादन करने वाले लोग या बिल्कुल उत्पादन न करने वाले लोग ही ज्यादा चीजों का उपभोग कर रहे हैं । इसलिए मैं यादव साहब के उस सुझाव का समर्थन करता हूं कि देश में खेती की भूमि उन लोगों के ही पास हो जो कि स्वयं हल चलाते हैं । क्योंकि अगर हम को अपने देश में सही माने में समाजवाद लाना है, तो हर आदमी जो खाता है जो पहनता है, उसको लाजमी तौर पर श्रम करना चाहिए । जब तक समाज में यह अवस्था नहीं आवेगी, जब तक समाज में जो निकम्मा वर्ग है वह केवल उपभोक्ता रहेगा और थोड़े से लोग मेहनत करके पैदावार करेंगे, तब तक कीमतें नीचे नहीं आ सकतीं । इस बुनियादी चीज की ओर हम ने ध्यान ही नहीं दिया । गांधी जी ने हमारे सामने चरखा रखा था । चरखा श्रम का प्रतीक था । इसका मतलब यह था कि जो व्यक्ति खाता है, पहनता है वह कुछ श्रम भी करे, बिना श्रम के जो खाता है वह चोर है ऐसा गीता में उपदेश दिया गया है । लेकिन दुर्भाग्य है कि हम लोग इस चीज की ओर ध्यान नहीं देते । जो लोग उत्पादन बढ़ाने में हाथ नहीं बंटाते उनको उपभोग का अधिकार न होना चाहिए । लेकिन इस ओर हमारा ध्यान नहीं है ।

आज विरोधी दलों के लोग इस मामले में सरकार की केवल आलोचना करते हैं । मैं मानता हूं कि वे सरकारी तौर पर कुछ नहीं कर सकते लेकिन वे लोगों में श्रम की भावना तो पैदा कर सकते हैं । ऐसा करने से उनको कौन रोकता है । मैं समझता हूं कि हमारे देश में यह चीज खास तौर पर होनी चाहिए कि हर आदमी जो आगे हैं समाज में वे इस बात की प्रतिज्ञा लें कि वे रोज कुछ न कुछ श्रम करेंगे, कुछ वस्तु पैदा करेंगे । ऐसा

होगा तभी यह समस्या हल हो सकती है । उसका असर और लोगों पर भी पड़ेगा । गीता में कहा गया है :

यद्यदाचरति श्रेष्ठस्तत्तदेवेतरो जनः ।
स यत्प्रमाणंम् कुरुते लोकस्तदनुवर्तते ।।

अगर नेता लोग केवल खायेंगे, केवल उपभोग करेंगे ज्यादा से ज्यादा, और आलोचना करेंगे, तो इससे समाज में परिवर्तन नहीं आयेगा, उत्पादन नहीं बढ़ेगा, और उत्पादन नहीं बढ़ेगा तो चीजों के दाम जहां हैं वहीं रहेंगे नीचे नहीं आयेंगे ।

सभापति महोदया : इस पर काफ़ी चर्चा हो चुकी है इसलिए मैं माननीय सदस्यों से प्रार्थना करूंगी कि वे अपने भाषण 5, 6 मिनट में समाप्त कर दें ।

श्री काशी राम गुप्त (अलवर) : सभापति महोदया, मैं आप की आज्ञा का पूरा पालन करूंगा और 5, 6 मिनट में अपना भाषण समाप्त कर दूंगा ।

एक कहावत मशहूर है कि मर्ज बढ़ता गया ज्यों ज्यों दवा की । जितनी-जितनी बहस हम इस सदन में करते जा रहे हैं उतनी ही मंहगाई और बढ़ती ही जा रही है । मुझे तो डर लग रहा है कि शायद इन तमाम बहसों का कोई कारगर नतीजा नहीं हो रहा है । मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि 7 तारीख़ के बाद से अब तक जो चीजों के दाम बढ़े हैं उस की चर्चा रोज अखबारों में आती है । आज एक नई चर्चा अखबार में आई है कि वनस्पति तेल की कमी हो गयी है और यहां दिल्ली के व्यापारियों के पास केवल एक सप्ताह का स्टाक रह गया है । वह कहा जा रहा है कि अगले पांच, सात दिन के बाद आम लोगों को वनस्पति आयल मिलना बंद हो जायेगा । कारण यह बतलाया गया है कि गुजरात की सरकार ने यहां पर तेल का भेजना बन्द कर दिया है जिसके कि कारण ह संकट मौजूद हो गया है । हमारे प्रधान मंत्री महोदय अभी आज ही प्रातःकाल कह रहे थे कि सरकार के सब अंगों में परस्पर कोआरडिनेशन होना चाहिए । लेकिन यह गुजरात की सरकार उन के साथ क्यों नहीं कोआपरेशन और कोआरडिनेशन करती ? यह कहीं नहीं बतलाया गया कि यह जो मंहगाई रोज बरोज बढ़ती जा रही है इस का क्या परिणाम होगा ? इसलिए मेरा निवेदन है कि इस सरकार की कोई निश्चित नीति नहीं है ।

