

13.36 hrs.

**RE. STATEMENT ABOUT FIRING
ON ADIVASIS IN PANCHMAHAL
DISTRICT OF GUJARAT**

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): Mr. Speaker, you were good enough to disallow one call-attention notice given by Mr. Bheel and some of our Members. We accept that decision. I only wish to request you to ask the Home Minister at his convenience either today or tomorrow to make a statement as to what exactly has happened in regard to the firing incidents in Panchmahal district in Gujarat where there was firing and some policemen as well as adivasis had been injured and so on. I do not propose that we should try to seek to exercise any right to put any questions; I only want a statement from him.

Mr. Speaker: A call-attention notice was received. Does he want to take it up?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Nanda): I have personally no objection.

श्री दे० शि० पाटिल (यवतमाल) :
मेरा भी इस पर एक ध्यानाकर्षण का नोटिस था

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उनको भलाऊ नहीं करता हूँ आपको कैसे भलाऊ कर दूँ। क्या इर कोई इस तरह से बोलता चला जाएगा।

श्री त्यागी (देहरादून) : कल दिल्ली खन्द होगा, तब देखिये।

Shri Nanda: There is no difficulty so far as I am concerned in asking the State Government to give me facts, and I shall place them before the House. The only thing is whether we go on extending it... (Interruptions).

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): I have written to you about this matter, Sir, that we have been

taken by surprise by the bulletin, Part II received yesterday.

Mr. Speaker: How can I look into that just now? I got the chit just now?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I sent it one hour before, not just now.

Mr. Speaker: Tomorrow, I will look into that.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (देवास) : मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि मैं जानकारी मंगा लूंगा। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि कब तक वह गुजरात सरकार से जानकारी मंगा कर हमारे सामने रख दगे।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जब भा जाएगी तब रख दगे।

13.39 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd.

Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation—contd.

Mr. Speaker: We will take up further discussion on the demands of the ministry of labour, employment and rehabilitation. Out of six hours, one hour and five minutes have been spent and we have four and 55 minutes.

Shri P. K. Deo (Kalahandi): May I know if food and agriculture ministry's demands would come up today?

Mr. Speaker: How can they come today?

Shri A. P. Sharma (Buxar): Only four hours and how many minutes have been allowed?

Mr. Speaker: Four hours and fifty-five minutes have been allowed.

Shri A. P. Sharma: I think the Minister will reply tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker: Yes. It looks like that. Any other hon. Member please?

Shri D. S. Patil.

13.41 hrs.

[**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER** in the Chair]

श्री डे० शि० पाटिल : (यवतमाल) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस विभाग के जो मंत्री हैं उन से लोगों को बड़ी अपेक्षा है। भारत के जो पिछड़े लोग हैं, गरीब लोग हैं उन के दिल में मंत्री महोदय से बहुत आशा है और वह उन से काफी अपेक्षा करते हैं। यह बड़े गर्व की बात है और लोगों को बड़ी खुशी है कि इस डिपार्टमेंट का भार श्री जग जीवन राम ने स्वीकार किया है।

यह जो श्रम मंत्रालय की रिपोर्ट है उस में बहुत से श्रमिक लोगों के बारे में, उन की परिस्थिति के बारे में और उन के वेतन आदि के बारे में कहा गया है। लेकिन मुझे एक बात दिखलाई देती है, और वह यह है, कि जो खेतिहर मजदूर हैं उन की रिपोर्ट में अपेक्षा की गई है। इस श्रम, रोजगार और पुनर्वासि मंत्रालय की मांगों पर विचार करते समय अगर हम खेतिहर श्रमिकों के सम्बन्ध में जो नीति है उस को देखें तो तृतीय और चतुर्थ पंच वर्षीय योजना में उस के सम्बन्ध में दो बातें लिखी हैं। पहली बात तो यह है कि खेतिहर श्रमिकों की आर्थिक स्थिति में सुधार करने और उन के ऊपर सामाजिक दबाव जो है उस से उन को मुक्त करने का प्रयत्न किया जायेगा जिस से वे पीड़ित रहते हैं और दूसरा जो मिद्दान्त है वह यह कि ग्रामीण ग्रथ-व्यवस्था में खेतिहर श्रमिकों के लिये नये काम की व्यवस्था की जायेगी खेतिहर श्रमिकों और अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों के लोग को अन्य लोगों के बराबरी के स्तर तक पहुँचाने में भी मदद की जायेगी। इन लोगों की समस्यायें नए देश एक चुनौती के समान हैं और उनका

सन्तोषजनक हल ढूँढने की जिम्मेदारी हमारे अत्यन्त आदरणीय श्री जगजीवन राम पर इस संसद् पर और भारतीय समाज पर है। हम को उनका संगठित समाज बनाना है जिस में खेतिहर श्रमिकों के हर सदस्य को उन्नति का समान अवसर मिल सके। और ग्रामीण जनता के मुकाबले में वह बराबर का सामाजिक और आर्थिक दर्जा प्राप्त कर सक।

भारत में जो लोग खेती में काम करते हैं उन के बारे में जो रिपोर्ट है, एग्जीक्यूटिव लेबर इन इंडिया रिपोर्ट आफ दि सेक्रेटरी एम्बवायरी, तो उसमें दिया हुआ है कि भारत में जो लोग खेती पर काम करने वाले मजदूर हैं उन की संख्या बहुत बड़ी है। रिपोर्ट में दिया हुआ है कि वह सन् 1951 में 70 प्रतिशत थी। उन में से खेतिहर मजदूर जो हैं वह 17 प्रतिशत थे। अगर इस तरह से देखा जाये तो भारत में सिर्फ खेती में काम करने वाले जो लोग हैं उन की संख्या 3 करोड़ 15 लाख है और उन के परिवारों की संख्या अगर देखी जाये तो वह 63 लाख है। वे लोग समाज के पिछड़े हुए लोग हैं, बहुत गरीब लोग हैं और ऐसे लोग हैं जिन को भ्रष्ट कहा जाता है। इतनी बड़ी संख्या में अर्थात् 3 करोड़ 15 लाख जो लोग हैं, उन की हालत क्या है, उन की लिविंग कंडिशनज क्या हैं, उन के आज के वेतन क्या हैं, इस के बारे में आज तक किसी ने भी नहीं सोचा है।

न्यूनतम वेतन के बारे में इस रिपोर्ट में पेज 197 पर दिया हुआ है कि जो अनेक इंडस्ट्रीज हैं, उन के जो कर्मचारी हैं उन के ऊपर वेज बोर्ड लागू किया गया है और नेशनल वेज बोर्ड कायम हुआ है और जो ऐसे कर्मचारी हैं जैसे कि चर्मकार लोग, बीमा कर्मचारी, उन के बारे में फिन्म कर्मचारियों के बारे में, न्यूनतम वेतन बोर्ड नियुक्त किया गया है, लेकिन जो खेतिहर श्रमिक हैं उन के वेतन के बारे में कोई भी ऐसी जांच नहीं की गई, कोई वेतन समिति नहीं बनी। आज कहा गया है कि कृषि का उत्पादन

[श्री दे० शि० पाटिल]

बढ़ रहा है। कृषि का उत्पादन जो बढ़ता है वह इस लिये नहीं कि कोई उस पर पैसा खर्च करता है, खाद देता है या पानी डालता है, वह इस लिये बढ़ता है कि श्रमिक वहाँ पर काम करता है और अपने श्रम का पसीना उस में डालता है। एग्रीकल्चर प्राइस के बारे में कहा गया है कि उन को एकानामिक प्राइस और रिजनेबल प्राइस मिलनी चाहिये। जब किसानों को रिजनेबल प्राइस मिलती है तो जो लोग उस के खेतों में काम करते हैं, जो मजदूर लोग होते हैं उन को भी कम से कम मिनिमम वेज तब मिलनी चाहिये। आज वह बात नहीं है। आज कुछ जगहों पर न्यूनतम पारिश्रमिक अधिनियम लागू की गई है लेकिन हर एक स्टेट में उसे लागू नहीं किया गया है। आज खेतिहर मजदूर को सब से कम पारिश्रमिक दिया जाता है।

भूमिहीन श्रमिकों की दशा सुधारने के लिये और उनको फिर से बसाने के कार्यक्रम के लिये तृतीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में 7 करोड़ रु० रखे गये थे। लेकिन उस की गति भी बहुत मन्द है। मुझे यह कहते हुए दुःख होता है कि चौथी प्लान के पहले इधर की की जो रिपोर्ट दी गई है उस में लिखा हुआ है कि इस काम के लिये जो रकम कुल रकम रक्खी गई है वह 5 करोड़ है जब की तृतीय योजना में 7 करोड़ रक्खी गई थी। जब यह रकम बढ़नी चाहिये थी तब उसको और कम कर दिया गया है।

दूसरी बात यह है कि सेंट्रलमेंट ग्राफ लैंडलेस लेबरर के लिये तृतीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में जो रकम दी जाती थी उस में 75 परसेन्ट ग्रान्ट होती थी और 25 परसेन्ट लोन दिया जाता था लेकिन चतुर्थ पंचवर्षीय योजना में 66 परसेन्ट ग्रान्ट दी जाती है और 34 परसेन्ट लोन दिया जाता है। इसी तरह से दूसरा प्रोग्राम रक्खा गया है जिस को रूरल मैनपावर प्रोजेक्ट कहते हैं। उस का सम्बन्ध खेतिहर मजदूरों से नहीं है। इतना होने पर भी उस का सम्बन्ध खेतिहर

मजदूरों से जोड़ दिया जाता है और कहा जाता है कि खेतिहर मजदूरों के लिये यह स्कीम है। खेतिहर मजदूरों के काम को न देखते हुए जो कुछ ठेकेदार उसको दे देता है वह उसे मिलता है। जब खेतिहर मजदूरों का सम्बन्ध इस स्कीम से नहीं है तब यह कहना कि यह स्कीम उनके लिये है बहुत गलत है। इसमें जो रकम दी गई है उस के बारे में भी पब्लिक अकाउंट्स कमेटी ने कहा है कि उस का गलत उपयोग होता है। इसी तरह से अगर खेतिहर मजदूरों की प्रोग्रेस देखी जाये तो मालूम होगा कि वह बिलकुल नहीं हुई है।

एग्रीकल्चर लेबर इन इंडिया, सेकेन्ड एग्रीकल्चरल लेबर एन्क्वायरी रिपोर्ट 1957 में यह साफ बतलाया गया है कि वह बहुत पिछड़े हुए लोग हैं। उन को बहुत कम मिलता है। नेशनल सैम्पल सर्वे जो किया गया उस में यह बात बतलाई गई है और नेशनल कौंसिल ऑफ एपलाइड रिसर्च के द्वारा जो सर्वे किया गया उस में भी दिया गया है कि : —

"In a report of the survey of the rural income, saving and investment, the Council has pointed out that a low-level of the per capita income and a high degree of dependence on agriculture continues to be dominating feature of the rural economy."

और इसमें यह बताया :

"Per capita income in rural areas of India is as low as 68 paise per day."

यानी आज हिन्दुस्तान के जो खेतिहर मजदूर हैं उनमें हर एक की प्रतिदिन इनकम जो है वह 68 पैसा है। इससे पता लगेगा कि इनकी हालत कैसी है। महा-लोनबीस कमेटी जो देश में घाय के वितरण और देश के रहन-सहन के स्तर का अध्ययन करने के लिए नियुक्त हुई थी उसने अपनी रिपोर्ट में बताया है कि दो पंचवर्षीय योजना में घनिक लोगों के हाथ में ज्यादा धाय गई और परीब

जोगों के हाथ में बहुत कम गई और उनमें भी जो दस श्रमिक हैं जैसे कारखाना मजदूर हैं, खान मजदूर हैं, बागान मजदूर हैं, स्कूलों के अध्यापक हैं, उनकी आय तो बढ़ी है, लेकिन जो अदक्ष देहाती मजदूर हैं उनकी आय में कोई वृद्धि नहीं हुई है। यह उन्होंने पेज 4 पर कहा है इस रिपोर्ट में।

"A notable exception is agricultural labourers who do not seem to have a share in the increase in income."

यह जो दो तीन रिपोर्ट्स मैंने सदन के सामने रखी हैं वह इसलिए कि खेती मजदूरों की इतनी बढ़ी 3 करोड़ 15 लाख पापुलेशन जो देहात की है उन की हालत आज क्या है। यह मैं अपनी तरफ से नहीं कहता। गवर्नमेंट की अर्प्वाइंट की हुई कमेटीज की जो रिपोर्ट्स हैं उन से मालूम होता है कि उनकी हालत बहुत खराब है।

कल परसों के दिन अपने आदरणीय मंत्री जगजीवन बाबू का स्टेटमेंट मैंने पढ़ा तो बहुत प्रसन्न हुआ। उन्होंने कहा कि समाज के विभिन्न वर्गों में राष्ट्रीय आय का समुचित वितरण किया जाना बहुत जरूरी है। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि भारत जैसे देश में जहां मजदूर लोग अपेक्षाकृत अशिक्षित और असंगठित हैं, उनके हितों के संरक्षण के लिए कानूनी व्यवस्था करना बहुत जरूरी है। उनके बेतन के बारे में विचार करना चाहिये। मजदूरों को न्यूनतम बेतन मिलना ही चाहिए, इस पर उन्होंने जोर दिया। आज तक की जो श्रम नीति रही है वह खेतिहर मजदूरों के हित की नीति नहीं रही है, उनके हित की दृष्टि से काम नहीं किया जा रहा था। लेकिन इनकी सब हालत देखने के बाद आज इस डिपार्टमेंट को खेतिहर मजदूर का एक विभाग खोलना चाहिए और उस पर विचार करना चाहिए, नहीं तो नतीजा यह हो जायेगा कि यह जो इतनी बढ़ी तादाद मजदूरों की है अगर विकास का कोई फायदा उनको नहीं मिला तो देश में

जो योजनाबद्ध विकास का तांता घा रहा है, पैसे का और विकास का, उसका उनको कोई फायदा नहीं पहुंचेगा और इसका नतीजा यह होगा कि उनकी जो सामाजिक क्रांति है वह हम लोग कभी रोक नहीं सकेंगे। इसलिए मैं सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ कि प्लानिंग कमीशन ने इसके लिए एक विभाग खोला है खेतिहर मजदूरों के लिए। सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को भी इसके लिए एक स्वतंत्र विभाग खोलना चाहिये। यह समस्या हल कैसे होगी? इस तरह से यह हल नहीं हो सकती। इस समस्या को हल करने के लिए सिर्फ कुछ लोगों को जमीन दे देने से अथवा रूल बक प्रोग्राम खोलने से काम नहीं चलेगा। इससे इनकी समस्या हल नहीं होगी। इसके लिए खेतिहर मजदूर कल्याण विभाग खोलना चाहिए। कुल मजदूरों के 70 प्रतिशत तो खेतिहर मजदूर हैं और 30 प्रतिशत दूसरे कारखाना मजदूर हैं। 30 तक के लोगों के लिए तो अनेक विभाग अपने खोले हैं लेकिन 70 प्रतिशत तक के जो लोग हैं उनके लिए कोई विभाग नहीं है। तो खेतिहर मजदूर कल्याण विभाग एक खोलना चाहिए। इसके सिद्धान्त के ऊपर मैं नहीं जाता, आप मानते हैं कि जरूर खोलना चाहिए।

दूसरी एक बात महत्व की है। योजना की क्रियाविधि-योजना का इम्प्लीमेंटेशन कौन करता है? इसके लिए कोई अन्तर-मन्त्रालय या अन्तर-विभागीय समिति नहीं है। इस सम्बन्ध में जिम्मेदारी एक स्वतंत्र विभाग पर होनी चाहिए। दूसरी बात—भूमिहीन मजदूरों को फिर से बसाने का जो कार्यक्रम है उसमें तेजी लानी चाहिए। अन्य उपाय जो हैं उसमें चौथी योजना में कृषि प्राधारित उद्योगों को प्राधान्य दिया जाये लेकिन प्रोसेसिब इंडस्ट्री जैसे बना रहे हैं उसमें खेतिहर मजदूरों का कोई स्थान नहीं है और जैसे कि शूगर इंडस्ट्री है, शूगर इंडस्ट्री में

[दे० शि० पाटिल]

बहु भी काम करते हैं लेकिन उनके लिए कोई स्थान नहीं है। इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन उद्योगों की स्थापना भूमिहीन मजदूरों के संगठन द्वारा करवाई जाये और इन लोगों को इन उद्योगों के संचालन के लिए आवश्यक प्रशिक्षण आदी की योजना बनायी जाये। और आदिवासी लोगों के लिए जैसे हम स्कालरशिप की सुविधा देते हैं वैसे ही इन के लिए भी देना चाहिए।

अब मैं आखिर में क्योंकि घंटी बार बार उपाध्यक्ष महोदय बजा रहे हैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि उनकी ट्रेनिंग की व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए और राजनैतिक स्वाधीनता के प्रकाश में आर्थिक पराधीनता नहीं रहनी चाहिए। संविधान की धारा 46 के अनुसार इस देश में एक हज़र और दूसरा मजदूर रहना नहीं चाहिए। उस ओर इस सभा का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। और खेतिहर मजदूर का सवाल, देश का सवाल, राष्ट्रीय प्रश्न हो गया है। इनकी समस्या निश्चित रूप से एक चुनौती के समान है और इनका सन्तोषजनक हल ढूढ़ने की आवश्यकता है। अन्यथा सर्वसाधारण के लिए यह योजना और प्रगति निरर्थक हो जायेगी। इस ओर मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

श्रीवती सुभद्रा जोशी (बलरामपुर):
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज जो श्रम मंत्री हैं इनका पुराना जब यह श्रम मंत्री पहले थे उस वक्त का इतिहास हिन्दुस्तान के मजदूर वर्ग को हमेशा याद रहेगा। बहुत अल्पकाल में जितने कानून मजदूरों के लिए इनके समय में पास हुए उसके बाद जहाँ तक मुझे मालूम है किसी और वक्त में इतने कम समय में इतने कानून

पास नहीं हुए। इसलिए यह नहीं मालूम कि उनको श्रम-मंत्री होना आज पसन्द है या नहीं पर हिन्दुस्तान के मजदूर वर्ग उनका श्रम-मंत्री होना आपके लिए बहुत सौभाग्य की बात समझते हैं। इसी वजह से पहली बात तो मैं उनको यह याद दिलाना चाहती हूँ उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, कि बहुत वर्ष पहले ट्रेड यूनियन ऐक्ट में उन्होंने कुछ अमेंडमेंट करवाये थे जिसमें यूनियन्स के रेकग्नीशन की कोई कम्प्लेसरी बात कही थी जिसका आज तक मालूम हुआ कि नोटिफिकेशन ही नहीं हुआ है। न मालूम वह किस हालत में कहां फेंक दिया गया है। मुझको नहीं मालूम उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, कि आजादी आने के बाद अगर समाजवाद की तरफ कोई कदम उठाना है तो वह किस तरह से उठाना है? पुराना तरीका हमारा कि जो खेती करे उसको खाने को नहीं, जो कपड़ा बनाये उसको पहनने के लिए नहीं, जो बड़े बड़े आलीशान महल बनाये उसको रहने के लिए झोंपड़ी तक नहीं, अगर उस कायदे को मिटाना है तो जब तक हिन्दुस्तान का मजदूर संगठित नहीं होता है तब तक उस तरीके की तरफ कौन सा कदम उस रास्ते पर चलने वाला है? आज भी हमारे यहाँ ऐसे लोग हैं, ऐसा वर्ग है, मैं तो कहूँ कि सरकारी दफ्तरों में भी ऐसी मिनिस्ट्रीज हैं जो यूनियन्स रेकग्नाइज करने से बिलकुल इन्कार कर देती हैं और अगर रेकग्नाइज करती हैं तो वह रेकग्नीशन एक ऐसे झगड़े की जड़ बन जाता है कि मजदूरों में लड़ाई करा करा रक लोग अपना फायदा उठाते हैं और उनमें आपस में लड़ाई कराकर दूसरे लोगों का फायदा करवाते हैं और उस को जो मन-मानी चाहे वह करते हैं। इसलिए मैं प्रार्थना करूँगी श्रम मंत्री जी से कि सबसे पहली बात जो एक समाजवाद को लाने के

लिए सबसे पहला कदम है वह यह है कि हिन्दुस्तान का मजदूर संगठित हो सके, उसमें जितनी भी सहायता कर सकते हैं वह कर और उसको रेकग्नाइज करने के वो भी मुनासिब तरीके हों जिससे मजदूरों की आपस में लड़ाई बन्द हो और वह अपनी तरक्की कर सकें उस रास्ते पर फौरन से उनको अपनी मिनिस्ट्री का ध्यान करना चाहिए और उसके लिए कदम उठाना चाहिए। अब और तो क्या मुझको मालूम हुआ कितनी मिनिस्ट्रीज हैं हेल्प मिनिस्ट्री की बात आ रही थी पिछले दिनों कि वह यूनियन्स से बात नहीं करेंगे, एसोशियेशंस से बात नहीं करेंगे, डाक्टरों से बात करेंगे। घाडीटर ऐंड एकाउंट्स के कुछ लोगों ने पिछले दिनों भूख हड़ताल भी की थी। कुछ साल पहले उनकी रेकग्नीशन छीन ली गई तो फिर एक छूट हो गई अफसरों को कि और कोई रेकग्नीशन करने की बात ही नहीं है, एक बहाना हो गया। यह मैंने एकाघ उदाहरण दिये। ऐसे उदाहरणों की हमारे देश में कमी नहीं है।

14 hrs.

