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**THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES**

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

4319

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Thursday, 16th April, 1953

*The House met at a Quarter Past Eight
of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

9-15 A.M.

**DEATH OF SHRI T. S. SANKARA
AIYER**

Mr. Speaker: I regret to have to inform the House of the death of Shri T. S. Sankara Aiyer, who was a Member of the old Central Assembly. I desire on behalf of the House to express our sense of the loss on the passing away of Shri Sankara Aiyer and to convey our condolences to his family. The House may stand in silence for a minute to express its sorrow.

*The House stood in silence for one
minute.*

**FINANCE BILL AND CENTRAL
EXCISES AND SALT (AMEND-
MENT) BILL**

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri C. D. Deshmukh:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1953-54, be taken into consideration."

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Side by side, there will also be further consideration of the following motion:

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

Kumari Annie Mascarene (Trivandrum): Yesterday, I was just referring to the extravagant expenses of a spendthrift who had neglected, while carrying on his business, his wife, and subsequently, when he found himself unable to carry on business any more, he wrote a letter to his wife, expressing deep regrets for past negligence, promising rich amends in the future, in the mean time, explaining the business that he has launched, which is to fruition after five years and give her all the pleasures and palaces of the world. At the end of that letter—and that is the important point that I want to stress—he wrote a postscript with an SOS message: you will kindly sell your wedding ring and other jewellery that you have inherited from your father and send the amount to pay back the interest on the heavy debt. That postscript is the prototype of this Bill which the Finance Minister has presented before this unhappy nation.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

At this juncture, with the SOS message of the Tea Bill, it is necessary that we should examine the background of this Bill in order to understand the position of our national economy.

We have an increasing national debt, which has now more or less accumulated to almost three times the amount of our national income. We have a deficit expenditure which is depending completely on loans or taxation. We have to meet the expenses of confronting the misery and stagnation of unemployment. We have a heavy load of taxation starting with consumer goods, from sugar, tea and

[Kumari Annie Mascarene]

coffee to Income-tax with all its gradations. We have to meet the perversities of nature like famine and drought dancing like "blind Furies with the abhorred shears cutting the thin-spun web of life". We have, (to add insult to injury), to confront the vices of the administration in denying equity and justice to the common man. Finally, we have the economic programme of the Five Year Plan, promising El Dorado to the nation, sitting tight on the nation, to be executed without delay so that the amount invested in it may fruition. In the light of these facts, we have this Bill to fill up the gap.

This is not the first time in the history of our country that we have had to confront deficit financing. In normal times, and in times of depression, it is sound public finance to borrow in order to form capital. Deficit financing is either met by loans or taxation. But, strangely enough, we have both. In either case, it will be an income to the nation. But, what surprises me most is that while the financing of deficit expenditure is always followed by its natural and economic consequences of increasing the income per capita and solving unemployment, our experience in India today is that with all our deficit expenditure, with our loans, with our taxation, unemployment has increased to the extent of stagnation. What I wish to ask the Finance Minister is, how is it that in India we have failed to achieve the logic of our economics as other countries have achieved. Fall in the purchasing power of the common man, fall in the level of prices and fall in the standard of living are evidence enough to prove that there is something radically wrong with our national economy.

The situation is all the worse in South India. We are none the wiser for deficit financing; we are none the wiser for the loans, for the taxation, for the increase of tax. All economic and industrial activities in the south are at a stand still. But we are not exempted from the incidence of taxation. We are not reaping the benefits of capital formation. This distorted policy of differential treatment is bound to paralyse the extremities of the body politic with far-reaching political consequences. A time is fast approaching when the problems arising out of neglect and indifference will create such a situation and attain such a stature as to defy solution at their hands. In Travancore-Cochin State, industrial activity is at a stand-still. The coir industries which had engaged

the masses are closed up; titanium which is a rare industry in whole of Asia is closed up; the Travancore Sugars and chemicals are closed up; the F.A.C.T. is working only to half capacity; cashew-nut and handloom industries are closed up; the rayon industry in which we had invested 10 crores is closed up; the Travancore potteries electrical and allied industries are closed up; now rubber and tea are also dying. (An Hon. Member: Which is open?) To add insult to injury, the mineral resources of that State had been exploited by the Industry and Commerce Ministry. I am sorry that the Minister is not present here. (Some Hon. Member: He is present.) I am sorry. The other day, the hon. Mr. Matthen, from the other side, had been referring to the Hopkin Williams Agreement. Our richest resources, a resource which had been paying a large revenue to the State had been the minerals in Travancore. It has been told to this House by a Member from the opposite side that back-door agreements had been going on without the knowledge of the Central Government or the State Government with regard to that industry. This is not the first time that the Travancore-Cochin State had been exploited.

And I wish to ask the Travancore-Cochin representatives on the other side whether they stand a party to this exploitation. (An Hon. Member: Yes.) I wish to ask them whether the poor, starving, miserable, forsaken wretches are allowed to be exploited in this manner with their consent. (Interruption). I am asking them whether they will raise a protest by resigning from this House. These are facts before the House. (Interruption).