अभी अभी परसों या कल अखबार में आया था कि गरम पानी की जब से बात हुई है और स्कूली बच्चों को यह हुक्म हुआ है कि वे अपने लिए स्कूलों में गरम पानी की बोतलें लायें तब से इन बोतलों के दाम बाजार में 8, 8 आने फ़ी बोतल बढ़ गये हैं । यह हालत आज सरकार की है कि पानी अगर पीने का खराब हो जाय तो बोतलों के दाम बढ़ जायें । बीमार भी हम हों और दाम भी हम बढ़े हुए दें ।

आज प्रधान मंत्री जी ने अपने जवाब में बड़े मुद्दे की बात कही है लेकिन जरूरत आज इस बात की है कि उस पर ठीक से अमल कराया जाय और कहीं उन्होंने जो कहा है उसका उलटा न करवाया जाय । उन्होंने कहा है कि बड़े-बड़े शहरों में सरकार लोगों को खिलाने की जिम्मेदारी लेगी । मेरा कहना है कि वह जिम्मेदारी सीधी सादी होनी चाहिए । पी० एल० 480 का गेहूं उन्हें शहर वालों को देना चाहिए और गांव वालों को देशी गेहूं मिले । कहीं उलटी गंगा न बहा दें कि शहर वालों को तो देशी गेहूं खिलायें और गांव वालों को पी० एल० 480 का गेहूं खिलाने लग जायें ।

यह ठीक है कि सरकार द्वारा फेयर प्राइस शाप्स गांवों में भी खोली जा रही हैं लेकिन उन की दशा क्या है ? मैं ने मंत्री महोदय की सेवा में एक पत्र भी लिखा है और मैं ने उन से प्रश्न भी किया था कि क्या उन्हें

[श्री काशी राम गुप्त]

यह मालूम है कि राजस्थान में ऐसी हालत हुई है कि फेयर प्राइस शौप्स से भी लोगों को अनाज नहीं मिला ?

हमारे यहां साहबी नदी बीच में पड़ती है और वर्षा के कारण उसमें बाढ़ आ जाया करती है और वह इलाक़ा दोनों तरफ से बिलकुल कट ऑफ़ हो जाता है और तब बड़ी मुसीबत पेश आती है । यही अब की बार भी हुआ । बाढ़ की वजह से वह इलाक़ा कट ऑफ़ हो गया, न उधर पंजाब से सामान आ सकता था और न ही इधर अलवर से सामान पहुंच सकता था, वह गांव बिलकुल बाढ़ के कारण कट ऑफ़ हो गये । फेयर प्राइस शौप्स में अनाज नहीं रहा । अनाज की कमी को लेकर वहां गांवों में बड़ा कुहराम मचा । यह सारी दिक्कतें और मुसीबतें सरकार की ढिलमिल नीति और उस पर कड़ाई और ठीक तरीक़े से अमल न करा पाने के कारण होती हैं ।

अभी प्रधान मंत्री महोदय ने कुछ दिन पहले कहा था कि हमारी सरकार जमाखोरों के खिलाफ़ कड़ी कार्यवाही करेगी लेकिन अपने जवाब में यह नहीं बतलाया कि क्या कड़ी कार्यवाही इस सरकार द्वारा जमाखोरों के खिलाफ़ की गई ? वे क्या समझते हैं कि केवल यह घोषणा कर देने से ही जमाखोर खत्म हो जायेंगे ? क्या जमाखोर सब लापता हो गये ? असलियत यह है कि उनकी वह नाजायज हरकतें आज भी उसी तरीक़े से चालू हैं क्योंकि सरकार की कथनी और करनी में अन्तर रहता है ।