दूसरी बात जो मैं श्रम मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहती हूँ वह यह है कि फैसलों में इतने इतने वर्ष लगते हैं, एडजूडिकेशन में केस चला जाता है, दस-दस, पन्द्रह-पन्द्रह वर्ष तक उनकी कोई खबर नहीं आती है। उग्र कंड की अवधि भी आजकल के जमाने में कम होती है। बहुत सारे केसेज को मैं जानती हूँ। एक कैस मैं लायी हूँ। अब मालूम नहीं मंत्री जी उसको बतलाना कहाँ तक पसन्द करेंगे, जाहिर है कि मैं भी नहीं करती हूँ। पर मैं इस केस से परचित हूँ। एक कपड़ा मजदूर यूनियन ने बहुत वर्ष पहले 1957 में 20 हजार

मजदूरों का केस पेश किया, 22 मई सन् 57 को। 18-11-57 को कन्सीलिएशन प्रोसीडिंग शुरू की गई। 3-4-58 को एक साल के बाद हुकम दिया गया कि उसके लिए एडजूडिकेशन घाडर कर दिया गया। तब से रिट हुए, किस्म-किस्म के एतराज भाने शुरू हुए, बहुत किस्से कहानियाँ चलती रहीं और उसके बाद 7-2-64 को गवाही लेनी शुरू की गई। और फिर गवाही खत्म हुई। होते होते 22-2-59 को उसका दोबारा रीहिप्रिंग हुआ और 66 म रीहिप्रिंग दोबार क्लोज किया गया। 1956 से लेकर 66 तक इस तरह चला। उसके बाद जब मजदूर इस इन्तजार में था कि अब उस का कोई फैसला होने वाला है तो मालूम हुआ कि कुछ और एतराज कर दिए मिल के मालिकों ने और उसके लिए फिर उनको बुलाया गया है कि आप दोबारा आकर आर्ग्यूमेंट करिए अब और एत राज आ गए हैं। इस तरह से 10, 10 और 15, 15 साल के लम्बे अर्से के बीच में हजारों मजदूर निकाल दिये गये जिनको कि एक पैसा भी ग्रेचुएटी नहीं दी गई और वह अपने घर चले गये। यह ग्रेचुएटी का केस था।

इस तरीके से टैक्सटाइल में जो कंट्रैक्ट लेबर है उस का केस 10-15 वर्ष से खटाई में चला जा रहा है। मालूम यह हुआ कि लेबर एपेलेट ट्रिब्युनल था जिसको कि हटा दिया गया, तोड़ दिया गया। यह लम्बा तरीका अखत्यार किया गया। इस से मजदूरों को बहुत हानि हुई है। लेबर एपेलेट ट्रिब्युनल ते बड़ा काम किया था, कोडिफिकेशन किया था लेबर लाज का और उस से मजदूरों को बड़ा फायदा था। मेरी श्रम मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना है कि उस को फिर से रिवाइज करना चाहिए।

उस के बाद एक रीसैट इतिहास हमारे सामने है। सरकार ने एक बॉ स कमीशन बनाया और वह बोनास कमीशन इत्यादि

[श्रीमती सुभद्रा जोशी]

भुकरंर किया गया कि कोई भ्रासान फारमूला बोनस देने का लोगों को निकलाना चाहिए । आज जो उस का नक्शा सामने है वह हर एक सरकार के लिए एक शर्म का इतिहास है । सारा एक्ट चैलेंज हो गया । उस की एक-एक धारा चैलेंज हो गयी । दिल्ली में 15 वर्ष से कोई बोनस के लिए कपड़े वालों ने हड़ताल नहीं की थी लेकिन वहां पर हड़ताल, एक मार पिटाई और खूनखराबा होने लगा । कोई हिन्दुस्तान का हिस्सा नहीं है, कोई जज नहीं है, कोई ट्रिब्यूनल नहीं है जिनकी कि समझ में यह आया हो कि इस का इंटरप्रेटेशन कैसे होगा ? एक धारा उस की ऐसा कहती है कि इस कानून के खिलाफ अगर कोई फैसला होता है तो वह वैलिड नहीं रहेगा लेकिन उसी की एक दूसरी धारा कहती है कि अपना कोई भी फैसला मजदूर और मालिक मिल कर कर सकते हैं । खैर वह सारी चीजें कोर्ट के सामने हैं । जब इस बारे में सुप्रीम कोर्ट के जज के सामने एक वकील साहब ने इस पर भागू किया तो उन्होंने कहा कि या तो पार्लियामेंट के भ्रन्दर बैठने वाले लोगों की समझ में नहीं आया या फिर शायद मैं बेवकूफ हूं । यह कैसा कानून है मेरी समझ में नहीं आता । उस को मालिकों ने भी क्वेश्चन कर दिया और उस को मजदूरों ने भी क्वेश्चन कर दिया और इस कानून की एक-एक धारा मामूली अफसरों की समझ में कहां से आयेगी और कौन इसको जागू करने वाला होगा ? मेरी प्रार्थना है कि फौरन एक दिन में इस को रिवाइज करने की कोशिश की जायें । अब जिसका कि इंटरप्रेटेशन बगैरह ही लोगों की समझ में न आये ऐसे कानून पास करने का अभिप्रायः क्या है ? उस को फौरन रिवाइज करना चाहिए ।

मैं ने पहले भी इस सवाल को उठाया था और आज फिर अपने श्रम मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहती हूं कि बोनस कमिशन की शकरीबन एक यूनैनीमस रिपोर्ट है लेकिन

मालिकों के एक नुमायन्दे के कहने से उस को सारा तबदील कर दिया गया, भ्रमैड कर दिया गया । अभी हिन्दुस्तान के मजदूरों को एक बहुत लम्बी लड़ाई लड़नी है जब तक कि बराबरी का उस का हक़ नहीं आता । मैं तो कहूंगी कि श्रम मंत्री आजादी के बाद का इतिहास देखें और हम को बतलायें कि हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार ने कमिशन की रिपोर्ट पर जितनी दफ़े दखल दिया तो उसने कितनी दफ़े मजदूरों के हक़ में दखल दिया और कितनी दफ़े उस ने मालिकों के हक़ में दिया ? कई साल से इस तरह से इसको लेकर झगड़े हुए थे जिसमें सरकार ने उस को भ्रमैड करके उस को भी खराब कर दिया । एक नुमायन्दे के कहने से बोनस कमिशन की रिपोर्ट को लेकर खराब कर दिया । लोक सभा में हाउस के सामने उसे भ्रमैड कर के मजदूरों के सामने पेश किया गया । मेरी प्रार्थना है कि आप उस को फौरन रिवाइज करने की कोशिश करें । यह तो दो, चार बातें मैं ने श्रम मंत्री जी की सेवा में आर्गेनाइज्ड लेबर को लेकर कहीं । जैसा हमारे एक साथी ने कहा कि अनआर्गेनाइज्ड लेबर को कोई पूछने वाला नहीं है । ठेकेदार की लेबर का क्या होता है ? अफसोस तो इस बात का है कि सरकार भी जब ठेकेदार के मजदूरों से काम लेती है तो भी उन को क्या मिलता है और क्या नहीं मिलता है उसे कोई देखने वाला नहीं है । पुराने जिलों में, पुराने जो पिछड़े हुए इलाके हैं वहां जाकर सरकार भी उन मजदूरों का उसी तरीके से शोषण करती है जैसे कि ठेकेदार दूसरी जगह उनका करते हैं और सरकार भी उतना ही कम पैसा उन को देती है जितना कि ठेकेदार देते हैं । इसलिए श्रम मंत्री जी को इस की तरफ़ ध्यान देना चाहिए कि जो अनआर्गेनाइज्ड लेबर है और आज चूंकि वह बेचारे आर्गेनाइज्ड नहीं हो सके हैं इसलिए सरकार उन के लिए जितना मुभकिन हो बह करे ।

आज जब रोजाना चीजों की कीमतें बढ़ती चली जा रही हैं तो मजदूरों आदि की ओर से डी० ए० की इनक्रीज की डिमांड घाना ठीक है। जब और कोई तरीका नहीं है तो मजदूरों के सामने अपने मंहगाई भत्ते में वृद्धि की मांग करने के अलावा और कोई उपाय नहीं है। लेकिन यह चीज भी हमें माननी होगी कि सरकार इस तरह की स्थिति का मुकाबला नहीं कर सकती है। जिस तरह से और जितनी रोजाना वस्तुओं की कीमतें बढ़ रही हैं उस हिसाब से सरकार उन को पैसा नहीं दे सकती और पता नहीं कि दूसरे लोग भी दे सकते हैं या नहीं दे सकते हैं। बाकी एक काम हो सकता है और वह यह कि हिन्दुस्तान के मजदूरों को जो उन की आवश्यकता की चीजें हैं जो उन की रोजमर्रा काम में आने की चीजें हैं वह उन को सस्ती कीमत पर मुलम हों और वह मिलनी ही चाहिए चाहे वह सबसिडाइज्ड की जायं चाहे कंज्यूमर्स स्टोर्स खोले जायें। आज जरूरत इस बात की है कि कपड़ा, मकान और खाना इनका इंतजाम मजदूर वर्ग के लिए हो और वह इनकम के हिसाब से और इंडस्ट्रीज के हिसाब से नहीं होना चाहिए। यहां कहा गया हम लोगों को कि कारखानों में उनके लिए दुकानें खोली जायेंगी। मिल वालों से कहा जा सकता है कि दुकानें खोलें तो मेरा कहना है कि उनके लिए तो हो जायेंगी। इतना ही नहीं बल्कि जो कारखानों में मजदूर काम करते हैं वह बहुत बातों में दूसरे मजदूरों से बेहतर हैं और उन की आमदनी भी प्रपेक्षाकृत अच्छी है लेकिन उनके अलावा और भी तो मजदूर हिन्दुस्तान में बसते हैं, उन मजदूरों का क्या इंतजाम होगा, उन के लिए सस्ती दुकानों का क्या वनेगा ? उनके लिए भी तो श्रम मंत्री जी को कुछ बन्दोबस्त करना चाहिए क्योंकि केवल कारखानों में इस तरह की सस्ती दुकानें खोलने से ही तमाम मजदूरों की समस्या हल नहीं होती है और उन की हालत तभी ठीक होगी जब सरकार स्वयं उन दुकानों का इंतजाम करे। मैं चाहती हू कि

श्रम मंत्री जी इन सारी चीजों की तरफ देखें। और अच्छी तरह से गौर करके मुनासिब कदम उठावें। देश के मजदूर वर्ग ने उनके श्रम मंत्रालय का कार्यभार सम्हालने से जो आशाएं व उम्मीदें बांध रखी हैं उन उम्मीदों को वह पूरा करके हिन्दुस्तान के मजदूर वर्ग को राहत प्रदान करें और देश को समाजवाद की तरफ तेजी से बाने के लिए भ्रमली सहायता दें। यह मेरी उन से प्रार्थना है।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (देवास) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, श्रम मंत्रालय के बजट अनुदानों पर बोलते हुए मैं माननीय मंत्री के सामने अपने कुछ विचार रखना चाहता हूँ। हमारे देश में एक ऐसा बहुत बड़ा वर्ग है जोकि दुकानों में, छोटी दुकानों में, मजदूर की हैसियत से काम करता है। उन के सम्बन्ध में न तो कोई प्रेचुएटी की व्यवस्था है और न ही न्यूनतम वेतन की व्यवस्था है। उन के लिए वेज बोर्ड बनना चाहिए और कम से कम उन की आय 150 रुपये होनी चाहिए। एक वेज बोर्ड उनके लिए सैट अप होना चाहिए। जब उन्हें सेवा से मुक्ति मिलती है, नौकरी से उनकी छुट्टी हो जाती है तो उन्हें कोई पैसा नहीं मिलता है और वह घर खाली हाथ जाते हैं। 25-25 और 30-30 साल तक सर्विस करने के बाद उन लोगों को हटा दिया जाता है या जब उनकी छुट्टी होती है तो उन्हें कोई पैसा नहीं मिलता। उन्हें प्रेचुएटी मिलनी चाहिए इस की व्यवस्था भी सरकार को करनी चाहिए क्योंकि हमारे देश का यह एक बहुत बड़ा भाग है।

मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि प्राविडेंट फंड के जो नियम हैं वह केवल उन्हीं कारखानों पर लागू होते हैं जहां 20 कर्मचारी काम करते हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में मेरे दल ने भारतीय मजदूर संघ ने सरकार को यह प्रतिवेदन दिया है और यह मांग की है कि यह वेज बोर्ड और प्राविडेंट फंड का कानन कम से कम 5 लोग जहां पर काम करते हैं उन पर लागू

[श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय]

होना चाहिए लेकिन आप ने जहां 20 लोग काम करते हैं ऐसे कारखानों में इस कानून को लागू किया है। लेकिन इसमें भी मालिकान की तरफ से गड़बड़ी की जाती है और ऐसे कितने ही कारखाने देश के अंदर हैं जहां पर दरअसल 25 और 30 मजदूर तक काम कर रहे होते हैं जहां पर 40 मजदूर तक काम करते हैं लेकिन वहां रजिस्टर्स में 12, 15 या 18 मजदूर ही वर्क कर रहे दिखाते हैं और इस तरह से सरकार की आंखों में धूल भोंकते हैं कि हमारे कारखानों में 20 मजदूर काम नहीं कर रहे हैं। इस तरह की बेईमानियां मिल मालिकान किया करते हैं।

इस से पहले कि मैं आगे और निवेदन करूँ कृपया हाउस में गण-पूति करवा दीजिये।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : घंटी बजाई जा रही है—अब कोरम हो गया है। माननीय सदस्य अपना भाषण जारी रखें।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं कह रहा था कि सरकार ने कहा है कि प्राविडेंट फंड आदि की सुविधायें उन कारखानों में दी जायेंगी, जिन में फ़ैक्टरीज एक्ट लागू होता है। किन्तु हमारे देश में ऐसे बहुत से कारखाने और उद्योग हैं, जिन में काफी तादाद में लोग काम करते हैं लेकिन उन के मालिक कानून से बचने के लिए अपने कर्मचारियों की तादाद बहुत कम शो करते हैं। सरकार को इस बात की खोज करनी चाहिए कि देश में ऐसे कितने कारखाने हैं, जो अपने कर्मचारियों की तादाद कम शो कर के सरकार की आंखों में धूल भोंकते हैं। इस प्रकार वे कानून के काबू में नहीं आते हैं और उन को ज्यादा लाभ होता है, जब कि मजदूरों की हानि होती है।

हमारे देश में दवाई-उत्पादन के जो कारखाने और दवाई-विक्रय की जो दुकानें हैं, उन के कर्मचारियों पर कोई कानून लागू

नहीं होता है—न तो उन के लिए कोई बेज बोर्ड है और न उन के लिए प्राविडेंट फंड की सुविधा है। आखिर उन लोगों को इस लाभ से क्यों वंचित किया गया है? क्या उनका कुसूर यह है कि वे दवाई बनाते या बेचते हैं? उन्होंने ऐसा कौन सा अपराध या पाप किया है, जिस के कारण उन पर यह कानून लागू नहीं होता है? मैं मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करूंगा कि वह अपने उत्तर में इस बात की सफ़ाई पेश करें कि दवाई-उत्पादन और दवाई-विक्रय उद्योग में काम करने वाले कर्मचारियों को इन सुविधाओं से क्यों वंचित किया गया है और इस उद्योग में बेज बोर्ड और न्यूनतम वेतन की व्यवस्था क्यों नहीं की गई है।

जिन उद्योगों में कम से कम पांच व्यक्ति काम करते हैं, उन में बोसन की व्यवस्था करने के बारे में मैं कह चुका हूँ। उन उद्योगों में भी बोसन की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए।

मैं यह भी निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार को बड़ी गम्भीरता से विचार कर के एक राष्ट्रीय वेतन बोर्ड बनाना चाहिए और वह बोर्ड स्थायी होना चाहिए। कृषि मजदूरों के समान हमारे देश में मजदूरों का एक बहुत बड़ा वर्ग है, जो मजदूरों सम्बन्धी कानूनों और सुविधाओं से वंचित रहता है। इसलिए एक राष्ट्रीय वेतन बोर्ड बनाया जाना चाहिए, जिस से उन लोगों को भी लाभ मिल सके।

आज हमारे देश में ऐसे बड़े बड़े कारखाने हैं, चाहे वे सरकारी हों और चाहे प्राइवेट, जिन में पचास प्रतिशत कर्मचारी अस्थायी होते हैं। पर्मानेंट—स्थायी—होने से उन को जो लाभ मिलने चाहिए, वे उन से वंचित रखे जाते हैं। मैं आप के सामने उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ कि इतनी बड़ी संख्या में कर्मचारियों को अस्थायी रख कर मालिक लोग किस प्रकार से नाजायज फ़ायदा उठाते हैं। पिछले दिनों दिल्ली क्लबा मिल में

काफ़ी जोरों से जो संघर्ष चला, उस के परिणामस्वरूप वही लोग मारे गये, जो अस्थायी — जो टेम्पोरेरी तौर पर काम करते थे, उन की छंटनी हुई और उन को मिल से बाहर निकाल दिया गया। आज वे लोग अपनी नौकरी से हाथ धो बैठे हैं। यह समस्या सारे देश में है। भिलाई के सरकारी कारखाने से तेरह हजार मजदूरों की छंटनी की गई, जो कि अस्थायी थे। उन लोगों से इस शर्त पर भूमि ली गई थी कि वे भूमि दें और उन को रोजगार दिया जायेगा। लेकिन सरकार ने उन के लिए कोई व्यवस्था नहीं की और वे भूखों मर रहे हैं। सरकार ने बड़ी बेरहमी के साथ उन को छोट दिया है।

इसलिए यह आवश्यक है कि बड़े बड़े कारखानों में जो पचास प्रतिशत कर्मचारी अस्थायी रूप से काम करते हैं, उन को स्थायी किया जाये। मुझे अच्छी तरह से अनुभव है कि उन को जो पास दिया जाता है, उस पर लिखा होता है "केवल एक महीने के लिए"। हर महीने उन को नया पास दिया जाता है, जिस पर यही लिखा होता है "केवल एक महीने के लिए"। इसी प्रकार चार-चार साल बीत जाते हैं। चार-चार साल काम करने के बाद भी कम्पनी उन कारीगरों और मजदूरों को जब चाहे तब निकाल सकती है, छोट सकती है। यह उन के साथ अन्याय हो रहा है और इसलिए सरकार को इस ओर ध्यान दे कर उचित कदम उठाना चाहिए।

हमारे देश में एक अग्ररबत्ती उद्योग है। हमारे उज्जैन में अग्ररबत्ती के दो कारखाने हैं। मुझे इस बारे में निजी अनुभव है। उन मजदूरों को क्या मिलता है? बारह आने, रुपया। इस उद्योग में कौन काम करते हैं? वे विधवा औरतें, जिन का कोई सहारा नहीं होता है। मालिकों द्वारा उन से जूते के दम पर, जूते की ठोंकरों पर, काम लिया जाता है—"काम करना हो, तो करो, बर्ना कारखाने से बाहर निकल जाओ"।

यह उन की दशा है। उन के लिए प्राविडेंट फंड, वेज बोर्ड या चिकित्सा की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। अगर हम उन के कारखाने में जायें, तो वहां पर दम घुंटा है और तेजाब और मसालों की बास घ्राती है, जिस से उन के फेफड़े सड़ जाते हैं। मैंने मंत्री महोदय को इस बारे में पत्र भी लिखा है और बातचीत भी की है, लेकिन अभी तक उन के बारे में कुछ नहीं किया गया है। आखिर उन लोगों पर ये कानून लागू क्यों नहीं किये जाते हैं।

मध्य प्रदेश में एक बहुत बड़ा बीड़ी उद्योग है। उस उद्योग में काम करने वाले मजदूरों का न प्राविडेंट फंड कटता है, उनके लिए न कोई वेज बोर्ड है, न उन को बोनस मिलता है और न उन के लिए चिकित्सा की कोई व्यवस्था है। बिल्कुल लावारिस समझ कर उन लोगों से काम लिया जाता है। उस उद्योग में सारा काम ठेके पर लिया जाता है। उन को कितनी मजदूरी मिलती है? एक हजार बीड़ियां बनाने के बाद उन को एक रुपया, सात आने मिलते हैं। कुछ ठेकेदार लोग मजदूरों से बीड़ियां बनवाते हैं। उन मजदूरों को पहले से ही रुपया उधार दे दिया जाता है, जिस के नीचे वे साल साल भर तक दबे रहते हैं। वे लोग रुपया, डेढ़ रुपया, दो रुपये रोज कमाते हैं और उस से परिवार चलाते हैं। वे बिल्कुल लावारिस लोग हैं। तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस ओर सरकार को ध्यान देना चाहिए।

अब मैं कोयला खानों की ओर आना चाहता हूँ। मध्य प्रदेश में और बिहार में बहुत से कोयला उद्योग हैं। वहां क्या दशा है? मजदूर से लिखा लिया जाता है कि दो रुपये रोज पाये और उन को दिया जाता है केवल एक रुपया दो आना। जब सरकारी कर्मचारी जांच के लिए जाते हैं तो रजिस्टर में लिखा देखते हैं दो रुपया, लेकिन मैं एक नहीं हजारों

[श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय]

मजदूर दे सकता हूँ कि लिखा तो दो रुपया जाता है पर दिया एक रुपया दो भ्राना ही जाता है। और मजदूरों से कहा जाता है कि अगर तुम ने यह बात किसी से कही तो तुम्हारा काम बन्द कर दिया जायेगा। क्या सरकार की आँखें फूट गयी हैं कि इस ओर गौर नहीं करती। इन लोगों ने कौन सा गुनाह किया है। जब कोयला खान मजदूर खान से निकल कर घर जाता है तो उसका बच्चा उसको देख कर डरता है कि भूत आ गया। इस दिशा में सरकार ने कोई प्रगति नहीं की है।

जहाँ तक ठेकेदारी की प्रथा का सवाल है, यह प्रथा खत्म होनी चाहिए। इस में बहुत से दोष हैं और इस प्रथा के कारण मजदूरों को पूरा पैसा नहीं मिलता। ठेकेदार काफी पैसा खा जाता है। इस ओर सरकार को ध्यान देना चाहिए।

लोग पुलिस वालों को काफी गालियाँ बकते हैं, लेकिन उनकी तनखाह के बारे में सरकार कुछ नहीं कर रही है। सी० आई० डी० वाले, खुफिया वाले और जो ग्रन्थ पुलिस वाले हैं, उनकी तनखाह बहुत कम है। जो पुलिस वाला तीन घंटे ट्रेफिक की ड्यूटी देता है वह खड़े खड़े थक जाता है, और यदि कोई एक्सीडेंट हो जाता है तो उसके खिलाफ ऐक्शन लिया जाता है। लेकिन उनकी तनखाह की बात कही जाती है तो सरकार नहीं सुनती है। उनकी तनखाहें बढ़नी चाहिए।

हमारे देश में अस्पतालों में जो कम्पाउंडर काम करते हैं उनके वेतन संतोषजनक नहीं हैं। सरकार उनसे जितना काम लेती है उसी हिसाब से उनको पर्याप्त मात्रा में वेतन मिलना चाहिये और आज की महंगाई को देखते हुए तो यह बहुत जरूरी है कि उनकी तनखाहें बढ़ायी जायें।

हमारे देश में जो बस कंडक्टर हैं उनकी दशा क्या है? अभी शाहजहापुर में बस

कंडक्टर ने कुछ सवारियों को नहीं बिठाया क्योंकि बस में स्थान नहीं था। इस पर उसको चाकू मार दिया गया। लेकिन इन लोगों का वेतन बहुत कम है। सरकार को इस ओर ध्यान देना चाहिए।

भायरन और स्टील के बारे में जो रिपोर्ट आयी हैं उसको लागू नहीं किया गया है। उसे प्राये दस साल हो गये। उसमें टाटा, बिडला और डालमिया आते हैं। मेरा सुझाव है कि यह जो रिपोर्ट छपी है उसको सरकार लागू कर दे। ऐसा करने से बहुत से लोगों को लाभ होगा।

अन्त में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो रोजगार का दफ्तर है उसमें बहुत धांधली होती है। वहाँ ग्राम तोर पर रिश्वत ली जाती है। लोगों ने चार-चार सालों से नाम लिखा रखा है लेकिन रिश्वत नहीं देते उनको काम नहीं दिया जाता। जो रिश्वत देते हैं उनको ही काम दिया जाता है। मेरे पास ऐसे लोगों की लिस्ट है, अगर मंत्री जी चाहें तो मैं दे सकता हूँ। एक व्यक्ति ने 58 स्थानों के लिए अर्जियाँ दीं लेकिन उसे आज तक काम नहीं मिला।

अन्त में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मैंने जो बातें कही हैं उन पर विचार करके सरकार उत्तर दे।

Shri Sham Lal Saraf (Jammu and Kashmir): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands of the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation. I would have liked to speak on labour, but I will not get that much of time; therefore, I will leave it to my hon. friends who have done a great study of labour problems. I would only touch upon two things about labour.

