

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

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(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE-

Wednesday, 15th April, 1953

The House met at a Quarter Past
Eight of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

9-19 A.M.

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL OF
STATES

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of the Council of States:

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, I am directed to inform the House of the People that the Council of States, at its sitting held on the 14th April 1953, agreed without any amendment to the Khadi and other Handloom Industries Development (Additional Excise Duty on Cloth) Bill, 1953, which was passed by the House of the People at its sitting held on the 9th April 1953."

COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR-
GENERAL (CONDITIONS OF SER-
VICE) BILL

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to regulate certain conditions of service of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to regulate certain conditions of service of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India."

The motion was adopted.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I introduce* the Bill.

FINANCE BILL AND CENTRAL
EXCISES AND SALT (AMENDMENT)
BILL

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, be taken into consideration."

Before dealing with the provisions of this Bill, I should like to make one preliminary observation. The proposals in the Bill are really a part of the Budget proposals for the current year, but owing to the time required for making the necessary administrative arrangements it was not found possible to include them in the Finance Bill. It is, therefore, only for technical reasons that this Bill is being brought forward as a separate measure. It will, I think, be convenient if for purposes of discussion and consideration in the House this Bill is treated as if it were a part of the Finance Bill and considered along with it. It is with this end in view that I sought leave to interrupt the debate on the Finance Bill yesterday to introduce this measure.

In my Budget speech I referred to the various measures taken by Government to assist the tea gardens which had been affected by the steep fall in tea prices. These measures have been of some assistance to the

*Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh]

industry, though it is too early to assess their full effect. Government have also been examining other possible measures to help the industry. Suggestions have been made from various quarters that the excise duty should be reduced. After careful examination of the question, Government are convinced that any flat reduction in excise duty will confer little or no benefit to the producer of tea as such a concession is more likely to be absorbed by the middleman. On the other hand, this will only lead to a considerable sacrifice of revenue which the country can ill afford.

We think, however, that without sacrifice of revenue, the excise duty could be so re-adjusted as to prove of practical benefit to the grower. The proposal embodied in the Bill is, briefly, to reduce to one anna per pound all excise duty payable by the tea gardens when they send out tea in bulk to the markets. And, this means that the initial financial commitment of the tea gardens will be, substantially, reduced. Much of the tea meant for internal consumption, is normally marketed by blenders and packers in packets of suitable sizes. At this stage, we propose to levy an additional excise duty of three annas per lb. The net effect would, therefore, be that the total excise on tea going into consumption before packing will be four annas per lb. or an anna per lb. more than at present. On the other hand, the excise duty on tea which goes into consumption in the loose form will be only one anna per lb. Accurate figures of internal consumption of tea are not available. It is estimated, however, at 210 million lbs of which about one-third will be sold in retail in the form of loose tea and two-thirds marketed by blenders and packers in retail packets of suitable sizes.

It would thus be seen that the question of re-adjustment of the duty which has been proposed in the Bill should be of direct benefit to a not inconsiderable section of consumers, particularly of the poorer classes who buy loose tea. No doubt, the consumer who used to buy in packets will have to pay an anna more per lb. But there is the probability that part, if not the whole, of this extra anna may be absorbed by the middleman—absorbed, perhaps, in the wrong word. Although there has been only recently a fairly sharp fall in the price of tea in auction, there has been no corresponding fall in retail prices. It is therefore quite legitimate to expect that a good portion, if not the whole, of the extra

one anna per lb. may go over to packers and other middlemen. The consumers, taken on the whole, will not, it is hoped, pay anything more as it has been calculated that the total revenue, after this re-adjustment, will remain more or less what it is now. As the House is aware, much of the tea produced in the country is exported. The difference, if any, between the excise duty already paid and the export duty of four annas per lb. which remains unchanged will continue to be equated at the time of export.

I should give the House some explanation of sub-clause (2) of clause 2 of the Bill. This sub-clause proposes to bring within the scope of the new excise duty all package tea which is lying in stock on the 15th April, 1953, in the premises of the producers. Now, this power has been taken as Government is advised that in the alternative, the new duty would become payable only on the tea blended and packed after the introduction of the Bill. It is not, however, Government's intention to enforce liability in full on stocks of package tea as on the 15th April, 1953, produced from loose tea which has already paid the old rate of three annas per lb. before issue from the factories. The effect of the provision made in sub-clause (2) of clause 2 of the Bill would be to subject such package tea to an additional three annas per lb. An executive notification has, therefore, been issued today under the Central Excise Rules, 1944, the effect of which is to levy a duty of one anna per lb. only on all classes of package tea lying in the producers' premises at this date. The total levy on such package tea will thus not exceed four annas per lb. This is just a legal contrivance. Similarly, for some time after the introduction of the new tariff, package tea would be produced from loose tea lying in the producers' premises on the 15th of April, 1953, on which the old duty of three annas per lb. has been paid: in order to limit the total duty on such tea as well to four annas per lb. the executive notification I just referred to also makes provision for it to be assessed to an additional duty of one anna per lb. only.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, be taken into consideration."

With reference to this motion, the hon. Finance Minister has requested

that the further consideration of the Finance Bill may also be taken to be continued side by side with this. That means the two Bills are being taken into consideration together. I should be glad to adopt that procedure as that will save time, but there is one point which strikes me as a flaw, not incurable. And, it is that the hon. Members who participated in the debate yesterday will have no chance now of expressing their views in respect of the provisions of this particular Bill. That is the only difficulty but it can be got over by a general agreement of the hon. Members.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (Calcutta South-East): If the two Bills are being taken simultaneously and also voted upon simultaneously, why was not this incorporated in the Finance Bill?

Mr. Speaker: He has already said that there were some administrative difficulties. That is what he said. Now, the point is a short one. I find that 15 hon. Members have spoken. It could not be guaranteed that any one or all of them could have necessarily had a chance to speak on the Bill. They have spoken and the advantage of speaking first can easily be set off against losing this opportunity. But, the most important point is that it will lead to a saving of time.

It forms part of the general scheme of taxation and can best be taken with advantage with the Finance Bill. So, I think, hon. Members will agree that both these Bills should be taken together.

An Hon. Member: The time may be extended by one more day.

Mr. Speaker: That defeats the object. Already we are behind schedule.

Shri K. C. Sodhia (Sagar): Does this Bill not require any study on the part of the Members?

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members can as well speak on this Bill tomorrow after studying. There are still two more days for discussion. Let us make an effort to save time.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta North-East): Day after tomorrow, we are going to take up clause-by-clause discussion of the Finance Bill.

Mr. Speaker: Not the day after tomorrow.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Day after tomorrow is non-official day. The day after that we shall take up the clause-by-clause discussion. So far as this Bill is concerned, we will have no opportunity, at any rate.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs tells me that four days have been allotted for the Finance Bill. I accept his statement. Today is only the second day.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): It involves a new tax structure so far as tea is concerned. Therefore, some time should be given.

Mr. Speaker: The second alternative will be this: to take the Bills together today and reserve on the last day of discussion, say, about an hour for a special discussion with reference to this Bill.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think that will meet the needs of the situation.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members who have already spoken will have an opportunity to express their views on this particular Bill.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: It should come on Monday, Sir. Yesterday, the Deputy-Speaker had prepared a timetable, that the general discussion will continue for three days; then on the last day, there will be clause-by-clause discussion, the last one hour being reserved for the third reading. If you take one hour out of that it will be very difficult, unless the House meets at 7-15 A.M.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that one hour is going to make a lot of discussion, the last one hour being of opportunities. Let us stick to the programme and not draw upon time which will shorten the discussion.

Shri K. K. Basu: After the Finance Bill is got through on Saturday, we shall discuss this for one hour on Monday.

Mr. Speaker: I said that there is a technical difficulty, but the difficulties can be got over by arrangement and agreement. The point is to have a consolidated discussion on all financial measures.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I suggest that the third reading on the Finance Bill may be taken up on Monday?

Mr. Speaker: Let us not fight for one hour. Let us be short in our discussions. Things will adjust themselves. We have to bear in mind that there is a point of time where we have to end the session.

श्री अल्लू राय शास्त्री (जिला आजमगढ़—पूर्व व जिला बलिया—पश्चिम) : मैं एक निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। जैसे तो यह ठीक ही है कि माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि वह हमारे फायनेस बिल का ही एक अंश समझा जाना चाहिए। तो इस प्रकार यह एक अंग अंगी के रूप में जो बिल है वह डिस्कस होना लगता है। यह एक बिल लेट स्ट्रेज पर आया है, जैसे कोई एक संशोधन के रूप में उपस्थित हो गया हो। कोई चीज छूट गयी थी, उस को शामिल कर दिया गया हो। इसमें एक कठिनाई तो यह होती है कि जो सदस्य वॉर्स चुके हैं उन्हें अर्थ इस पर बोलने का कोई मौका नहीं मिलेगा और दो बिलों को एक साथ विचार में लेने में जरूर कठिनाई पड़ेगी। अर्थात् हीना कि फायनेस बिल को संशोधन करने पर एक या दो घंटे इस के लिये और दें, ताकि और लोग भी बोल सकें और नया उदाहरण कायम न हो कि दो बिल एक साथ मिलाकर विचार के लिये उपस्थित किये जा सकें।

Mr. Speaker: He is not making any new point. It is substantially the same as what I made. Hon. Members have expressed their opinions. Let us go ahead now with this arrangement, that on Saturday we have one hour in respect of this Bill specially for discussion, which may be technically called a separate discussion, just to enable those of the fifteen Members who have had no chance of speaking to get a chance if they catch the eye of the Speaker, not otherwise. Now, the other motion is already before the House and a joint discussion proceeds.

श्री अल्लू राय शास्त्री : मैं माननीय अर्थ मंत्री को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने अपने बजट भाषण में और फायनेस बिल के

सम्बन्ध में जो भाषण दिया उस में उन्होंने हमारे राष्ट्र के आर्थिक जीवन पर सुन्दर प्रकाश डाला है ?

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

जो प्रगति इस बीच में हमारे राष्ट्र ने की है उस की एक सुन्दर आंकी हमें उन के सुन्दर भाषण से मिलती है। देश ने इस बीच में अपनी उत्पादन बढ़ाया है, अपनी सेना को संगठन किया है और अपनी खाद्य समस्या की सुलभाने की चेष्टा की है। यह सब बातें ऐसी हैं कि जिन से राष्ट्र को विश्वास हमारी शासन व्यवस्था में बढ़ती है। यह सब ऐसे संकट काल में हुआ है जब कि वैदेशिक स्थिति और आन्तरिक स्थिति बहुत कठिन रही है। यह सब देखते हुए हृदय से बधाई बिना कोई व्यक्ति नहीं दे सकता जो कि ईमानदारी से चीजों की देखना चाहता है।

यह होते हुए भी हम नहीं कह सकते कि हमने अपनी समस्याओं को सुलझा लिया और कुछ करने को शेष नहीं है। मैं जो प्रशंसा अर्थ मंत्री की सारे देश में हो रही है, समाचार पत्रों में हो रही है और इस भवम में जो प्रशंसा माननीय सदस्य इस सम्बन्ध में कर रहे हैं, उस में अपने ये शब्द जोड़ कर चुप नहीं रह जाना चाहता। कुछ आर्थिक बौतों की ओर उनका ध्यान दिलाने के लिये खड़ा हुआ हूँ। बजट डिसकशन में मैंने कोई हिस्सा नहीं लिया। लेकिन इस अवसर पर कुछ चन्द बातों की ओर उनका ध्यान आकर्षित कर देना मैं राष्ट्र के प्रति अपने कर्तव्य का पालन मात्र समझता हूँ और इसी दृष्टि से मैं इस समय खड़ा हुआ हूँ। मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारा राष्ट्र एक सर्वहितकारी सामाजिक राज्य है। इस में हम सब के कल्याण के लिये काम करने का लक्ष्य रखते हैं और उसी दिशा में प्रयत्न कर रहे हैं। यह होते हुए आज चाहे दूसरों के दोष के ही कारण हो, चाहे कुछ विरोधी दलों के अपने दूषित दृष्टि-

कोण के परिणामस्वरूप ही हो, लेकिन हमें यह देखना पड़ता है कि जगह बराबर हमें ऐसी कार्रवाइयां करनी पड़ती हैं कि जिनसे लगता है कि जिस राज्य का हमारा लक्ष्य है, संबंधितकारी राज्य का, वह एक पुलिस राज्य की तरह बनता जा रहा है। हमें १४४ की धाराएं लगानी पड़ती हैं। हमें मीटिंगों पर जलूसों पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाने पड़ते हैं, चाहे वह उनके ही कारण हो, उन की अनुचित कार्रवाईयों के ही कारण हो, पर यह मानना पड़ेगा कि जनता कुछ उस अनुचित कार्रवाई की ओर नहीं बहकती तो हमें इन को नहीं लगाना पड़ता। जनता ही उन को रोक देती, न ऐसे जलसे हो सकते न जलूस निकलते। यह चीज थोड़ा सा व्यापक रूप धारण करती जा रही है और यह एक चिन्ता की बात है और हम को इसे दूर करने के प्रयत्न करने चाहियें।

हमें चिन्ता होती है कि जब लेबर के स्ट्राइक की बात आती है। अभी कुछ भेरे मित्र श्री हरिहरनाथजी ने कुछ लोगों में बेकारी के बारे में, कुछ आदमी जो फेक्टरीज में काम करते हैं उन के निकाले जाने के बारे में चर्चा की। उन के स्ट्राइक हो जाने के बारे में उन्होंने चिन्ता प्रकट की। वह चिन्ता निस्सन्देह एक बड़ी चिन्ता है और जो लोग लेबर क्षेत्र में काम करते हैं उन को उस तरफ ऐसा लगता है कि यह यदि वह भंग इस तरह पेरैलाइज हो और उस में अविश्वास और अश्रद्धा फैले तो देश का बड़ा अहित होगा, क्योंकि उत्पादन उस से अवरूद्ध होता है और यदि उत्पादन अवरूद्ध होता है तो देश में सामान की कमी से उत्तेजना फैलेगी। इसलिये यह महत्व की बात है। लेकिन मुझ को इस से कम महत्व की बात भी नहीं लगती कि सामाजिक और राजनैतिक विद्वेष को आग और उस की नन्ही नन्ही चिनगारियां जगह जगह फैलें और हम उन को न देखें। तो मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारी शासन व्यवस्था का बड़ा भारी

कर्तव्य यह होना चाहिये कि एक ऐसा पोटें फोर्सिओ क्रियेट करें, एक श्रेष्ठ विभाग अलग से खोलें, एक ऐसा मंत्री नियुक्त करें कि जिसका काम ही हो समाजिक और राजनैतिक सम्पर्क स्थापित करना। उस का काम शासन का कम हो, किसी सत्सकीय विभाग से उसका सम्बन्ध कम हो, किन्तु जन सम्पर्क स्थापित करना उस का काम होना चाहिये। उस के साथ एक छोटी सी कमेटी भी, एक ऐडवाइजरी कमेटी भी हम रख सकते हैं कि जो इन चीजों पर निगाह रखे कि कहां-कहां क्या असन्तोष फैल रहा है।