अनाज की कमी जमाखोरी और मंहगाई यह सब प्रश्न अलग अलग नहीं हैं बल्कि यह आपस में एक दूसरे से जुड़े हुए हैं और इसलिए सरकार के लिए केवल मंहगाई के प्रश्न को हल करने की बात करना उचित न होगा । आपको एकांगी दृष्टि से इस समस्या को हल करने के लिए प्रयत्न नहीं करना चाहिए बल्कि एक सर्वांगीण दृष्टिकोण को अपना कर सरकार को इन सब चीजों को हल करने के लिए क़दम उठाना होगा ।

अभी कपड़े को कंट्रोल करने की बात कही गई है लेकिन चूंकि अभी उसे एक दम करेंगे नहीं और नतीजा यह हो सकता है कि कपड़ा भी बाजार से गायब हो जायेगा । मेरा सरकार से यही निवेदन है और जैसा कि बनर्जी साहब ने भी कहा है कि सरकार को जो वह कहती है और घोषणा करती है उस पर उसे अमल भी तत्काल और सही तौर से करना चाहिए । केवल घोषणा करके ही उसे संतोष नहीं कर लेना चाहिए । लेकिन हमारी सरकार का उल्टा काम है । बकों के बारे में यह भी नहीं कर सकते कि अब भी जो अनाज में पैसा दिया जा रहा है वह बंद कर दें । सरकार की इस सारी नीति को लेकर जो एक गड़बड़ चल रही है उसी के कारण हम देखते हैं कि परिणाम उल्टे आ रहे हैं ।

मुझे अन्त में सिर्फ इतना ही कहना है कि इस प्रस्ताव में जो कुछ भी कहा गया है उस के लिए सरकार ने बहुत आश्वासन दिया है लेकिन दरअसल यह सरकार अमल में कुछ करती नहीं है । कहती तो यह बहुत कुछ है और करती यह कुछ है । अब इस का कौन इलाज करे ? इस का इलाज यह सदन कर सकता है और उसे करना चाहिए । धन्यवाद ।

श्री शिवमूर्ति स्वामी (कोप्पल) : सभापति महोदय, मैं केवल दो, तीन मिनट का ही समय लूंगा । मैं एक ताज्जुब की बात बतलाने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूं । आज जब कि देश में अन्न संकट है, खाद्यान्न की कमी की हर जगह चर्चा हो रही है और देश में अधिक अन्न उत्पादन करने की योजना है तब बजाय किसानों को अधिक उपज करने के लिए प्रोत्साहन देने के, उनको सहूलियत देने के उल्टे उन को दबाया जा रहा है और तरह-तरह से हैरैस किया जा रहा है, उनके रास्ते में तरह-तरह की अड़चनें डाली जा रही हैं । किस तरह से आज उनको परेशान किया जा रहा है

इस की मैं एक जिंदा मिसाल अपने क्षेत्र की देता हूं ।

हमारे पास यह तुंगभद्रा प्रोजैक्ट बना और वहां पर आठ लाख एकड़ की इर्रीगेशन लैफ्ट बैंक कैनाल से होती है । इसी तरह से राइट बैंक कैनाल से से 6–7 लाख एकड़ की इर्रीगेशन होती है । लेकिन अब तक सिर्फ 2 लाख एकड़ की इर्रीगेशन हो रही है और बाक़ी क्षेत्र के पानी को नाले पर जो बौल्ड ब्रिज होता है उस ब्रिज से समुद्र में वेस्ट किया जाता है । किसानों ने खुद अपने साहस से इस वेस्ट जाने वाले पानी को लेकर अन्न की उपज की, धान वगैरह पैदा किया है । अब हो यह रहा है कि उन बेचारों को इस लोकलाइजेशन स्कीम के नाम पर फाइन किया जाता है । उनसे कहा जाता है कि जब अभी पानी तुम्हें नहीं दिया गया तो तुम ने वह पानी कैसे ले लिया और इस्तेमाल कर लिया और यह कह कर रैवैन्यू आफिसर्स द्वारा उन पर हैवी फ़ाइन इम्पोज किये जाते हैं । फाइन भी कोई मामूली नहीं किया जाता है । फाइन कोई एक रुपया, दो रुपया या 4 रुपया नहीं बल्कि 300, 300 और 400, 400 रुपये जुर्माना किये गये । जुर्माना नक़द वसूल न होने की सूरत में उनके सामान, भवेशी आदि की जब्ती हो रही है । जो जबरदस्ती आज उन पर की जा रही है उस के लिए परसों उन्होंने दौड़ धूप कर एक कान्फ्रेंस की और यह तय हुआ कि मैं चीफ मिनिस्टर के सामने यह चीज रक्खूं कि रैवैन्यू वालों द्वारा इस लोकलाइजेशन स्कीम के मातहत इस तरह की ज्यादती किसानों के साथ हो रही है ।