Under the Trade Unions Act, trade unions ordinarily constituted are being registered. But I would particularly draw the attention of the Minister of Labour and also the Deputy

Minister of Labour, both of whom have been in the Railways in the past, that there are a number of categories of workers, a much greater percentage than should have been under the Act for being recognised as organised unions of labour, whether they are salaried persons or wage earners. Keeping that in view they should have received recognition under the Trade Unions Act for being registered as far as that department is concerned. That is not being done.

The hon. Deputy Minister who has been Deputy Railway Minister for many years knows the entire condition of the railways. I have all regard and respect for the two federations for taking up their cause but I know it for certain that there are a number of things that need to come up before the railway authorities but they cannot come because they have no channel to come. Keeping that in view I would only say this much, whether it is the railways or other such department or agency in the country, they should have this right of registration under the Trade Unions Act.

Shri A. P. Sharma: Is there any difficulty about registration also?

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: Yes in receiving recognition.

As far as employment exchanges are concerned, there is certainly a network of employment exchanges but they are mostly in the cities. They need to be drawn inside the rural areas. I have been connected with this department for some time and I have seen from my experience that in our rural areas people, who are peasant proprietors or tillers of the soil, do not get work for the entire year and in a number of cases these people have no information, have no guidance, have nobody to tell them as to where to go and how to get themselves registered. Some such contrivance should be devised so as to see that people who do not get employment all the year round, get some

opportunity of getting out of their areas to earn some livelihood at the projects. Somewhere some such thing should be done in regard to that.

The main point for me is rehabilitation. After the last conflict with Pakistan, you know it that in the State I come from large areas were not only overrun but occupied by the Pakistani hordes and Pakistani Army; so also were some portions of Punjab, particularly Khem Karan area. Personally I have very little knowledge with regard to the borders of Rajasthan; therefore, I cannot say much about it. I am very happy that the hon. Deputy Minister, Shri Chavan, had some time back gone to Jammu, right up to Chhamb. I was very happy to know a few things from him. Since I had not gone to my State for some time, the interest developed in me so much that I gathered a lot of information by now. I would like to keep a few things before the Ministry and will request that they will very kindly look into the matters as soon as possible.

Over a lakh of people were concerned in this and even to this day they have no hearth or home. Homes destroyed, hearths done away with. Whatever cattle wealth they had has gone out of their hands. Because of the scorched earth policy followed by the retreating Pakistanis, as far as their crops were concerned, they have nothing left with them. Not only that, even places of drinking water have not been left safe or without being polluted. That is one aspect of it. Today they are suffering very much from it. Shri Chavan must have seen it himself that right up to Garhi only people live in their homes; beyond that in certain areas they live in camps, but Palanwala onwards. I think, not a single soul has gone to settle in camps till today. That is the second aspect.

The third aspect is that even to this day they are not absolutely sure of their security. I have personally been

[Shri Sham Lal Saraf]

connected with the rehabilitation of these very people twice in the last 15 or 16 years. Twice, poor men, they have been attacked and were forced to leave their hearths and homes; they were again ruined. This is the third time that it happened with them. Naturally, they do not feel confident that there is security for them to stay there either from the State Government itself or from the Defence Department. Unless and until the Minister of Rehabilitation makes absolutely sure that people who are settled on these borders gain this confidence that they will be secure and defence forces or external security forces also will be there for their protection, I am sure, not a single soul will be able to go near that area. Not only have I seen it myself, but I have heard from the Deputy Minister that on the other side of the border in Pakistan to the last inch they are cultivating the entire land and everything is going on quite all right, but as far as we are concerned, the scorched earth policy is still there and we have not raised a single finger. The same is the case in Punjab and in Jammu and Kashmir. Therefore, Sir, much more has to be done. Secondly, I would like to say this, and I say this with a full sense of responsibility and with all the emphasis at my command. I wish to say that the Central Ministry should kindly see what is being done and what is not being done. If they do not do that, this matter will again remain unsettled as it has happened for the past several years with regard to certain areas.

Now, Sir, I come to the Kashmir Valley. At the time of the raiders appearing in the area what happened? In a particular area—what is called Gulmarg—hundreds of Hindu and Sikh families had to run for their lives. I must say this point that this time the raiders did not kill Hindus and Sikhs as they did in the last raids in 1947-48, when their slogan was:

हिन्दू-सिखां दा सर ब माल
मुसलमानों दी रन ।

I will translate it. They would get hold of the life and property of the Hindus and take away the daughters or the girls of the Mussalmans. They did many other misdeeds but they did not kill people. Only where there was some resistance, where they suspected that they might report, that their security may be affected, they resorted to such things. As far as the Hindus and Sikhs are concerned, they had to run for their lives leaving their entire hearths and homes to the mercy of the raiders and everything else. Today it is not much. About 400 families of Hindus and Sikhs are actually famishing. In Srinagar also I have seen the position. Apart from whatever relief some friends have collected, they did not get any relief from any quarter. May I place it before the Minister of Rehabilitation and say that it is his primary duty to see that they get some relief. Regarding Batamalu lot of things have appeared in our papers. A place right inside—not on the outskirts—but right along with the city of Srinagar has been destroyed and three hundreds to four hundreds of houses were destroyed by the raiders, for no fault of theirs. About their rehabilitation, Sir, I do not believe in seeing very big schemes, big ambitious schemes, which never come to fruition, but I do believe in one thing, that they should be rehabilitated and they should be given some help. Persons in power should not be allowed to make political capital out of it. We should treat this case purely as a humanitarian case in which the moral responsibility of the Central Government is there to see to it that they are rehabilitated and they are given relief. Not only that. In some villages, right from the borders of Uri, right below Haji Pir, in this area some people need to be rehabilitated. They should be rehabilitated there also. I only wish that the Central Ministry will please take some steps for them to see that they are rehabilitated. Otherwise there are not very many problems. The main problem is the old belt from Akhnoor right up to Chhamb where not only

the area was over-run and occupied by the Pakistani armies but every hearth and home was demolished, not even drinking water was left unpolluted. If the Government do not pay full attention to it just now, the whole area will be open for the raiders for any future attack and they could straightway walk into this area in this State of Jammu and Kashmir. By this scheme of rehabilitation—I wish to make it absolutely clear—your department will be solidified and people there in their very fertile land will be able to raise crops which will help the State very much and this will also save the Central Government, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, lot of botheration. Now they have to feed lakhs and lakhs of people. There is the moral strength of the people and this land could be cultivated. On the other side Pakistan can till the soil and reap the harvest right up to the last inch of land that touches our State of Jammu and Kashmir. So with regard to all these matters there is a great responsibility which rests on our Government, they should rehabilitate these people and set things right so that normalcy returns there. With these few words I support the Demands.

Shri Priya Gupta (Katihar): I rise to make my observations on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation. These eighteen years have passed since our independence. We have to take a stock today whether in respect of their wages, their housing problems, their medical facilities, their educational facilities etc. and other ancillaries whether the legitimate demands of our workers have been fulfilled or not, and whether even today the Labour is being kept much below the fringes of their minimum needs or not. We have seen the Government giving them here and there a Pay Commission or a Wage Board or some such thing. Could I ask the Government, the Government which is pledged to the socialistic pattern of society, whether they should make some terms of reference as a pre-condition for

fixation of wages so that it should be the amount which will meet the minimum needs of the workers in this country? When the Government feels that this should be paid, a legal Act should be brought in in this House, in Parliament itself, to protect the labourers from starvation and having a cumulative effect of starvation and starvation deaths. Government denies that there is no starvation death. This is a process of cumulatively losing agility and then facing starvation as a last resort.

I appeal to the Labour Minister to come to certain conclusions in respect of the minimum need based wage and appoint Wage Boards for the future accordingly.

Secondly, as regards medical facilities, what is the condition which we see in our villages? What is the condition of the agricultural labourers and such other establishments who are detached from the city life? They get some medical facilities just like other kisans in the villages. They have got doctors in every block. The doctor is not used to go and see the sick persons. The sick persons have to come to see the doctor. How can the sick person come to see the doctor? There is no road worth the name; a patient has to be carried somehow or other to miles away till he reaches a doctor. This is the condition, Sir. There are no dispensaries; no doctors in several places. An ordinary compounder just gives some medicines to the patients.

What about cities? About one thousand patients are waiting and one doctor is attending on them. I do not know whether the doctor is possessing a magic eye to know even before seeing a person that such and such a person is suffering from such and such disease and such and such medicine should be given. This is one of the conditions of our labourers, whether they are in the public or private sector. This is the condition in the cities.

Regarding housing, very nice things are being said. I do not know what actually Government feels in these

[Shri Priya Gupta]

matters. Does the Government feel that labourers should be without any accommodation whether in the public sector or private sector or casual labour? There should be a provision, compulsory provision made, for their quarters. After all, have the Government decided where they should live? Have the Government decided that after eight or six hours—or whatever may be the scheduled hours of work—the man and his family will be thrown on the street, to take shelter under the sky? Has Government any plan in their various Five-year Plans to solve the housing problem of our labourers? The hon. Minister, I am sure, will say: "Yes, I have got so many lakhs of rupees given to the State Governments for construction of labour quarters." These are all proud things—these are all show-pieces, *Dikhawati*; the tusk of the elephant, not the teeth of the elephant. These are things to be shown when a foreign delegation comes to India, things to be shown when an international delegation comes to India, that we are doing this thing in Kanpur, Calcutta, Maharashtra or Bombay. But these are not sample things. What is the actual percentage of the workers who have got quarters?

Then, Sir, I come to the question of the education of the children. Unfortunately what happens? The States do not take the responsibility. The Minister will say, we have created Centrally—controlled central schools. But this is not much, and in the field of Education, we have done nothing for workers' children. Now, what happened in the Vedic age? We had our Brahmins, Vaisvas, Kshatriyas, and Sudras. Sudras were Sudras, all the time. Similarly today we have got a class of society of our Indian community, who are always a Class-IV staff, low paid people who cannot aspire very much. A chaprassi can never even dream that he can give such education to his son so that this his son may become an engineer or overseer or general manager or anything else. It is a *khandani* tradition.

The son of a general manager becomes a general manager. The son of a district officer becomes a district officer. The son of a labour officer becomes a labour officer; but the son of a peon is a peon for ever. This is the society which we have created after 13 years. There has been no attempt to see that this is done away with. May I request the Labour Ministry to take initiative and urge upon the Government to follow a policy whereby this down-trodden class of people may rise to the level which the socialistic pattern of society has aimed at.

Then, I come to Employment. I do not know how much has been provided for the employment potential in the Fourth Plan. Of course, I see very nice things, the employment exchanges giving figures that so many lakhs of people have been recruited. But what about the other figures showing the number of people retrenched? There is no record to show that. The whole country is bluffed by the employment exchanges giving figures as to so many lakhs of people have been taken in. There is no record anywhere to show as to how many people have been retrenched in one year or two years or in six months or three months. There are the figures of only entries and there are no figures as to how many persons have gone out. That balance-sheet is never maintained by the Labour Ministry.

Then, I come to this automation and mechanisation. It is a sequel to the technological developments. Some years ago, the steam engine itself brought in its sequel an era of revolution. And many things have been done since then. These technological developments are both a hero and a villain. These computers, the automation, the mechanisation, all these things, are a hero in the sense that they increase the efficiency and they do a tremendous amount of work in the twinkling of an eye. But it is also

a villain because that leads to throwing hundreds and thousands of persons out of job. Our Government should feel that India's condition is much different to that of other advanced countries where there is the problem of the shortage of man-power. I would request the Labour Minister to look at it from this point of view, that is, the villain-outlook of these technological developments. Our country is a developing country and we always want efficiency and technological advancement also. That is all right. But we should have it in a planned way. We should not simply copy the structure of the technological developments, the automation, the mechanisation, the Central Traffic Control and all these things. We have forgotten all perspective and the context of our country. In those countries, they are short of man-power and they have utilised those things for better work and better things. Unfortunately, in our country, this is raising the problem of unemployment. From this point of view, you have to think of any surplus created in any organisation, whether it is a Government organisation or a private organisation. The Labour Ministry should see to this.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may conclude now.

Shri Priya Gupta: Now, I come to Rehabilitation. I am a small fry in politics, in the political game and in the political life. We have always dealt with problem with ooh and aah. If our approach to this problem had been a practical one, whether at the time of 1947 or now at the time of Indo-Pak conflict, this problem of rehabilitation of the refugees would have been solved. The fringe-attitude of the people here and there has not allowed the rehabilitation problem to be solved. I submit the Government of India cannot wash off their hands about the thousands and thousands of people coming from East Pakistan and who have been made refugees in the western borders of our country to be taken care of only by the provincial Governments.

In the last I desire only one thing from the Labour Ministry. The labour officers, the conciliation officers and others can exercise control over a tea-planting company manager and over a Tata-Birla company manager and they can twist the ears of Rs. 2000-men or Rs. 4,000-men if there is a violation of the labour law. But they are afraid of Rs. 300-wala Gazetted officers in the Government establishments. They are afraid of the *malik* of the Labour Ministry, the *malik* of the Railway Ministry—he is a *bara-bhai*, *jeth* or *tau* and the labour officers cannot take action against the Government officers in the Government undertaking. Therefore, all labour laws are allowed to be violated without being interfered with by these labour officers. Similar is the case with the labour officers in the C.P.W.D. who are under the Superintending Engineer or the Executive Engineer. Their confidential reports are framed by them and they are afraid to write anything about the violation of the labour laws under the C.P.W.D.

I hope all the things which I have submitted will be looked into by the Minister.

Shri A. P. Sharma: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, although I rise to support the Demands of the Labour Ministry which have been presented before this House I would like to make a few observations both in regard to the working of the Ministry as well as the condition of wages, dearness allowance and labour policy practised by the Government of India in public sector undertakings and especially for the workers employed by the various Ministries.

This is the beginning of the Fourth Plan and yet nobody knows what is going to be the size, the design and the capacity of the Plan as it has not been finalised, so far. During all the three successive Five Year Plans, the Government of India accepted not to practise any distinction so far as the implementation and the enforcement

[Shri A. P. Sharma]

of their labour policies are concerned between the private sector and the public sector. There are, no doubt, many welcome features and achievements to the credit of the Ministry so far as the private sector is concerned. They have set up many wage boards and the conditions of the workers have improved as a result of the recommendations of those wage boards and their implementation. At the same time, they have started training institutes for the workers themselves as well as for the training of the labour relation officers. They have done a good job in all these spheres. But I am sorry to point out one thing. As my hon. friend, Shri Sham Lal Saraf, pointed out, when this morning I intended to speak on the Demands of the Labour Ministry, I was all the time thinking about the two Ministers the hon. Minister, Mr. Jagjivan Ram and the hon. Deputy Minister Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan, who had the opportunity of managing and administering the Railway Ministry for a number of years. Although the Government has accepted that there should be no distinction practicing the labour policy between the private sector and the public sector, what is the position today? I would particularly refer to the biggest employer in the country, that is, the Railways. Everywhere, according to the labour laws, the practice is that whenever a dispute arises, in the first instance, the negotiation takes place between the management and the workers and if the negotiation fails, then the Government comes into picture and they refer the dispute to arbitration. May I ask the Labour Minister and the Deputy Labour Minister as to why this policy is not adopted in the case of the employing Ministries? You will be surprised to know Sir, that in the Railway Ministry, there have been a number of outstanding grievances so far as the workers are concerned.

So far as the workers are concerned, we have been crying hoarse to refer the dispute to arbitration. Ex-

cepting in the year, 1957 when one ad hoc tribunal was set up, no dispute has been referred to the Tribunal. No tribunal has been set up, I should say. The labour in the public sector were told that they were going to have a joint consultation and compulsory arbitration machinery known as 'Whitely Council'. What is the position about this joint consultation and compulsory arbitration machinery? It has not seen the light of day. So long as Parliament is in session, I do not know whether the Home Minister is going to announce his decision regarding this joint consultation and compulsory arbitration machinery. Even by this compulsory arbitration machinery, do you know, Sir, as to what are the subjects going to be covered? Only three subjects, viz., wages—salary and allowances—hours of work, and leave are going to be covered. These are the only three subjects which are going to be arbitrable according to the present scheme of joint consultation and compulsory arbitration. But, do the Government realise as to what is going to happen after the application of the scheme regarding other disputes in the industries? There is no provision under the scheme for compulsory arbitration for the other disputes in the industries. I only want to remind the Labour Ministry that since 1966 is going to be a very difficult year politically because my political friends sitting on the opposite side would definitely, more for a political reasons than for the reasons for bettering the conditions of the workers, exploit this situation. Therefore, I am warning this Ministry that if they want that there should be industrial peace in this country, it is an absolute necessity that the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act should be immediately enforced in regard to labour matters in the prime ministries especially the Railways. I am saying so because the workers are pledged to follow peaceful methods in regard to settlement of disputes. In fact, the workers are following peaceful

methods and settling their disputes through negotiation. I want the House to understand that if the award of the tribunal is not implemented, what is the alternative left with the workers excepting by settling these things through their own organised strength? However powerful their employer might be, they would try to settle their disputes through their own strength. Therefore, I am requesting the Government to see that the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act are made applicable and enforced on the employing ministries.

Now, Sir, I must say something about the wages of the workers. Everybody in this House, knows that the Second Pay Commission was set up in the year 1957 to determine the salary and allowances of government employees. The Commission examined the salary and allowances of the workers and based their recommendations on the 1949 cost of living index. Now, it is 1966; the prices of all commodities have gone up. The Government themselves have accepted that the salary was determined on the basis of 1949 cost of living index. The salary which was determined in 1957 on the above basis does not hold good to-day. No doubt the Labour Ministry has set up a number of wage boards; it is a good thing. At the same time, it is the duty of the Labour Ministry to see that the Central Government which is the biggest employer in this country should also set up either a separate Commission for each Ministry or a wage board or a Commission for all the Central Government employees to examine their salaries and allowances *de novo*. Otherwise, as I said the other day, the Finance Minister may have to face a very difficult time at the hands of their own employees also. The Government should be aware of it. There is a great dissatisfaction prevailing amongst the Government employees, and particularly among the industrial workers employed by the Government of India. Therefore, a Pay Commission or a Wage Board or a separate

Commission as suggested by me is of absolute necessity to examine the salary and allowances which were determined a long time back and which do not hold good now as they are now out of date. They should, therefore, be reviewed.

Then, Sir, I shall speak about the D.A. paid to the Government employees. According to Justice S. K. Das's Commission, which the Government have not yet accepted, D.A. should have been reviewed once in every six months when there is increase of 5 points on the average in the cost of living index. According to Justice Jagannath Das Commission's recommendation, the increase on an average for a ten point in the cost of living, the workers were to be compensated, were to be given a particular amount of D.A. According to this recommendation, they should have been compensated to the extent of 95 per cent. But, according to the latest decision, in regard to the D.A. announced by the Government of India, the workers have been compensated only to the extent of 75 per cent. I want to know how far it is justified for Government to take this arbitrary decision. Therefore, as I said earlier, we always try to settle our disputes by peaceful means or negotiations. We have been pleading that it is not justified for Government to take an arbitrary decision like this and that they should refer the whole question of D.A. to an impartial arbitration and whatever decision that arbitration gives, it should be binding both on Government as well as the workers.

With these words I want to repeat again that if the Government wants industrial peace in this country—I know the Government wants to establish a socialistic pattern of society in this country,—I appeal to the Labour Ministry that they should rise to the occasion. The letter of the legislation should be especially made applicable to everybody. As there should be no high and low in the society.

[Shri A. P. Sharma]

There should be parity between high-paid and low-paid employees. There should also be no disparity in regard to implementation of the labour laws. Last year I asked one question—at that time Shri D. Sanjivayya was the Minister—as to why the Labour Ministry was afraid of the employing ministries; was it because they were more powerful? To-day I cannot ask that question because we have got a very powerful Labour Minister and two Deputy Ministers—one from Defence and the other from the I.N.A. They are very powerful. Therefore, I would request them that they should not hesitate for a moment, and if there is any lapse in regard to the implementation of the labour laws by the employing ministry they should be prosecuted in the same manner as the private sector employers.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Your time is up.

Shri A. P. Sharma: One word more and I have done. I have gone through the annual report very carefully and I find that there is no mention about the enforcement of the labour laws in the public-sector undertakings, particularly with regard to the workers employed by the employing ministry. I would like to add one line about the labour relations in the railways. They always say that labour relations continue to be very cordial. Unless and until the failures of the Ministry are brought to light as also those who were responsible for not implementing the labour laws are taken up, the Labour Ministry will not be doing justice to a large number of workers employed by the Government of India themselves.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now the hon. Member must conclude.

Shri A. P. Sharma: I am concluding. As I have said, while supporting the demands of the Ministry, I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry once again to see that the em-

ploying ministries also do properly function so far as implementation of labour laws is concerned.

15.00 hrs.

Shri M. P. Swamy (Tenkasi): I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation. This Ministry is responsible for treating human problems, i.e., the problem relating to labour, employment and rehabilitation.

Rehabilitation of the repatriates from Burma and Ceylon has to be done on a large scale in our country and arrangements have to be made to give them employment so as to enable them to start a new life here. As the report says, already about 1,37,000 repatriates from Burma have come over to India, the land of their origin, and about 70,000 more are expected to come over to India by the end of this year. This has happened as a result of nationalisation of trade in Burma and the restrictions placed on foreigners there and the Indians have to come over to India to start a new life here. Unfortunately this problem is a very great problem. As I said earlier, it is a human problem and I request the Ministry to take a human attitude over these people and give them more employment as far as possible.

15.02 hrs.

[SHRI SONAVANE in the Chair]

Regarding the repatriates from Ceylon, they are yet to come. Due to the Shastri-Sirimavo Pact signed in October 1964, about 5,25,000 people of Indian origin in Ceylon have to be repatriated to India and this repatriation has to be spread over a period of 15 years; the repatriates from Ceylon are expected to start coming over to India from June this year.

This dual problem of repatriates from Burma and from Ceylon is a

huge problem and a large amount has to be set apart for the rehabilitation of these people.

About the repatriates from Burma, I am glad the Ministry has taken some steps to give them employment. The most affected States because of this repatriation are Madras and Andhra Pradesh; in Madras, nearly 70,000 people have to be provided with employment and given the necessary facilities to start their life. I am glad that they are going to open a spinning mill in Tinnevely district on a co-operative basis to give them employment and also to expand the existing co-operative mills there, so that these people can be employed. Certain concessions are being given to them in the matter of employment and education and certain age relaxation is also being given. I am sure that these things will go a long way in giving them employment. This is a national problem. This problem does not concern only Madras or Kerala or Andhra Pradesh or Maharashtra. These people are Indians; they are Indians first and Indians last. So each State has its own share in accommodating these repatriates from Ceylon and from Burma and I request all the States to make their contribution also in rehabilitating their own brethren who had gone overseas due to poverty here and who have now come back due to the attitude taken by the Governments of other countries. They are our brothers and we have to share their burden also, as we share ours. This is a human problem. The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation have taken this additional responsibility of rehabilitating these people and I am glad that they are taking certain steps.