“रिपु रज पावक प्राप, इन्हें न गनिये छोट करि”।

हम को नन्ही सी आग की चिनगारी को भी छोटा नहीं समझना चाहिये कि यह क्या करेगी। “आई डैम केयर फार दीज रोज, दीज रास्कल्स”। वह ऐंटीट्यूड हमारा वहीं होना चाहिये कि यह जोख क्या है, इन से क्या हो सकता है, इन की हब क्या परवाह करते हैं, इस दृष्टिकोण से धीरे धीरे हम अपनी शक्ति को क्षीण करते जा रहे हैं और धीरे धीरे अविश्वास और अश्रद्धा की आग फैलती जा रही है। हम को तनिक भी असन्तोष दिखाई पड़े तो तत्काल उभर ध्यान देना चाहिये और उस का निराकरण करना चाहिये। अभी कुछ दिवस हुए हम ने देखा कि श्री जय प्रकाश नारायण से हमारे प्रधान मन्त्री की बात हुई। दोनों के बयान आए। उन बयानों से जनता को यह निर्णय करने का मौका मिला कि कौन आदमी सही रास्ते पर है और कौन आदमी गलत रास्ते पर है। लेकिन यदि हम बातें ही न करें, सुने नहीं, लोगों से अप्रोच न करें, कान्टैक्ट तोड़ दें, तो अपने राज्य के प्रति अविश्वास बढ़ने का अधिक मौका होता है। इसलिये पहला सुभाव तो मैं यह बेना चाहता हूँ कि जन

[श्री अलगू राय शार्द्री]

सम्पर्क स्थापित करने के लिये और राज-
नैतिक और सामाजिक दुर्भावनाओं को दूर
करने के लिये । प्रत्येक विरोधी दल के
लोगों के साथ उन की बातों को शान्तिपूर्वक
सुनने के लिये एक अलग अशासकीय विभाग
सा या शासन से कुछ सम्बन्ध न रखने वाला
जन सम्पर्क के लिये एक पृथक विभाग और
पृथक मंत्री नियुक्त करना चाहिये । चाहे
पृथक मंत्री हो या इन्हीं में से कोई एक मंत्री
इस काम को देखे । इस तरीके पर चलने
के बिना हमें अपना काम चलता नज़र
नहीं आता ।

दूसरी बात में यह निवेदन करना चाहता
हूँ कि हमारा जो केन्द्रीय शासन है यह अपने
इनकम टैक्स की आमदनी से और दूसरे तरीके
से ऋज्जा दे कर और सहायता दे कर और हिस्सा
दे कर स्टेट्स की मदद करता है ।

यहां अक्सर प्रश्न उठत है, अभी जो एक
प्रश्न उठा उसके सम्बन्ध में यह बात कही
गयी कि कोयले का परमिट कोअपरेटिव
सोसाइटीज़ को नहीं मिलता, लेकिन लोगों
को अपने व्यक्तिगत कार्य के लिये मिल जाता
है, तो इस प्रश्न के उत्तर में यह चीज़ आयी कि
यह राज्यों का काम है, वह इस काम को करते
हैं । जब इस तरह के उत्तर यहां पर आजाते
हैं तो राज्यों को इससे और अधिक उत्साह
मिलता है और वह समझते हैं कि वह जो चाहें
कर सकते हैं । हम केन्द्र से ही तो राज्यों
को यह चीज़ें देते हैं, केन्द्र से बड़ी भारी सहायता
राज्यों को दी जाती है तो केन्द्र का यह
कर्तव्य होना चाहिये कि वह कोई एक ऐसी
मशीनरी स्थापित करे जो अखरने वाली न
हो, ताकि विभिन्न राज्यों में आपस के अन्दर
कोई कोअरडिनेशन हो और परस्पर विचार
विमर्श हो सके ताकि हम यह देख सकें कि जो
सहायता हमने राज्यों को दी है और जिस
लक्ष्य से दी है वह ठीक २ उपयोग में लायी

जा रही है, हम केन्द्र से कम्युनिटी प्राजेक्ट्स,
फाइव इयर प्लान और दूसरे डेवलपमेंट
के कार्यों में जो पैसा देते हैं, तो यह तो उचित
न होगा कि हम केवल उनको पैसा देकर सो
जाय और यह समझकर कि स्टेट्स के काम में
हस्तक्षेप करना ठीक नहीं है, कुछ न करें,
हस्तक्षेप करने की बात स्वयं में भी नहीं कहता
हूँ, किन्तु एक आपसी सहयोग और विचार
विमर्श की बात में समझता हूँ कि बहुत आवश्यक
है, कुछ सिखावन देने की बात और शिकायतों
को सुनने के बाद उनके बारे में जांच करने की
बात तो केन्द्र द्वारा होनी ही चाहिये ।

अभी उस दिन यहां पर चुनार कैम्प के
बारे में बहस हुई, उस सम्बन्ध में मेरे पास भी
शिकायत आई थी, और मैं ने वह ५० पी०
गवर्नमेंट को भेज दी थी, यहां पर भी उसका
ज़िक्र आया, तो आखिर बाहर से जो भगाये
हुए लोग इस देश में आते हैं, उनके बसाने
का काम तो केन्द्र का है और जब केन्द्र उन लोगों
को बसाने का काम अपने हाथ में लेता है
तो वह उनको मुस्तलिफ स्टेट्स में ही तो
बसावेगा । अब अगर स्टेट्स में इस किस्म
की बातें ही जायें तो उनको एफ़ेक्टिवली
रोकाना, समझा बुझा कर, हस्तक्षेप करके
नहीं, नाट बाई बौसिंग, अपना अधिपत्य
जमाकर नहीं, किन्तु जैसा मैंने कहा उनके
साथ सम्पर्क स्थापित करके, डायरेक्ट अप्रोच
और अपील के द्वारा कोई ऐसी मशीनरी
बनानी चाहिये जो स्टेट्स के उन कामों के
ऊपर दृष्टि रखे । यह साधारण नियम है
कि सहायता पाने वाला अपने काम की रिपोर्ट
सहायता देने वाले के पास भेजता है, और
इसमें बड़े और छोटे का कोई भेद नहीं है ।
और फिर आखिर केन्द्र का स्थान उस एकांगी
शरीर में बड़ा ही है और इस नाते भी उसका
हमारे कामों पर दृष्टि रखना और सलाह
मशविरा देना अनुचित नहीं है ।

में पूर्वी यू० पी० के जिलों से आता है, और यह वाक्या है कि यू० पी० के ये पूर्वी जिले बहुत पिछड़े हुए हैं और पूर्वी यू० पी० का विकास १८५७ से लेकर आज तक किसी अंश में नहीं हो पाया। आज भी वहाँ अकाल की सी स्थिति जारी है। अभी उस दिन माननीय खाद्य मंत्री ने बताया कि इस वक्त केन्द्र द्वारा जो खाद्य सहायता दी जा रही है, उसका बहुत बड़ा भाग उत्तर प्रदेश को दिया गया है और खेती के विकास इत्यादि के लिये पूर्वी जिलों को बहुत काफी सहायता दी जा रही है। यू० पी० के ये पूर्वी जिले आज स्केयरसिटी डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स के नाम से प्रसिद्ध हो गये हैं और यदि मैं आपके सामने उनका चित्र रखूँ तो आपको आश्चर्य होगा कि इस जमाने में भी आज के इस युग में वहाँ पर बसने वाले चमार और दूसरी जातियों के गरीब लोग काउडंग में से जो अनाज निकलता है, चना गेहूँ आदि उसको धो कर और पीस कर उसका आटा खाते हैं, वहाँ की स्थिति यह है। ये जिले बड़े क्रान्तिकारी जिले रहे हैं और उन्होंने सदैव राजनैतिक क्रान्तियों में बहुत बड़ा भाग लिया है, किन्तु यह खेद की वस्तु है कि उनके विकास कार्य को सदियों से उपेक्षित किया गया है और आज विकास योजना के लिये जो भी पैसा आप खर्च करते हैं, जो कुछ आप दे रहे हैं और वहाँ पर जो कुछ किया जा रहा है, वह नाकाफी साबित होगा अगर उसपर कड़ी निगाह न रखी जायगी कि आया उसका पूरा सदुपयोग उन जिलों के विकास के लिए हो रहा है कि नहीं हो रहा है।

में एक निवेदन और किया चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश में खादी डेवलपमेंट के लिए हैडलम इंडस्ट्री में सेस लगाने का जो बिल आया है उसके लिए सरकार बधाई की पात्र है। फाइव इयर प्लान के सफे १४३ पर जो छोटे उद्योग धंधों की बाबत जिक्र है, उन शब्दों को मैं यहाँ पढ़कर हाउस का समय लेना नहीं

चाहता, वह सब चीज हाउस के सामने मौजूद है उसमें छोटे उद्योग धंधों के संरक्षण के हेतु चिन्ता प्रकट की गयी है और यह कहा गया है कि छोटे उद्योग धंधों की रक्षा करना हमारा कर्तव्य होगा, तो मैं आपसे निवेदन करूँगा कि वह रक्षा तब तक नहीं हो सकती जबतक हम केवल सेस के ऊपर ही निर्भर करेंगे, हमको उसके लिए और अधिक उद्योग और प्रयत्नशील होना पड़ेगा। आज बाटा की फॅक्टरी ने चमड़े के जूते बनाने के आगरे और कानपुर के व्यापार को तबाह कर दिया है, फॅक्टरी लेबर की तो हम चिन्ता करते हैं लेकिन अपने हाथ से और अपनी कतरनी और रापी से जो जूता बनाने का छोटा मोटा काम करते हैं उनकी रक्षा की तरफ हमारा ध्यान नहीं जाता, उनकी रक्षा के लिए और हैंडलूम इंडस्ट्री के गरीब आदमियों की रक्षा के लिए आपको कोई न कोई सीमा निर्धारित करनी पड़ेगी कि इतनी हद्द तक का कपड़ा वह बना सके और इतनी हद्द तक की चीजें ये बना सकें, इस तरह की कोई योजना बनाकर जबतक उनकी रक्षा का प्रयत्न नहीं किया जायगा, तब तक काम नहीं चल सकता।

घंटी तो बज गयी है, मुझे अभी बातें तो बहुत कहनी थीं, लेकिन मैं अब उनको कहने के लिए आग्रह नहीं करूँगा और मैं केवल एक चीज कहकर बैठ जाऊँगा। शिक्षा के सम्बन्ध में मैं आपसे कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। शिक्षा की विधि आज हमारी यह बन गयी है कि यह तमाम स्कूल, कालिजों की पढ़ाई और अक्षर ज्ञान, इसी तरह सारी शिक्षा चलाई जा रही है, और एकमात्र उद्देश्य यह रहता है कि किसी प्रकार वहाँ से डिग्रियाँ प्राप्त करके सरकारी नौकरियों में प्रविष्टि हुआ जा सके, जिसका नतीजा यह हो रहा है कि हमारे देश में हाथ से काम करने वालों और खेतों में अनाज पैदा करने वाले हैंड्स कम होते जा रहे हैं,

[श्री अल्लू राय शास्त्री]

आज हमारी हालत यह हो गयी है कि हम अमरीका से गेहूँ मंगाकर उनको फोड़ करते हैं और कर्जा लेते हैं तो उसका तो परिणाम यही होगा कि कर्जा खिलाये, पूत बिकार्यो। हम दिन प्रतिदिन पराधीन होते जाते हैं और इस तरह हम यहां के लोगों के काम करने वालों के हाथ पांव में बेड़ियां बांध देते हैं। पढ़ाई का ढंग ऐसा होना चाहिये कि जिससे वह जाकर खुद अपने हाथ से काम करें और देश के उत्पादन कार्य को बढ़ायें, न कि इस प्रकार की शिक्षा उन्हें दी जाय जिससे शिक्षा प्राप्त करके सुफ़ेद हाथियों की तरह से नौकरी के लिए उनकी दरखास्त भ्राजाय कि उनको इम्प्लायमेंट दिया जाय, और फिर डेफिसिट फाइनेंसिंग तो हमारी है ही बस कागज के नोट छापते चले जावो, तो इस तरह से तो कोई देश तरक्की नहीं कर सकता। वास्तव में घन वह कागज के नोट नहीं हैं, वास्तविक घन तो श्रम ही है, और श्रम दे नहीं पाते, श्रम हम फिक्टीशियस देते हैं, एक आष कागज की फाइल पलटवा देते हैं, लेकिन उन कागज की फाइलों के पलटने से न वो हमको एक पत्ती चाय की मिलती है और न ही अनाज का एक कण मिलता है। इस तरह के कार्यों को काम समझकर और निरन्तर सुफेदपोशों की जमात को बढ़ाते रहना और अपनी शिक्षा और सामाजिक स्ट्रक्चर को ऐसा बनाना, में एक अभिशाप समझता हूं। जिस देश में बाहर से अन्न मंगाया जाता हो और वह देश जिसको सदा से कृषि प्रधान देश माना गया है, वहां यह बात चलती रहे, तो यह हमारे लिए बड़ी लज्जा की बात है। हमने यह चेष्टा नहीं की कि छोटे २ उद्योग धंधों को छोटे आकार पर चलाकर, जैसे कुओं को पक्के करवाना और खुदवाना और एहत लगाना आदि ऐसे काम करने की और हमारा ध्यान नहीं गया जिससे हमारी देश में अनाज की

पैदावार बढ़ सके, उन कार्यों की ओर हमारा ध्यान कम गया है और यही कारण है कि हमें जितने विकास की आशा थी, उसको पूरा नहीं कर पाये हैं। इन शब्दों के साथ में अधिक समय न लेता हूँ अपने भाषण को समाप्त करता हूँ और मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करूंगा कि :

“न कश्चिदवमन्येत, सर्वस्य शृणुयान्मतम्”

कौटिल्य का जो वाक्य है उसमें यह कहा गया है कि लोगों की बात सुन्नी चाहिये और किसी को तिरस्कृत और अपमानित न करना चाहिए और यह एटीच्यूड कि ‘आई डोफ्ट क्वेयर फार यू’, न रखकर हमको अपने शासन की व्यवस्था ठीक प्रकार से चलाानी चाहिये। चूँकि अभी २ उपशिक्षा मंत्री यहाँ आकर बैठ गये हैं, इसलिए जो ख्याल आगवा है उसको कन्द शब्दों में व्यक्त किये देता हूँ . . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It does not mean that whenever any new Minister comes in, the hon. Member should start again!

श्री अल्लू राय शास्त्री : और यह बात मुझे इसलिए भी बहुत आवश्यक प्रतीत हुई कि इस समय हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश में अध्यापकों की हड़ताल चल रही है और मेरा आप से कहना है कि उसकी तरफ आपका ध्यान देना जरूरी है। केन्द्र को सहायता देने के साथ यह देखना भी जरूरी है कि किसी स्टेट में कोई किसी किस्म की इमरजेंसी तो नहीं हो गयी है, वहां की सिचुएशन को मौका बेमौका देखने के लिए और उस पर कंट्रोल रखने के लिए प्रदेशों की सरकार से मिलजुलकर सहयोग की भावना से, शासक अथवा बड़े के रूप में नहीं, किन्तु एक सहयोगी के रूप में केन्द्र को अपना पार्ट अदा करना चाहिए। बस मेरा इतना ही निवेदन है।

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): I am sitting by his side only to sympathise with him!

Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal): We are considering the Finance Bill at a time when famine stalks the land and when scarcity prevails over a wide area affecting crores of people even according to the statement of the Finance Minister in this House and when unemployment and retrenchment are assuming staggering proportions. Even in such a situation we heard only yesterday from an hon. Member of the other side that the Finance Minister is concerned with the creation of a psychological atmosphere. Maybe, they are utilising the results of their studies in social tensions, but for us they are hard realities and so far as we can see these proposals of the Finance Minister contain taxation measures for the people who are already overburdened with so many taxes. Take for instance the duty on betel nut. It may appear to be a very minor thing. But, if you consider the trade implications of it, you will see that it yields revenue of crores of rupees every year as you can find from the Budget papers supplied to us. According to the findings of the Indian Central Arecanut Committee appointed by the Government of India in 1949, we know that about 51 lakh maunds of this commodity are consumed in India of which about 25 lakh maunds are grown here. It shows that about 26 lakh maunds of arecanut are imported every year.