उचित तो यह था कि कम से कम 10 साल के लिए कितना ही पानी किसान क्यों न इस्तेमाल करते उस पर कोई पाबन्दी नहीं होनी चाहिए । विजयनगर साम्राज्य के जमाने में तुंगभद्रा डैम से सिर्फ एक लाख एकड़ की इर्रीगेशन होती थी अब उस के बाद एक और लाख के इर्रीगेशन का डेवलपमेंट हुआ है लेकिन बाक़ी क्षेत्र का जो पानी है वह वेस्ट जा रहा है और अगर यह किसान उस को इस्तेमाल करते हैं तो यह जुर्माना क्यों उन पर डाला जा रहा है ? यह रैस्ट्रिक्शन ढीला कीजिये और इस तरह किया गया तो 8, 10 लाख मन धान ज्यादा पैदा कर सकते हैं ।

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): Madam Chairman, the resolution which is being debated today is:

> "In view of the growing discontent among the people of this country against Government's failure to check abnormal rise in prices of all essential commodities, this House recommends to Government the following for immediate adoption and implementation:—
>
> (i) State trading in foodgrains;
>
> (ii) ban on speculation in foodgrains;
>
> (iii) exemplary punishment to hoarders and black-marketeers; and
>
> (iv) formation of a Price Stabilisation Committee."

For the last four or five days we have been debating the food situation that prevails in the country. There was a food debate here in this House. It was followed by the No-confidence Motion.

In the food debate a number of hon. Members participated, highlighting the food situation in the country. A number of suggestions were made. I was sitting here all through the debate. It has also been replied to by the hon. Minister of Food and Agriculture, and the suggestions that were made by hon. Members are being considered.

16.00 hrs.

Then again, there was a debate on the No-confidence motion, and the

[Shri D. R. Chavan]

House is well aware of the fact that the Prime Minister replied to it for nearly two hours. And the major portion of his speech was devoted to the food situation that prevails in the country. May I tell hon. Members that Government is very much aware of the situation that prevails in the country?

In addition to that, the Review of the Food Situation has been circulated to the Members of Parliament, giving practically all the details about the steps that Government is taking, and also giving some of the statistics. The price indices have been given and figures of imports from January, 1964 to the end of August, have been given.

I agree that the prices of foodgrains have risen considerably. I also agree that the prices of some of the other essential commodities have been rising and have risen. Yesterday the Finance Minister made a speech here regarding the criticism that was made concerning the rise in prices of essential commodities. That criticism has been fully met by the hon. the Finance Minister. So I think I need not touch some of the criticism that was made and that has been fully met by the Finance Minister.

The main point that remained to be answered was this. One of the hon. Members asked what action Government have taken against hoarders and profiteers and whether any action has been taken at all concerning that. I would like to point out that the Government of India have given an advice to the State Governments calling upon them that they should take certain steps under which all persons concerned, including the produers and wholesalers, would be called upon to declare their stoks. All those orders were issued under the Defence of India Rules and also under the Essential Commodities Act.

To Mr. Banerjee who asked whether any action has been taken against the hoarders I would like to point out what action has been taken against the hoarders and the profiteers and how many persons have been prosecuted for contravening the orders under the Defence of India Rules and the Essential Commodities Act.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Four thousand.

Shri D. R. Chavan: Please wait. You will find that under the Defence of India Rules, for violation of certain orders nearly about 1,119 prosecutions were launched.

Shri Umanath (Pudukkottai): How many are big hoarders in that one thousand?

Shri D. R. Chavan: 1,119 prosecutions were launched and 629 convictions were obtained. For the violation of sugar orders 1,142 prosecutions had been launched and 321 convictions were obtained. Under the Essential Commodities Act 2,104 prosecutions were launched and 934 convictions were obtained. So, it is not as if Government is not doing anything or the Government is complacent. So many prosecutions have been launched.

Shri Umanath: Against whom?