Regarding the repatriates from Ceylon, I suggest that the Government may have a plan ready now itself; they are going to come over here in thousands by June this year and so from now onwards we should plan for their resettlement here. They were employed in plantations in Ceylon and there

is a large scope for opening more plantations in Kenyakumari, Nilgiris and Anamalai area of Madras State. I am glad the Madras Government is taking steps to open tea plantations to the extent of 10,000 acres. This, however, is not very adequate to give employment to about 5,25,000 people who are going to come over to India. So I request that more lands must be allotted to these people and more plantations must be started, so that they can be employed in those plantations because they are already trained in plantation work in Ceylon. These things must be considered by the Ministry very seriously.

Then I come to another important problem, of bonus. Bonus has a special significance because it is an assured income for the workers. Thanks to this Ministry, they have brought out the Bonus Act by replacing the Ordinance. The Bonus Act assures two things: the minimum bonus and the maximum bonus. I welcome the minimum bonus given to the employees because they were not hitherto given the benefit of getting the meagre bonus of 4 per cent. Now the Act has made it compulsory, whether an industry makes profit or not, to pay a minimum bonus of 4 per cent. It is a welcome feature, but another matter is that there is a ceiling of 20 per cent. The employees cannot get a bonus of more than 20 per cent. The employees employed in tea plantations, mostly in South India, have, in practice, been getting a bonus above 20 per cent but now they are affected because of the ceiling of 20 per cent. I request that this may be relaxed in cases where the previous practice has been to get more bonus than the 20 per cent limit. The very same question was raised in the Madras Assembly and the Chief Minister, Shri Bhaktavatsalam, who is also in charge of labour, has said that the Bonus Act has adversely affected the tea plantation workers and staff in Madras State and they have to amend the Act also, if necessary, to restore the previous prac-

[Shri M. P. Swamy]

the employees getting more than 20 per cent bonus. This must be done by our Government here.

Then I come to the problem of employment. Education has spread to a large extent in our country and with the spread of education, we are faced with the problem of educated unemployment. Most of the males and females are now educated and they have to seek employment to earn their livelihood. We find from the report that the unemployment problem is mounting day by day. We are, of course, not denying that our Government are not solving it; they are solving it to the extent it is possible; but the pace of solving it should be accelerated.

In this connection I may say that employment in the private sector has also increased, but the private sector employers are giving employment to their own kith and kin. I may state a hypothetical case here because I do not want to mention any names. The industrialists who receive loans from Government do not start industries with their own funds; they get more loans from all possible sources concerned. They get the funds from the Industrial Finance Corporation; they get the funds from the Government. The Government get money from all sections of the people who pay taxes to finance the industries. But these industrialists give employment to their own kith and kin and to their own friends and people. In this connection I must mention that the Labour Ministry must see that the industries which receive loan from Government must accommodate all colours and all sections of people as employees in their concerns. This is very important and this must be looked into.

Another point is that, in the Payment of Wages Act, there is no provision for deduction from wages of the professional tax payable by employees to the local bodies. It will be very easy to collect the professional tax from the employees through the management; if an arrangement is made by which

the entire sum payable by the employees to the local bodies can be collected by one cheque issued by the management Panchayats need not spend more money towards the collection of the professional tax. I suggest that suitable amendments may be made to provide for this purpose in the Payment of Wages Act.

I then come to the provident fund scheme. I am glad the provident fund scheme is being extended to a number of new industries.

One matter about which I want to make a mention is this: the industrial magnates have got their own guest houses and bungalows for their officers; and the watchmen, gardeners and other people who are employed in those bungalows are paid not from the pockets of the officers of the factory, but from the management of the factory itself. But, while the watchmen, the gardeners and other people who are employed within the factory premises are covered by the provident fund scheme, the watchmen, gardeners and other people who are employed in the bungalows of the industrial management are denied the benefit of this scheme unfortunately. So I would urge the hon. Minister to take note of this and to extend the provident fund scheme to these people also, so that when they retire they also get some benefit.

I am glad that Government are going to introduce legislation to regulate the contract labour system in this country. The contract labour system is in vogue for a long number of years, and in this House voices have been raised for abolishing the system, but to our surprise we find that Government are introducing legislation only for regulation of the contract labour, by giving them some benefit and by making registration compulsory and so on, so that they can be given some benefit as regular workers.

Finally, I would like to say a word about the motor transport workers. A number of accidents, and that too,

lorry accidents happen on the highways, because the hours of work of the labourers, drivers, and cleaners etc. are not determined. In order to earn more profit, the fleet-owners do not give rest to the employees. When the drivers go on a trip and come back, immediately they are asked to take the lorry; this is what the fleet-owners do, in order that they may earn more profit, but they are ignoring the health of the workers in that process. The result is that the driver has to work for long hours and sometimes he meets with accidents because he does not have enough rest. So, I would request that the Motor Transport Workers Act must be implemented throughout the States properly, so that the accidents on the highways might decrease.

Shri Gauri Shankar Kakkar (Fatehpur): This is one of the most important Ministries, dealing with labour, employment and rehabilitation.

As you know, the very structure of Government depends to a very large extent on successful production in all spheres so that our economy might grow. The growth of the economy is possible only when the labour which is instrumental for production has got all the amenities which normally every human being deserves. In this respect, I would submit that unless labour is provided with all facilities, with residential quarters, medical treatment, education of children etc. in a fair manner, it would not be possible to get more efficient work from the labour.

In this respect, I have to submit that even after eighteen years of our Independence, we have not been quite fair to the labour in regard to all these amenities which are dire necessities for them. I remember that only a few years back, when our late-lamented Prime Minister Nehru happened to visit Kanpur, the industrial centre of UP, he was actually shocked and he said that he would like to burn the dark, dingy and smoky quarters where the labourers were accommodated. And that was a signal where-

upon some quarters were built for the labourers. But that is only a negligible thing. Even then, unfortunately, I have seen that it so happens that those quarters which have been built for the labour are actually occupied by middlemen at nominal rents which are actually meant for the labourers and which are payable by them, and the labourers are not getting any benefit out of it.

I have seen the Industrial Disputes Act undergoing rapid amendments every month and every year. The most unfortunate feature of labour legislation is this that I do not find any sort of congenial connection between the labour legislation at the Centre and those at the State level. Labour being in the concurrent list, there should be a sincere effort to supplement the labour laws of the States with those at the Centre, for then only the legislation can give benefit to the labour.

I may point out that there are certain enactments at the State level which are most ineffective, and they are only kept on the statute-books. One of them is the Minimum Wages Act. There is hardly any enforcement of its provisions with the result that the workers in the small industries, the artisans etc. for whom this enactment was meant, are still being exploited, and the authorities feel as if they need not enforce the provisions of the enactment.

Likewise, I would like to point out that the lot of the agricultural labour in the rural areas is most deplorable. The Central Government and the State Governments have not paid any attention so far to the question of bringing them to the level of the industrial labour to any extent.

In certain States, I should say that there has been an amendment to the IPC, and under section 374 of that Act, compulsory labour can be checked. But I can say with authority that there have been no chalans so far under this section even though the

[Shri Gauri Shankar Kakkar]

offence has been made a cognizable offence. It so happens that these labour legislations which actually deal with labour and which can go to some extent in saving them from exploitation are never enforced; the executive authorities meant for enforcing these enactments treat them in a most step-motherly way. There are no chalangans and no prosecutions under the Minimum Wages Act or under section 374 of the IPC. In the rural areas throughout the country, exploitation and compulsory employment of agricultural labour is still there and it has not been checked. I would appeal to the hon. Minister that the Central Government should rise and see that such enactments as are actually in the interests of labour are strictly enforced.

Then, I would submit that there should be no discrimination in the enforcement of the labour Acts as between the labour in the private sector and that in the public sector. I join with my hon. friend Shri A. P. Sharma in what he has said in this regard. This kind of discrimination is not quite understandable, and I do not see why the provisions of labour laws are not actually enforced in the case of labour employed in the public sector. There is one more apprehension which I feel in this regard. Generally, it so happens that the public sector corporation's managers or the persons who are at the helm of affairs in those corporations are either ICS or IAS officers and they are very senior officers, and in the presence of such officers, the labour welfare officers or labour inspectors actually feel shy, and if I may say so, they are actually cowed down and they thus fail to enforce the labour laws. I would submit that Government should take steps in this regard and as a matter of fact, the public sector should set an example for the private sector in respect of the welfare of labour. But actually it is just the other way about.

Then I have to submit with regard to dearness allowance and enhancement of emoluments to labour that it would be most equitable and just if the dearness allowance given is proportionate to the rise in prices of the necessities of daily life. If we keep in view the rise in prices of these commodities and the amount of dearness allowance given, there is no proportionate relationship, and it gives no relief or welfare to labour. It should be made a criterion that the dearness allowance given should be in proportion to the rise in the price of daily necessities. Then only can labour feel contentment and feel confident of putting in maximum effort for the growth of production in the country.

I am very glad that a bonus legislation has been passed. But there are so many instances where employers have not paid the bonus due to the workers. The other day the hon. Minister of Labour was saying here that efforts were being made and negotiations were going on. I do not understand what the negotiations are about when their obligation under the legislation is clear. If employers are still reluctant to give bonus even after the passing of the Bonus Act, it is the duty of the Labour Ministry and Government to enforce the Act and take necessary steps thereon; there is no stage for any sort of negotiation in this matter.

Lastly, I would say that labour legislation at the States and Central level should be framed in such a manner, that the legislation at the State level supplements the measures taken by the Central Government. Generally, it so happens that the labour inspectors and welfare officers of the States and the Centre do not see eye to eye, and they think they have got different duties to discharge and they belong to different departments. The result is that what is congenial to labour is not done.

These are my suggestions. I hope the Ministry would rise to the occasion

and implement all the measures which are in the statute-book.

Mr. Chairman: Dr. Melkote.

I would request hon. Members not to approach the Chair. If they want to communicate anything, they may please send chits to me. Otherwise, it disturbs the Chair very much. I hope this suggestion would be agreeable to the Members.

Shri H. P. Chatterjee (Nabadwip): I must point out one thing, because I also approached you.

Mr. Chairman: This is a question.

Shri H. P. Chatterjee: We send slips, but are not called. Then we rise and ask for time. Even then we are not called. What is to be done in such circumstances?

Mr. Chairman: Let us not waste time any more. I will accommodate Members.

Dr. Melkote (Hyderabad): I rise to support the Demands of this Ministry. While doing so, I welcome the Minister who is an old, experienced hand, and the two Deputy Ministers who have also had considerable experience in Government, though they are new to the labour department.

The Labour Ministry has a big empire to deal with. Different departments are there as provincial units. Each one of these wants to remain autonomous and not come under the purview of Labour. Our problems are galore. Each one of the workers is a problem by himself. The Labour department has got to deal with them. We expect the labour officers in the department to work for the benefit of the working class everywhere. I pointed out a few years ago that they are just like doctors attending in jails on prisoners. They can only examine the patients and tell Government what ought to be done. It is in that atmosphere, in that light, that we have to tell the labour department to give us

succour and deal with the problems occurring in the country.

As I said, there are various problems that one can think of. The employees' state insurance problem, the rising trend of unemployment, rising trend of prices, the constitution of new Pay Commission, bonus, labour's role in the Fourth Plan, welfare officers and others to deal with the implementation of industrial laws, whether they are properly implemented or not, joint management councils—very many of these problems are there. I would not like to touch on all or any of them, but would concentrate on only one aspect. Two previous speakers, my colleague in the INTUC, Shri A. P. Sharma and Shri K. N. Pande have dealt with other problems already. Therefore, while I entirely agree with what they have said, I would pinpoint only one aspect so that I can highlight it before this House. That is as to how the public sector undertakings in this country have been working and why they have not given us the necessary profits that we expect from them.

The public sector undertakings have to account for a large share of the taxpayers' money. We want them to function most efficiently. If after 19 years of working they do not come up to the same level of efficiency and profitability as the private sector has done, we feel extremely sorry. We have to go into this matter and see why is it that they are not making adequate profits. Why is it that they are not even paying the same quantum of salaries that some of the foreign companies established in India pay. The foreign concerns pay better salaries to their staff. Why is it that the public sector undertakings are not able to pay better salaries? The public sector undertakings have a certain amount of profit fixed which the Government take over. After all is said and done, the amount of money that ought to be distributed to the workers, if they have to have the necessary incentive to do better

[Dr. Melkote]

work, has to be taken into account, if the profit flows back. The workers are interested in greater production; they are patriotic and loyal. They would like to do their best. But what is it that is coming in the way of their not working properly after nearly 20 years of this kind of industrial activity?

I went deep into this question. Here I make this demand. There was a Royal Commission on Labour appointed somewhere about 1929 or 1930. I would say that there should be a President's Commission appointed to go into this question of the structure of the industries, the incentives offered to labour, every aspect of it, so that we may ensure that the public sector undertakings give a good account of themselves in the Fourth and subsequent plans.

While saying this, I would like to draw attention to one particular point mentioned in the Report of the Ministry and draw conclusions therefrom. I refer to pages 40-42, 'Welfare work in Central Government undertakings'. It is said on p. 41 under 'workers' grievances':

"During the year 1965 (upto the end of Nov. 1965), 59,666 complaints were reported to have been handled by them. Out of these, as many as 88,827 were reported to have been settled".

What is this 'reported' about? Haven't they got proper figures? What do they expect us to conclude from the word 'reported'? Who has reported? Is there nobody to check these figures in the Central Government undertakings?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): These are reports from the undertakings themselves.

Dr. Melkote: The meaning of 'reported' is different; it is different

from report. I would like him to understand the semantic distinction.

Mr. Chairman: It may be wrong English.

Dr. Melkote: It continues:

"Out of the total number of grievances handled, individual grievances....

individual, not union grievances, please look at this—

"...were as many as 55,519 (out of 59,666) as against 49,129 in the previous year and collective grievances 4,147 as against 4,997 in the previous year. The nature of grievances...

—that is important—

"...shows that 32,245 related to terms and service conditions, while 27,421 related to domestic and other matters."

What am I to call this? Nearly 55 per cent of the grievances were about terms and service conditions. That means that Government's laws and other things that apply to the individual worker are not being applied in such a large measure. Will there not be unrest? In the case of these public undertakings, if there is ambiguity in the terms of service or service conditions, why should it not be made clear, so that many of these problems are obviated? This I have not been able to understand. If this occurs in public undertakings, what will private sector undertakings do?

Then again, it is stated in page 42:

"The Labour Officers of the Central Pool were generally associated with all the welfare measures introduced in the undertakings. They initiated new schemes and suggested improvements in the existing welfare measures for the workers. They helped in bringing about harmony and amity between the managements

and their workers which ultimately accounted for the maintenance of industrial peace and increase in production in the establishments concerned."

I congratulate the Central Pool Labour Officers on doing this, but can they do it effectively? Many of these Labour Officers are not even class I gazetted officers. The Labour Department posts them there. The management makes use of them as if they are clerks. Unless they have prestige and can uphold the rules and regulations and tell the management what ought to be done, otherwise it will be reported and the Labour Department will take action, how will the benefits go to labour? Why not make these officers working there class I officers who take their cue from the Labour Department and not from different departments? Here lies the hitch and the reason why this kind of trouble occurs in the different undertakings. I therefore congratulate the Labour Officers that in spite of their handicaps they are doing very well. As I said, this should be modified and they should be made class I gazetted officers.

Apart from this, from 1947 onwards till today we have poured in money into these public undertakings to purchase the best machinery available in any part of the world, the most sophisticated machinery; our labour is cheap; we invite technicians and others from foreign countries to help us; in spite of all this, production in other countries is higher than ours. The workers are prepared to work and they are patriotic. This has been shown during the Hyderabad police action, during the attack on Goa, at the time of the Chinese aggression and during the Pakistani aggression. So, we have no grouse against the workers, if the production is not up to the mark. I say we will co-operate with the Government and the Labour Department; wherever a worker is not working properly, dismiss him, I will support you, my organisation is prepared to do this. I am in-

terested in the nation first. If the nation thrives, I live; if the nation goes down, I also go down. So, I challenge the Labour Department: wherever they point out that a worker is not working properly, if I do not support, you can take me to task, our organisation will support you. But in England working with the same machinery a worker gets Rs. 1,000, in Germany Rs. 1,500, in France Rs. 1,500 as also in Switzerland, Norway and Sweden, and much more in America, and still they are able to sell their goods to us at a cheaper rate. Our labour and raw materials are cheap, we have sophisticated machinery, and still we are not able to do this, though our workers are patriotic. Therefore, there must be something wrong with the management. Please look into this and assess this. That is why I am insisting on a President's commission being appointed. If my pay is Rs. 1,500 as in other countries, I get incentive, I will work, there will be less of strikes, and there will be national progress. It is the duty of the Labour Department to look into this to carry on the work in national interests.

I will just mention one or two things more. There are some cases in public sector undertakings where the courts have given a decision and they have been hanging fire for the past 15 or 16 years without being implemented. If a court decision is not implemented, why does not the Labour Department take action? What is it they are doing? How long can the worker wait? Many of them have already died.

Secondly, coming to the defence undertakings, I can understand when there is an emergency, but the Constitution guarantees that any seven persons can organise a union. That right is not given to these employees, like coolies and water-carriers during normal times. Industrial laws are not applicable to the defence undertakings. Why? You want to use the DIR. Why not give these human rights to these people and allow them to carry on like others. I have not been able to get an

[Dr. Melkote]

answer. I have been raising this issue for seven or eight years.

These are the questions I would like to ask. With the dynamism of the present Labour Minister and the Deputy Ministers, I hope all these problems will be satisfactorily settled.

Mr. Chairman: Shri Tulsidas Jadhav. Not more than five minutes.

श्री तुलसीदास जाधव (नांदेड़) : सभापति महोदय, अपनी इस डिमाण्ड पर बोलते हुए, मैं रिहबिलिटेशन के सवाल पर बोलना चाहता हूँ, यह एक बड़ा भारी और गुरुत्वपूर्ण सवाल है। भारत के जो दो हिस्से हुए, उससे देश को बड़ा नुकसान हुआ, इससे लोगों के अन्दर बड़ा दुख और दर्द भरा हुआ है। इसमें भी पाकिस्तान से जो लोग आये, उनमें से वेस्ट बंगाल में लोग ज्यादा से ज्यादा वसे हुए हैं और इन आंकड़ों को देखने से मालूम होता है—1964 और 65 की जो रिपोर्ट है, उसमें वेस्ट बंगाल, आसाम और त्रिपुरा इन तीनों को मिला कर 8,94,137 लोग बाहर से आये और उसके बाद सन् 1965-66 की रिपोर्ट देखने से मालूम होता है कि यह संख्या 8,01,798 रही। इससे स्पष्ट होता है कि इन में से बहुत से लोग वापस चले गये, क्योंकि इसमें 94,339 लोग कम बताये हैं। इस चालू रिपोर्ट को देखने से ऐसा मालूम होता है कि वे लोग वापस गये होंगे। इसका ऐसा अन्दाज लगता है। मेरी दूसरी बात यह है कि इसमें जैसे भारत के दो टुकड़े होने के बाद जो लोग बाहर गये थे, वे वापस आये हैं, उनकी जो जायदाद थी, वे वैसी ही छोड़ कर आये हैं, अभी तक उनकी जायदाद का जो प्रश्न है उसका हल नहीं निकला है। सन् 1947 के जो झगड़े हैं, वे भी इस समय तक तय नहीं हुए हैं और इस बारे में भी अभी तक तय नहीं हुआ है।

इनके अलावा दूसरे रिफ्यूजीज हैं जो बाहर के देशों से आये हैं, जैसे बर्मा से आये हैं,

इनकी संख्या 1,35,700 है और दूसरे 70 हजार हैं। बर्मा से जो लोग आये, वे लोग मद्रास और आन्ध्र के ये और मोजम्बीक से 2300 लोग आये। इन लोगों के लिये सरकार ने क्या इन्तजाम किया है, यह समझ में नहीं आता है इस रिपोर्ट के पढ़ने से। इन लोगों के लिये जो प्रीवेन्सिज आती हैं, जो बातें कान पर सुनने में आती हैं, उनसे सन्तोष नहीं है। मैंने देखा है कि महाराष्ट्र में उल्लासनगर में पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान से आए हुए शरणार्थियों की एक लाख के करीब आबादी है। उनको आये हुए अठारह बरस हो गए हैं। लेकिन फिर भी उनके लिए आज तक जगह का कोई निकाल नहीं हुआ है, कोई प्रबन्ध नहीं हुआ है। इससे उनके अन्दर बहुत ज्यादा असन्तोष पाया जाता है। थोड़े दिन पहले की बात है कि वहाँ लाठी चार्ज हुआ था और गैस का भी प्रयोग किया गया था...

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Shri D. R. Chavan): That is a different matter.