The Finance Minister has taken the plea of assistance to the grower—remunerative price—and it is in order to help him get a remunerative price that he is going to increase this import duty but this has to be examined and I shall show how this Government is only shilly-shallying with the interests of the grower and also the consumer. The Government has not taken the question of the high price that is being paid by the consumers. We know that only some ten or twelve days before the Budget proposals were placed before us, in places like Calcutta and roundabout, the price of this commodity rose by Rs. 50 to 60 a maund all of a sudden. May I ask the Finance Minister a question? How can these racketeers, how can these traders in betel nuts know it unless there is some loophole in the Finance Ministry? How did the information leak out that there is going to be taxation on this particular commodity? I can quote from the Arecanut Committee Report itself that one difficulty that stands in the way of the grower getting a high price is—

“the array off middlemen who have stood between the growers and the ultimate consumers

pocketing a considerable proportion of the profit which legitimately ought to go to the growers.”

According to the resolution of the Agriculture Ministry, one of the functions of this Committee is to recommend the maximum and minimum prices to be fixed for arecanut and consider the controlled purchase and distribution of imported arecanut, etc. Arecanut is in shortage and a huge quantity has to be imported from outside where it is very very cheap. It has been recommended by the Committee itself that unless there is some check on the import of this commodity which is available at a very cheap rate outside, the price here would also be very low, and the growers also will be affected. I want the Finance Minister to explain certain anomalies. We know that the revenue we get is about rupees four crores or so but if we calculate the duty that was so long levied, that is, eight annas per lb.—of course, as usual with the Congress Government, there would be some preferential duty, six pies less, that is, 7½ annas for imports from colonies of the British Empire—it will come to about Rs. ten crores. If the statistics given by the Arecanut Committee are correct, then the amount would have been about rupees ten crores. It is a matter of simple calculation. Either this consumption figure is wrong or that of the quantity grown here is wrong or there must be smuggling or there must be something wrong somewhere else. This fact must be explained.

As regards helping the growers, we can do it in various ways, we may have a common pool. There is a suggestion in the report of the Committee itself. You must have some sort of control over the price of this commodity. We know that the present price of this commodity roundabout Calcutta is about Rs. 3-12-0 a seer and about rupees four a seer in the mofussil. Why is it so high? According to the value assessed by this Committee, it will be much less than Rs. 100 per maund but it has been sold for such a high price. So, what we demand is the fixation of the minimum and the maximum price.

10 A.M.

As far as helping the growers is concerned, the Committee has also suggested a proposal to eliminate by gradual stages the import of arecanut into India but it was decided that as it would involve reduction of income to the State for the time being, it was not opportune to move the Government in the matter. How half-hearted

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are their attempts to help the grower? They are concerned only with revenue. They do not want to help the growers or to reduce the import. This would indicate that in the name of the growers, they are going to tax the consumers more and more. We do want that a reasonable minimum price be assured to the growers not only of this commodity but all other commodities, sugar, jute, etc., but we have to see that the incidence of taxation on the consumer does not increase unduly. Here you see the difference is much. If it is imported at a price below Rs. 80 a maund, why should the consumer pay a price of about Rs. 140 per maund? These things have to be taken into consideration. We should keep a watch over the prices ruling in the countries from which this commodity is imported. I have not got the figures regarding its import from each and every country. So far as we can see from the documents we have got, it is imported from Pakistan, from the Straits Settlements, from Ceylon and some other countries. From Pakistan our import is worth more than a crore of rupees per year on an average. When we are spending so many crores of rupees for the import of this commodity and when we see that it is very very cheap outside, we have to see that the importers importing this into India, along with other persons in the trade, do not build up a sort of monopoly and then exploit the consumer. So, unless you fix the minimum and the maximum price or make a common pool or subsidise the indigenous growers, these consumers will be taxed unnecessarily. I have seen in villages poor people mixing palm stones and stones of date palms with this commodity and sometimes it has led to epidemic diseases.

[SHRIMATI RENU CHAKRAVARTY in the Chair]

I was coming to another thing, the question of jute coming from West Bengal. I know how the policy of the Government with regard to jute growers is ruining them. This has been discussed here time and again. Only yesterday, a Congress Member from West Bengal pleaded for the fixation of a minimum price. We have done it here at the time of raising this crop. This year, there was an agitation, a tremendous agitation by the Kisan Sabha and the jute growers in West Bengal for the fixation of its price but the Government is not paying any attention. The Government is only concerned with the

industry, which means the vested interests. In the case of jute, in the case of tea, the industry is entirely controlled by the British magnates. When there was a demand from these magnates that the export price should be reduced, Government, all of a sudden, reduced it from Rs. 180 to Rs. 75. When it is a question of industrialists, Government readily takes up their suggestions but when it is a question of the sugarcane grower, the jute grower, or for the matter of that the cultivator of any other commercial crop, Government do not pay any heed to them. I would urge upon the Government to reconsider this question of the fixation of minimum price of jute and unless that is done, the people would suffer much and the targets in the Five Year Plan, so far as jute is concerned, would not be fulfilled. Already we see some sort of contradiction in the Government policy. On the one hand they are asking the workers and growers to produce more, to grow more, and when they exert more, what is the reward they get? There is retrenchment, there is this reduction in prices below cost of production. So they do not get even living wages. So is the case with other commodities. Only this morning we heard so much about tea on which again the consumer is going to be taxed. All of a sudden something has been brought in. A lot of propaganda has been done that this year there is not so much of taxation. Tea is an article which is consumed by all people, beginning from the common worker to a man in the highest rank of society. So, when you tax this commodity, the incidence of taxation falls heavily on the common people. You are pursuing a policy which is calculated to emasculate and fleece the people and please the industrialists, particularly the vested interests of the foreign countries.

I have to refer to another matter to which reference has already been made just now by the President of the UPCC. In this connection, I shall only refer to the speech of the hon. Member from Birbhum, who now occupies a seat on the Treasury Benches—he is not in the House now, unfortunately. That would be sufficient to indicate how the Government is dealing with the question of education. I am quoting from Mr. Chanda's speech:

"It is too sad, too pitiable to refer to the condition of the primary school system in the country and the sad plight of the teachers—both in the primary and the secondary schools.....I hope

at least a scale of salary equal to that paid to the lowest man in the Government offices will be paid to our teachers."

Here is a question of new taxation. I shall show how they are frittering away money, spending a lot of money for a few children belonging to the rich, belonging to the highest ranks in society. I again quote from Mr. Chanda's speech:

"...I read in the report submitted by the Education Ministry that the two public schools—the Lawrence schools—at Lovedale and Sanawar consume no less than 14½ lakhs of our money for—it is said—the training in leadership in the country of 699 boys and girls. That works out at the rate of Rs. 2,000 per capita per annum—a sum which I am ashamed to admit many of our mofussil colleges do not pay to the teachers. I wonder what is the type of leaders that these schools are going to inflict upon the country. I hope when the hon. Maulana Saheb gives his reply, he will kindly tell us something about the mysteries of these Etons and Harrows of India."

When in the UP or in some other place, teachers agitate for some increment of their pay, they are imprisoned and punished. You know how the teachers in this country whether they are serving in a college or a primary school or a secondary school are suffering untold miseries. Sometimes, they get only Rs. 25 per month. Under such circumstances, when the Government is spending a lot of money, lakhs of rupees, to give education to a small number of rich children, the children of the common people do not get an opportunity even for primary education. Teachers do not even get minimum wages and they have to court imprisonment for this purpose. I would also remind the hon. Minister of Education Maulana Azad and Mr. Chanda about his speech last year about Viswabharati, from which he comes. We all want that that institution be given more money so that it may grow in the proper manner. But, is there nothing wrong? It must be seen that the several lakhs of rupees that were paid last year, and the several lakhs that have been provided in the Budget for this year, are not mis-spent or are not used in a manner which will not befit the memory of Rabindranath Tagore.

Shri N. M. Lingam (Coimbatore):
The Finance Minister was saying the

other day that a sense of weariness was creeping upon him, hearing the speeches in this House. I am sorry he is not here now. But, I am afraid that sense has spread slowly to the entire House itself, both speakers and listeners alike. (*An Hon. Member:* Question.) After all, we have been discussing the same problems ever since this session began with the discussion on the Address of the President, again and again. If there is anything common in the speeches, it is that the pace at which Government is going ahead with measures for the amelioration of the conditions of the people is slow. To my mind, that is the burden of the song, and if this one lesson is borne in upon the Government and the Finance Minister, I think the purpose of this protracted debate will have been served amply.

The financial proposals of the Finance Minister are debatable, but I look at them from this point of view. My view is that however grand in conception they may be, in however grand a manner they may be executed, the proposals are not going to usher in the millennium in our land, because the fundamental fact remains that we are in a very low stage of development, and in an under-developed economy the problems are so great that we cannot achieve any appreciable degree of progress with however salutary a measure of taxation. We have the spectacle in this country of production showing an increase, of prices having attained a measure of stability, of our foreign trade having expanded, and, side by side, we have the spectacle of the most abject poverty and misery of the people. How can the Finance Minister reconcile these two pictures? The conclusion is inescapable that because the country is hopelessly under-developed, the measures of the Government do not affect the people. The financial proposals have as their background the Budget and the Five Year Plan. As a matter of fact, it is only a formality that we do in passing this measure, because the Budget proposals embodying these proposals in the Finance Bill have already been discussed by the House, and the Appropriation Bill has also been passed. So, I think, if we debate on the Finance Bill, it is only to discuss here and there about the adequacy or otherwise of relief given to the taxpayer.

The time is short and the occasion for dealing with detailed measures will be when we deal with each clause of

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the Bill. Now, we have to see if the impact of the financial proposals on the people is calculated to give them any hope if not any tangible relief. As the Prime Minister said somewhere, this generation of people in our country is condemned to hard labour. It is an irony that so soon after the attainment of political independence, the country should be called upon to undergo sacrifices on an unprecedented scale, because, without sacrifice and effort, there is no possibility of our achieving our objectives, *viz.*, of solving our problems and of raising the standard of living of our people.

But the prospect is not so bleak as it appears to be, nor is the country devoid of vital resources necessary to enable a marathon effort to be launched into execution. The Indian has survived a thousand years of slavery and suffering, and he has for ages experimented with the question of with how little he can get on in this world. And given proper guidance, given proper inspiration, the country can rise to a man to further the objectives of the Government which are sought to be embodied in the Five Year Plan.

Does the Five Year Plan fulfil the purpose of planning and of producing on a scale which will, in the shortest possible time, raise the condition of the masses of this country? In the words of an economist, "within the limitations of our institutional framework, inherited backward economy and the democratic process of development, it does; with a more pronounced accent on egalitarianism, we could perhaps have gone farther and faster. This may be a matter for regret, but not for cantankerous and sabotaging criticism." What I want to lay stress on is this: The Finance Minister may get wearied of speeches, but he cannot escape from the impression so unmistakably brought to bear upon him in this House that the progress of measures of Government is slow. Even within the existing framework, institutional and otherwise, I feel there is ample scope for increasing the tempo of developmental and welfare activity. In other words, I ask the Finance Minister if the country is galvanized for a grand effort. Has he succeeded in energising the people for achieving the goal he has set before them? The success of the financial proposals and of the Five Year Plan, which has the financial proposals as its bulwark, depends largely on the degree to which the masses rally round the proposals of the Govern-

ment. But, in order to bring about such a consummation, I feel the measures of the Government do not go far enough.

In the short time at my disposal I shall attempt to deal only with one or two aspects of the implementation of the Five Year Plan. The Plan deals extensively with the changes in the administrative set-up of the country and public co-operation. To me it appears that these proposals do not go to the heart of the matter at all, because there is too much of centralisation both at the Centre with regard to the States, and at the State level with regard to the districts. Ours is a huge country. Our districts are bigger than some of the sovereign States in the West. I know villages and corners in districts which have not been visited even by local officials and local non-official agencies like the district board. So, it is of the utmost importance that power should devolve upon the people at the district level. The machinery that is sought to be created by the Planning Commission at the district level does not serve the purpose in view. My view is that there must be non-officials statutorily associated with the administration at the district level. Unless this is done at every stage, in the administration of the district, the attitude of the present officials will not change. We may supply all the missing links, we may even inaugurate the extension service which is intended to fill the gap between the villages and the Government machinery, but even then, in order to radically change the outlook and attitude of the Government servants, the structure of the Government must be radically altered. I speak with some experience in the work of the development projects at the district level. So, it is absolutely of great moment that the task of overhauling the administrative set-up should receive the earliest possible attention of the Government. Government cannot put off this question on the ground of lack of finance.

Then there is the question of public co-operation. As I said in the beginning, public co-operation will not be forthcoming, if the attitude of the Government servants continues to be what it is. I know it is available potentially in an abundant measure. But unless the people realise that the measures of the Government touch their life vitally, in their day to day activities, they will not respond. Too much reliance is placed on the role of local bodies like district boards and

co-operatives in the implementation of the Plan. I am afraid this would not prove a success in the working of the Plan. They are not working properly. The co-operative movement is a movement around which the masses do not rally enthusiastically and local bodies also are in a moribund condition, and powerless to do positive good to the people. While pious hopes are expressed in the Plan about the role of these bodies at the lowest level, in actual fact, however, these institutions do not function properly at all. So, I would like to impress on the Government and the Planning Commission the need for energising these institutions at the bottom.

Finally, I would like to refer to one question relating to my constituency. My constituency comprises within it a hill-station known throughout the country, as the queen of hill-stations. Two or three big hydel schemes are under execution, but the problem of soil erosion and disafforestation has caused such havoc that a power cut had to be imposed, of about 70 per cent. on the generation of power in these schemes. This hill-station is a natural watershed which occupies a great place in the economy of South India as a whole. Not only does it produce power, but it also feeds the rivers and projects below at Lower Bhavaní and other places. If the Government do not have any scheme of arresting this soil erosion and disafforestation, then these hydel schemes costing crores of rupees, will go to waste, and the big irrigation projects in the State will also suffer, resulting in untold miseries to the people. I would urge upon the Finance Minister, because the State Government is utterly helpless in this matter, to sanction a special subsidy or grant for the maintenance of these catchment areas in these hill-stations, and also to develop economically these hill-stations, which, of late, have suffered grievously. I refer in particular to the facilities obtaining in the hill-stations for the development of tourist traffic.

Shri Damodara Menon (Kozhikode): The previous speaker, Mr. Lingam referred to the sense of weariness that is coming on the Finance Minister. I am sorry the Finance Minister was not here when he spoke, and that is why I am referring to it now. He said that that sense of weariness is not confined to the Finance Minister alone, but that it is spreading in this House. But I would go a step further and say that there is a sense of weariness not only in this House but in the country as a whole. That sense of weariness has come partially because of the pecu-

liar political and economic situation in which we find ourselves today, and also because the people are tired of hearing the same lame excuses from the Government Benches, in the course of their reply to the many complaints and suggestions that are made. Sir...

Shri R. K. Chaudhury (Gauhati): On a point of order, Madam. Would your mind being addressed as 'Sir', because one of your predecessors said that she had no objection to it, because we were addressing the Chair?

Mr. Chairman: I think it is all right, because I have already stated that the Chair has no sex. You can address it as you like.

Shri Damodara Menon: I request that the time Mr. Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri took by way of interruption may be taken note of, and given to me.

An Hon. Member: It must be deleted from the Congress quota.

Shri Raghavaiah (Ongole): From the Cabinet quota.