Shri D. R. Chavan: Against blackmarketeers and hoarders under the Essential Commodities Act. Therefore, the argument advanced by some hon. Members that nothing is being done and the Government is sitting cross-legged is not tenable.

Another complaint was about the State Trading Corporation for foodgrains. The hon. Minister for Food and Agriculture has elaborately explained as to how that Corporation will work within the price pattern that will be devised for the producers, wholesalers and retailers. If no one is rearped to purchase whatever has been produced by the cultivator at the price fixed by Government, the Corporation will enter the market and purchase it. And what will be that price? It will be a remunerative and incentive price. The Minister has also stated that an *ad hoc* Commission has been appointed to go into the matter. Further, there will be an Agricultural

Price Commission which will off and on advise Government on the prices to be fixed for producers, retailers and wholesalers.

The second point of Shri Banerjee was about State trading in foodgrains. It would mean either the simultaneous existence of private trade along with foodgrain trading or the elimination of private trade. I sympathize with the objective of Shri Banerjee. But he must, at the same time, understand the complexity of the problem as also its stupendousness. Before all these traders are completely eliminated, we will have to devise the machinery for undertaking the entire trade. I hope Shri Banerjee will appreciate the difficulties which the Government will have to face.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Let us sympathize with each other and allow the people to starve.

Shri Umanath: We want the elimination of only the wholesaler, not the retailer.

Shri D. R. Chavan: We must have a proper organisation even to replace the wholesaler. Suppose we accept the responsibility of taking over the entire quantity of marketable surplus, we also simultaneously accept the responsibility for feeding both the urban and non-urban people, which is a gigantic task. When the Foodgrains Corporation is set up, in case it finds that the wholesalers and urban traders are not behaving properly, certain stesp would be taken to strengthen the hands of the Corporation. The Minister has made it quite clear that this Corporation will have a commanding position. So, I need not elaborate it.

Secondly, on the question of prices, is it not a fact that Government has done something about the prices, even though they are ruling high in the open market? May I inform the hon. Member that the total quantity that was imported during the period January, 1964 to August, 1964 was nearly 82.60 lakhs tons.

What is the quantity that has been supplied through fair price shops? The hon. House is aware that there are nearly 80,000 fair price shops in the country today; rpeviously there were about 55,000. The number has gone up from 55,000 to 80,000. Now, what is the quantity that has been supplied from January to August, 1964? Nearly 44·71 lakh tonnes of wheat alone has been supplied so far. Up to the end of July nearly 6·99 lakh tonnes of rice has been supplied. This means that nearly 5 million tonnes of foodgrains, both wheat and rice, have been supplied through fair price shops and that too when the production figure was nearly 79·6 million tonnes as against 78·4 or 78·5 million tonnes last year.

As against that production figure, what was the quantity that was supplied during 1961-62 and 1962-63? During 1961-62 about 2·6 million tonnes of wheat was supplied and in the year after that, that is, in 1962-63 about 3·6 million tonnes was supplied. As against that, so much quantity has been supplied this year through the fair price shops which are feeding nearly 120 million people in the country.

Who are the persons who are going to the fair price shops? Is it the rich who are purchasing from fair price shops? Is it a man who has a bungalow in Malabar Hill who is going and standing in the queue at a fair price shop? It is the proper section, the vulnerable section of society that is being served and is being fed through fair price shops.

It is true—I also admit it—that the prices in the open market are ruling very high. People say that when the price in Punjajb for Punjab wheat is Rs. 49· per quintal the price in Bombay is about Rs. 120 per quintal—I do not know whether it is of indigenous wheat from Punjab or from Maharashtra. But the fact remains that the price remains at Rs. 120 per quintal. If it is indigenous wheat from Punjab, the comparison would not be a real comparison because indigenous wheat from Punjab cannot go to Bombay

[Shri D. R. Chavan]

unless it goes through some nefarious activity of the smuggler. And you know the practices adopted by the smugglers; they have to pay here and there. Therefore that comparison would not be real. If it is for the indigenous wheat from Maharashtra, then may I ask the hon. Member as to who is going and purchasing it at this rate? Is it a poor man, a worker in a factory or a farmer, who is going and purchasing it? Even, suppose, he wants to purchase it, has he got the means to purchase it? Therefore, the poorer section, the vulnerable section of society has been fed through the fair price shops which are as many as 80,000 in number and the quantity supplied through them I have just now mentioned. Therefore, I say that it is the rich people who are purchasing at those high prices which are prevailing in the market. If that is so and if my hon. friend, Shri Banerjee, is convinced about it, why should he worry about it? Is it for the poor man's cause that he is doing it?