श्री तुलसीदास जाधव : यह तो सही है। लेकिन उनके लिए टूकानों का और उनके लिए रहन सहन की जगह का प्रबन्ध तो होना चाहिए, उसका निकाल तो होना चाहिये। मैं चाहता हूँ कि जब मन्त्री महोदय उत्तर दें तो इस पर प्रकाश डालें। हमारे डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब अच्छा काम करने वाले हैं और उन्होंने इस समस्या का कोई हल खोज निकाला हो या उनको टूकानें और जगह दे दी हो तो उसके लिए मैं उनको धन्यवाद देता हूँ और अगर अभी तक उन्होंने कुछ न किया हो तो मैं चाहता हूँ कि वह इस और अवश्य ध्यान दें और इसको जल्दी करें। जहाँ तक मैं जानता हूँ उनकी टूकानों आदि

के बारे में अभी तक कोई निर्णय नहीं हुआ है। उस भाग से श्री बसवन्त, एम०पी० आते हैं। वह इस सम्बन्ध में मन्त्री महोदय के साथ दो बरस से लिखा पढ़ी कर रहे हैं। लेकिन कोई विकास नहीं हुआ है। ऐसा मुझे ख़ातरी से भी मालूम होता है। अगर मैं गलत कह रहा हूँ तो चाहता हूँ कि मन्त्री महोदय मुझे दुरुस्त कर दें।

रिफ्यूजी जो लोग हैं, उनके बारे में मुझे एक बात और कहनी है। हम लोग इधर रहते हैं। हमारी कम ज्यादा जायदाद भी है। अगर कोई अड़चन पैदा होती है उसके सम्बन्ध में तो हम आपस में उस अड़चन को दूर कर लेते हैं, आपस में फँसला कर लेते हैं। लेकिन उनके बाप दादों की जो जायदाद थी उसको वे पाकिस्तान में छोड़ आए हैं। वह उनके दिल का टुकड़ा था जिस को वे उधर छोड़ कर इधर आ गए हैं। उनके अन्तःकरण के टुकड़े उधर पड़े हुए हैं। उनको सांत्वना देने का, उनको धीरज बंधाने का काम सरकार करे और उनके साथ वह ठीक रीति से बरताव करे। सरकार को चाहिये कि उनकी दिक्कतों को दूर करने की वह कोशिश करे।

रिफ्यूजी भाइयों से मेरी एक रिक्वेस्ट है, उनसे मेरी एक विनती है। वे यहां आए हैं और हम उनका स्वागत करते हैं। लेकिन वे ठीक रीति से रहें और कुछ काम करके बतावें। बहुत से लोग हैं जो काम नहीं करते हैं। वे राशन आदि लेते हैं और झगड़े करते हैं, ऐसा मेरे कान में पड़ा है। जब वे आए हैं तो उनको चाहिये कि वे सड़ाई झगड़े न करें और काम करके खाएँ, काम करके दिखायें।

टैक्सटाइल मजदूर तथा दूसरे जो मजदूर हैं।

सभापति महोदय : अब आप समाप्त करें।

श्री तुलसीदास जाधव : मैं एक मिनट में समाप्त कर रहा हूँ। टैक्सटाइल मजदूरों के जो मैंने डेज सास्ट हुए हैं, उनके आंकड़े

देखने से ऐसा मालूम होता है कि उनमें वृद्धि हुई है। इससे हम इस निष्कर्ष पर पहुँचते हैं कि उनके असन्तोष में वृद्धि हुई है। मेरी विनती है कि जो कारखाने बन्द पड़े हैं उनको चलाने का प्रबन्ध किया जाय। साल के शुरू में पंद्रह कारखाने बन्द पड़े थे और साल के अन्त तक उनकी संख्या बढ़ कर 35 हो गई। इस का नतीजा यह भी हुआ कि बेकारों की संख्या में भी बड़ी वृद्धि हुई। पहले उनकी संख्या 17,000 थी जो कि बढ़ कर 44,700 हो गई। मैं चाहता हूँ कि उनकी भी व्यवस्था ठीक ठाक की जाय।

एक अंतिम बात मैं प्राविडेंट पंड के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। मैंने पीछे भी कहा था...

Mr. Chairman: Please conclude.

श्री तुलसीदास जाधव : एक मिनट में खत्म कर दूंगा।

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member will please conclude now. He has to keep his promise given to the Chair.

Shri A. V. Raghavan (Badagara): Mr. Chairman, most of the distinguished Members who have spoken before me have dealt with important problems and I shall confine myself to one of the problems concerning my State, Kerala. You are aware of the living conditions of the plantation workers in our country. 300,000 workers engaged in plantation industry in Kerala have served a strike notice which is to take place shortly. In spite of that the government of Kerala has not taken any steps to intervene in the matter or settle the dispute. The two advisers who are there in Kerala have not done anything nor has the labour department of the Kerala government taken any interest to intervene in the matter. As you are aware Kerala is under the President's rule and the Central Labour Minister has got a duty to see that this strike is averted at all costs. Situated as they are the plantation workers are in out of the way hill tracts of Kerala; they are far removed from civilisation; they have no medical facilities or transport facilities. Most of these are owned by

[Shri A. V. Raghavan]

foreign firms and they have done nothing to improve the living conditions of the workers engaged in the plantation industry. The strike notice issued by the workers includes the demand to raise the wages, bonus, better medical facilities, etc. I therefore request the Labour Minister to look into this matter and see that the strike is averted at all costs. The workers engaged in the toddy tapping industry in certain parts of the country, say, in Kottayam have already gone on strike. Even here the government of Kerala has done nothing. He should look into this matter also. He should see that the strike is settled.

The condition of the biri workers has been engaging the attention of the House for a long time. It is very unfortunate that even after years of deliberation the Bill has not been enacted into law. The Bill has been passed by the Rajya Sabha last February. He should see that some time is obtained during this session to pass this Bill. Their living conditions are congested; there is no proper ventilation in the factories and because of these most of these workers are prone to TB and other diseases. In consultation with Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, he should see that this Bill is passed into law during this session itself. We have a lot of legislation but the enforcement machinery is absent. One such law is the Motor Transport Workers Act. I know from personal experience that in most States this Act is not enforced. Even in Kerala, I have not seen a single prosecution take place for violation of this Act.

Finally I invite your attention to the retrenchment that is going on in the oil companies. In Delhi in the Caltex Office 41 employees have been segregated in a room and they had not been given any work during the last two or three months. You could imagine the mental strain and agony

of these workers. They are put in virtual confinement from 10 to 5 P.M. inside an air-conditioned room without any work. They are given facilities to play carroms or read papers. If this state of affairs continues in a few months they will forget whatever they have learnt. Therefore, the hon. Minister should personally see that the companies are not allowed to play with the Indian workers; they should be given work to do. I am aware that a tripartite committee has been appointed to go into this question, and in yesterday and today's paper we have found certain reports about the recommendations of this committee. I am sure the Government will go into this and pass early orders and see that the workers engaged in the oil industry are given security of service and that foreign firms are not allowed to retrench these workers. With these words, I conclude.

श्री बालमौकी (खुर्जा) : सभापति जी, मैं आप का बहुत आभारी हूँ कि आप ने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया। मैं श्रम मंत्रालय की मांगों का समर्थन करता हूँ और माननीय मंत्री जी के आगमन पर प्रसन्नता प्रकट करता हूँ, इस लिये कि उन के आगमन से देश के मजदूरों के मस्तिष्क में नवीन आशा का संचार हो रहा है, और आगे भी उनसे आशा है।

मैं यह जरूर चाहता हूँ कि देश के अन्दर बदलती हुई परम्पराओं के साथ साथ मनुष्य के श्रम की महत्ता भी बढ़े। मंत्री महोदय के आगमन से मनुष्य के श्रम की महत्ता बढ़ेगी। मेरा यह विश्वास है कि जब से वह आए हैं उन्होंने इन तीन महानों के अन्दर जो घोषणायें की हैं, और महत्वपूर्ण घोषणायें की हैं, उन का प्रभाव ऐसे मजदूरों पर पड़ेगा जिन की समस्या आज भी विकट रूप से देश के सामने खड़ी हुई है। आज उनकी ओर मैं ध्यान आकषिप्त करना चाहता हूँ। वह कर्मचारी हैं सड़क निर्माण में काम करने वाले और परिवहन में काम करने वाले और बिजली विभाग में

काम करने वाले । इसी प्रकार से ऐसे कर्म-चारी भी हैं जो कि देश के अन्दर सफाई का काम करते हैं और म्यूनिसिपैलिटीयों के अन्दर और प्राइवेट क्षेत्रों के अन्दर काम करते हैं ।

मुझे यह प्रसन्नता है कि उन्होंने 3 अप्रैल 1966 को कानपुर में बराबर यह कहा है कि सड़क निर्माण के मजदूरों के लिये, ट्रांसपोर्ट के मजदूरों के लिये, एलेक्ट्रिसिटी के मजदूरों लिये वेज बोर्ड स्थापित किये जायेंगे । मैं इस घोषणा का स्वागत करता हूँ और माननीय मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि उन्होंने अपनी गरिमा का परिचय दिया है और वह उन मजदूरों के लिये हृदय में दर्द रखते हैं और उन के कष्टों को दूर करना चाहते हैं उन के काम करने की स्थिति को, उन के वेतन क्रम को, उन के कल्याण को ध्यान में रखते हैं ।

इसी प्रकार से दूसरी जो महत्वपूर्ण घोषणा उन्होंने देश के अन्दर की है वह सफाई कर्म-चारी भाइयों के लिये की है । उन के हृदय में उन के लिये भी गुंजाइश है, और आज से नहीं, बहुत पहले से वह उन के लिये प्रयत्न करते आये हैं ।

मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि मैं ने अपने सब से प्रथम भाषण में 14 मार्च, 1950 को इस प्रश्न को उठाया था, और मैंने बराबर उसमें कहा था कि उन की स्थिति को देखते हुए, उन के कार्य को देखते हुए, उन के साथ जो शोषण होता है उस को देखते हुए, उन की अवस्था को देखते हुए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह दुर्लब्ध कहेगा कि वह एक ऐसा कमिशन कायम करें जो उन के काम की स्थिति की जांच कर सके, सर्वेक्षण कर सके और उस बात को भी जो अब तक उन के लिये नहीं हुई है वह पूरा कर सके । माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने उस का जवाब भी दिया था । मैं उस जवाब के शब्दों को पढ़ देना चाहता हूँ :

"My hon. friend Mr. Kanhaiyalal Balmiki has raised the question of municipal labour, the scavengers or

mehtars. I may at once tell him that we are not making any distinction in our labour legislation between the other type of workers and municipal workers or scavenging staff."

यह मैं मानता हूँ कि उस वक्त मैंने प्रश्न उठाया था । कारखानों के अन्दर या कहीं भी ऐसे क्षेत्रों में जहां हमारे भाई काम करते हैं उन के साथ किसी भी प्रकार की विभिनता नहीं बरती जाती है, डिस्पैरिटी नहीं बरनी जाती है । लेकिन बहुत वर्षों से यह बराबर कहता आया हूँ और जब भी अवसर मिला है, कि देश के अन्दर जो म्यूनिसिपैलिटी में काम करते हैं, जो प्राइवेट क्षेत्र के अन्दर काम करते हैं हमारे भाई उन की अवस्था आज 18 वर्ष के बाद भी सबलूमन है । उन के साथ अत्याचार होता है, उन के काम करने की स्थिति ठीक नहीं है, उन के वेतन क्रम ठीक नहीं हैं, उन के कल्याण के काम चलते नहीं हैं यद्यपि माननीय पं० पंत जी जब यहां पर मौजूद थे उन्होंने केन्द्रीय हरिजन कल्याण बोर्ड की ओर से एक सब कमेटी कायम की थी, जिसको मलकानी कमेटी कहते हैं । केवल उसके सामने यह शर्त थी कि सिर पर पाखाना ढोने की सानत खत्म हो सके और उससे सम्बन्ध था जिस स्थिति में वह भाई काम करते हैं । जिस तरह से वह पाखाना दूर तक ले जाते हैं और उसका डिस्पोजिजल किस तरह से करते हैं वह एक अलग दृष्टिकोण था लेकिन आज जो हमारे भाई म्यूनिसिपैलिटी में काम करते हैं, कारपोरेशन में काम करते हैं या कहीं भी काम करते हैं, उनके कार्य की जो स्थिति है, जो उनका वेतन क्रम है, उसमें अत्यन्त डिस्पैरिटी है । जिस तरह की उनकी काम की पद्धति है वह भी दोषपूर्ण है । इसलिये माननीय मंत्री जी ने कानपुर में 3 अप्रैल को जो घोषणा की है उन भाइयों के वेतन क्रम को ध्यान में रखते हुए, उनके काम करने की पद्धति को ध्यान में रखते हुए और उनके कल्याण को ध्यान में रखते हुए कि एक प्रकार का

[श्री बाल्मीकी]

बेतन बोर्ड देश में स्थापित करेंगे, मैं सारे देश के अपने सफाई पेशा भाइयों की ओर से उनको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। यह जो महत्वपूर्ण घोषणा उन्होंने की है उससे उनमें एक आशा का संचार हुआ है कि इस देश के अन्दर उन भाइयों का कल्याण हो सकता है। यह आशाजनक स्थिति अपने मन में रखते हुए मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब से बाबू जगजीवन राम यहां आये हैं तो हमें आशा होती है कि हमारे साथ कुछ इन्साफ हो सकेगा और हमें सामाजिक सुरक्षा मिल सकेगी और हमें वह सुविधा और न्याय मिल सकेगा जो मिलना चाहिये और अभी मिलता नहीं है। जिस तरह की मजदूरों की स्थिति देश के अन्दर चलती है उसे देखते हुए आप ध्यान करेंगे तो इस तरफ तीन महीनों के अन्दर उन्होंने जो घोषणायें की हैं वह महत्वपूर्ण घोषणायें हैं वह जनहित की घोषणायें हैं और उन लाखों करोड़ों कर्मचारियों से सम्बन्ध रखती हैं जो महत्वपूर्ण कामों में लगे हुए हैं। मैं इस ओर उनका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ और यह जरूर समझता हूँ कि इस बात को वह जल्दी से जल्दी लागू करेंगे कि देश के अन्दर आज जो स्थिति है वह न रह सकेगी और उन भाइयों का कल्याण और उद्धार हो सकेगा, और इस महामानव के द्वारा उद्धार होगा जो आज देश के अन्दर मजदूर क्रान्ति का अग्रदूत है। वह उन के लिये एक सेवक की तरह से नहीं हैं, एक सद्भावनापूर्ण महापुरुष की तरह से खड़े होते हैं। वह उनके कल्याण को समझते हैं, उनके दुःख को समझते हैं, वह उनके दर्द को समझते हैं।

यह मैं जानता हूँ कि महात्मा गांधी जी भी उनकी स्थिति को सुधारना चाहते थे और उनका एक महत्वपूर्ण स्थान लाना चाहते थे। बाबूजी भी कहते हैं कि इस देश के अन्दर जब तक समाज की चार-दीवारी के अन्दर उन भाइयों का एक

महत्वपूर्ण स्थान नहीं होता है, उनका स्वाभिमान उनको प्राप्त नहीं होता है, उनका कोई आत्म गौरवपूर्ण स्थान नहीं होता है, उनको अपना सामाजिक और विचारपूर्ण स्थान नहीं मिलता है, तब तक देश का कल्याण नहीं हो सकता है। बाबूजी की भी यह इच्छा थी कि एक दिन यहां पर कोई सफाई पेशा भाई की पुत्री उच्चतम सत्ता हाथ में लेकर बैठे, वह बैठे या न बैठे, लेकिन संसार को जानना होगा, देशवासियों को समझना होगा कि देश में ऐसी परिस्थिति इन मजदूर वर्गों के लिये, सफाई पेशा भाइयों के लिये उत्पन्न हो जायेगी कि जिसमें बाबू जगजीवन राम जी का एक सक्रिय सहयोग होगा, और उनको वह स्थान प्राप्त होगा जो कि एक मानवीय दृष्टिकोण से होना चाहिये। मैं एक आशावादी की स्थिति से उनको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। मैं यह जरूर कहता हूँ कि उन्होंने जो महत्वपूर्ण कदम उठाया है उससे हमारे मस्तिष्क के अन्दर आशा है और आशा ही नहीं विश्वास है कि वह जो बोर्ड स्थापित करेंगे उससे जो उनके बेतन का क्रम है, उनके कल्याण की स्थिति है, उनके काम धन्धे की जो पद्धति है, उसमें सुधार हो सकेगा और उनका स्थान भी इस देश और समाज में सम्मानपूर्ण हो सकेगा।

तीसरी घोषणा जो उन्होंने की है उसकी ओर भी मैं ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि इन मजदूरों पर, विशेषकर सफाई पेशा भाइयों पर जो मजदूरी के कानून हैं, लागू होने चाहिये, उनका प्रभाव उनके ऊपर होना चाहिये, और देश के मजदूरों की जो लिस्ट है उसमें इन मजदूरों की गिनती होनी चाहिये, और जो कानून आज धिसे पिटे ढंग से चलते हैं राज्यों के अन्दर और यहां पर, उनका विसापि-पिटाने दूर होना चाहिये। उनके अन्दर जो

ओवरलैपिंग है, लूप होल्स हैं उनको दूर किया जायेगा। परिवर्तन हेतु एक नये कानून का दृष्टिकोण पैदा किया जायेगा तथा ऐसी श्रम नीति पैदा की जायेगी जिसमें मजदूरों को एक स्थान प्राप्त हो सकेगा और यह भावना धारयेगी कि देश के अन्दर समाजवाद है। समाजवाद तभी माना जा सकता है, उस विचारधारा की पद्धति तभी मानी जा सकती है जब वह यथार्थवादी पद्धति हो और मजदूरों के लिये हो, मजदूरों के कल्याण के लिये हो, मजदूरों के उत्थान के लिये हो। मैं समझता हूँ कि मजदूरों को इन कानूनों से लाभ हो सकेगा और आज देश के अन्दर जो आर्थिक विचार चल रहा है उसमें उसका स्थान हो सकेगा।

मैं अन्तिम शब्द एक मिनट में कह कर समाप्त करता हूँ।

श्री हुकम चन्ध कछवाय : सभापति महोदय, सदन में गणपूर्ति नहीं है।

सभापति महोदय : श्री बाल्मीकी बैठ जायें, सदन में गणपूर्ति नहीं है।

श्री बाल्मीकी : जो कमी बहुत दिन से चली आ रही है मैं समझता हूँ कि वह पूरी हो जायेगी। मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि 30 वर्ष पहले गठित रायल कमिशन ने जो कमी पूरी नहीं की और अब लेबर पैनल जो प्लानिंग कमिशन का है उसने जो कमी पूरी नहीं की, अब तक सफाई पेशा भाइयों के लिये जो काम नहीं किया गया है उनका कोई जिक्र नहीं किया है, उनका कोई मूल्यांकन नहीं किया है, उनका सर्वेक्षण नहीं किया है...

16 hrs.

Mr. Chairman: Please close now.

श्री बाल्मीकी : उस काम को यह जो वेज बोर्ड आज पूरा करना चाहता है वह पूरा

कर सकेगा और इससे एक आशाजनक स्थिति पैदा होगी और ऐसी स्थिति पैदा होगी जिससे इन भाइयों की सुरक्षा हो सके.....

श्री हुकम चन्ध कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कोरम नहीं है।

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. Hon. Members should hear what is said from the Chair. They go on speaking without hearing what is being said. Quorum has been challenged. The Bell is being rung. Hon. Member may resume his seat. There is no use carrying on with his speech when there is no quorum in the House.

There is quorum now. He may conclude in a minute.

श्री बाल्मीकी : तो मैं आपसे अर्ज कर रहा था और अन्तिम एक मिनट में कुछ कह देना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे भाइयों के लिए जो अभी तक नहीं हुआ चाहे रायल कमीशन के द्वारा हो या जो प्लानिंग कमीशन का लेबर पैनल बना है उसक द्वारा हो, उस दृष्टि से इन मजदूरों के बारे में नहीं सोचा जाता है, मुझे पूरा भरोसा है कि माननीय मंत्री जी के मस्तिष्क में यह बात साफ है कि जो प्रत्याचार और जो प्रत्याय उनके साथ अब तक हुआ है वह दूर हो सकेगा और इस प्रकार से वह इस वेज बोर्ड को जल्दी से जल्दी घोषित करेंगे और घोषित करके इन मजदूरों के कल्याण का उत्तरदायित्व अपने ऊपर उठौ सकेंगे। वह भी आपको याद रखेंगे और आपकी कृपा को भूल नहीं सकेंगे।

Shrimati Renuka Barkataki (Barkataki): Sir, I rise to support the Demands of this Ministry.

Sir, even before the onerous responsibilities of the Ministry of Rehabilitation were transferred to this Ministry, the Ministry of Labour and Employment had a very heavy burden. It

[Shrimati Renuka Barkataki]

has had to deal with a host of complicated problems in many fields, a host of problems involving human relations, economic institutions, patterns of industrialization and employment, the conditions, rights, welfare and education of workers and all the situations and demands of industrial peace and economic growth in a rapidly industrialising society.

I am aware that the solutions to many of these problems do not lie entirely within the area covered by this Ministry. Yet, it is necessary to examine the success that the Ministry has achieved in formulating and implementing policies that will lead to the early solution of these problems.

Sir, it is very difficult to say that the year that has passed has been a year of comparative quiet on the industrial front. The report of the Ministry refers to the fact that 63 lakhs of man-days were lost during the year as a result of strikes and lock-outs. It is true that this is less than the number of man-days that were lost in 1964. The figure of 77 lakhs for 1964 was perhaps the highest in many years. But when we recall the fact that 1965 was an abnormal year, a year in which we had to face the challenge of Pakistani aggression twice, when we recall the fact that the workers of our country responded with zeal and devotion to demands of defence, it does seem apparent that there was no real reduction in the loss caused by industrial disputes. In fact, if one compares the figures of the losses of man-days for 1965 with those of 1963, which was the year in which our nation was attacked by China, one finds that the loss in 1963 was 33 lakhs of man-days while the loss in 1965 was as high as 63 lakhs. I am sure the Ministry itself is well aware of the fact that all these and the recent trends of strikes and bandhs in many parts of the country make it impossible for us to believe that there has been any substantial improvement in the general labour situation.

Sir this takes me to one of the main causes of the unrest and discontent

that lead to strikes, disputes and deadlocks in our country. In spite of the unexceptionable objectives of our Plans and the loftiness of our repeatedly declared intentions, we cannot claim that we have succeeded in increasing the real wages of our workers to any appreciable extent. It is true that 'money wages' have increased, especially in most of the industries in which organised labour has asserted its demands. But, Sir, the increase in 'money wages' has not resulted in an increase in real income. In fact, the real wages of labour are being continuously eroded by spiralling rises in the price of essential commodities and the steady decline in the purchasing power of the rupee. The real wages of our workers cannot be salvaged and rehabilitated without a firm and far-sighted wage policy that links wages to the cost of living and prices of essential commodities, and at the same time bolsters the real wage and relieves the pressure of inflationary trends by augmenting the real income of workers by a chain of free and subsidized amenities and services like consumers' cooperative stores and fair price shops that sell food and essential commodities like clothing, drugs, medicines, books etc. at subsidized prices, by inexpensive housing, free medical services and free education to children. It will be too much to claim that we have followed or formulated such a wage policy that can adequately ensure the needs of a rapidly industrialising society. In fact, we have not even succeeded in getting every sector of industry and employment accept the principle that wages should be linked with the cost of living. There are several sectors of employment, especially in industries where labour is not organised and in industries which are not covered by wage boards, where wages have no relation to the cost of living. Even in sectors in which the need for such a relationship is accepted in principle, the link is either nominal or wholly inadequate to neutralise the rise in cost of living. Sir, now that the Indian Labour Conference itself has

accepted the principle and the need, one can certainly hope that the Government will move with speed and ensure the application of the principle to all sectors of employment.

Sir, I referred to the need to bolster and augment the real wages of our workers with a number of services and amenities. The need to provide such supporting services is all the greater in the rural areas where we and that most of the labour force—and let us not forget that the vast majority of our labour force is in the rural areas—are employed in the agricultural sector, construction works, projects or industries which are subject to or free from the application of the Minimum Wage Act. The Minimum Wage Act itself does not apply to all sectors of employment. The minimum, even when it is defined, has no link with the cost of living. In fact, the whole intention of the Minimum Wage Act is to ensure a minimum and yet not impose a link with the cost of living index. Even so, the assurance of a minimum wage can be a significant step towards a living wage; especially when it is bolstered by the services of the kind that are available to organised labour. I would strongly urge the Government to examine the possibility of making it compulsory for all construction services and for contractors who employ or recruit such construction labour and industries who employ less than 300 workers, such as 25, 50 or 100 to ensure a minimum wage, medical cover against sickness and hazards in employment and itinerant consumers' co-operative stores that can serve a whole compact area or camp. The services of such stores can also be made available to agricultural labour in our rural areas.