Shri Damodara Menon: The Congress speakers today were referring to popular co-operation. Mr. Aigu Rai Shastri said that if a Ministry of Popular Co-operation is created, this problem could be solved. Mr. Lingam was more critical and said that popular co-operation cannot be obtained, if the progress of Government's measures is slow and continues to move at the same pace. I do not think that a miracle would be created in the political and economic atmosphere of this country, and the necessary popular co-operation and enthusiasm generated, if we merely have a Minister of Popular Co-operation. The creation of a Ministry may be good, and it may help some Congress Members to find places on the Treasury Benches. But popular co-operation will come only, if necessary programmes which enthuse the public are adopted by the Government. When such programmes are presented, there is always a reluctance on the part of the Treasury Benches to accept them. They find specious excuses; they may be logical, they may also have some economic background in the orthodox economic theories to which they are pledged today. But I would urge on the Finance Minister to view this problem from a psychological point of view also.

Today we are in the process of creating a new India. The Five Year Plan is said to be in work, and every one wants popular co-operation. But how are you going to generate that? How are you going to release popular energy in this great and gigantic task of re-

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building India? That can be done, only if people know that there is justice in the economic distribution of this country. There is talk about production alone. What about distribution? In the economic policy programme, it has been mentioned that there must be equal distribution in the country, and that the production must be distributed to the people in a just manner. As we are thinking in terms of production, so also you must have a definite programme of distribution. And it is here that you have miserably failed.

Mr. Algu Rai Shastri referred to the talks that recently took place between the Prime Minister and Shri Jai Prakash Narain. I do not know how far he developed the idea, for, I was not able to follow him fully. But I must say that when this programme was presented, a programme which is based on certain principles which will enthuse the people and create the necessary psychological atmosphere in which the Five Year Plan has to be worked, the Congress leadership found that there was nothing intrinsically wrong with that programme, but still they found it impossible to accept it. And one prominent Congress Member, the Secretary-General of the Congress Party, wrote in a local newspaper that the programme did not go far enough. It was also said that the Congress programme did not go far enough. If the programme which was submitted to the Prime Minister by Shri Jai Prakash Narain. But what is the difficulty? If the Congress has really got a more radical programme, why is it not possible for the Congress Government to implement it? Where is the hitch? Who is preventing them? Is it the administrative service personnel, or the economic advisers of the Government of India, whose theories are that it will not be possible for us to go on with the scheme of nationalisation or even to limit the field of private profit motive in our economic enterprises? If they are doing that, then they are doing a disservice to the country. I do not know whether the permanent servants and the officers are the policy-makers of the Government of India. The policy of the Government of India must be framed at a high level by the Congress Party itself, and if that policy has been framed and is placed before the country and accepted by the Government, it must be the duty of the administrative service to implement that, and find out ways and means of implementing it. They would not be doing their duty properly, if they start finding out methods to obstruct the progress of these programmes.

Last time, I referred to the nationalisation of banks and insurance. The Finance Minister said that it would not be possible in the present context of Indian economy to accept it. I do not want to weary him further by refuting his arguments. It is not because there is not enough argument in favour of that proposition. He himself was rather lukewarm in defending his position. He felt that there is a strong case for nationalisation of banking and insurance, but of course, in his own orthodox and conservative way, he felt that in the present mixed economy, to which the Government stand pledged, there is no need to have insurance and banking nationalised.

But today I am placing before him another proposal, for the progressive development of State trading. There has been a lot of discussion about it in this House. Government, as usual, are not against it. But they are very reluctant to go further in that field. Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, when he was replying to the debate on the Demands for Grants in respect of the Commerce and Industry Ministry, said that he himself had no objection to nationalise the export trade in jute. But he said that there might be the attendant risks. There may be losses, and when we are entering into the field of trade, there will be profits as well as losses, and he said that the Government were not prepared to undertake that risk. Of course, he did not say at that time that they had not enough personnel to man this kind of work. The Finance Minister would probably say the same old excuse that they do not have proper personnel to undertake this kind of responsibility. But when I read the Government Resolution on Industrial Policy, I saw that the Government were thinking in terms of creating a body of men trained in business methods and management. That was in 1948, when they were thinking of that. But what has happened after that?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): That was when you were with us.

Shri Damodara Menon: In 1948 it was thought that a body of men should be trained. But now it is 1953. What is the progress that has been made? I am not saying that I did not agree with you. But I am only telling you that you were not serious in this business; you yourself have said in 1948 that you were thinking in terms of training a body of men. But I ask: Have you done that? During the last five years, you had an opportunity of doing that.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Mysore): You were not a Minister then.

An Hon. Member: They are still thinking.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Doing that.

Shri Damodara Menon: I am glad the Finance Minister is even now in the process of implementing that idea.

Well, I do not know how long you will take to train such personnel. We are seeing today a number of educated youngmen coming out of colleges having no work and yet the specious plea is brought forward that we have no trained personnel! Why not give them training in six or seven months? You can then have enough number of men to manage any one of these industries—I am speaking of State trading. You can really have enough men to undertake that responsibility. I would urge on the Finance Minister, therefore, to consider whether it is not time for us to undertake State trading especially in the export trade. The Planning Commission in its report on trade and commerce has stated that now our export trade has dwindled considerably. They have further said that in view of the large imports we have to undertake during the Plan period, it is necessary for us to have more exports so that we may have enough foreign exchange for the purchase of the necessary machinery and other things for implementing our Five Year Plan.

Now, the Government or the Finance Minister himself is thinking along these lines because only yesterday he introduced a Bill the main purpose of which was to induce export trade. If that is our policy and we want export trade to develop and the State thinks that it must have a great deal of control, let us as a beginning nationalise export trade especially in jute, textiles, tea, pepper, coffee and other materials. Now, what stands in the way of the Government undertaking such a State trading policy, I fail to understand. I find that about 54 per cent. of our export trade is taken up by tea, textiles and also jute. Now, if we immediately nationalise this export trade, it will be possible for us to plan our exports and also earn exchange, and wherever possible, also barter with other countries who will be able to supply us necessary materials for our development programme.

I want particularly to refer to State trading in some of the products which Malabar and that part of the country from which I come produce. We are exporting pepper, cardamom, coffee, (though not to an appreciable extent) coir products and cashew nuts, from Malabar and the neighbouring regions.

These are crops which are peculiar to that region. My complaint has always been that the Government of India and also the State Government have not been paying sufficient attention to the development of these cash crops. These crops can be grown only in the peculiar climatic conditions of that region—cashew and other crops—and it will be a folly if we do not develop these crops. Now the complaint is that the producer is not able to get enough out of this trade because there are a number of middlemen who exploit him. Will it not be possible for the Government, therefore, to undertake State trading in all these commodities and eliminate the middlemen and to see that the producer gets a fair deal? So, I would urge upon the Finance Minister to think in terms of nationalising export trade, to begin with. It may be possible for us to extend it to the internal market also so that the middlemen may be eliminated and the producer will get a fair deal and the consumers also will not suffer.

Another point I want to touch before I close refers particularly to my district—the nationalisation of forests. In Malabar there is a peculiar condition prevailing which you do not find in the rest of India, and that is that the forests in that area are owned by private individuals. The forests of Malabar are very valuable and it would be a great national waste if indiscriminate exploitation takes place and these forests are destroyed. I find that a valuable forest at Nilambur which belonged to a private *jenmi* is now very likely to be destroyed almost completely.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Silent valley!

Shri Damodara Menon: Let me finish my train of thought. The Nilambur railway has been recently constructed, and one of the considerations that prevailed on the Government to rebuild this railway was that the Nilambur forest may be exploited more fully. I find the family has already divided itself into 112 shareholders. If this forest which is about 200 square miles in area is also going to be divided into 112 bits and if they are sold out to private individuals, it will be a great national waste. I am told that this particular forest is so rich in timber that we can very easily start a newsprint factory in that area. Some experts. I am told, have gone into that question and they have recommended that this particular area is quite suitable for the cultivation of the mulberry tree from which paper pulp can be produced.

[Shri Damodara Meason]

In view of these considerations, it would be a great national loss if this forest is left in private hands and allowed to be wasted by indiscriminate exploitation. I would, therefore, request the Central Government to take the initiative in this matter and see that that forest is immediately nationalised and brought under Government control.

Shri C. D. Fande (Naini Tal Distt. cum Almora Distt.—South West cum Bareilly Distt.—North): I do not find myself in the happy position of extending congratulations to the Finance Minister. Somehow or other he has been successful in creating a notion in the House and outside that this year's Budget is a very welcome one. It is welcome in the sense that there is no further taxation, though this morning we have seen a further measure of taxation on tea. And then the notion that India is a lightly-taxed country and there is further scope for taxation is an erroneous one.

The other day in the earlier stages of the discussion on this Budget one of the senior Members of this House, Mr. Gadgil, went to the extent of saying that even those who have got the average *per capita* income can be taxed, and there is room for taxation. I was amazed to hear that statement because the *per capita* income of this country is Rs. 251. If an average family is taken, then the income comes to about Rs. 1000 or Rs. 1100. Does he really suggest that people having an income of Rs. 1100 a year should be taxed? This is beyond comprehension—that a senior Member like him should bring forward such a suggestion. Nobody will ever accept the suggestion. Even the very mention of the suggestion pains people when people are groaning under the tax burden: when senior Members here say that there is further scope for taxation, people feel they are being mocked. The poverty of the people of this country is mocked by such statements. I wish that our Finance Minister would have achieved at least what the Conservative Chancellor of the Exchequer in England has achieved—which we have seen in this morning's papers. He has given relief in so many items of necessity that people in Great Britain feel greatly grateful to their Chancellor of the Exchequer who is supposed to be a Conservative. In this country, the only thing that the Finance Minister has done is that he has extended the exemption limit in the income tax from Rs. 3,600 to Rs. 4,200. We are grateful to him for this little mercy. But

I can tell you that this mercy is not due to his kindness to the assessee but because the department finds it difficult to realise 80 lakhs of rupees from 70,000 assessee—that means almost Rs. 100 or Rs. 110 per assessee. The expenditure on this collection is enormous. I wish he should have extended this exemption limit to Rs. 4800 at least because the time has come when people should realise that people with Rs. 400 a month are really poor people. There is no taxable margin in that income. People with Rs. 400—most of us have got our nephews and cousins in service or employment who make Rs. 400 a month—have so many responsibilities, large families etc. Do you think that they can afford even the payment of Rs. 150 a year on taxes?

He also went to the extent of saying that excluding export duties and import duties on luxury goods, the tax incidence on the poor man is Rs. two *per capita*. It is beyond my comprehension how he has come to this conclusion. When he considers the taxation incidence in this country, he should not only see what he taxes. There are three agencies of taxation in this country, the local board—either municipal boards or districts boards—the States and then the Centre. In the Centre, the *per capita* taxation is Rs. 12. in the States, it is Rs. 13 to Rs. 14, generally speaking and then again in the local boards it is Rs. 13 to Rs. 14. Now, it all comes to about Rs. 40/- *per capita*, in a country where the *per capita* income is such a meagre sum as Rs. 251. The taxable margin in Rs. 251 is very small and to think that Rs. 40 *per capita* is small taxation is really nothing but absurd. Because, for an average family it comes to about Rs. 160. Do you think that a family earning Rs. 1000 a year can be able to pay Rs. 160 as taxes? Of course, there may be bigger groups and smaller groups. But when I speak, I refer to averages and I compare averages with averages. On an income of Rs. 1000, the taxation of Rs. 160 is by no means insignificant.

Then, I come to the question of how progressively the administration is getting costlier. In only one item, you will see—I do not know how it has escaped the notice of the Finance Minister—in the collections of customs and excise duties, the net expenditure on collection was Rs. 855 lakhs. Last year from Rs. 855 lakhs it has jumped to Rs. 23 crores. That is a big jump, a jump of Rs. 15 crores in one year. It is really an astonishing figure. You

are looking here and there for taxation; you are taxing arecanut, you are taxing small incomes and you have spent Rs. 15 crores more in realising a much smaller sum than in the previous years. In the previous year, the collection from these duties was in the neighbourhood of.....

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: We transferréd excise duties to the States.

Shri C. D. Pande: But the cost of collection is there.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is included there.

Shri C. D. Pande: In any case, what I mean to say is that you have not been able to show any economy. When I come to the question of economy, I would like to say that the Government has not made any serious or even sincere efforts to reduce expenditure on administration.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Not a tax collecting agency.

Mr. Chairman: I would request the hon. Member to proceed.

Shri C. D. Pande: I take the Ministry itself. How is it justifiable that there should be as many as 40 Ministers in this country? After all in England they have got 60 Ministers, but in England there is no State Government or any intermediary Government. We have got our State Governments, which are discharging some of the functions of the Central Government in other countries. What is the justification for the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health? These two Ministries can be eliminated from the scene without any loss to the country.

Then there is the question of Planning and Production Ministries. It surpasses my comprehension why these two Ministries are necessary. There is the Planning Commission which formulates the Plan, which is a competent authority composed of three or four able members. There is the Planning Minister and there is the Production Minister. In ordinary circumstances, the Planning Commission makes the Plan and it is the duty and function of the Production Minister to carry out or execute that Plan.

Even in the matter of the Labour Ministry, it can be attached to some other Ministry, because the work of the Labour Ministry is not a whole-time job here. What I want to emphasise is that there should be some sincere effort in reducing expenditure.

53 P.S.D.

When I say one Minister, it does not indicate only Rs. 50,000 a year that we spend on a Minister, but the whole staff, paraphernalia, that is, Secretary, Private Secretary to the Secretary, Additional Secretary, Private Secretary to the Additional Secretary, Joint Secretary and so on. So the creation of a Ministry means at least an expenditure of ten lakhs of rupees. I do not say this in a spirit of criticism. What I want to say is, 'Realise whether there is work for 40 Ministers in this country'. Are you right in taking the analogy of the British Government because there is no intermediary Government in Great Britain? The entire State is managed by local boards or by the Government of Great Britain. Here the functions that this Government is discharging are to some extent duplicated. The States have bigger paraphernalia and they have got the requisite machinery and it is their function to look after the education and the public health, and even labour. So, there is no necessity of adumbrating such a vast administration in this country.

Then I come to the question of nationalisation. I am not really for nationalisation if there is no administrative machinery for it. But, there are certain things where nationalisation is absolutely necessary. I refer to the Imperial Bank. This Bank yields a net profit of Rs. 130 lakhs a year. This is not big sum in itself, though it is a big sum in the sense that if you increase the exemption limit of income tax from Rs. 4200 to Rs. 4800, this will meet the deficit that will be created by such extension of the limit. But, this is not the main thing that I want to refer to. The Imperial Bank is living on the prestige, on the amounts that Government leaves with it and on its custom and patronage. It is with these that they are making such a huge profit. It is really restricting the sphere of activities of other banks. If you take away that patronage, or if you create your own agency through the Reserve Bank, then you can get profit to the extent of at least one crore of rupees and that in itself will be an equitable act because there are other banks which will not stand any competition with a bank which is subsidised by the Government, and the profits go to individuals.

In this way, I want to appeal to the Government that they should devote their attention to economy and they should seriously consider how far they can economise in the administration and to what extent they can afford relief to the poor tax-payers of this country.

Shri Matthen (Thiruvellah): I rise to support this Bill. In doing that I invite the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to the possible repercussion of the welcome but unexpected Russian foreign policy on world economy and more particularly on our economy. I am sure he did not anticipate this when he prepared his Budget. That was in the days of the cold war. Does he anticipate a general fall in prices? What will be the possible reaction on re-armament? What will be the reaction on price levels although no dramatic development is expected? How will it affect our revenue? How will it affect our customs revenue and the foreign aid which you are expecting for our Five Year Plan? Ultimately, how will this affect the financing of the Plan itself? I am only just provoking his thoughts, to set him thinking on possible unemployment. One wishes to develop this idea, but during the precious 15 minutes, one cannot afford to indulge in this.