Shri Inder J. Malhorta (Jammu and Kashmir): He is worried about the rich people also.

Shri Umanath: Does the hon. Minister say that the supply through the fair price shops meets even the minimum needs of an ordinary family and he need not go in the open market?

Shri D. R. Chavan: For the last three months that I have been in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture I have not so far received a single complaint. When I went to Bihar when there was a difficult position in Bihar and stocks had gone down, in the month of August as much as 68,000 tons of wheat was supplied to Bihar. I have not received a single complaint except that some persons are creating a psychology of scarcity. That is all. But so far as I am concerned, from my constitutency I have not received any complaint. I do admit that there are difficulties with regard to supply.

Therefore, the question here is not the question of prices but the question of supply—and an adequate supply—to those sections of the community which are affected on account of the prices ruling high in the market. That is the main problem. May I tell the hon. Member that that duty is being discharged and it is being discharged efficiently. About two or three months before, there were difficulties. But as the hon. Food Minister stated, we are out of the difficulties and the position is likely to ease from the next year. From this month, we are also trying to see that the supplies are stepped up. Therefore, I say, if the prices are ruling very high at which prices only the rich persons can make purchases, why are you pleading the cause of those rich persons? It is not the poor people who are involved. If Mr. Banerjee advances an argument and says that because an adequate supply was not made and, therefore, the poor man has got to borrow money and make purchases at the prices ruling in the market, I can understand that argument.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Your Minister has seen the conditions in U.P. and other places.

Shri D R. Chavan: I have also seen the conditions in U.P. and other places. We are stepping up the supplies. I request the hon. Member to cooperate with the Government. If a psychology of scarcity is created in the countryside, this is what is likely to happen. If little marketable surpluses are moving in the market, they will be held back and richer persons who are likely to purchase at high prices are also likely to go to the fair price shops and, therefore, the pressure over the supplies there will increase.

In the circumstances, I would request the hon. Member to cooperate with the Government. May I tell the hon. Member the steps which we are taking, both short-term and long-term, which will enable us—I can

say it with confidence—to solve the food problem without any difficulty? This year, our crop prospects are also better. We are receiving reports from all over the country that we are likely to get a bumper *kharif* crop. If you study the production figures, what happens is that in every sixth year you will find one year when there is a bumper crop. That happened in 1955-56, when the production figure was only 64 million tons and all of a sudden, during the next year, the production figure shot up to 77 million tons, that is, 13 million tons more. Therefore, the production also depends upon the weather and climatic conditions. They have a major role to play in this. It is not that the Government has not been doing anything in the field of agriculture to increase agricultural production. The climatic factors come in over which we have no control. In order to get a complete control over climatic and weather conditions, you will have to put in quite a lot of investment, to bring in more land under irrigation, to put in certain dams and to conserve everydrop of rain and utilise it for the purpose of irrigation. By this way only it is possible to have any control over the climatic and weather conditions. Otherwise, climatic conditions do play a major role and it is a major factor in the country's economy. That has also got to be appreciated. In 1960-61, the production figure was 81 million tons; next year it was 81 million tons and then it went down to 78 million tons. The House is well aware what happened in that year. Drought conditions were there and all sorts of those conditions were there. This year, the production figure is more, though marginal, that is about 79.4 million tons or something like that. It is nearly about a million tons more. Taking into consideration all these factors, may I tell the hon. Member that the Government is doing its best? It is for the first time that a Foodgrains Trading Corporation is coming up by which we will be operating in the trading world. I would request the hon. Members both from the Opposition side and this side to cooperate with the Government and to see that it becomes a success.

With these words, I would request the hon. mover of this Resolution to withdraw his Resolution and in case he does not withdraw his Resolution, I would request the hon. Members of this House to reject this Resolution.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Madam Chairman, I have heard with rapt attention the speeches of our hon. Prime Minister, the hon. Food Minister and last but not the least the Deputy Food Minister. Still, I feel that I am not convinced of their arguments. I have heard their theoretical formulations. They are trying to theorise the whole problem, but unfortunately the prices are going up.