I would also urge that the Government should take immediate steps to extend the applicability of the Minimum Wages Act, to revise the minima fixed under the Act and to set up an effective machinery that can ensure the application of the Act. Sir, I shall not refer at length to the special needs

of agricultural labour, I shall only say that the main recommendations of the four Committees of the Seminar on Agricultural Labour that met in Delhi in August, 1965 list a series of highly practical and urgent steps that can be taken to assure better standards of living and conditions of work to our agricultural labour. I hope, Sir, that the Government will lose no time in implementing these recommendations.

Sir, I must say a few words about plantation labour. It is well-known that the working conditions in the plantations are among the worst in the country. It is well-known that in these far-off places managements often escape the eye of law and soft-pedal even statutory obligations for welfare measures, for the provision of housing, medical care, creches, educational facilities for the children and the like. The appointment of the one-man Commission to enquire into the working conditions in plantations was, therefore, widely welcomed. Now that the Commission has submitted its report, the Government should give immediate attention to the crying needs of plantation workers.

Sir, I would now like to say a few words about the question of unemployment and under-employment. One of the main objects of a planned economy should be to ensure full and gainful employment for all. One of the advantages of planning is that the State takes the responsibility and gets the opportunity for the full and economic utilisation of the human and material resources of society. Yet, in spite of 15 years of planning we find that unemployment and gross under-employment are stark realities that face many millions of our people. The backlog of unemployment that we are compelled to carry seems to be snowballing.

Sir, I shall refer to my State as an instance. A recent report published by the Director of National Employment Service on urban and rural employment in the State has shown

[Shrimati Renuka Barkataki]

a steeply rising trend in unemployment. The rate of increase is even in the urban and rural sectors, being 33·8 per cent in urban areas and 34·2 per cent in rural areas. Though the report shows that the highest absolute increase is among unskilled workers—as high as 43 per cent in urban areas and 36·1 per cent in rural areas—the rate of increase has been very high among all educated categories. The rate of increase of unemployment among matriculates is next highest to that of unskilled workers, of Inter arts and sciences as high as 57·8 per cent in rural areas, of graduates as high as 18·4 per cent in rural areas.

Sir, in the State of Assam alone the Third Plan will leave a backlog of 3 lakhs unemployed and, according to official estimates, the backlog at the end of the Fourth Plan may go up to 10 lakhs. What, then, is the success of our employment policy? We are now about to launch on the Fourth Plan. If the three plans that we have gone through have not taken us in the direction of a solution to the problem of unemployment, let us see what additional measures or corrective measures should be taken. If heavy industries in the public sector cannot provide employment on a scale that is required, let us plan for industries in which the investment-employment ratio will be favourable for the liquidation of unemployment and under-employment. The Report of the Ministry says that of 31 lakhs of registrations effected at employment exchanges 4 lakhs placements were made. This works out to a placement ratio of 1·7 or 1·8. While this is the national average, the ratio for an economically backward State like Assam has been 1·15 which is in fact lower than the ratio for 1964, which was 1·12. This is the result of the acute dearth of opportunities for employment in the State. There are very few industries in Assam. Even among the industries that function in the State, most belong to people from elsewhere, and there is a tendency

among the managers and owners of these industries to prefer people from outside the State to the local applicants. Impossible, sometimes discriminatory, pre-conditions are set forth to exclude local applicants and justify such exclusion. I would urge the Government to examine the report of the Assam Assembly's Committee that studied this question and decide what action could be taken at the Central level to remove these handicaps in the State.

Sir, the Report of the Ministry again refers to the paradox of increase in educated unemployment and the acute shortage of trained man-power. It is indeed a tragic paradox if those who are trained cannot find employment and, on the other hand, there are no trained personnel to be employed. There can be no stronger argument for a radical review of our policies and programmes of technical education and the adequacy of our polytechnics and technical institutes.

I would now like to say a few words about the Department of Rehabilitation. My hon. friend, Shri Saraf, has referred to the conditions in the western zone. I hope you will allow me to refer to the conditions prevailing in the eastern zone.

This Department has passed through many vicissitudes. But, with the mass influx of refugees from East Pakistan that commenced in 1964 and with the displacement of persons that resulted from the recent conflict with Pakistan, the problem has taken a new dimension. We are often told of the Tashkent spirit and the promise of a new era of friendship and good neighbourliness. I do not want to say anything about the clouds that are still very much in the sky. But it does appear to me that one of the main tests of a change of heart will be the attitude of Pakistan to the minorities of East Pakistan. If they are discriminated against, terrorized and squeezed out in "pogrom", the world will once again have irrefutable evidence of what

Pakistan stands for. We, on our part, have to do our best to give new homes to these unfortunate migrants and to resettle and rehabilitate them.

But we have every right to demand that Pakistan should honour the agreement on evacuee properties that formed part of the Nehru-Liaquat Pact. We have scrupulously honoured the provisions of the agreement and offered compensation or the value of the property that was left behind in India by persons who decided to migrate from Assam, West Bengal, Tripura or other areas in Eastern region to Pakistan. But Pakistan does not allow intending migrants to dispose of their property in East Pakistan. Nor does it pay compensation or honour the agreement to give the value of the property left behind in East Pakistan by persons terrorized to migrate to India. I do not know whether this unilateral failure of Pakistan was one of the subjects that we raised at Tashkent. I do hope that the Government will take up this question at future Ministerial meetings that may be held in pursuance of the Tashkent Agreement.

I shall now refer to one or two problems affecting the working of rehabilitation in Assam. Since the 1st of January 1964 nearly, 1,85,000 refugees crossed into Assam. Of these 16,000 have migration certificates and nearly 1,70,000 had no valid travel documents. Yet, we are told that the work of screening has been completed in all States except Assam, Tripura, Manipur and NEFA. The problems posed by illegal infiltration into Assam are well-known. Yet, even after nearly two years, our Government has to come before us and say that in this State, of all the States, the work of screening has not been completed. I shall not say more on it.

Then, Sir, the Report makes reference to many rehabilitation schemes that have been sanctioned and are in the process of being implemented. It is a pity that the Report does not

tell us anything of the results, does not give us any evaluation of how these have helped in rehabilitation. To give a few instances, there is reference to a Rs. 31 lakhs schemes for terracing of land in Garo Hills, and the progress report is that 12 families have been moved to site in two years. There is reference to a Rs. 3 lakhs scheme of weaving in camps and the progress reported is that 114 persons are employed. Similarly, there is reference to a fifteen thousand rupees scheme for employment of new migrants in the Jack Board Factory at Tinsukia and the progress report is that 50 persons were employed but all of them have deserted without assigning any reason. I can multiply such instances from the Report. So, I say that the work of rehabilitation has to be speedy and efficient.

With these words, I support the Demands of the Ministry.

Shri H. P. Chatterjee: Mr. Chairman, my hon. friend, Shri Sharma, eulogized this Ministry like anything. He said that this is the most powerful Ministry. Let me hope that his words come true; let this Ministry become very powerful.

I shall speak only on rehabilitation. I feel that the last three Ministers have failed, so far as rehabilitation is concerned. A friend referred to Gandhiji. Let me hope that the present hon. Minister will give a Gandhian touch to the rehabilitation programme. I shall now speak on East Pakistan refugees. I refer to them as "refugees" because that is how they are described by everyone. But I dislike that term. Why should we dub our citizens as refugees? They are not responsible for their present pitiable plight. It is all because of our great folly called partition. Whoever has heard of a country being divided, as we did? It is all our folly. If we were benefited by this partition, still why should these citizens suffer for that?

[Shri H. P. Chatterjee]

At the time of partition we promised them many things. A condition-precendent to partition was that if the minorities in Pakistan suffer in any way we shall go to their help. If they are molested, we do not give them shelter here also. But should we not now redeem our promise?

Just after partition what happened in Punjab? Immediately after partition there was an exchange of population. Though we said that we did not like exchange of population, that we are a secular state, it actually happened. By 1949, 45 lakhs of people came to India from West Punjab. In the case of Punjab what did we do? I give the figures from Seventy-first and Seventy-second Reports of the Estimates Committee, Third Lok Sabha, the latest reports of the Estimates Committee. I place these figures before the Minister.

The number of refugees from East Pakistan up to 1958 was 41.17 lakhs and from 1st January, 1964 to 18th February, 1966, another 8.02 lakhs came, that is, 49.19 lakhs in all. I do not find the figures for 1958 to 1964 in the Estimates Committee's Report, but altogether refugees from East Pakistan will far exceed 50 lakhs. What have we done about them?

For Punjab refugees we have paid compensation of Rs. 187.56 crores, but not a single farthing has been given to the East Pakistan refugees. What is sauce for the gander should be sauce for the goose as well. Why should these people not get any compensation? Over and above that, we have given the Punjab refugees sufficient land because they came into East Punjab where there was vacant land. They got the vacant land because there was actual exchange of the population. What land did we give them? I find that 2,81,316 allottees were given permanent rights over an area of 20,16,107 standard acres. Outside Punjab also, 58,000 displaced agriculturists were settled on 5.63

lakhs of evacuee as well as Government-owned land. This is what we have given.

But in the case of East Pakistan refugees, I find that up to February 1966, 1,93,000 acres have been received from State Governments for the settlement of new migrants (since January 1964). They have not been given all this land. Out of this, 1,15,000 acres are expected to be cultivated and sufficient for 18,000 families.

So, look at the discrepancy. I do not say that we have done much for the Punjab refugees, but what we have done there, even that we have failed to do in the case of the East Pakistan refugees.

How stepmotherly attention we give I shall show from one fact. We have given loans worth Rs. 26.53 crores in the case of West Pakistan refugees and to East Pakistan refugees we have given more loans, worth Rs. 47.33 crores. On housing we have given more to West Pakistan refugees, Rs. 64.95 crores; to East Pakistan refugees we have given Rs. 45.72 crores. The total is almost the same. But in the case of East Pakistan refugees, there was the Mathrani Committee to find out where the loans have gone. I do not know about the situation in Punjab because these loans had been adjusted against their compensation. To some extent they had to pay also, but mostly they were adjusted against compensation. But here in West Bengal what actually happened is in a confidential report of the Government of India. Shri Mathrani, ICS, was appointed to see what happened actually about these loans. After many complaints that they received, they sent him there and what was found out was that there were many colonies which were supposed to exist on paper but were nowhere to be found. I happened to get this report. I was then in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly and I exposed them there. I suppose, Shri

Khanna was present in the gallery that day and he heard all those things. Nothing was done. No loanees could be traced out as to where the loanees had gone. Even the little that you had done did not reach the proper persons. Such is your machinery that you cannot do anything. So, I say that if the Minister can give a Gandhian touch, he can do something. What would have Bapuji done if he were alive? He would have gone and lived with the refugees.

Mr. Chairman: Would you like to exhaust all the 11 minutes available to your Unattached Party?

Shri H. P. Chatterjee: No. I have 21 minutes. How much time have I taken? For the rest I will speak on another subject. You have given me the time; I have not asked for it. I remained silent here. You asked me whether I shall speak and I am speaking. It is a very important subject and I must speak on it. More than 50 lakhs of persons are suffering. If I will not be able to speak for them, what sort of independence is this, what sort of Parliament is this?

Let me hope, because man lives by hope, that here is a minister who can give an Gandhian touch to it. Let me see. I know, if it is not Government policy, he would be helpless because he shall have to spend crores of rupees for them.

Here, to show how stepmotherly attention is given I shall give one example. Some loan, called the contributory house-building loan, was accepted by some persons. These men are very enterprising. They came from East Pakistan. You know, they were in the vanguard of our freedom movement. You cannot deny Bengal's contribution and of Bengal, East Bengal's contribution is still more. These men came from East Bengal. They are very enterprising. They did not flock to your camps. They did not come to you; they did not approach

you even for trade loans or anything of the kind. You said that you would give some contributory house-building loans. They were also at a great disadvantage; they had not taken anything from you, so they took that contributory house-building loan. It was a small amount; no loan exceeding Rs. 5,000 but of less than, Rs. 2,000, Rs. 1,000 like that. They thought that they would be able to sell their property there and repay you the loan. But you know, you were yourself helpless. The Government of India was helpless because Pakistan was misappropriating everything. As a matter of fact, how bad a situation was created the world knows that. They had good property there and everything. That was misappropriated. You could not come to their help and they could not get anything from there. So, they cannot pay back any loans. They applied to you for their loans to be written off. The West Bengal Government recommended that at least the interest of the contributory house-building loans be excused. This was in 1961 I have all the relevant papers but I am short of time and I shall not be able to place before you all this. I could quote from the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* which I have here as to what actually happened in 1961. Let me not go into it, but I shall point out to the Minister—he is sitting here: this is something good, because other ministers do not remain—let him try to do something about this.

In 1961 the Government of West Bengal recommended that at least this interest should be excused on the contributory house-building loans. As regards other small loans, many of the loanees cannot be traced; rehabilitation has gone to pieces in our province. So, they said, "Excuse all other loans". Other loans were excused. About this they said, "Interest must be excused". But nothing happened. This time the other day when our Home Minister, Shri Nanda went there, he found out that people

[Shri H. P. Chatterjee]

came, our ex-ICS member who was in charge of certain rehabilitation came, others came—all came and told him that this should be done. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Chairman: Please try to conclude now.

Shri H. P. Chatterjee: How much time have I taken?

Mr. Chairman: You have taken one minute more than the allotted time. You have taken 12 minutes.

Shri H. P. Chatterjee: I will conclude in a minute.

What happened that Mr. Nanda went there and took down notes about their request. What are you going to do now? These men, somehow or other, have built houses. They are in areas which are outside the rationing area. There, the price of rice is very high. It is selling at Rs. 2 a kilo and sometimes it is not available at all. This is the situation there. Now, you are asking them to repay the loans with interest and you just threaten them with notices under the Public Demands Recovery. You have issued these notices. What will they do? You are not doing any good to them. They have by their own efforts, somehow or other, built houses and now you want to oust them. This is a step-motherly attitude and nothing else. So, I appeal to the hon. Minister to excuse them from paying these contributory house buildings loans. I am not saying about trade loans, and other big loans. But you may kindly excuse them in regard to the contributory house-building loans because they have no means to pay.

Shri M. R. Krishna (Peddapalli): Mr. Chairman, Sir....

श्री हुकम चन्द कच्छवाय : श्री कृष्णा
इतना झण्डा बोसते हैं, इसलिये गण-पूर्ति
करवा दीजिये ।

16.32 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

Shri M. R. Krishna: Mr. Speaker, Sir.....

Shri Hukam Chand Kachhawalya: No quorum.

Mr. Speaker: There is quorum now.

Shri M. R. Krishna: Sir, many Members who have spoken before me have said that the Minister is very effective, sincere and sympathetic to the labour. Nobody doubts his sincerity, his effectiveness and his sympathy for the labour. At the same time, the labour problem is increasing everyday and the unemployment is also increasing every day.

The Five Year Plans which have been introduced are probably creating more unemployment than giving employment to the people. During the Second Plan, the Government said that they would be able to provide employment to all the people. But that did not happen. In the Third Plan, they said that out of 17 million unemployed people, they will be able to provide employment to 14 million people. That also did not take place. In the Fourth Plan, the unemployment position is expected to shoot up to 23 million people. It is really very difficult for anyone to understand how they are going to solve this unemployment problem however effective this Ministry might be. The Labour Ministry is on the old pattern of the British Government when the Labour Ministry did not have many responsibilities except the job of opening employment exchanges, registering unemployed people and, now and then, pushing them into Government offices for employment and all that.

Now, it is no more deal with the labour problem in that manner. This Labour Department will have to undertake greater responsibilities. I do not know what type of coordina-

tion exists between this Ministry and other development Ministries, particularly, with the Village and Cottage Industries Commission which is supposed to provide employment for the under-employed people and also to some extent solve the unemployment problem. I do not know what effective coordination is there between the Labour Ministry and the Village and Cottage Industries Commission. If become useful and effective, the Labour Ministry should have greater say in the Village and Cottage Industries Commission because they have got hundreds of crores of rupees to spend for the rural employment and for the under-employed people to have a fair amount of income through various industries.

Sir, nearly 69.5 per cent of all the working force in the country consists of agricultural labour. Much has been said about the agricultural labour by almost every Member who has preceded me. The Labour Minister is very sympathetic to this section also. The previous Labour Minister openly confessed that this section did not receive any attention from the Government and, therefore, he wanted that the agricultural labour should be included under the Minimum Wages Act. I think the commitment which the previous Minister made in public will be honoured by the present Minister. I hope he will try to implement this scheme and see that the agricultural labour is also brought under the Minimum Wages Act.

The Minister of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Shri Jagjivan Ram): It has always been there.

Shri M. R. Krishna: I am told in many cases the Minimum Wages Act has not been effectively implemented.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: That is the point.

Shri M. R. Krishna: Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister who

is very well-versed in almost all the labour problems of this country to take note of this and see that effective implementation is carried out to benefit this sector.

We have been trying to copy most of the reforms and Acts passed in various other countries. For instance, in the matter of working hours, the minimum wages and various other concessions given to the labour, we are trying to see that those facilities are also provided to the Indian labour here. These are the things which we always try to copy from others. This country which consists mainly of poor people will have to bring in certain revolutionary changes to help the Indian labour so that there may be many other countries which would like to copy the good things which we have introduced in the matter of welfare of labour here. Most of the private industries which come up now-a-day under the Five Year Plans have to depend upon the Government finances. They will have to get huge loans from the Industrial Finance Corporation. I do not know whether any Ministry or the Labour Ministry has at any time tried to induce the private sector industries to accept the labour participation in management. We have recently been to some of the places where the cooperative sugar mills are functioning. The cooperative sugar mills are supposed to give representation to all kinds of people including the labour. To my great surprise, even though the whole area consists of the labour population and the labour will have to be effectively associated with the sugar industry, in some of these factories, particularly in Nizamabad in Andhra Pradesh, we found that the labour had never been represented on the board of management. The sugarcane cultivators have been given the representation. The Government has nominated the directors on the board but nobody, including the management, has taken any note to give representation to the labour. Today, we are thinking of bringing in a

[Shri M. R. Krishna]

democratic, socialistic pattern of society. The labour is actually working there and it has to contribute to the progress of the factory. If in that place which is known to be a co-operative factory, the labour is not given its due place, I simply cannot understand whether there will be any other sector where the labour would have their way. Therefore, I would plead before the Minister to see that at least in the co-operative sector, where the finances—the lion's share of the whole amount—are given by the State Governments or by the Central Government, the labour gets its due place.

The Labour Ministry have fortunately got one or two very attractive schemes to help the unemployed. The industrial training institutes are really very useful institutions, but the way in which the Labour Ministry is trying to create these institutes in the States is not very encouraging because when the industrial training institutes train the candidates in these institutes, they make them independent and if the Government could give them some financial assistance, they will be able to set up their own concerns.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member may try to conclude now.

Shri M. R. Krishna: I must have at least seven minutes.

Mr. Speaker: Already he has had about nine minutes.

Shri M. R. Krishna: Let me speed up.

I would like that, just for asking, the Labour Ministry should be able to provide industrial training institutes because this is going to solve a very big problem which the country would be faced with after some time. The educated people who do not find jobs would just become a menace to

the Government. Therefore, it is time that the Labour Ministry took action. of course, the Labour Minister is a very effective person and I hope that he will be able to convince the Finance Ministry and get whatever finance he needs to increase the number of I.I.Ts. For Instance, I have seen in the report that in Ramagundam the Ministry is thinking of rehabilitating some people, but the condition which the Ministry is asking the State Government to accept is that they should come forward to meet the entire expenditure and the Central Government would only meet that portion of the expenditure which would go to the benefit of refugees. This is a very backward area and there, the weavers, the smiths, the goldsmith, the silversmith and various other people of repute are unemployed. The Labour Ministry is not merely concerned with rehabilitation of refugees, but they are also concerned with the rehabilitation of unemployed people.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: That might have been done by the Rehabilitation Ministry.

Shri M. R. Krishna: Fortunately this Ministry is also dealing with rehabilitation now. I do not want the Ministry to discriminate between one poor refugee and another. I would like to quote one instance where this discrimination is made. The uprooted people from various other places have been given better kind of facilities which have already been narrated by my hon. friends. But I would like to bring to his notice a specific point. The refugees from Burma who have been sent to Madras and Andhra Pradesh are not being given even the contracts which they are capable of doing because most of them had been working in ships in those places; after coming over here, they never wanted doles from the Government but they only wanted certain contracts, in which they are fully qualified, to be given to them, but this has not been done.

Secondly, the people who have been rehabilitated in Gujarat—probably the Gujaratis who had been uprooted from Mozambique and other places—are allowed a maximum loan of Rs. 5,000 whereas the same kind of uprooted people coming from Burma, who have been settled in Madras and Andhra Pradesh, get the loan facilities to the extent of only Rs. 2,000. Whether they get it actually or not is a different matter. I would like to know why this discrimination is made. I want the Minister to check it up because I have seen it in his own report—Rs. 2,000 in the case of Madras and Andhra Pradesh and Rs. 5,000 in the case of Gujarat.

The last point which I would like to bring to his notice is this. He was the Railway Minister sometime back. In the Railway Ministry, there are a lot of people belonging to the weaker sections, particularly the scheduled castes. They wanted to form an association, not to disturb the Government or to do damage to Government but to protect their own safeguards which had been granted to them under the Constitution. They wanted to ensure that the administration did not flout the constitutional guarantees and that the facilities granted to them were fully implemented. But in the railways and in the other departments, they are not allowed to even have such an association. Even if they are allowed to have association, the administration does not correspond with them. I want that the hon. Minister of Labour and Employment should look into this and see that the anomalies are removed.

Shri A. N. Vidyalankar (Hoshiarpur): I associate myself with other friends who have expressed their delight over the fact that Shri Jagjivan Ram is again at the steering of the Labour Ministry. In fact, he is the father of the labour legislation in India, and he is the designer of the Labour policy, in pursuance of which the Government passed legislation and made rules. I do not know how he feels now when he has again taken

charge of this Ministry: I do not know whether he finds the whole system has worked according to his original design . . .

Shri Muthyal Rao (Mahbubnagar): It is spoilt child.

Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: . . . or whether he finds many things where the performance has not been good. In any case, I am sure that he has the capacity to put things right again.