However much one may like to discuss the problems of one's own State—and mine is one that is so far away from the throne of grace—time does not allow me to do so. At a time when the States find it difficult to provide their own share of finance for the Five Year Plan, at least one or two Ministries of the Central Government are trying to deprive Travancore-Cochin of its legitimate share of revenue. Due to the luck of the hon. Minister concerned, the grants of the N.R.S.R. Ministry did not come up for discussion. Mineral sands like monazite and ilmenite have been a source of revenue for years and years to my State. Originally, there were four companies which had the licence to work these sands. But even before integration, the Travancore Government had taken over three of the four companies. There is now only one firm remaining. Its licence also was cancelled when the period expired. It is now working as a contractor to the State. I am referring to Haffkine and Williams. The monazite and ilmenite industry is a nationalised industry entirely owned by the Travancore-Cochin State. This company is merely given the minimum cost of manufacturing plus a portion of the profits viz. one-fourth but the mineral belongs to the State and they fix the price, the quantity for export etc. The company is working on a yearly basis as a contractor and not as a licensee. Haffkine & Williams started with a licence ten years ago, but today they have not got one.

11 A.M.

The unfortunate part is that the importance of thorium and uranium

which are taken out of monazite, and titanium which is taken out of ilmenite has attracted the notice of the Central Government, which apparently feels jealous of the possibilities which are held out to my poor State. This industry is entirely my State's property, but with this bad eye, the Central Government wanted to take it. They could not come by the front door. So, with a very clever mind, they are trying to come by the back door. Recently, they went to London and according to my information, they have arranged to buy the controlling interests of Haffkine & Williams' shares. Some eight months ago, I had a conference with the Secretary of the N.R.S.R. Ministry. Inadvertently he told me that they were going to take over Haffkine & Williams with a view to bringing some more industries to Travancore-Cochin. I asked him whether he had consulted my State. He could not answer properly. Naturally, I had a duty by my State and I informed them of the clever manner in which the N.R.S.R. Ministry was trying to deprive them of the industry which has been theirs for years and years. I can understand the Central Government buying up this industry from Haffkine & Williams if they had a licence, but this company has not got a licence and it is only a contractor in a nationalised industry. So, as I said, they are trying to come through the back door. This is their clever manoeuvre. I do not know whether it is a decent one. I have no admiration for clever people. We once had a clever administrator in my State and the taste of it is still in my mouth. This Ministry has a clever Secretary. As recently as March 28, a question was asked in the Travancore-Cochin Legislature as to whether negotiations were going on with the Central Government in the matter of their taking over the shares from Haffkine & Williams. "Certainly not" was the reply given by the Minister concerned. I have a letter dated even earlier from which I find that the Chief Minister of Travancore-Cochin wrote to the Prime Minister about the alleged taking over. I am sorry I cannot enlarge on this matter within fifteen minutes. All I say is that the Central Government must withdraw from this field. My State says only this. "We do not want you to work this industry". This company is on a year to year basis. It is working as a contractor. I asked what was the price of the share, because my information was that it was a private limited company and it is not known whether any dividend has been paid by the company. The Ministry replied that they are negotiating with the Prime

Minister. Whenever they lose ground on the merits of the case, they immediately go to the Prime Minister, who is I believe the Minister in charge of the Atomic Energy Commission. In all earnestness I am asking the N.R.S.R. Ministry to withdraw from this field. Let us develop this industry. Whatever you may want to develop, we are at your disposal.

In this connection, I would remind the hon. Minister that the Rare Earth Co. was started in Travancore to manufacture atomic materials from monazite and they have entered into an agreement with my State Government to supply monazite—some 1000 or 1500 tons—at £ 25 a ton. The world price is in the neighbourhood of £250 per ton. If you multiply the difference of £ 225 by 1500, you will see how much profit there is. I was told that the N.R.S.R. Ministry's pilot plant made a profit of Rs. four to five lakhs. The profit they are alleged to have made is less than the difference in the price at which they are getting monazite from my State. I request the Finance Minister to consider this inequitable contract between my State and the Centre. It is an unconscionable contract. Let him make it more reasonable. Please make it something more equitable and less inequitable. I want to tell them we are not Pakistan; we are a part of the Union of India and our industry is their industry. Whatever minerals they want we are prepared to give. And they give £ 25 per ton when the world price is £ 250. Why do they go to the back door and negotiate with Haffkine & Williams in England? It is reported that the Travancore-Cochin Government is not efficiently managing the industry. In other words my suspicion is strengthened that they want to come in through the back door. I want to impress that fact on you and on my colleagues in the House. My request to them is to withdraw from this thing. Leave it to us to work it if we are working it properly. And the Rare Earth Co. is there. It is a joint concern. We are working it properly.

I just wish to say one word about another matter before I finish. On page 21 of the report of the Ministry it is said about the Uranium Thorium Plant.

"Uranium-Thorium Plant.—The Commission is setting up a plant to process the residual cake left

over from monazite after its rare earth and phosphate contents have been extracted in the plant at Alwaye."—Alwaye is in my State—"The cake contains thorium and a small amount of uranium. This new plant is expected to be in operation within the next fifteen months. Some of the thorium will be turned into nitrate for the use of the indigenous gas mantle industry."—That is another industry—"This will make India self-sufficient in this material, which has been imported so far. Limited quantities will also be exported to other countries for strictly commercial use. The rest of the thorium will be retained by the Commission for its own work.... The Commission has also decided to set up a plant to process uranium."

And it is said there that the plant is to be erected in Bombay.

This residual cake which is manufactured in the Rare Earth Factory out of the raw material which we supply and in a factory in which we own half the share, is to be taken all the way to Bombay to make the other processing. When I took up this question at the Committee meeting of the N.R.S.R. Ministry—Party Committee—the Ministry's reply was: we too really want this to be in Travancore-Cochin which wants it to be there, but we could not do so for two reasons (1) there is no sulphuric acid there and (2) electric supply even for the Rare Earth Factory was very inadequate last year, and we suffered. I pointed out that there is a sulphuric acid factory just next door to the Rare Earth Factory, with a capacity of 135 tons per day, which is the biggest factory in the whole of India; and as for electricity it is true that there was a shortage last year but two plant projects will be completed in the course of two or three months and it will have more electricity—in fact they are giving some to the Madras Government. So these two arguments will be met.

I tabled a Short Notice Question. Then, finding that they could not stand on the original grounds, the hon. Minister said: No, no, the Atomic Energy Commission has got a laboratory in Bombay and that laboratory's help is very necessary from hour to hour in the processing of this residual cake; secondly, Dr. Bhabha, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Com-

[Shri Matthen]

mission, is a very important man to watch it and he cannot go to Alwaye. I asked supplementaries. This was not revealed to me at the Party Committee meeting. This is more important. Yesterday I was sitting in the Library with Dr. Saha, and to a question to this officer of the Ministry "why are you taking this away from Travancore to Bombay?" This clever officer pointed out this reason of the Atomic Energy Commission laboratory. Please note that his reply to me was the non-availability of sulphuric acid and inadequate supply of electricity, not the Atomic Energy Commission Laboratory. That was another clever method. What I am saying is, in regard to sulphuric acid and electricity we have got both—and caustic soda also, the biggest plant. Bombay is not much more privileged in the matter of electricity than we are. We have plenty this year. We have got a bigger plant. I am requesting them to have this plant at Alwaye which they are proposing to have at Bombay. I want to bring to your notice that the reason given by the Ministry, namely lack of sulphuric acid and electricity, is repeated yesterday to an hon. colleague of mine who is certainly an undisputed and well recognized scientist. The Atomic Energy Commission laboratory is a pure chemist's, not a physicist's, laboratory. And Dr. Bhabha is a physicist. The Rare Earth Factory has got a laboratory. This can be processed there. However clever a physicist he may be—I do not know, others have known him.....

Mr. Chairman: You will have to conclude, I am afraid.

Shri Matthen: Very well, Madam, I wish this plant to be transferred to Alwaye.

श्री शिवमूर्ति स्वामी (कुण्टगी) : मैंने इस सदन के सामने कर्नाटक की सिचुएशन के बारे में राष्ट्रपति के भाषण पर हुई बहस के दौरान मैं अपना विचार रक्खा था और आज दुबारा फिर मैं अपने भाषण में उसी कर्नाटक की सिचुएशन आप को बतलाना चाहता हूँ। उस वक्त मैंने आप को बतलाया था कि किस प्रकार श्री रामूलू के त्याग से आंध्र का झलज प्रान्त बनना सम्भव हुआ और आंध्र का सवाल हल हो जाने के बाद कर्नाटक में भी वैसी ही सिचुएशन पैदा होगी है और

यह बिल्कुल स्वाभाविक है। आज कर्नाटक में परिस्थिति यह हो गयी है कि हर घर का बच्चा और औरत सब इस कर्नाटक प्रान्त की मांग कर रहे हैं और आज कर्नाटक में भी शंकरगौड़ा, हुबली (Hubli) ताल्लका कांग्रेस के सदरने कर्नाटक प्रान्त बनाये जाने की मांग को स्वीकार कराने के लिए उपवास कर रक्खा है। आज उन के उपवास का उन्नीसवां दिन है और उन का वजन आज करीब पन्द्रह पाँड कम हो गया है। मालूम पड़ता है कि शायद जो कुछ आंध्र में हुआ, उस का रेपीटीशन आज कर्नाटक में हो रहा है।

श्री बेली राम दास (बारपेटा) : अच्छा होगा।

श्री शिवमूर्ति स्वामी : ठीक है, 'अच्छा' उन के लिए होगा जो उत्तर में बसते हैं, और आज अपने २ प्रान्त बना कर मजा करते हैं, उन लोगों को खुशी हो सकती है, लेकिन मेरा तो कहना यह है कि जो इस तरह की हालत पैदा हो जाने पर खुशी जताते हैं और जो इस तरह अपने जीवन को बिताते हैं उन पर लानत है.....

Pandit K. C. Sharma (Meerut Distt.—South): On a point of order, Madam. This word *lanat* is not parliamentary.

Shri Sivamurthi Swami: I am not yielding.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: You shall have to. It is a point of order I am raising. Madam, this word *lanat* is a very bad word and is not permissible. *Lanat* means: curses upon them.

Shri Chattopadhyaya (Vijayavada): I do not think it is a very respectable or a very kindly thing for the hon. Member from the other side to say *achcha hoga* in connection with some body's dying.

Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru): Is it in order.

Mr. Chairman: Yes, it is in order.

श्री शिवमूर्ति स्वामी : शुक्रिया । मैं आप को बतलाऊँ कि आज वहाँ कर्नाटक प्रान्त बनाये जाने के लिए लोगों में प्रबल भावना है और आप वहाँ के कन्नड़ भाषा के अलबार पढ़ें तो पायेंगे कि वहाँ कोई ऐसा दिल नहीं, ऐसा आदमी नहीं जो इस चीज के लिए तड़पता न हो । वहाँ के हर आदमी की नजर इस ओर लगी हुई है । आप से मैं और ज्यादा इस सम्बन्ध में न कहते हुए सिर्फ इतना कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस में आप जितनी मुश्किलत समझते हैं, उतनी तो मुश्किलत नहीं है ।

इस के लिये कैपिटल सिटी बेंगलोर मौजूद है सिर्फ जिस तरह बेलारी का कुछ हिस्सा मैसूर में मिलाया गया है उसी तरह हैदराबाद और बम्बई के तीन और चार जिलों का रिऐडजस्टमेंट हम चाहते हैं । इस से ज्यादा हम कुछ नहीं चाहते । अगर आप इस को कर देंगे तो आसानी से कर्नाटक की कन्नूरल, लिग्विस्टिक और एकानोमिक स्थिति ठीक हो जायेंगी । आप कहते हैं कि आप प्रांतीयवाद खत्म करना चाहते हैं, लेकिन क्या इस तरह वह खत्म हो सकता है ? वह किसी एक जगह के प्रयत्न से खत्म नहीं होता । हम हैदराबाद के लोग दस साल से कर्नाटक के लिये प्रयत्न कर रहे हैं । लिहाजा मैं पुरजोर अंगील करता हूँ कि अगर कर्नाटक प्रान्त अभी नहीं बना तो फिर कर्नाटक वाले जो आवाज उठा रहे हैं मिसगाइडेड एलीमेंट्स का फायदा उठावेंगे और समाज के खिलाफ कार्यवाई करेंगे । आप को यह भी नोट करना होगा । महोदया, मैं आप के तबस्सुत से इस सदन के नेता श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू से यह अपील करना चाहता हूँ कि वह इस सिचुएशन को ध्यान में रखें । यह हाई टाइम है कि आप किसी तरह से हम को यह बताइये कि आंध्र के बनने के कितने दिन बाद हमारा प्रान्त आयेगा । मैं नहीं कहता कि आज बनाइये, या कल बनाइयें, लेकिन हम

चाहते हैं कि आप यह बताइये कि एक साल, दो साल, तीन साल, दस साल, कभी तो कर्नाटक प्रान्त बनेगा या नहीं ।

इस के बाद मैं जो मुश्किलें पेश की जाती हैं उन का जवाब देना चाहता हूँ । कहा जाता है कि सरहद्द पर बहुत झगड़े पैदा होते हैं । कोई झगड़ा पैदा नहीं होता अगर आप म्यूचुअली तमाम बातों सेटल करना चाहते हैं । कोई नहीं चाहता कि दूसरे का हिस्सा हम को मिले । हम सिर्फ यह चाहते हैं कि जो ५१ फी सदी आवादी वाले हमारे गांव या ताल्लुक हैं वह हम को दिये जायें, या अगर वांचू साहब की सिफारिशों के बेसिस पर भी आप तस्फिया करते हैं तो हमारे लिये काफी है । इस से ज्यादा दूसरे प्रान्त का एक गांव भी हम नहीं चाहते । न हम यह चाहते हैं कि हमारा एक भी गांव दूसरे प्रांत में जाय । आंध्र प्रान्त तो आ रहा है, हमें उन लोगों को बर्षाई देनी चाहिये, और मैं श्री रामूलू की हादिक वन्दना करता हूँ कि उन्होंने भाषावार प्रान्तों का दरवाजा खोला । आज नहीं तो कल, कल नहीं तो परसों वह आयेगा और लोगों की ताकत से आयेगा, उन के मरने के बाद आयेगा । शंकर गौडा जैसे दस आदमी मरने के लिये तैयार हैं । लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह कांग्रेसी हुकूमत श्री रामूलू का धब्बा कभी भी अपने ऊपर से नहीं हटा सकती । और इसी तरह के दूसरे धब्बे आज की डिमोक्रेटिक ऐज में वह अपने ऊपर लगाना चाहती है । डिमो-क्रेसी में फास्ट से फोर्स करने के मैं भी विरुद्ध हूँ, लेकिन फास्ट के इन्टेन्शन और मकसद मैं किसी को डाउट नहीं है । आज जो आवाज कर्नाटक के लिये उठ रही है उसे मैं कैसे इस सदन में पहुँचाऊँ ? किस तरह से मैं आप लोगों के दिलों को टटोलूँ । आप के रवैये पर मुझे ताज्जुब मालूम होता है ।

इस के बाद मैं आप से इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि आखिर आप क्यों नहीं समझते

[श्री शिवमूर्ति स्वामी]