The hon. Deputy Minister has stated that it is due to the vagaries of nature, sometimes it is floods, and sometimes it is frost, and all crops depend on the goodwill or the kindess of nature. Supposing I accept that the prospects of crop or crops in the fields were not good because of the frost, may I ask whether there was frost on Dalda, match-box, Lifebuoy and Sunlight soaps, kerosene oil and edible oils?

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: He is only in charge of fodgrains and not soap.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am talking of all essential commodities.

Shri D. R. Chavan: Production of ground-nut also has failed. 80 per cent of the raw oil used for the manufacture of vanaspati comes from ground-nut.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am sorry; the frost was mistaken; it fell on the crops instead of on the Government.

The whole difficulty is this. The question arises that even after all these assurances and these theoretical formulations, the prices are going up. In Delhi, Calcutta and everywhere

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

else in the country, everything is selling at one rupee per k.g. Whether you take rice or pulse or brinjal or anything else, everything is selling at one rupee per k.g. or seer. I have never seen in my life of forty-five or forty-six years things selling at such high prices. This is the position in the big cities. Now, let us consider what is happening in other States? Take, for example, UP. After all these assurances by the Central Government and the assurances of our Chief Minister, what has happened there? Even today, in the open market, things are being sold at very high prices, and as a result of it, the family budget has been completely upset.

Suppose I was purchasing my total ration for the whole month for my family, comprising of 3 consumption units, I was purchasing it at a price of Rs. 45 or 46 for the entire month, but today, I have to pay Rs. 67 to 70, according to the economists. So, a sum of Rs. 27 has gone out of my pocket, and in return, if I am a Central Government employee, I get Rs. 2 or Rs. 2.50 as dearness allowance, and if I were in a business concern, I would be getting Rs. 5 in my pocket. As a result of this indebtedness has increased. What did the survey of the expenditure by the middle income group indicate in Bombay? It was a revealing report. It revealed that the middle income group getting Rs. 150 to Rs. 200 was indebted to the tune of Rs. 400 or Rs. 450, and a group which was getting Rs. 250 was indebted to the tune of Rs. 300 or Rs. 375. So, we find that rural indebtedness has increased, and urban indebtedness has also increased. I do not know where we are heading. If this is the conception of socjalism or the goal of socialism that we are leading to, I would say that the people will bid good-bye to this conception of socialism and say that we are not achieving anything of socialism.

Not merely the prices of foodgrains, but the prices of all essential commodities have increased whether in Delhi, Calcutta or anywhere else. Take, for instance, what is happening in Calcutta. Mustard oil is not available there, and if it is available after such historic speeches by the Chief Minister, it is available at exorbitant prices of the order of Rs. 7 or 8 per k.g., and that too, to some people who can possibly line up or who can line up with the hoarders. Again, fish is not available in Calcutta. Fish is the only food of the Bengalis, and that is being sold at Rs. 7 or 8 per k.g. So, it has become impossible for anybody to purchase fish in the open market, because it is not available at all. Fish is being sold there in the Lake area, where people go; it is being sold in a place called Lillypool which is a place to which anyone who has a romantic conception of life used to go; fish is being sold at those places; it is also being sold in sweetmeat shops, in flour shops and so on. This is what is happening in Calcutta. Even pulses are not available. They are being sold at Rs. 2 per seer in Calcutta. We used to laugh and say that in this country only two things are cheap, *noon* and *khoon*. Any quantity of blood may be split through firing or lathi-charge. But I tell you even salt was not available in Calcutta. Even in Delhi, today if you consider all the items, prices have gone up.

I would only say that all these arguments advanced by the Treasury Benches are not going to convince the people of this country. Theoretically the Government may be correct. They may have good intentions. They may have survived a vote of no-confidence in this House. But what about the no-confidence outside? What will happen to them outside? What about the prices? The price of not a single commodity has come down during these six or seven months. They are going up and up.

Some economists say it is due to inflation, deficit financing and circulation of black money. What have the Government done to unearth the

black money? Is there any apparatus with Government for the purpose? Is there any machinery to check deficit financing? Are they applying the remedies sincerely?

The prices of all essential commodities are very much connected with the prices of foodgrains. Unless foodgrain prices are brought down, it will be very difficult to control other prices.