One purpose of labour legislation was that the workers who were not in a strong position then should gather sufficient strength and in course of time they should be in a position to bargain with the employers as equals. That was the purpose and that was why he tried to strengthen the trade unions. In fact, he had got a legislation passed that the trade unions should be compulsorily recognised. But as one or two hon. Members have pointed out already, that part of the labour legislation just remains in cold storage. I do not know whether Government desire to introduce any compulsion for the recognition of the labour unions. But this is the time when at least our policy should be, that is, the policy of the private employers as well as the Government employers in the public sector should be that, they should recognise the trade unions and they should look at trade unions and they should look at that climate has not been created yet. The idea earlier was that we should create a climate in the country where the workers and the employers should sit together and they should try to co-operate and co-ordinate in order to build up national industries and also the national economy. But that idea could not be pursued. In fact, it was never intended that the workers should be converted into litigants. We never want that the workers should become litigants and Government should sit tight over the matter and they should decide whether certain cases should be sent to the court or should be adjudicated or

[Shri A. N. Vidyalankar]

settled through arbitration. This is a matter where we want that the whole machinery should become automatic and the workers should be in a strong position to enter into bargain with the employers. Government should watch where the workers are in a weaker position and help them; but our policy should be that there should be a climate in the country and the people should understand that the workers have a certain status and position. But what are the conditions prevailing now? At present, the workers who should be respected most in our country are being maltreated. Their status is still low. Ours is a poor country, and as such we want that we should produce more and we need producers. But if the producers were not respected in the country, and they did not enjoy high status and position, then what incentive will they have for larger production? I am not speaking at the moment of the monetary incentives, the wage incentives and other incentives but I am talking of the status incentive or the position incentive, their rightful status in society. Unfortunately the workers have not been able to gain that till now. That should be the policy; that should be the purpose, not only of the Labour Ministry but of the whole Government, whether they were dealing with the public sector or private sector. When I think of the conditions, I am reminded of a Sanskrit sloka:

अपूज्याः यत्र पूज्यन्ते पूज्यानां तु विमानना

क्रीणि तत्र प्रवर्तते कुम्भिकां मरणम् भयम् ।

If those who should be respected were not respected and if those who should not be respected, were respected, in such countries, three calamities befall: *durbhiksham*, famine, death and terror. People are always afraid. So this is the condition. In our country, the most respected person should be he who produces wealth, who performs productive labour. But in our country, the person who enjoys leisure, who enjoys comfort, is respected most, and

the person who does the most difficult job, like the sweeper, is at the lowest rung of the society.

Apart from the implementation of labour laws, a climate should be created in the country. Not only the Labour Ministry, but the whole Government should work for bringing about that climate and atmosphere.

With regard to the private sector, as many friends have said, we get something done through legislation, but that is not so far possible in the public sector. The general mentality of officers has been unhelpful. Thus we are in a difficult situation. Some Members have said that the Labour Ministry does not feel so strongly when it is faced with difficulty in the public sector concerns. Sometimes it is stated that it has no say in the matter. I would say that the whole labour policy should be dictated and directed by the Labour Ministry and not by the administrative Ministries. In the matter of financial policy, the Finance Ministry dictates and directs the policy; similarly, the Home Ministry lays down what should be the service conditions and how the services should be recruited etc. Similarly in labour matters, the Labour Ministry should have the final say, how labour should be employed, how they should be treated by the various Ministries and so on. After all, the administrative Ministries are not experts in this field. It is the Labour Ministry which has the expert knowledge in these matters. I am quite sure that with Shri Jagjivan Ram at the head of this Ministry, the position will very much improve.

With regard to industrial disputes, there are many instances of awards being given, but not implemented. I can give a long list, but I have no time to do so. If a calculation is made, it will be found that crores of rupees are at present due to workers from these awards. But the money is not paid. They say that the money will be realised as arrears of land revenue. When cases are referred to the land

revenue authorities, they take a long time. All kinds of difficulties are created, because they have no interest. I would suggest that the realisation of the arrears should be left to the Labour Ministry; they should be empowered to realise these arrears, and if necessary, we should amend the law.

As regards the Bonus Act, I do not want to repeat what has already been said by other friends. I welcome the Act which was passed. But I think there are certain defects remaining; the Act is not working properly. Certain doubts have arisen. The Labour Ministry should *suo motu*,—not because of any award or decision of any court—undertake a re-examination of the whole Act and take action to rectify the position so that more time is not taken to settle pending disputes.

Then I want specially to refer to the position of the Cantonment Board employees. They are in a very queer position. They work for the Defence Ministry, but they are not in the service of the Defence Ministry. They are employees of the various Cantonment Boards, but their conditions of service are decided by the Defence Ministry, although they are not employees of the Defence Ministry. For five to seven years, their matters have been pending. The file goes to the Defence Ministry, they take long time in replying, then the file comes back to the Labour Ministry, and thus these things remain pending. They thought that some wage board should be appointed, their pay has not been determined, their dearness allowance has not been increased, they were not consulted about their service rules.

The Deputy-Minister, Mr. Chavan, knows the case. In fact, he was handling the case, and by the time he came to grips with the problem, he was shifted to another Ministry. Then Dr. Raju came. He was also very kind, and he patiently listened to so many deputations so many times. After that, when he was fully aware of the case he was shifted. And now the cases are pending again. I think

in this matter the Labour Ministry should have final say, and this matter should be settled.

Then there is the price rise, but in many cases the dearness allowance has not been settled. Prices go on rising, it has been accepted in the report also. They have stated that the price rise has been very heavy, but still the position of the wage-earners and salaried persons is worst. Whether they are Government employees or employees of private firms, everywhere their position is worst. I think the Labour Ministry should specially take up this question and examine it. If we cannot control the prices, they should see what formula should be adopted so that the position of the wage-earners and salaried people could be improved.

I also associate myself with what has been stated about agricultural workers. Although the Minimum Wages Act was passed at the time Shri Jagjivan Ram was the Minister earlier, and though many State Governments had, in fact, fixed the minimum wages for agricultural labour, no decision was ever implemented. Even today agricultural labour does not get the minimum wage. We know that and hon. Minister knows that. So, something should be done. Some time ago a seminar was organised by the Labour Ministry especially for the agricultural workers, and in the seminar many good ideas were formulated, suggestions were made; but I do not know what has been done in regard to all that.

One thing more. There are arrangements for training, in trade-unionism, but Government should from time to time assess the impact of this training, because we do not know results from the reports whether there has been any improvement or not.

Shri Mohsin (Dharwar South): I rise to support the demands of the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation.

[Shri Mohsin]

Labour constitutes a very important matter in the national development. The economic and social progress of the country depends more upon labour, and the beneficiary too will be labour along with others.

17 hrs.

We are happy to see that senior politician and experienced administrator like Shri Jagjivan Ramji is holding this important portfolio. Though in 1965-66 the relations between the workers and the management are better off than previous years, to our great disappointment, production has not gone up. It may be due to various factors, especially in the agricultural sector, food-grains production has gone down considerably due to vagaries of the monsoon. In the industrial sector. I am happy to find that the rate of increase is 7.3 per cent, in 1964-65 during the first half of the year whereas it was 7.1 per cent of the corresponding period in 1963-64. On the whole the industrial output may be said to be satisfactory. The industrial relations about labour and management could be viewed by looking at the mandays lost complaints of breach of the code of discipline and the industrial truce resolution. One would be happy to find that the mandays lost in the year under report is 63 lakhs as against 77 lakhs in the previous year. In the whole of the Third Plan, industrial relations are better off compared to the Second Plan. Complaints of the breach of the code of discipline and the industrial truce resolution numbered 1399 in the year under report as against the previous year's figure of 1710. Under the Industrial disputes Act reference to the courts during 1965 were 5705; but in 1964 this number was less. I do not know why it is so. However, we can say that the relations between management and labour were better compared to the previous years. But the treatment of the workers in the

industrial establishments continues to be rather disappointing. We cannot say there is much progress in implementing the programme of workers' participation in the management. It is mentioned in the report that in 1961-62 joint management councils were established in 11 establishments in the public sector and 18, in the private sector. The corresponding number for the year under report are 36 and 71. After four years we see this development only to a small extent. Workers' participation in the management councils will go a long way in the production of industrial output and also in economic and social progress of the country. If there are no good relations between the workers and the management the establishment cannot progress; that ultimately it results in strikes, lockouts, etc., and the whole industry suffers. I cannot understand why there should be difficulty in establishing these joint management councils in the public sector where the government has full control; only by an order it could constitute these joint management councils. I can understand the difficulty about the private sector. The workers will feel that they are also having something to do with the management and in the production, and that will ultimately bring in an increased output. I hope the Government will take this into consideration. The progress that has been made in the four years is utterly insufficient.

About wages, though there are so many Wage Boards and recommendations, the implementation is not quite proper. Even now, it is seen the wages are not commensurate with the cost of living of the workers, and the workers are unhappy throughout the whole country. The result, is, we see the strikes everywhere, in the textile field and in other industrial fields also. Even those workers will all these eight hours of manual labour in the industrial establishment cannot have two meals a day. This is the sort

of difficulty that the workers are facing. What kind of output we expect when the worker cannot have two square meals a day?

From page 70 of the report, it is seen that in regard to the disputes relating to labour, on which awards were given, 1,345 cases were decided in favour of the workers, and only 507 were decided against the workers. So, in respect of arbitration, everywhere, we see that the workers were on the right path and a large majority of cases, the awards were in favour of the workers; the number was 1,345; and only in 507 cases, they had lost. This is a proof, therefore, to show that the workers were in the majority of the cases on the right path, and wrong was done to them by the management itself. So, in such cases, the implementation machinery will have to come in very strongly and severe action should be taken against those who create causes for these complaints.

I have one word to say about agricultural labour. India is essentially an agricultural country. There are of course many unions in the industrial sector, but in the agricultural sector, for agricultural labour, there is none. Though we have crores of agricultural labourers, and though there is the Minimum Wages Act, the Act is not implemented properly. The result is that the indentured labourers who work in the fields and elsewhere are not getting proper wages and sometimes they are to live without work and without any earning. There was a Seminar on 2nd, 3rd and 4th of August, 1965 and at that Seminar many recommendations were made by four committees. But I do not know whether those resolutions or recommendations were examined by the Government and accepted and implemented.

I shall briefly refer to employment. On the whole, we can see that the employment situation in the country is not happy. There is an increase in unemployment. The very first page

of the report itself shows that registration in the employment exchanges from April to December, 1964, was 29,58,400, whereas in the same period of 1965, it rose to 31,12,820. I do not know whether these are correct figures, for, there are lakhs of persons who have not gone for registration at all. Apart from that, even the figures with regard to the registration that we have, show that there is an increase in the registration of unemployed persons. The situation is more distressing in regard to educated unemployed. Even there is an increase in the number of matriculates unemployed. With all these huge projects throughout the country, and planning and everything, if this is the trend, I do not know what is there in store for us in the future. Something will have to be done in this regard.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri Mohsin: I am the only Member from the Mysore State speaking in this debate. Please give me some more time, Sir. About ITIs, there are so many industrial training institutions and centres opened throughout the country, and there are persons who are skilled and who come out of these institutions every year. But thousands of them are still unemployed. Though the Government spends crores of rupees on these ITIs, when the people come out of these institutions, there is no machinery to see that they are employed. In my State, especially, there are diploma-holders in electricity, in civil engineering and various trades in industrial training who are unemployed and their number is increasing. If nothing is done, I do not know if the programme for increasing the number of ITI's will be successful at all because even after training these persons will have to remain unemployed.

I have something to say about rehabilitation also because this Ministry deals with rehabilitation in addition to labour and employment. It is cor-

[Shri Mohsin]

rect to say that we have got a duty towards the refugees who came from Pakistan after the partition and who are coming even today. They are coming today due to the administrative setup in Pakistan and due to the atrocities committed on them and during the days of partition they came due to the fault of our leaders who created this partition. However, we have got a duty towards them to see that they are properly rehabilitated. But one thing that I cannot understand is the distinction between Muslim refugees and the non-Muslim refugees? Why should there be any distinction among the refugees? We are a secular country and we cannot make any distinction between refugees and refugees. If a non-Muslim refugee comes we rehabilitate him. If a Muslim refugee comes he is treated as an infiltrator. Why should we do that? Can we say that if a Muslim comes he is not a refugee at all?

An hon. Member: Genuine refugee.

Shri Mohsin: I am speaking about genuine refugees only. There may be cases where the people may be tired of the military dictatorship in Pakistan and they might like to come and lead a peaceful life, a democratic life in this democratic country. No democratic-minded man, and no man with self-respect might like to stay in that country under the military dictatorship. That may be the reason why Muslims may also desire to come and settle down here. Why should they be precluded from the benefits of rehabilitation, I do not understand.

Another thing is, when the refugees came to West Bengal and other border States, some Muslims were uprooted from those places. I do not know whether any proper action has been taken by the Government to rehabilitate those persons. Rehabilitation is not meant only for those who come from Pakistan and it is not to be confined only to non-Muslims either. We are a secular country. In reality

also we should show that we are not partial to any community and that the Rehabilitation Department is open for all. Of course, we should be vigilant as regards intruders and we have to screen all those who come in. That vigilance and screening is required in respect of all refugees irrespective of their community. I might say that spies and un-social elements may come from any community. It is not the monopoly of any one particular community. It depends upon individuals. Such elements are more found in other communities than the Muslim community. That is my impression. Therefore, these things require close examination and I plead that the Rehabilitation Department should look into all these matters and see that those who come here, because they do not want to suffer under the Pakistan regime, are rehabilitated fully and properly.

श्री मुहम्मद ताहिर (किशनगंज) :

जनाब स्पीकर साहब, मैं ने तमाम स्पीचिज को सुना है और मैं समझता हूँ कि इस सिलसिले में मुझे कुछ ज्यादा कहने की जरूरत नहीं है, क्योंकि हमारे दोस्त करीब करीब तमाम मसलों और पहलुओं पर रोशनी डाल चुके हैं। मैं सिर्फ एक बात की तरफ गवर्नमेंट की तयज्जह दिलाना चाहता हूँ। हालांकि मोहसिन साहब ने उस का खिक कर दिया है, लेकिन मैं उस को सफाई के साथ कह देना चाहता हूँ।

इस में कोई शक नहीं है कि पाकिस्तान से जो रेफ्यूजीज हमारे मुल्क में आये हैं गवर्नमेंट का फ़र्ज है कि वह उन को जगह दे, उन को बसाये और उन की हर एक तकलीफ़ को दूर करे। लेकिन इस का क्या जबाब है कि उन लोगों को राहत पहुंचाने के लिए गवर्नमेंट की तरफ़ से कोई कदम नहीं उठाया गया है, जिन को पाकिस्तान से आने वाले रेफ्यूजीज ने यहां आ कर अपरूट कर दिया है, उन के घरों से निकाल दिया है और उन की

जायदादों से हटा दिया है ? प्राय बंगाल में जा कर देखें कि कलकत्ता और उस के आस-पास हजारों की तादाद में रहने वाले लोगों को, जो कि हिन्दुस्तानी थे और हैं, जो इस मुल्क के सिटिजन हैं, जो बराबर इसी मुल्क में रहे हैं और कभी पाकिस्तान नहीं गये हैं, रेफ्यूजीज ने आकर अप्रस्ट कर दिया, उन को उन के घरों से निकाल दिया और उन की जायदादों पर कब्जा कर लिया । लेकिन आज तक हमारी रीहैबिलिटेशन मिनिसट्री और वहां की गवर्नमेंट की यह हिम्मत नहीं हुई कि इस बेइन्साफी को खत्म करें ।

जो लोग अपने घरों और जायदादों से हटा दिये गये हैं, वे यह देख रहे हैं कि यह हमारी जायदादें हैं, ये हमारे घर हैं, लेकिन फिर भी वे उन में जा नहीं सकते हैं । यह कितने अफसोस और बेइन्साफी की बात है कि तमाम ताकत रखने के बावजूद हमारी गवर्नमेंट उन लोगों को उन के घर और जायदादें नहीं दिला सकी है ।

मोजूदा रीहैबिलिटेशन मिनिसटर, श्री जगजीवन राम, के बारे में, जिन की लीडरशिप में यह मिनिसट्री चल रही है, लोगों ने कहा है— और मैं भी उस की तस्दीक करता हूँ—कि वह बहुत ही हिम्मत वाले और इन्साफपसन्द है । मैं चाहता हूँ कि वह अपने अमल से इस का सबूत दें । जिन लोगों को रेफ्यूजीज ने यहां आ कर उन के घरों में हटा दिया है, उन की जायदादों से महरूम कर दिया है, अगर मिनिसटर साहब उन लोगों को उन के घरों में बसा दें और उन की जायदादें उन को वापस दिला दें, तो मैं समझूंगा कि वह वाकई बहुत हिम्मत वाले और इन्साफपसन्द हैं ।

बस मुझे यही बात कहनी है ।

मंसि سعید طاهر (کھن گنج) :
جناب سپیکر صاحب - میں نے تمام
مہاجر کو سنا ہے اور میں صحیح

ہوں کہ اس سلسلہ میں مجھے
کچھ زیادہ کہنے کی ضرورت نہیں
ہے - کہونکہ ہمارے دوست ارباب
قریب تمام مسئلوں اور پہلوؤں پر
دوہلی قائل چکے ہیں - میں صرف
ایک بات کی طرف گورنمنٹ کی
توجہ دلانا چاہتا ہوں - حالانکہ
مصنن صاحب نے اس کا ذکر کر
دیا ہے - لیکن میں اس کو صفائی
کے ساتھ کہہ دینا چاہتا ہوں -

اس میں کوئی شک نہیں ہے کہ
پاکستان سے جو ریفریجیز ہمارے
ملک میں آئے ہیں گورنمنٹ کا
فرض ہے کہ وہ ان کو جگہ دے -
ان کو بساتے اور ان کی ہر ایک
تکلیف کو دور کرے - لیکن اس کا
کہا جواب ہے کہ ان لوگوں کو واضح
پہنچانے کے لئے گورنمنٹ کی طرف
سے کوئی قدم نہیں اٹھایا گیا ہے -
جن کو پاکستان سے آنے والے ریفریجیز
نے یہاں آکر ایبوت کر دیا ہے - ان کے
گھروں سے نکال دیا ہے اور ان کی
چائدادوں سے ہٹا دیا ہے - آپ ہنگال
میں جا کر دیکھیں-- لکھتے اور اس کے
آس پاس ہزاروں کی تعداد میں
رہنے والے لوگوں کو—جو کہ ہندوستانی
تھے اور ہیں - جو اس ملک کے
سٹیزنز ہیں - جو برابر اس ملک
میں رہے ہیں اور کبھی پاکستان
نہیں گئے ہیں - ریفریجیز نے آکر
ایبوت کر دیا - ان کو ان کے گھروں

[شری محمد طاہر]

سے نکال دیا اور ان کی جائدادوں پر قبضہ کر لیا۔ لیکن آج تک ہماری رہنمائی نہیں کی ہے۔ ہمت والے کی ہمت نہیں ہوتی کہ اس بے انصافی کو ختم کریں۔

جو لوگ اپنے گھروں اور جائدادوں سے ہٹا دیئے گئے ہیں۔ وہ یہ دیکھ رہے ہیں کہ یہ ہماری جائدادیں ہیں۔ یہ ہمارے گھر ہیں۔ لیکن پورے ہی وہ ان میں جا نہیں سکتے ہیں۔ یہ نکلے افسوس اور بے انصافی کی بات ہے کہ تمام طاقت رکھنے والے باوجود ہماری گورنمنٹ ان لوگوں کو ان کے گھر اور جائدادیں نہیں دلا سکی ہے۔

موجودہ رہنمائی منسٹر —
 شری جگجیوان رام کے بارے میں —
 جن کی لہڈرشپ میں یہ منسٹری چل رہی ہے۔ لوگوں نے کہا ہے —
 اور میں بھی اس کی تصدیق کرتا ہوں۔ کہ وہ بہت ہی ہمت والے اور انصاف پسند ہوں۔ میں چاہتا ہوں کہ وہ اپنے عمل سے اس کا ثبوت دیں۔ جن لوگوں کو رہنمائی نے یہاں آ کر ان کے گھروں سے ہٹا دیا ہے۔ ان کی جائدادوں سے محروم کر دیا ہے۔ اگر منسٹر صاحب ان لوگوں کو ان کے گھروں میں بسا دیں اور ان کی جائدادیں ان کو واپس دلا دیں تو

میں سمجھونگا کہ وہ واقعی بہت ہمت والے اور انصاف پسند ہیں۔
 بس مجھے یہی بات کہنی ہے۔

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry that the Minister is not in his seat. I would have liked him to listen to some of the points which I shall raise with regard to rehabilitation. This is a subject which, I am afraid, none of the Deputy Ministers or the hon. Minister is very familiar with. Regarding Shri Jagjivan Ram, with what little I have had to do with him in his past Ministries, I can say that he has the ability to cut across red-tape and take bold decisions when he wants to. That is why I have flickering hope that this Ministry, which has been very badly treated by both Shri Mahavir Tyagi and, towards the end of his term, by Shri Mehr Chand Khanna will have a better deal.

As I was going through the Report for 1965-66 I was really surprised to see that the entire question of West Bengal residuary problem has been completely omitted from the Report. And yet the bulk of the residuary problem of the refugees who are in West Bengal remains a headache both for us as well as, I presume, for the future Minister who is going to take over this Ministry.

Shri D. R. Chavan: That problem is practically solved.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: That is what you think. But I would expect that the wooden-headed attitude which was taken by Shri Tyagi and Shri Mehr Chand Khanna will not be persisted in by the present Minister. I hope Shri Chavan will not break his head on that point again.

17.15 hrs.

[SHRI S. L. SARAF in the Chair]

The residuary problem is big and great. The strong man, the so-

called strong man of West Bengal, Shri Atulya Ghosh had tried to put all the blame on the refugees for the troubles that took place in Bengal, recently, saying that the refugees did it, which was not at all true. Even if it is true, the Government should look into the socio-economic reasons why it happened. That is what I want the Government to consider. It is no use saying that the residuary problem in West Bengal is no longer there.

The majority of refugees, 60 to 70 per cent, never took one pie from Government to rehabilitate themselves. It is only a small percentage of 30 to 35 per cent that have come from East Pakistan who have asked Government to help them.

Now I would like, first of all, to take up two or three points which I want the Government to pay attention to. First I will take up the permanent liability camps. They are meant for women whose husbands were lost, deserted or killed. These permanent liability refugees do not require any agricultural lands. Therefore, there is no reason why they should not be kept in West Bengal. There are permanent liability camps in Nadia, in Titagarh in Barrackpore and in several other places. The affairs of these PL camps have not been finalized. What has happened? Shri Khanna said: the problem is finished. So, he handed them over to the Education Ministry. Now I will tell you one case. In the Titagarh camp there are still women who are living in tents, torn tents through which water drips in the rainy season. They live like cats and dogs in those camps. And what is the ration money which is given to them weekly? Four rupees nine annas for fifteen days, which means a total of nine rupees and two annas for the whole month.

This is what is given. I think, we spend more if we were to keep a cattle or a dog properly. When this handing over was made, I wrote to

the Ministry of Education regarding building proper pucca houses for these inmates roundabout July 1962, I got a reply from the Ministry of Education on the 27th December, 1963, to that letter. They said, "We are looking into this matter; we will take necessary action soon and you will be informed as soon as the decision is taken." Up to date no decision has been taken. They are living as they were in the same conditions. I would, therefore, beg of the Minister, that he should do some good to these unfortunates who have become refugees so that you may become Ministers. At least, if you could just remember that, some justice could be done to them.