हैं? क्या इस तरह के इन्डिजिजुअल मौतों, या स्टेशनों के तोड़ने या रेलों को उखाड़ने के बाद ही आप की आंखें खुलती हैं? आप को इन दोनों सवालों को देखना होगा। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस मोके का फायदा उठा कर आप फोरन ही कर्नाटक प्रान्त के लिये एक हाईकोर्ट जजेज का कमिशन बँटाइये जो दक्षिण भारत में भाषावार प्रान्तों के बनाने में जो मुश्किलें हैं उन पर गौर करें। अगर बाउन्डरी कमिशन से आप को डर है तो आप कम से कम हाईकोर्ट जजेज की एक प्रेलिमिनरी कमेटी बनाइये और देखिये कि कौन सी ऐसी मुश्किलें हैं जिन को दूर न करने से हमारी हुकूमत और देश को घब्रा लग सकता है। और ऐसा वक्त जल्दी ही आ सकता है, इस लिये यह प्रेलिमिनरी कमेटी आप इसी महीने में बैठायें तो बहुत अच्छा होगा। इसी के लिये श्री रामूलू ने उपवास कर के जान दी है। अगर आप इस के लिये अभी ही ऐश्वोरेन्स नहीं देते हैं तो कर्नाटक के लोगों ने मांग की है कि इस सदन में जो कर्नाटक के मेम्बर हैं वह इस सदन से वायकाट करें। और सदन को छोड़ कर चले आयें। उन की यह मांग कांग्रेस के तमाम एम० पी० के कानों में गूँज रही है। आज निजलिंगप्पा साहब यह सोचते हैं कि क्या करें, जब कि उन की आवाज सिर्फ हवा में उड़ रही है, लेकिन आप असली हालत का जायजा नहीं लेते हैं। कर्नाटक के लोग शान्तिवादी हैं, और महात्मा के मार्ग से ही अपना प्रान्त हासिल करेंगे, कर के ही रहेंगे, लेकिन उन की ताकत को आजमाने के बाद देने के बजाय आप यह तय कीजिये कि आप की तरफ से ही कर्नाटक प्रान्त आना चाहिये।

अब मैं उन गलतफहमियों को भी पेश कर देना चाहता हूँ जो कि हमारे और पड़ोसी के सम्बन्ध में आ गई हैं। आप आंध्र प्रान्त का

एक नया कैपिटल बना रहे हैं और इस पर दस करोड़ या कुछ और ज्यादा खपता लगा रहे हैं, लेकिन मैं आप से अपील करना चाहता हूँ कि इस के लिये हैदराबाद है और वहाँ सब कुछ मौजूद है। मैं आंध्रा के लोगों से अपील करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर आप को कैपिटल बनाना ही है तो हैदराबाद तैयार है आप उसका स्थान क्यों नहीं करते। अगर आप उस को ले लें तो बड़ा विशाल आंध्र बन जायेगा और इस से आप का भी अभ्युदय होगा। नानल नगर में एक रेजोव्यूशन पेश कर दिया है कि आंध्र की स्टेटबिलिटी के बाद दूसरे प्रान्तों पर गौर किया जायेगा। लेकिन सवाल यह है कि आंध्र का एक टुकड़ा हैदराबाद में मिला कर क्या उस को स्टेवल किया जा सकता है। विशाल आंध्र बन जाय तो कौन कहता है कि वह एकानोमिकली सेल्फ सफिशिएंट न हो जायगा। मैं चैलेंज करता हूँ कि आप एक कमेटी बँटाइये और अगर वह इस निर्णय पर आती है कि दक्षिण का कोई प्रान्त सेल्फ सफिशिएंट नहीं हो पायेगा तो हम अपनी डिमांड वापस ले लेंगे। आप कुर्ग और छोटे छोटे राज्य एक सदन के द्वारा चला रहे हैं, छोटे छोटे राज्यों के टुकड़े बना कर रखने को आप राजी हैं, लेकिन कर्नाटक प्रान्त या दूसरे प्रान्तों को बनाने में आप को मुश्किल मालूम होनी है। यह बात आप अपने दिल के खिलाफ कहते हैं। हम चाहते हैं कि आंध्र को दे कर आप एक साल के भीतर ही प्रान्तों के लिये बाउन्डरी कमिशन ले आयेंगे। क्योंकि इसी तरह से आप बेलारी के हिस्से को ऐजस्ट कर सकते हैं। ऐजस्ट कर के उन का हिस्सा उन को मिल जाय और हमारा हिस्सा हम को मिल जाय।

इस के बाद मैं बेलारी प्रान्त के बारे में आप को जो गलतफहमी है उस के विषय में दो चार शब्द कहना चाहता हूँ। बेलारी ताल्लुका

में जो पापुलेशन है उसमें कन्नड़ लोग १८,४१९ हैं, तेलगू बोलने वाले लोग २४,८८२ हैं। तेलगू के लोग कन्नड़ लोग से टाउन में ज्यादा हैं इसमें कोई शक नहीं लेकिन बेलारी की रूरल एरिया को देखा जाय तो ८०,७४० है। बेलारी की पापुलेशन का टोटल की ५४ फी सदी ब्राबादी कन्नड़ लोगों की है और २६ फी सदी ब्रांघ्र की होती है, सिटी में इन की पापुलेशन इसलिये ज्यादा है कि जो टेम्पोरेरी कर्मचारी हैं उनमें उन की दस हजार की संख्या है। अगर उस पापुलेशन को छोड़ दिया जाय तो कर्नाटक के लोग मंजारिटी में होते हैं इसमें कोई शक नहीं। लेकिन छोटे-छोटे जगड़ों में नहीं पड़ना चाहिये। आप एक बाउन्डरी कमिशन बैठाइये और उस का तस्फिया ठीक तरह से हो। सिर्फ छै ताल्लूकों को बेलारी छोड़ कर देने से मंसूर को भी काफी तकलीफ होगी इस के अलावा आलूर, रायदुर्ग और एदोनी के जो विलेज हैं वह ब्रांघ्र की आबादी का ६० या ७० फी सदी ज्यादा हैं। वह निस्फ हिस्सा आ सकता है। इसलिये मैं कहता हूँ कि बाउन्डरी कमिशन बैठाइये। यह बाउन्डरी कमिशन सारी स्टैटिस्टिक्स को ले कर जो ५१ फी सदी वाले हिस्से कर्नाटक के हों वह कर्नाटक को दे दें और जो ५१ फी सदी वाले इलाके ब्रांघ्र के हों वह ब्रांघ्र को दे दें। जिसमें भी ४९ फी सदी कर्नाटक वाले हों वह हमें नहीं चाहिये। इस डिमान्ड के लिये काफी रिप्रेजेन्टेशन्स आप के सामने आये हैं। उस मेमोरन्डम में यह भी है कि जो कुछ कर्नाटक के लिये किया जाना चाहिये या वह नहीं किया गया है। उसको हर तरह से पंच वर्षीय योजना में शामिल किया जाना चाहिये। और वहां फीमिन या कहत की जो खराबी हो रही है उसको दूर करने में केन्द्रीय सरकार को सहायता देनी चाहिये।

और जो ट्यूब वेल्ट की स्कीम्स उत्तर में चल रही हैं जिनसे किसानों को ज्यादा से

ज्यादा तसल्ली मिल सकती है उनको दक्षिण भारत में भी ज्यादा से ज्यादा चलाया जाय ताकि लोगों को फायदा पहुंच सके। मैं अभील करूंगा कि शंकर गौड़ा को बचाइये। यह ताल्लूका कांग्रेस का काम करने वाला मुक्यस्त रहा है। मैं प्रधान मंत्री श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू से अभील करूंगा कि वह हमको एक कंटा-गारीकल ऐश्योरेस दें कि वह एक प्रेसिडिन्टरी कमीशन बिठायेगे जैसा कि जस्टिस वांचू का कमीशन बिठाया था जो कि इस बात को देखेगा कि हमारे प्रान्त में क्या क्या मुश्किलत हैं और उनके क्या क्या इम्प्लीकेशन्स हैं। यही मेरी अभील है। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं चेयर का शुक्रिया अदा करते हुए अपना भाषण खतम करता हूँ।

Shri Achuthan (Cranganur): We are now in the third stage of the Budget discussions: the first was the general discussion, the second was the Demands for Grants. I am not going into the details of the Budget proposals mainly because it is based on the Five Year Plan and it will be out of place if I again deal with the Five Year Plan here.

The Finance Minister has recently become a full-fledged politician. He is capable enough to play to the gallery also as can be seen from his reply to the debate on the Demands for Grants. He has stated categorically that as conditions are at present, there is no scope for other political parties to grow here and that only the Congress can see that the country's position is improved in a way which is consistent with its resources. I am glad that he is going in that line so that as a politician he could actually come into contact with the people, with the common man, instead of being confined to his office and this House.

I think that if along with the Budget, an appendix were given showing the resources of the States, their assets and liabilities, their income and expenditure, that would give comprehensive idea to the Members of Parliament as to how the Government in the country stands. I think this is a good idea. I appeal to the Finance Minister to consider this matter and from next year onwards to give a summary of the States' finances along with the Centre's finances.

[Shri Achuthan]

I wish to refer to the main problem in our country, that is agriculture. It is stated that first things must come first. The Five Year Plan devotes more of its resources for increasing food production and stabilising agriculture. Therefore, the land policy must come first. The Centre must see that in the States there is an elevation of the middle class men, that peasant proprietorship is established.....

Shri B. S. Murthy: Peasant proprietorship?

Shri Achuthan: Yes, peasant proprietorship; that a ceiling on economic holdings is fixed and that the Minimum Wages Act is enforced in the agricultural sector in almost all the States. Unless these problems are solved, I do not think that India, in which 75 per cent. of the population lives in the villages, can think of improvement or progress in the right direction.

So far as the present Government is concerned, we have got a mixed economy. Our target itself is, as is seen from the plan only doubling the national wealth at the end of 25 years. In this respect, we lag behind many other countries. In Russia or England or America, some reports say that within a shorter period they were able, with the resources at their command, to double their national income. With regard to industries, the Five Year Plan has devoted only a small percentage because the Government considered that food and agriculture must come first. It is true also that as we have a mixed economy, the private sector is given more importance. The speech made by Dr. Saha yesterday impressed me well. I think too much reliance on the private sector may not bring us the desired results. I do not know how far the private sector will respond to the call of the country. In my part of the country, one thing is certain. When the Congress came into power, the rich thought that their position was unsafe. But, now, they are very safe and they feel that they can go on as they like as previously. That is a bad feeling. With this feeling, the Government looks more to the rich, wealthy and industrial people than to the common man, whose care must be foremost to any Government in this country.

I wish to emphasise the unemployment problem. Yesterday, Dr. Lanka Sundaram said that he was going to Vizagapatam in a few days and I think his absence will be keenly felt

by us here. But, one thing I have to say. Let him go to Vizagapatam and deal with the problem in a helpful way. But, for God's sake let him not go to Bellary.

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): He is going there to get back the jobs to the people there.

Shri Achuthan: Government will co-operate in that. But, Dr. Lanka Sundaram has always been called by Swami Ramananda Tirtha as a free lancer. For the last so many months this blessed gentleman, the hon. Member has been creating a lot of trouble with regard to the Andhra State, the Madras city, etc. If he goes to Bellary and says, you fight on, that would add oil to the fire already there and the fight will go on. I appeal very sincerely, please do not direct your attention to Bellary. Bellary will look after itself.

Shri Nambiar: If the Minister gives them back their jobs, there will be no trouble.

Shri Achuthan: My hon. friend, Mr. Matthen stated our position very clearly. I appeal to the Finance Minister to visit our State. Anyhow, he has got a liking for South India. Up to Andhra he has already come. His eyes have been drawn only up to Andhra. The blind Cupid's arrows did not go further south. We would have been fortunate if his eyes had been drawn to Kerala which is proud of its Malayalam Manoharam and Koma-la Kerala. (Some Hon. Members: Translate.) He knows.

Mr. Chairman: Let the hon. Member continue.

Shri Achuthan: Let the Finance Minister come there and study the situation. From the report of the Finance Commission, it is seen that the density of population is more than 1000 per square mile in Travancore-Cochin. I cannot find any State in this big country where the density is so much. In the UP, the biggest levathan-like State, it comes to about 500; in West Bengal, even after the so-called evacuees, it is about 800; in Madhya Bharat it is 117, Mysore, 300. In Travancore-Cochin the position is very serious. Unless the Government comes to our rescue and 25 or 30 lakhs of people are taken over lovingly by some of our North Indian States, the problem will be very serious.

Shri Punnoose (Alleppey): You want our people to be taken away?

Shri Achuthan: To solve our problem, a number of our people should be taken over to the North Indian States where the density of population is not so heavy. That will do us good. We will do no injury to anybody in developing our country's resources.

Shri Punnoose: Will you be one of those who go away?

Mr. Chairman: Order. order: Let there be no interruption.

Shri Achuthan: Till last year, we were given a subsidy of Rs. three or four crores. From the next year, this is being discontinued. The State Government there has provided a sum of Rs. two crores out of its slender resources of Rs. 13 crores, for subsidising prices. The hon. Food Minister stated that the rice supplied to that State will be mainly from inland procurement. But, from the reply to a question of mine, about the prices prevailing in the North Indian States, especially in the U.P. the biggest State in our country, I see that the price per maund of paddy is higher than the price per maund of rice, prevailing in some parts of Madras. This astonishes me very much. From this big State we have got our Leader and a number of Ministers—about a dozen of them. My own small State with one crore of people cannot find a man on the Treasury Benches, and the Prime Minister wants community of hearts, oneness of feeling and all this, but when selection of Ministers is made, U.P. gets 12 or 13. It is a sorry thing. (*Interruption*).

For one maund of paddy, the price in U.P. is Rs. 16/2; in Madhya Pradesh, for one maund of rice, the price is Rs. 12/-. In West Bengal, one maund of paddy costs only Rs. nine. In Bihar, it is only Rs. 9/5. In Madras, one maund of paddy fetches Rs. eight or Rs. ten. Even the pooled price of imported best quality costs, for the fine variety of rice, only Rs. 26/-. But in U.P. it costs Rs. 32/-. So that, let the Finance Minister see that if at all any rice is given to our State, let it be from Orissa. They are a good set of people. I know only one or two people of Orissa here—Mr. Das and Mr. Harekrusma Mahatab. We should like to have close friendship with the Orissa people, and get the three lakh tons of rice from Orissa and other States. We do not want to have any connection with this U.P. How can we finance our State if we buy rice from U.P. at these high rates? Here, I have got a report of the Food Department of Travancore-Cochin, sent

to me by that Government. I do not want to waste the time of the House by quoting from it. The State declared a deficit of 5,74,000 tons of foodgrains for 1952, so that at least four lakh tons of rice may be necessary, and by the goodness of the Finance Minister it must be seen that the rice need come to us not from U.P., but mainly from Orissa and other States.

Shri Nambiar: Almost all the Ministers are from U.P.!