What is happening in the country today? All the Central Government employees, 22 lakhs in number, are going to observe a 'protest day' against the non-inclusion of dearness allowance in the S. K. Das Commission inquiry. They will observe it on the 21st September. They will be protesting against the non-inclusion of this formula in that Commission's inquiry. On the 25th of this month, all people in West Bengal, whether shopkeeper or workers, lower middle class or upper middle class, will be observing a complete 'Bengal Bundh'. I know people will be angry about it. 27,000 insurance workers throughout the country will be observing a 'demands day' against high prices on the 26th of this month.

What will happen? I know the fate of this Resolution. I know how the ruling party has defeated the no-confidence motion. We may be less in number today. But outside, we know there is a vote of no-confidence against this Government. When I say this, I have in my possession several letters and several telegrams which I have received congratulating me for bringing forward this Resolution and asking me to press it to a vote.

I would make a request to the hon. Minister. If they accept everything in principle, why should they not accept the Resolution? What is bad in it? They are arresting people. But what about the hoarders in Calcutta? What about the rice mill owners? What about the rice mill owners? who have been arrested? I am sure they will be let off when they pay Rs. 10,000, Rs. 1 lakh to the Nehru Memorial Fund—that is the latest fund; previously it was the Gandhi Memorial Fund; now it is the Nehru Memorial Fund. I would only request them not to bring Nehruji's name into this food muddle. Let him be out of it.

Mr. Chairman: He is requesting others not be bring his name into this; but he is doing it. I would request him to refer to essential commodities and not to that.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I referred to the Nehru Memorial Fund. We should not be touchy about it. Pandit Nehru was a great man. I was a great admirer of Pandit Nehru, without getting a ticket from him. But I know that history will not forget Pandit Nehru but at the same time will not forgive him for certain things. Let us be objective in our analysis of history. There is no doubt people escape by giving handsome donations to the ruling party....

Shri Khadilkar (Khed): We are too near the event to pass any judgment.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am only speaking as a student of politics.

So I press this Resolution and request the House to accept it. If they do not accept it, I would only say this. Throughout the country, whether it is Bengal *bundh*, Maharashtra *bundh* or Gujarat *bundh*, there is going to be a Bharat *bundh* after one month or two months unless the prices come down. The people will bring down this Government, if they do not act. It is not a theory, but it is practical and a realtity.

Mr. Chairman: There was an amendment moved on 5th June, 1964 by Shri M. Malaichami, but I do not think it should be put to vote because it is already covered by the substitute motion on the discussion of the food situation.

[Mr. Chairman]

Is Shri Banerjee withdrawing the resolution, or is it necessary to put it to vote?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Otherwise, I should withdraw from the House.

Mr. Chairman: Now I put the resolution to the vote of the House. Items (i) and (ii) in the resolution were covered by a substitute motion in the debate on the food situation, and they need not be put to vote. Therefore, I am putting only the rest of the resolution to the vote of the House.

The quesion is:

"In view of the growing discontent among the people of this country against Government's failure to check abnormal rise in prices of all essential commodities, this House recommends to Government the following for immediate adoption and implementation:—

*** ****

(iii) exemplary punishment to hoarders and black-marketeers; and

(iv) formation of a Price Stabilisation Committee."

The motion was negatived.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Let them have the hoarders and blackmarketeers.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THIRTIETH REPORT

Shri Rane (Buldana): I beg to present the Thirtieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

16.32 hrs.

RESOLUTION *RE*: DEFENCE OF INDIA ACT

Shri Biren Dutta (Tripura West): I beg to move:

"This House is of opinion that pending the lifting of the Emergency which is long overdue, the repressive provisions of the Defence of India Act and the Rules thereunder should not be used against political Trade Union and other workers of the Democratic movement or for suppression of people's agitation for food and against high prices."

The continuance of the emergency these days is not at all warranted by the situation existing in the country. The emergency should have been withdrawn long back by the Government as continuation of it for nearly two years without any reason whatever only exhibits the growing authoritarian tendencies in the ruling circles today.

First of all, I would like to stress the fact that the ruling party is not at all serious about this emergency. It is during this emergency that corruption in the country has become rampant. It is during this emergency that the Government had to establish the Sadachar Samiti.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): No, no. Government has not done it.

Shri Biren Dutta: Some Minister.

Even Chief Ministers and important Ministers are charged with serious corrupt practices not by the Opposition parties but by the ruling party itself. No serious ruling party in the world would tolerate such a corrupt practice during emergency. But the present authorities are practising this thing while they say that there is an emergency in the country. Even today the Prime Minister has given