Shri D. R. Chavan: Has the hon. Lady Member seen page 37 in which the entire residuary rehabilitation programme has been mentioned? She said that it has not been mentioned at all in the annual report. I will invite her attention to page 37. Probably, it may be that she came in a hurry and saw something.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: I am just finding "development colonies" etc.

श्री हुकम चण्ड कछवाय : सभापति महोदय, सदन में गणपूर्ति करवा दीजिये ।

Mr. Chairman: The bell is being rung. Now, there is quorum. She may continue her speech.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: In these PL camps, for example, in the Nadia District we have one of the biggest PL camps, namely, Rupasreepalli Camp. If you go, you will find roofs over the houses are completely spoiled; they are leaking. I have seen them during monsoon and it is impossible to live in those huts. There was a 50-bed hospital. The condition of that hospital is terrible. Somebody has taken away the fans; there are no bedsheets; there are no mosquito nets and even the condition of the hospital is deteriorating day by day.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Hardly anybody has spoken on rehabilitation.

Mr. Chairman: Please conclude in two minutes.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Let me have a few minutes more.

Mr. Chairman: If you had told me to give five minutes more . . .

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Two or three Opposition Parties have not spoken at all.

Mr. Chairman: You can take two or three minutes more.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: That will not do.

Mr. Chairman: Excuse me. There are a number of Congress Members who have to speak. They have not exhausted their time.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The point is that two or three Opposition Parties have not taken any time. If all the Congress Members are going to speak, then I need not speak.

Mr. Chairman: The question is that whatever time is allotted, it is allocated amongst the Parties. As far as other Parties are concerned, they have taken some time. The Congress Party has not yet taken full time. The Speaker told me to give you five minutes. But I say, you may take 10 minutes.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Two or three Opposition Parties have not spoken.

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): How much time has the Opposition taken?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Please calculate how much time the Opposition has taken and how much time the Congress Party has taken.

Mr. Chairman: We need not waste time. She may continue.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Here is the new Minister in-charge of the Labour Ministry. We must explain the things to him. We must get some time.

I would request that at least for these permanent liability camps, this kind of delay and constant shelving of these matters, year after year, should end. We should build houses which are fit for human habitation for permanent liability women. Secondly, you should give plots to all those whose children have grown up. Now, the position is that we are not able to give plots because the minimum amount of money which has been prescribed for the acquisition of land is far too low. The West Bengal Government had long negotiation with Mr. Khanna and later, of course, with Mr. Tyagi. But Mr. Tyagi never paid any attention to this. Yet, Mr. Khanna had long negotiations. Uptill now, nothing has been done. Unless we raise the level to a certain extent, we cannot get the land. If we get the land immediately, you will have half the number of women going out into the world with their own families and rehabilitating themselves.

Then, in Nadia in the urban colony at Coopers Camp the promise to a work centre was announced with great fanfare but it was never set up. The foundation stone of a ceramic factory was laid, where the women were going to work, but we find that was never set up at all. Jobs and training centres must be founded for these PL persons.

The second point is about the squatters' colony. You know there are the squatters colonies—that is how they are called. There were the areas where the refugees came and squatted and later on they were regularised and they were given loans to buy the land. For a very long time, the scheme is awaiting the sanction of the Central Government. There-

is some hitch between the State Government and the Central Government as usual. I would like Mr. Jagjivan Ram to cut this Gordian knot because I feel that this has been going on for too long. He is a man who can take decisions. I would like him to look into this thing. As a matter of fact, colony after colony, say, for example, the Netaji Colony in Baranagar they have a big playing ground which can easily be raised and the drainage can be provided. The handing over of the title right, the *pattas*, can be done. Take, for instance, Bonhooghly Colony where the roads can be made and the sanitation facilities provided. Then, there is the Kalitala Colony which in Konagore was a military camp. It has been in use by the refugees. That can easily be given over to them. All this can be easily finalised and finished with. Let us finish with it. Let us see that we do not go on hanging on to all this for eternity.

Take the question of Municipalities taking over these colonies. There is always a quarrel about it. Unless and until it is cleared that maintenance is to be done by the Municipalities, the Government of India do not like to sanction the scheme. I would request the Minister to call the Chairman and the Members of the Municipalities and have a talk with them and finalise this once and for all.

Regarding, Dandakaranya also, I would like to say that though there have been a large number of desertions, you should not take it at face value that because there are so many people who have come and made political propaganda, therefore, they are going away. The reason why we sent them to Dandakaranya was that they were agriculturist families—Namasudras etc. of East Bengal about whom the Minister knows well. They are good agriculturists and because we could not give them land in West Bengal, they were sent there. What is the position now? We are told that so many of them cannot be given land. At the same time those who

refused to go from West Bengal because they have turned over to urbanised jobs, are not being given any monetary or rehabilitation benefits as punishment! On the question of D.D.A., I would request the Minister to see that there is water. One of the main reasons for the desertions is that there is no water; except the Baskal dam, not a single dam has come up there. Even here the amount of D.P. land to be irrigated is very little. There are also the questions of levelling, reclamation of land, and social conservation: all these things have not been done with the result that only a very small percentage of those who have gone there have been given land.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member may try to conclude now.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: In five minutes, one cannot do justice..

Mr. Chairman: Not five minutes.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Maybe eight minutes.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member has taken thirteen minutes.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: It is not possible to do justice to this very important portfolio in such a short time. I would request Mr. Jagjivan Ram, who has now taken over this portfolio, to take bold decisions and finalise the refugee problem which has been hanging fire for such a long time.

Shri B. K. Das (Contai): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not happy over the fact that the Ministry of Rehabilitation has now become a Department. Although it is in very able hands, I would have been happier if it had remained a separate Ministry. When there was the exodus of refugees, the new migrants, it was upgraded to a Ministry, but when the problem is still a burning one, I do not know why it has been tagged to another Ministry. Although the Minister is very able and is in the know of things, he

[Shri B. K. Das]

will not be able to give his whole attention to this problem.

I shall now deal with the new migrants who are mostly agriculturists. What is the position now? Eight lakhs of them have come and there are so many camps under the Central as well as the State Governments. I find from the report that the camp population is now 43 lakhs and odd families in the 8 camps under the Central Government and in 63 camps under the State Governments.

Shri D. R. Chavan: It is 40 thousand and not lakhs.

Shri B. K. Das: I am sorry. It is 43,000. The report says that, in the screening, it was found that at least 68 per cent of them were agriculturists. If that be so, at least 29 to 30 thousand families would be agriculturists: only about 11 thousand families have either been provided with employment or been moved to rehabilitation sites and we know what happens in camps. There is often forced idleness; they live on doles and when some employment is provided in the camp, the work does not suit them. I had an occasion to see some of the camps in Madhya Pradesh and those people who have been taken to the worksites..

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : सम्भाषित
महोदय, सदन में गणपूर्ति नहीं है ।

Mr. Chairman: The bell is being rung..

Now there is quorum.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad (Bhagalpur): May I make one submission? The House should not sit after 5 P.M. We are not machines, but we are human beings. We are here every day almost from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. We start from our houses almost every day at 9 A.M. for some standing committee or the other, and, therefore, after 5 P.M. the result is that there is

no quorum in the House. There has been a suggestion that the Members in the Central Hall should be brought into the House, But then, after 5 P.M. we go away because it is very difficult for us to stay here after 5 P.M. Every time we raise this matter that we should not sit beyond 5 P.M. the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs insists that we should sit till 6 P.M. Therefore, I would make a request to the Business Advisory Committee and to the Speaker that the House should not sit beyond 5 P.M. I have raised this matter five times so far, but nothing has happened.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): On behalf of Government, I would like to say that this point has been mentioned to me outside the House. This matter was placed before the Business Advisory Committee also; it was also placed before the House after that, and the House had accepted that. I have no objection if the House wants to change that....

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: We had opposed it in the House also, but somehow when the hon. Minister was there and he had looked at us asking us to accept it, we had accepted. But this is what will result every day that there will be no quorum.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I would submit that whatever the House has decided the House alone can rescind. Therefore, I would suggest that this matter may be placed before the House tomorrow, and if the House says that we should not sit beyond 5 P.M. then we shall have no objection.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: We are raising it here. You may consider this matter and take the opinion of the House.

Shrimati Benu Chakravartty: I want to submit one thing. The Members are here, and they are marching

as soon as the quorum bell is rung. After all, this is a nice and comfortable place. Why can they not sit here?

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): Even now, many of the Demands will be guillotined. If the hours of sitting of the House are still curtailed, I am afraid that some more Demands will be guillotined and there will be a further curtailment of the discussion.

Mr. Chairman: I may place my experience before hon. Members here. I too had to come at 9 A.M. in morning I have almost missed my meal, but as usual I never go out of the House except for taking some water or some such thing. But what I find here is this. When I came here in 1962 I found that when any committee was sitting, if the quorum bell was rung, every Member from the committee used to rush to the House. But today the position is different, and I myself have been seeing this, that even if the bell rings, few Members rush to the House; they stay where they are and do not come to the House. I quite agree with the lady Member in that respect.

Therefore, at the present moment, I would not advise that we should take a decision on what Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad has suggested, because that would mean that a larger number of Demands are going to be guillotined.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: In that case, we shall have to face this no-quorum-business. In the evening, we shall go away at 5 p. m. and there will be no quorum in the House. It has been said that there are Members in the Central Hall or in the Lobby and they do not come in, but the point is that many of them have come after attending one committee or the other. For instance, many Members have come from the meeting of the committee connected with external affairs. You cannot expect us to go on from one door to the other. Every time there are three or four standing committees sitting. For instance, I my-

self have come after attending a meeting connected with external affairs. Similarly, there is another committee meeting in Room No. 62. So, it is not as if all the Members are sitting somewhere in the Lobby or the Central Hall. They are somewhere at some committee meetings. Either we should stop those committee meetings or have the debate in the House only up to 5 p.m. Otherwise, every day, we shall have to face this comment and criticism that the House had no quorum.

Mr. Chairman: That may be correct, but even then the fact remains that all of us, I am sorry, do not take the business of the House very seriously. Therefore, the difficulty arises.

Now, there is very little time left with us, and therefore, I would like Shri B. K. Das to continue his speech now.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: What I mean is that my suggestion must be considered, though not immediately here and now

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: As soon as the debate starts, Members will again start moving out.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Certainly after 5 P.M. they would like to go out.

Shri B. K. Das: I was speaking about the agriculturists and mentioning the case of new migrants. I have already said that they are mostly agriculturists. If we look at these agricultural schemes, we find that there are schemes in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and NEFA for the agriculturist people. These schemes can absorb 15,000 families, not more. When a request was made to different States for land we were told that they would be able to absorb at least 67,000 families in agricultural land. But we find that there is not enough land; they are

[Shri B. K. Das]

not able to give enough land. Even the Madhya Pradesh Government, which was prepared to accommodate 10,000 families, are now prepared to take 4,000 only. The Dandakaranya Project which was estimated to take in 45,000 families of agriculturists, has been able to rehabilitate only 10,000 families.

Now our only hope lies in some special areas. Government are trying to find some special areas such as the Andaman and Nicobar islands, Chanda districts in Maharashtra, and Phulbani and Ganjam in Orissa. We do not know how many these places will be able to absorb. I find that for settling agriculturists DPs in the special areas an enhanced amount has been earmarked in the budget for 1966-67. In the 1965-66, budget, it was only Rs. 30 lakhs in the revised estimates; now it is Rs. 1.65 crores for this year. So I hope that all care will be taken to find out agricultural land for rehabilitation of these people. These special areas could be developed for the local people also. But the rehabilitation of displaced persons would be the first charge on these areas.

As you have already rung the bell, I conclude by expressing the hope that the hon. Minister will see to it that alternative employment may be found for these agriculturists at least they can have rehabilitation in agricultural land.

श्री न० प्र० यादव (सीतामढ़ी) :

चेयरमैन साहब, आप ने समय दिया इसके लिए धन्यवाद। मैं आपके द्वारा श्री जगजीवन राम जी, श्रम, रोजगार एवं पुनर्वास मंत्री का ध्यान देश के जो गरीब मजदूर हैं और पड़े लिखे बकार हैं उनकी तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ और उनकी स्थिति से उनको भ्रवगत कराना चाहता हूँ। मुझ बिहार के कुछ चीनी मिल मजदूरों के घर जहाँ वह रहते हैं देखने का मौका मिला है। उत्तरी बिहार की बात है एक मजदूर को एक छोटी सी कोठरी मिली

हुई है जिसमें खिड़की नहीं और एक ही कोठरी में बेचारा मजदूर अपनी बकरी भी बांधता है, छात भी उसकी वहीं रहती है और उसके बच्चे भी उसमें पढ़ते हैं। भ्राज देश में जितने भी चीनी उद्योग के मालिक हैं अपने मजदूरों के रहने की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं किये हुए हैं। दवा दारू का भी उचित प्रबन्ध नहीं है। यदि चीनी मिल के मजदूरों को कभी कोई दिक्कत होती है तो उनके लेबर प्राफिसर या लेबर कमिश्नर को भी यदि तार देकर मिल में भ्रगर बुलाय जाय तो लेबर कमिश्नर या लेबर इंस्पेक्टर जो होते हैं वह उस मिल के भ्रहाते में जो उनका गेस्ट हाउस होता है उसी में भ्रा कर ठहरते हैं, मिल की भ्रोर से उनके खाने इत्यादि की व्यवस्था की जाती है लेकिन जिस गरीब की सुविधा के लिए वह रखे जाते हैं उन गरीब मजदूरों की सुविधा के ऊपर जरा सा भी ध्यान नहीं देते। मुझे देखने का मौका मिला। रीगा शुगर फ़ैक्ट्री में मजदूरों की हड़ताल हो रही थी और लेबर कमिश्नर आये। उनके लिए सरकार की भ्रोर से डी० ए० और सर्किट हाउस वगैरह रहता है लेकिन फिर भी मैंने देखा रीगा शुगर फ़ैक्ट्री की भ्रोर से जो गेस्ट हाउस है उसी में जाकर वह ठहरे। उनके लिए फ़ैक्ट्री की भ्रोर से भ्रोजन की सारी व्यवस्था की गई। जो बेचारे गरीब मजदूर जिनकी छंटनी हुई थी, वह तड़पते ही रहे लेकिन लेबर कमिश्नर और लेबर इंस्पेक्टर उनकी बातों को सुने बिना ही पटना वापस चले आये।

हजारों ऐसे युवक हैं कि जो आई० टी० आई० में ट्रेनिंग ले चुके हैं। लेकिन डेढ़ साल की ट्रेनिंग के बाद भी उन्हें कहीं काम नहीं मिलता। भ्राज देश में हजारों शिक्षक हैं जो मैट्रिक की ट्रेनिंग, आई० ए० की ट्रेनिंग ले चुके हैं, फिर भी उन्हें नौकरी नहीं मिलती। हजारों शिक्षक हैं जो ट्रेनिंग लेने के पश्चात् भी कहीं किसी स्कूल में जिनको नौकरी नहीं मिलती। बिहार में पड़े लिखे हजारों युवक

हैं उन्हें बी० ए० पास, एम० ए० पास करने के पश्चात् भी लोअर स्कूल में भी उन्हें नौकरी नहीं मिलती। बिहार में एक स्थान के लिए आवेदन पत्र मागे जाते हैं जिसके लिए मैट्रिकुलेशन की जरूरत है वहां हजारों आई० ए० और बी० ए० की धत्तीकेशंस आती हैं और उसके बाद जितनी जरूरत होती है वह रखे जाते हैं और बाकी बेचारे मारे मारे फिरते रहते हैं। इसलिए मैं आपके द्वारा अपने श्रम मंत्री जी से निवेदन कांंगा कि देश में आज जितने पढ़े लिखे युवक हैं, आज जितने शिक्षक हैं जिन्होंने अपनी ट्रेनिंग ले ली है, आई० टी० आई० से जितने ट्रेनिंग लेकर बैठे हुए हैं उनकी एक लिस्ट बननी चाहिए और चौबीस वर्षीय योजना में उन लोगों को नौकरी देने की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : श्रीमन्, इतना अच्छा भाषण हो रहा है और गणपूर्ति नहीं है सदन में, मैं आपकी व्यवस्था चाहता हूँ।

सभापति महोदय : मैं गिन रहा हूँ। माननीय सदस्य तब तक बोलें।

श्री न० प्र० यादव : श्रीमन्, उत्तरी बिहार में धान की भी बहुत बड़ी फैंक्ट्री हैं, जो काफी संख्या में हैं। लेकिन वहां भी मजदूरों की स्थिति अच्छी नहीं है।

सभापति महोदय : माननीय सदस्य अपना स्थान ग्रहण करें। घंटी बज रही है। अब कोरम हो गया है। माननीय सदस्य अपना भाषण जारी रखें।

श्री न० प्र० यादव : चेन्नरमन साहब, मैं प्रादरणीय श्रम मंत्री जी का ध्यान बिहार के जो पढ़े लिखे बेकार लोग हैं उनकी तरफ़ ले जाना चाहता हूँ। बिहार में सैकड़ों धान की मिलें हैं। वहां पर जो मजदूर मजदूरी करते हैं उन के लिए न घर का इंतजाम है, न उन के बच्चों की दवादारू का बंदोबस्त है बेचारे 8 घंटे के बदन में किसी फैंक्टरी में

12 घंटे काम करते हैं किसी किसी फैंक्टरी में 10, 10 घंटे काम करते हैं। इस, इस और बारह, बारह घंटे तक वहां पर उन बेचारों से काम लिया जाता है। इसलिए मेरा निवेदन है कि उस के लिए भी एक समय निश्चित होना चाहिए। जो भी धान की फैंक्टरीज खलाने वाले देश में हैं सभी फैंक्टरीजों में जो मजदूर हैं उनके रहने, दवादारू और उनके बच्चों के पढ़ाने इत्यादि का प्रबन्ध होना चाहिए।

सभापति महोदय : माननीय सदस्य का समय समाप्त हो रहा है श्रीध ही वह समाप्त करें।

श्री न० प्र० यादव : श्रीमन्, कोयला खानों में जो मजदूर मजदूरी करते हैं उब के रहने इत्यादि का भी कोई प्रबन्ध नहीं है इसलिए जो कोयले की खानों में मजदूरी करते हैं उनकी दवादारू, मकान और बच्चों के पढ़ाने इत्यादि की अच्छी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। मैं श्रम, रोजगार और पुनर्वास मंत्रालय की मांगों का समर्थन करता हूँ।

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the first point I want to make about this ministry is that there should be a rechristening of this ministry. The word 'labour' was used in the victorian age. Though there is a very respectable party even now in U. K. which is called the labour party; now a-days nobody uses the word 'labour' in any part of the world. Everywhere workers are called workers and therefore this ministry should be called the ministry of workers, employment and rehabilitation. The scope of the word worker has been widened very much; it has become a very comprehensive word and I believe that the word 'worker' should include not only those persons who are manual workers or use the machines but also those persons whom we dub as white-collar worker. So, the word 'worker' should be made an all-inclusive and comprehensive word.

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

Unless that is done, I think the word 'worker' will carry with it a connotation which is not in keeping with the trends that are prevailing in the modern world. At the same time, I would say that this Ministry is a kind of truncated ministry. When I say that, I mean that there are so many sectors of workers which are excluded from the purview of this Ministry. The railway workers are not within its net; the defence workers are a class by themselves. Therefore, I believe that all kinds of workers should be under the scope of this Ministry, so that we can have an overall picture of the workers' condition in this country and, at the same time, the rules and regulations can apply to them.

Again, there are some sets of rules which are operative in the public sector and other rules which are to be seen in those sectors which are run by private agencies. All these are anomalies and the difficulty is this: that the larger the number of contradictions this Ministry has, the less becomes its usefulness to the country. I hope Shri Jagjivan Ram who himself belongs to the class of under-privileged persons, to the class of those dispossessed persons, will take note of these suggestions of mine and bring within the scope of this Ministry all types of workers—Class I officers, Class II, Class III and Class IV people who work with their hands.

My second point is that this Ministry has been establishing Wage Boards. I am very happy. When I go into the report I find that those Wage Boards have been divided into four categories. There are some Wage Boards whose work has been completed; there are some Wage Boards whose reports have come and are being implemented. There are some Wage Boards whose reports are still waiting for implementation. Then there are some Wage Boards which are on the anvil of this Ministry and which are not receiving as much attention as possible. Living in the socialist pattern of society, I do

not believe why there should not be Wage Boards for all types of workers. I would plead with you that there should be Wage Boards for teachers from the primary stage to the university stage. I felt very happy when the college and university teachers got a good deal from our Education Ministry. But I ask you—I am sorry you have never been a teacher,—

Mr. Chairman: You are mistaken.

Shri D. C. Sharma: You are as good as a teacher. I do not know what sins the primary school teachers have committed what wrong the secondary school teachers have done, that their case has not been considered so far. You should not think that I am making a very radical suggestion. This suggestion has come from no less a person than a member of the Planning Commission, that white elephant of this Government of India.

Mr. Chairman: He should finish within two or three minutes.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I believe there should be a Wage Board for teachers. At the same time, I want to bring to the notice of this House that there are four estates and the fourth estate is the estate of the journalists, the newspaper world, the world of working journalists. I do not talk of proprietors; I do not talk of editors; they are a class by themselves. But I talk of the working journalists. The working journalist is a good example of sweated labour in this country. I ask the hon. Minister, why is it that the legislation pertaining to the working journalists has not been completed in all these years. I remember that when I came to the Lok Sabha for the first time, I moved a resolution trying to see to it that the conditions of working journalists were improved. Of course, a Wage Board was established. But that Wage Board is like—I should use the word of Dr. A. N. Jha—....

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member should conclude now.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Sir, I will conclude tomorrow.

Mr. Chairman: No, no. There is no time left.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Tomorrow I will take five minutes.

Mr. Chairman: I do not think it will be possible. I must make it clear that we have already exceeded the time allotted for this debate. Only the hon. Minister will speak tomorrow. I would, therefore, request him to conclude his speech today.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Sir, I have to cover the point about rehabilitation also. Sir, kindly look at me.

Mr. Chairman: That is what I have been doing all the time. I have been looking at you.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I have to make certain points about rehabilitation. If you like I will conclude tomorrow.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: He should reserve his points for next year and conclude now.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I want to ask one question of the Government of India. Why is it that the Wage Board of Journalists has not completed its labours by this time? What has it been doing? What is wrong with the personnel of the Wage Board? What is wrong with the implementation machinery? What is wrong with the terms of reference given to them?

What is wrong with the meetings that are held and no decision taken? Therefore, I would say, you should try to see to it that these Wage Boards become the kingpin of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

My third point is this. We are living in a world where we want full employment. I was reading a book the other day about Lord Atlee. It was stated that he had two causes to fight for and to live for. One was that there should be full employment in U.K. and the other was that India should become free. I would request my hon. friend, Shri Jagjivan Ram that he should make India a country where.....

An hon. Member: Sir, it is already past six o'clock.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Sir, I will conclude tomorrow.

Shri Kapur Singh (Ludhiana): Sir, let us know what type of India he wants to make. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister will reply tomorrow. The House stands adjourned till 11.00 A.M. tomorrow.

18.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, April 19, 1966/Chaitra 29, 1888 (Saka).