Shri Achuthan: The other point is about birth control. The Finance Minister does not know what is the position with regard to India in this connection. We have allotted Rs. 65 lakhs for family planning. But I find from the report of the activities of the Health Ministry that for this year they have allotted Rs. three lakhs out of which only Rs. 70,000 have been spent. I think it is a very serious problem, and unless birth control measures are well adopted by the States, our country's position will become very precarious. By some 50 years, you may have to face more than 60 crores of people. Are we proud of having only bipeds and quadrupeds? Then, it is all right. Otherwise, it will be a very serious problem. When I was a Member in our State Assembly last time, in reply to a question, the Chief Minister read out a statement issued by the hon. Health Minister. He did not add a word. He simply stated "That is the policy of the Central Government and there ends the matter." Unless a revolutionary, rational and reasonable policy is adopted and contraceptives are cheaply made available to the common people, it will hit hard the economic position of our country. Take the case of Delhi. Even ladies, 95 per cent. of them, were willing to take to these birth control methods. Abraham Stone's method or the rhythmic method or abstinence will not do. Let us hope the Finance Minister will take the matter seriously and think about the matter. He is a man who is capable of having an over-all picture of the state of the whole country, and I hope he will see that his neighbour, the hon. Health Minister, is instilled with this feeling that unless this question is well solved and unless we follow other civilized countries in the matter of family planning, our position will become precarious. I know that if the question is asked among the Members of this House, they will surely say that it is more than highly necessary and imminent also. That also may be taken into consideration by the Finance Minister.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi (Nellore): I have been listening with interest since yesterday to the several speeches that have been delivered in this House on the Finance Bill. We have had several opportunities during this session to speak on the general topics that are covered by the Budget—four days when we discussed the President's Address; four days when we had general discussion on the Budget; and about 18 days, I think, when we had discussions on the several Demands. And now, another four days are given for this Finance Bill. I would have certainly appreciated if another two days had been made over to the general debate on the Budget and two days cut off from this Finance Bill, so that we could have had a more cogent discussion on the Finance Bill on two days—one for discussion, and another for discussion clause by clause. But, anyhow, this convention has grown. I do not know why it has been allowed to grow. We feel weary, as it were, to be hearing the same kind of speeches, more often not relevant to the Bill that is before the House but covering several other topics which have been more than once covered. I therefore feel that despite the several fragrant bouquets that have been presented to the Finance Minister, I do not envy him, but I pity him for he has to sit here from morning till eve and probably hear the same things that he has been all along hearing. It is, therefore, seriously suggested that the time allotted for the Finance Bill might be reduced by two days and those two days might be allotted to the general discussion even before the Demands are reached.

I shall now try to confine myself to a few topics that are relevant to the Bill. I would first deal with the question of salt duty. Year after year I find that the Finance Bill has been merely mentioning the existence of the salt duty some time back and that they are not willing to have it immediately. Year after year they have been postponing the levy or re-introduction of salt duty in this country. We would, if we have the opportunity of levying salt duty, be able to collect not only a large amount of money for the upkeep of the nation, but also help the industry in several ways. You might know that till 1951 we had been importing salt. In 1952 we reached the stage of self-sufficiency. In 1953, we are in a position to export some salt. With this prospect of exporting salt to other countries, if the salt industry is improved, there is possibility of earning some more foreign exchange if proper scope is given for the salt producers to produce more salt. For giving such scope, I think, Gov-

ernment might need some money, and some slight excise duty might have to be levied with a view not only to augment our finances, but also to help the salt industry. You might remember that we have got a deficit in the Five Year Plan. On an earlier occasion I have pointed out that the levy of salt duty will go a great way to wipe off the deficit in the Five Year Plan. I am not able to understand why the Government is struggling over this matter year after year. If there is any political psychology behind it, I will not easily be able to persuade the Government to come forward with a Bill for levying salt duty. But if that was on economic grounds, then I think it is time that the Government consider this matter and see their way to levy salt duty and get the benefit out of it. As a matter of fact, we are now importing large quantities of soda ash and other by-products of salt. It is possible for us to produce all these manufactured goods, which are the by-products of salt, within our country, without any more depending upon foreign countries. The salt trade will also provide employment for labour and also give fresh opportunities for capital to flow in. Many chemical industries in the by-products of salt might also be encouraged, and thereby more money can be secured for the national exchequer.

The next point on which I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister is tobacco excise. Tobacco is one of our best foreign exchange earners. I find from the figures I secured elsewhere, that in 1948-49, we have exported unmanufactured tobacco, to the tune of Rs. 5.77 crores, in 1949-50 to the tune of Rs. 10.55 crores, and in 1950-51 to the tune of Rs. 12.44 crores. That shows the rapid development in the tobacco industry. Manufactured tobacco is also being exported to the extent of about Rs. two to 2½ crores, since 1948-49. There is therefore a very large scope for enhancing our revenue, by giving greater attention to tobacco growing. But unfortunately we see that much less production per acre is being achieved in India, as compared with other countries, like the U.S.A., Canada and France. It is up to the Government to find out ways and means for intensive cultivation of the tobacco crop, with a view to enhance not only our production, but also to augment our revenues by export.

Recently, the tobacco producer has been very much perturbed over the number of taxes that are hurled upon him. We have already an excise duty on tobacco, and in the Madras State,

they have re-introduced the sales tax on tobacco. Not only the burden of one more duty upon tobacco, but also the labour and trouble involved in the maintenance of forms in connection with the working of the Sales Tax Act, are patent. A number of forms has to be maintained, a number of licences has to be obtained, and there is a good deal of harassment at the hands of the local officers. These facts apart, there are also the local taxes like the profession tax which a dealer has to pay to the municipality and local bodies. The obtaining of these licences is another great difficulty. If only the department works generally honestly, there would be less harassment to the producer as well as the traders. But unfortunately in the rural areas, we find that the word 'excise' is considered as a synonym for "corruption." Discretion is given to the lower officers, to such an extent, that they are apt to misuse the discretion given to them, so much so that truth is disbelieved in certain circumstances, and untruth is believed in certain other circumstances. It is therefore very necessary that the Government should look into the excise rules and also the rate of taxation, and remove the 'curae' that now exist in them, especially with reference to the excise on tobacco.

There are certain items of taxation there, which can be easily shifted on to another item, with the result that the producer is either benefited or becomes a loser, or that the Government is either benefited or becomes a loser. This kind of broad discretion given to the subordinate officers will have to be cut down. There is one other matter which has made the tobacco excise administration, very unpopular in the rural areas. Very wide discretion having been given to the local subordinate officers, it is possible for them to use their discrimination against some people and in favour of some other people. There are areas where the maximum limit of exemption is high and certain other areas where the exemption limit is very low. The result is that the producers in one place are very happy, while the producers in the other places are very jealous of them. All the same, the Government get into unpopularity; it is their duty to look into these things, and see that not only they regain popularity, but also that the producers are not harassed.

One more matter and that is with regard to the postal rates. Some suggestions have been made in the Bill, which require a more careful consideration. I find that for book, pat-

tern and sample packets, the rate has been enhanced recently, and it works out as follows: For a packet or a book of annas eight value, we will hereafter have to pay annas eleven—while the previous rate was annas nine—which includes the cost of post-card written by party, bookpost charges on the packet, compulsory registration fee, and V.P.P. charges at the rate of one anna up to Rs. 25, and two annas above that, and then rounding off of the amount, and also the M.O. Commission by the party. It is unfortunate that the postal rates in this behalf have been increased. It looks as if it is incompatible with the policy pursued by the Government in regard to the provision of more post offices in the rural areas. The rural areas depend upon the post offices, in most cases, for securing their books, medicines and a few other necessities of life. If the postal rates are going to be increased in this manner, it is possible that the post offices will be not only unworkable but also unpopular. Instead of increasing the parcel rate from annas six to annas eight, it would have been a good step, if the increase had been only one anna, instead of two annas, which comes to an increase by one third.

There is one other matter I would like to touch upon, viz., the exemption that is denied to people who are contributing to public charities.

Unfortunately, Government has conceived rather strangely that no community should be encouraged through contributions which are exemptible from income tax. In other words, no tax exemption will be allowed for a contribution made for the benefit of a particular religious community. If it is possible for any philanthropist to give a contribution to a religious institution—whether it is Hindu, Muslim, Christian or Jain or Buddhist institution—earmarked for a particular public purpose, namely, education or medical relief or social uplift, it should not be considered to be purely communal, much less religious. It is possible that certain people who are philanthropists would like to contribute for the upliftment of their own community and that should not be an anathema in respect of taxation reliefs given by the Government. It is very necessary, therefore, that this peculiar conception of justice should be revised. A good deal of revision of policy and reconsideration on this point are very necessary.

Shri Aitkar (North Satara): "Thought", says Khalil Gibran, "is a bird of space which in a cage of words may unfold its wings but cannot fly".

[Shri Altekar]

So an hon. Member of this House may, within the short period of time that is circumscribed round him, unfold his mind but hardly clarify.

As a matter of fact, observing from the beginning of these speeches on the Budget, there is a broadside attack on the structure of our taxation. While in school I was accustomed to hear the terms 'direct' and 'indirect' in connection with grammar. Now when I have come here I find them used in connection with the Finance Minister's hammer. I am rather reminded of the words of a Vedic poet when he said:

अस्मद्विषे तर्पुः हेतिमस्य ।

To render it freely in my own words I may say:

"If thy weapon need be sped,
Let it fall on our enemy's head."

They attack the indirect taxes because they affect the general population. Of course, the feeling there is that the incidence of taxation should rather fall on quarters which are other than those which they themselves occupy. But what I would like to say is that taxation is not a thing which is to be regarded as an evil, but rather a thing which has to be subjected to by every citizen of this country when he has to take into consideration that a nation cannot be moulded into a strong and well-enlightened State and rise to a full stature unless like a statue to the sculptor's chisel it subjects itself to the hammer of the Finance Minister.

Well, so far as regards the direct and indirect taxes, an analysis has already been made by the hon. the Finance Minister and also some other Members here, but I would like to point out one aspect of it which has not been touched. Our revenue consists also of certain items which are neither direct nor indirect taxes, but profits from some State concerns. Take, for instance, the railway contribution to the extent of Rs. 7.64 crores. That is an income from a State industry. Then Rs. 15.69 crores is the profit on currency and mint, of which Rs. 12½ crores is profit from the Reserve Bank.

Shri C. D. Pande: They are all indirect taxes.

12 Noon

Shri Altekar: Of course, as a matter of fact, every profit of an industry will have to be called indirect tax; because when it was suggested by the most eminent scientist yesterday that there should be a turnover tax, it all

comes to the same thing. So either they will have to be a direct tax or an indirect tax, and even the profits that have been made from various industries will have to be regarded as indirect taxes. It comes to that. Then there is Rs. three crores and five lakhs by way of interest from loans that have been given to the officers and some local bodies and also to certain firms. All these and such others put together—including Rs. 18 crores, return from the loan to Pakistan—amount to Rs. 68.14 crores. That means, it works out to 14.4 per cent. of the total revenue of 494 crores. Of course, I include therein the States' share of the income-tax. Now, during the last two years when profits from industry and trade have gone down and the returns on income-tax are less, naturally, the percentage of direct taxes has fallen rather low. But the Government has not in any way given any sort of indulgence to these quarters. This year we find that there is a provision made in the Finance Bill by which the losses in speculative trade are only allowed to be set off against profits that are gained only from the speculative business. This, as a matter of fact, is, I think, a sort of another source of revenue which up to this time those persons who were indulging in this speculative business were benefiting themselves by, avoiding taxation. 'Buying up losses' is a thing which is very common, and these great businessmen maintain accounts which can hardly be called accounts because they do not show any entries when the transactions are entered into by way of *kabalas* or agreements, but only at the time when they are adjusted at the end. That gives them ample ground for manipulation. Because these *kabalas* are separate pieces of paper or bills separately made, not being accounts kept in the regular course and balance struck at the end, they give them sufficient ground for manipulation.

This measure, I think is a very welcome one. I would only like to suggest that this still leaves a lacuna so far as regards 'Buying up losses' is concerned; because they will be allowed to set off against profits from speculative trade. This can be manipulated and if there are not genuine losses they will also be set off against profits. If care is taken to see that only genuine losses are so allowed, I think then we will also gain in our revenues to a great extent.

Then when the indirect taxes have been adjusted this year, car has been

taken to charge only the luxury and semi-luxury articles. That places the incidence of taxation on rich people and, therefore, as a matter of fact, takes away the burden from the common man—by placing it on quarters which can bear it properly.

Then there is relief also given so far as regards the foods for infants and invalids, as also some articles of necessity and some works of art and other things are concerned. I think that this is a beginning in the right direction.

I would take this opportunity to place before the hon. the Finance Minister the proposal that I have already given, that the concession that is shown to the allopathic drugs should also be shown to *ayurvedic* medicines. There is a representation by *ayurvedic* *vaids* that some articles which are very necessary for the manufacture of *ayurvedic* drugs like *banslochan*, *hingul*, *praval* etc. should be subjected to a rather low level of import duties. I believe the hon. the Finance Minister will pay his attention to this and show the necessary concession. At any rate, such articles as are necessary for the manufacture of *ayurvedic* medicines should at least be supplied to the *vaids* and the *ayurvedic* pharmacies at controlled rates like quinine.

Then I would like to point out that the progress which we have made during the last two years is a progress which has been made without deteriorating the general standard of living that was there at the time of the beginning of the Five Year Plan. When we are doing this and proceeding with development without in any way lowering down our standard of living, that is no small gain; that I would like humbly to point out to this House. We have to take into consideration that we are raising Rs. 1258 crores by taxation, savings etc., and then further Rs. 165 crores is to come by way of estate duty and others and ultimately Rs. 1423 crores by way of taxation, savings and such things. Now, there will be about Rs. 600 crores of deficit and you have to take into consideration that this development is being achieved without any sort of harm or injury being caused to the ordinary man.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

A comparison was made, the other day, by Dr. Meghnad Saha that in Russia there was a faster development made than what we are doing here. It has to be taken into consideration at what cost it was done there. The ploughing back of 20 per

cent. of the national income means a sort of great rigour, austerity etc. on the general population. Will the people be able to bear it? He said that there should be enthusiasm among the people and they should be made to work with great faith and they should come forward of their own accord. As a matter of fact, there will be greater taxation. The other day, it was suggested that indirect taxes, in the form of turnover taxes, should come to about 60 to 70 per cent. That is a sort of contradiction with respect to the criticism that is being levelled. On the one hand, it is suggested that there should be indirect taxes to such a great extent. On the other hand, you criticise that there is in this country indirect taxation. These two things go ill together. It is blowing hot and cold in the same breath. With all that, the privation that is brought to the people is so unbearable. If you look to the Russian example, you will easily know to what extent this told upon them. At the time Russia took to its first Five Year Plan there was a fall of 53 per cent. of agricultural income; there was a fall to 20 per cent. of the industries. The transport system was mainly working for military purposes and under such circumstances privation to the extent of ploughing back 20 per cent. or even more of the national resources was the most difficult hardship that could be borne by the ordinary man. It was said that they did it willingly. But, if you look at history, we see that it is not exactly so. An hon. Member from the opposite Benches said 'take away all the lands of the zamindars and landlords without any compensation'. I do not hold any brief for the zamindars or the landlords. But we have to take into consideration the consequences that will follow. Another hon. Member from that side came with a brave declaration that if the Government is left in his hands for a year he would nationalise everything. I admire the audacity of the gentleman better than his sagacity. The thing is, that if we look to what happened in Russia, we will find that the moment the *kulaks* were liquidated and the lands were occupied by the peasants, what did they do? They produced the crops, of course, but they would not allow the produce to be taken to the urban areas. They had it for themselves. You may allow the things to go in the hands of unruly elements but it is very difficult to control them. The produce will not be available to the cities. They were therefore compelled to give the surplus. The result was that they did not cultivate the land

[Shri Altekar]

beyond their necessity and so ultimately the State had to deport hundreds of thousands of the families of peasants to the White Sea Canal and to cities that were being built. So it is how it came to inflict hardship on the people. There were privation, famine and a hundred other difficulties. Are you going to inflict so many hardships on the people, or are you going to progress without causing any sort of deterioration in the living conditions of the people? As our hon. Finance Minister said, big things are being achieved in India and they are not being felt by the general population. That means that we are proceeding in a way which is normal; just like when we are going in the train we do not feel the speed, in the same way he is doing it without our feeling any trouble. That is what it comes to. Therefore, I submit that it is a question of balancing the two things. We will have to look not only to the austerity, the rigidity and the pain that would be caused to the people while achieving all these things rather fast but to loss of life, loss of property etc., because 50 per cent. of the cattle were destroyed by the kulaks, and thousands of people perished. On the other hand we have to weigh slower progress with less trouble. If we can achieve what we want to achieve by proceeding a bit slowly and not fast as an aeroplane but as a train then there will be no hardship caused to the people.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has exceeded his time.

Shri Altekar: I would like to suggest all these things can be very easily achieved without causing any detriment to the public, by proceeding in a manner which will give us the desired result without inflicting any hardship. I would like to suggest two or three things which are of great importance. While we are discussing development, the first priority has to be given to food. Unless it is given priority people will not feel anything is being given to them. Many hon. Members said that they would like to lay stress on education, hygiene and so on. Of course, that is necessary. But hungry people look forward to real food.

बुभुक्षितैर्व्याकरणं न भुज्यते ।

पिपासितैः काव्यरसो न पीयते ॥

The hungry will not feed on the grammar of a Panini or a Patanjali; nor the thirsty drink from the

fountains of Kalidasa's or Shakespeare's poetry.

I would like to make a few suggestions. In addition to what is being done by the Government, some sort of credit facilities will have to be given to the agriculturists. In this connection, I would like to point out that there is *taccavi* loan that is being given. There are also the co-operative credit societies, but they do not give all the necessary assistance to the people. The credit system of the private creditors is being contracted. They are unable to follow their profession. Under these circumstances, if the joint stock banks which are working in the rural areas are given credit by the Reserve Bank as against the Government securities that are held by them, they will come to the help of the agriculturists in their agricultural operations and also in the marketing of the crops; then that will be a great help that will be given to them. Furthermore....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no. The hon. Member will please resume his seat.

Shri Soren (Purnea cum Santal Parganas—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): I am from tribal areas and I should like to have the benefit of not being sophisticated. Naturally, what I say, I say from my heart and without any artificiality or ornament of language. When I was at school I learnt a few lines from Pope, which run thus:

Words are like leaves,
And where they most abound;
Much fruit of sense beneath,
Is rarely found.

Our Constitution has given us a democratic form of Government, that is to say, Government of the people, by the people, for the people. It has guaranteed us liberty, fraternity and justice and justice means social justice, cultural justice, economic justice and political justice. As a plain and simple man, I want to ask the Government whether these high ideals and tall talks have been carried into effect; if they are not, they are of no use.

The Five Year Plan asks everyone of us to co-operate in its implementation. I have been trying to rouse the interest of the people in my constituency through the Press and personal tours. But whenever I spoke to

them they were sceptic. They have not seen any change whatever during the last few years. The only changes that have been there are unpalatable to them. For instance, in my constituency there are special areas called Damini areas. They are non-police tracts. We have 'parganites' who look after police cases. The expenditure incurred used to be very small. But after Government took over and established police stations and appointed police inspectors and other officials, the expenditure has risen up and crimes have also increased. People are not satisfied. Again, in our area there is a dam being constructed, called Masanjore dam. Thousands of people are being displaced and uprooted from their hearths and homes without being provided with any shelter. They wanted land for land and house for house, but they are being persuaded to take money instead. People do not at all like that. Again, in tribal areas, the inhabitants, whether tribal or non-tribal, depend on agriculture and Government have spent only a small amount for irrigation and even that has been ill-spent or wrongly spent.

As regards the economic conditions, Government do not encourage small industries and cottage industries like lac, *sabai* grass, contracts for coal mines, road transport and *mathias* (market places)—all go to the hands of the non-tribal big *mahajans*. I mean the capitalists, who derive all the benefit from them. Forests and jungles which are the source of income of the tribal people are ruthlessly destroyed. The Government cannot cite even a single instance where they have helped the tribal people in any industry run by the tribal people individually or by some organisational body. There are instances, rather to show that they are deprived of them. Government often state that they help *kisans* by sanctioning loans, land improvement loans and *taccavi* loans. True. But during the realisation time strictest measures are taken, even with military force. So the poor people have had to sell their plough cattle after selling their foodgrains. I think the zamindars were more humane in this respect.

The other day our Commerce Minister told us in this House that the *sabai* grass of the *paharias* had been taken over by Government. All the *sabais* now belong to Government. I was told by the *paharias* the growers of the *sabais*, during my tour, that

there are Government officers who pay the *paharias* for growing, weeding, bundling, etc. But the payments are so very irregular that a large amount of money is with the Government. The *paharias* do not get it in time. I have heard that several thousands of rupees are in the Imperial Bank at Patna for the *paharias*. But I do not know whether this amount is being spent for the welfare of the *paharias* whose condition is very very bad. They have no water. They have no land—paddy fields. I request that the *paharias'* conditions may be bettered. They may be given all the help that Government can give.

A word about corruption in my part of the country. Corruption is rampant in all the Government departments. Even in the Education Department if a teacher wants a post, he has to pay hundred rupees for his appointment—of course through the backdoor. All the lower officers are also extracting money from the poor people. They would not have dared to do all this perhaps in some advanced area.

In a leading article, the *Hindustan Times* dated 23-2-1953 quotes the judgment of the Supreme Court in the Sathi Land case.

"This is not the rule of law but rule by the mob. In their anxiety to rush through radical reforms, the Bihar Government have tried to ride rough shod over the rights of individuals."

In the case of not individuals but of a section of the tribal people, the Bihar Government have surpassed all the other State Governments in suppressing the rights of the people in regard to their development and improvement in their language. I cannot but mention the speech given by our beloved Prime Minister. I will read a portion from it with your permission:

"The language problem, said Mr. Nehru, was almost always exceedingly important from the psychological point of view. The best of solutions one might offer would break down if it produced a wrong reaction on the other side. One must, therefore, make it perfectly and absolutely clear the Government would encourage the tribal languages. It was not a question of merely allowing them to continue. They must be encouraged and helped and made to flourish."

We must go out of our way to do so. That is the only right approach

[Shri Soren]

and the only country that has adopted that policy and done it with success is the Soviet Republic. In its varying outlying areas, the old leaders of the Soviet Republic, Lenin and others, were very exceedingly wise in this respect. Whatever their ultimate objective was, they wanted to win the goodwill of these people, and they won it by their policy, by encouraging their languages, by going out of their way in helping hundreds of dialects, by preparing dictionaries and vocabularies and even by evolving new scripts where there were none. They wanted those people to feel they could live their own lives and they did produce that impression.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member cannot read the whole newspaper.

Shri Soren: Of course. A few lines. I have read the extract. I would now suggest that the Government would be well advised if they could seriously consider the conditions of these tribal people. I would therefore suggest that Government should let the *paharias* grow *Sabai* in their own way just as other agriculturists, other tribal people do.

Tribal culture should be preserved because it is ancient and pure. More schools and colleges should be opened. Agricultural, industrial and vocational training should be imparted to tribal people. Proper arrangements for irrigation should be made. Corruption, the greatest evil of the times, must be fought with the strongest measure. In all such undertakings Government must seek the help of all the leaders whom the tribal people know to be honest. As mentioned in the Five Year Plan, officers who are appointed as liaison officers between district officers and the Secretariat must be of tribal origin.

Shri Natesan (Tiruvallur): The Finance Bill makes a call on every citizen to pay his or her share of taxes. This is an annual feature. The inescapable duties and obligations of the people are there. But, we must also remind ourselves of the fact that there are corresponding obligations of the State to the citizens. This is all the more important in a democratic country like ours. I propose to confine myself today to that remote corner of India, that is, Madras, from where I come.

I should like to refer to the Five Year Plan. Not one scheme has been

taken up so far, in the Five Year Plan, so far as Madras is concerned. Any schemes that have been taken up, particularly the power schemes, were all schemes which had already been taken up by the Government of Madras, and they were simply included in the Five Year Plan. The other day, when I was speaking here, I mentioned about the Periyar project. I want to ask once again here as to why this project which is going to develop as much as 75,000 K.W. of power has not been taken up by the Planning Commission. All the technical formalities have been gone through. But, it is very difficult to get it through the Government of India. It has gone through the Water Power Commission and it has been laid before the Planning Commission. I would like to have an explanation from the hon. Minister as to why it was not possible for the Planning Commission to take it up. The estimated cost of the scheme is only Rs. ten crores. You know that when a scheme is taken up, it takes at least five years for completion. Even if you start today, you may not have to spend more than Rs. two crores for the first two years. The Madras State have included schemes for Periyar, Kundah and also the Krishna-Pennar scheme. Although I raised this point the other day, the hon. Minister of Planning did not care to reply as to why this has not come up in the Plan. I should like to impress upon the Government the fact that this will go a great way to mitigate the difficulties of electric power supply in Madras.

What is the position in Madras today? A 15,000 kw. generator broke down the other day. From 60 per cent. the electric power cut has been raised to 75 per cent. When you have raised the cut to 75 per cent. you can easily realise how many people will be thrown out of their work, how it affects labour, how it affects industrial production and how it affects agricultural production. Are you going to sit quietly here without coming to the rescue of Madras. I want to know? You have got a large number of thermal plants available here. I have known that at least two generators of very high capacity have already come to the Nangal project. But, the Nangal project is not going to come up for the next few years. I am not sure, I wonder whether it will not be possible for the Central Government to help Madras with some of these thermal plants. If you are not going to take up the schemes which have already been put forward by the Madras

Government, I am afraid, there is going to be a power cut hereafter every year. Because, monsoons have failed for the last six years; what guarantee is there that there will be no failure of monsoons later? We have got to solve this problem whether the Madras Government have approached the Central Government directly or not. It has very gravely affected the industrial and agricultural economy of the State. People are simply sick of these power cuts. Even in the Madras City, they have introduced a power cut of 33 1/3 per cent.

The Madras State is at present passing through a very grave crisis. We have had reports from all over Madras that there is famine in every district. We all made such a big noise when Rayalaseema was in the grip of famine. I may tell you that every district in Madras is in the grip of famine. Wells are dry; crops have withered; people are thrown out of employment. As you know, the position of the handloom weavers in Madras is a problem. Hundreds of thousands of weavers are rooping about Madras. And yesterday, we got the grave news that the Madras Tramways are closed down. And that throws out any amount of labour. That is the way Madras is getting on just now. Now, unless we go to the help of Madras, I am sure that Madras will become a very grave concern of the Central Government. The people in the State do not ask for doles. They want some capital works to be undertaken. When you are going to have deficit financing, what does it matter if you have deficit financing for Rs. 400 crores or Rs. 420 crores. You can place at the disposal of Madras Rs. 10 crores to start with. After all, what can the Government of Madras do? They have no means of raising revenue. The yield on sales tax is dwindling. Revenues from other departments are also going down, and it is not possible for the people to pay any more taxes. As you know, the purchasing power is gone. You have plenty of rice. The rice position seems to have improved. From Orissa rice is being sent by urgent goods trains to Madras, but the people must be able to buy. And what is it that you are going to do to enable the people of Madras to buy?

We want the people to get enthused over the Five Year Plan. Where is the enthusiasm? What are we going to do? We people who come all the way from Madras, what can we tell our people when we go back if they are starving? How do you get the enthusiasm? My request, therefore, is that the Finance Minister should

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see that some sort of grant is given to the Madras Government. Every rupee invested in the State, I have no doubt, will pay rich dividends. There is no talk of corruption in Madras, and a number of schemes have been put through excellently by our engineers there well within our estimates. I do not think it will be impossible for the Government of India to obtain and supply, as I said already, the agricultural implements or whatever the villagers require.

We have to be very careful about this labour unrest. There are a number of anti-social elements which are out to disrupt the country's tranquility. Are you going to hand over all these weavers and idle workers to the hands of these anti-social elements? We have got to be very careful about this. This is a time when we should launch some schemes. Building more roads, canals and tanks will probably give us a solution. We must make money flow like water. I quite understand the Central Government has no money, but, as I said previously, you must see that money is found when you are having this deficit financing.

Further, what is the financial position of the Madras Government today? They are famished to the extent that they have had to go and sell their Government securities at a loss of Rs. 30 lakhs. It is just like a famished peasant going and selling all his wife's jewels when he wants money. That is the position of Madras. They have lost Rs. 30 lakhs by selling their Government securities. I do not know if they have got any securities at all now because I have no doubt all the securities must be pledged with the Reserve Bank. These are dangerous signals of the extremely pitiable condition of the people and the Government of Madras. And the Government of India has a responsibility and obligation to go to the rescue of the State boldly and generously. Justice ought to be done to a deserving case like this.

Then, I should like to refer to some irrigation schemes in Madras. There are the Manimuttar scheme in Tinnevely district, and the Malampuzha project in Malabar. All these schemes are held up simply for want of money. Simply because we happen to be at the tail end of India, simply because we have not got a pull in northern India, simply because we do not make noise about all these things, it looks as if Madras is let down very badly. I have no objection to money being

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spent in northern India. but I want to ask seriously what is it that the Central Government has done for Madras in this Five Year Plan? Have they taken up any new or original schemes to help the people? They have done nothing like that. The result is that today Madras is in the throes of famine. The other day an hon. Member from the Opposition was complaining, and I certainly agreed with every word of what he said. Our own Tamilnad Congress President and Secretary have travelled all over these places. I must not be taken as indulging in party affairs here. But somebody has got to go and see, and find out a solution for these things. The Central Government must not content themselves by simply thinking that that is not their job. Even if the Madras Government has not made any application for relief, it is the Central Government's duty to go and find out what is happening in the Madras State. As I said, we do not want to hand over the Madras State to anti-social elements who are simply trading on the poverty of the citizen.

So far as labour is concerned, there also we have got to see that all the people who have been thrown out of labour, as a result of this tramways closing down, and the power cuts in the various parts of Madras, are treated generously. We have to find some work for them in order to keep them not very aggressive. I do hope that the Finance Minister at least will tell me why these projects which I referred to earlier, have not been taken in hand. I am very anxious that these projects should find a place in the first Five Year Plan itself. Otherwise, there will be no chance of their getting a place at all. Madras cannot be allowed to go on like this, without electricity, and with the labourers and the people in a starving condition.

Kumari Annie Mascarene (Tiruvandrum): The Finance Bill before us is the implementation of the Budget proposals to relieve, readjust and further taxation, so that the Budget may be balanced. *Prima facie*, it is clear that the reliefs and readjustments are meant for administrative convenience, so that in the long run, the present loss may be made up by future gains. From a national point of view, this counts nothing. But I do not wish to do injustice to the Finance Minister by ignoring the salient features of the Bill. The reduction of import duty on jute sack-

ing, penicillin, antibiotics etc., and the absence of the duty on salt are really salient features, which have benefited the nation. On the other hand, the increase of postal duty, and the present smuggling of the Tea Bill into this, have been doing much more harm than expected. The reliefs given are only nominal when compared to the heavy load of taxation under which the nation is groaning today.

Going through the Bill clause by clause, I was reminded of the story of a spendthrift, who having suddenly come into a fortune, a windfall in life, squandered the resources at his command, in blind and extravagant speculation, and finding himself heavily involved in inextricable expenditures, resorted to his neighbour Shylock to lend him a loan, and further entangling himself in the glittering chain of dollar and sterling, and at last driven to despair, he wrote a letter to his wife, whom he had neglected ever since he came to his fortune.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is now 12-45 P.M. The hon. Member may continue her speech tomorrow.

The House will now take up the half-an-hour discussion.

NATIONAL SMALL SAVINGS SCHEME

Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkil): Sir, it is very apt and in the fitness of things also that you have permitted me to raise this discussion today when we are having the discussion on the Finance Bill itself, because the matter which I intend to raise relates to the Finance Ministry.

The Finance Minister has repeatedly urged, here in this House and elsewhere that for purposes of internal finance he is banking upon the possibilities of what he calls the "national savings scheme". I can quote several of his utterances in this House showing its importance. But for once at least he said that there were some "organisational deficiencies" in the administration of this scheme. Afterwards this has been a subject of several questions here. And what should we naturally expect? Here is a scheme which is thought of by the Finance Minister or worked by him to raise funds for the Five Year Plan and which the hon. Minister himself characterised in this House as having "organisational deficiencies."