An Hon. Member: That is not our object.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: That is not your object. Your object is different.

The Minister of Defence Organization (Shri Tyagi): We are responsible Members.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: When the people sent them here as representatives, had they not given them promises? I have received letters from my constituency very recently, asking me: "We have sent you there. Did you inform the Central Government that tapioca is being exported from Travancore, and during this time of scarcity we are starving and we cannot get rice, we cannot get tapioca. Did you make any mention of this to the Central Government?"

Shri P. T. Chacko (Meenachil): Prices have gone down in tapioca.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: I sent a Short Notice Question to the Minister, and yet no answer is coming forth. Naturally a deficit area, industrially a neglected area by the Centre, and constructively an ignored area by the planners, it is impossible for us to appreciate the rosy picture painted by the Finance Minister to justify the steadily increasing expenditure which we, the Southerners, have to bear with equal responsibility, if not more. We are more than convinced that our salvation lies not in your hands. We are more than convinced day by day that an independent South alone can feed us. (*An Hon. Member:* No, no). With unemployment and famine staring us in the face, with a steady drain of our life blood, it is impossible for us to agree to your fantastic notions of co-operation and nation-building. With these experiences stinging us to the quick the Prime Minister and his colleague, the Finance Minister, tell this House: "The economic condition of the peasant has improved really". Sir, it is the picture of a landscape vainly gay, painted upon crumbling clay." Time will not tarry when the landscape will crumble to ruin.

It is clear from the speech of the Finance Minister that they are running the postal system at a heavy cost—I do not question the correctness of his answer. The rural post offices are increasing and have increased, but I wish to ask them who is bearing the brunt of that loss. I happen to be the President of the Extradepartmental Service Employees' Union in Trivandrum. I know how they suffer. They are paid about Rs. 20 a month, and they have to pay the building rent, they have to maintain themselves and they have to run the rural post office. I am asking them in all honesty whether they have got any respect for the Constitution which demands equal pay for equal service. These Postmasters are recruited, they say, from retired and ex-servicemen. In my constituency, 80 per cent. of such people are young men recruited fresh, and the Deputy President of the Union is a man who has rendered 30 years of service. They have to go back without pension, without any allowance, without a provident fund, just rendering service. Is it not exploitation? Is it human. I ask you. Have you no measures of relief? If you want to spread your postal system and give rural post offices, you have to spend from your pocket today, so that tomorrow you may reap.

Then, Sir, one word about the Tea Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member must resume her seat. I have given her a lot of time. Mr. Ramaswamy.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy (Salem): While welcoming the Finance Bill for the very many measures of relief it gives, I wish to stress three points, viz., the financial position of the Madras State, the over-centralization in Delhi and the ineffectiveness of the economic control over expenditure.

That there is no additional taxation is certainly a matter for satisfaction; that the level of exemption has been raised and that the single house owner is also exempt from taxation—these are all measures of relief, but one or two points I fail to understand. In spite of what the hon. Finance Minister stated with regard to exemptions of super-tax, I still fail to be convinced why people who are in a position to pay super-tax should be exempt. I hope the Finance Minister will further explain the position in his reply to the debate.

I also do not understand why there is not a total ban on the import of toilet requisites. Unless it be the Finance Ministry and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry have a softness for these toilet articles which are imported from abroad, I expect the duty should be imposed in such a manner that there should be absolutely no import of these baubles, as I would call them, these meaningless sophisticated artificialities. I also submit that the duty imposed upon the import of textiles from Britain is not enough, and I wish to speak about that more anon when the amendments to these Clauses come.

My friends Mr. Vallatharas on the other side, and Mr. Natesan on this side, have spoken about the grave situation in Madras. I only submit that the picture that they have given is an under-estimate of the gravity of the situation there. The situation is, if at all, a matter which must immediately draw the attention of the Central Government, and it is imperative that the Central Government must rush to the help of Madras State. My friends have described the economic position in that unfortunate State. I shall now emphasize the financial position of that unfortunate State.

The Madras Government have been very orthodox in preparing their budgets. During the war period, they have been able to accumulate a reserve of Rs. 50 crores out of revenue surplus, and even as late as 1948-49, they have been able to contribute to the Reserve Fund to the tune of Rs. 4.9

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crores—nearly Rs. 5 crores. But, unfortunately, the finances of Madras State depend on an agricultural economy, and as you know, agriculture depends entirely upon the decrees of fate, those of nature. It has so transpired that this unfortunate State, this miserable State, has not received its due quota of rain for the past six years in succession—not one year, but six years in succession—with the result that famine began to rear its ugly head in Rayalaseema in 1951, and it began to spread to the southern districts as well, and to be brief and to be pointed, Madras State—Tamil Nad—is in the grip of famine. The situation was so grave that the hon. Prime Minister and the Food Minister travelled through Rayalaseema, and finding the condition bad there, they promised support. On that promise, the Madras Government has spent Rs. 10 crores on famine relief alone. As against this, the Centre has contributed only Rs. 2 crores as loan, and Rs. 48 lakhs for running gruel centres. Now the position has become such that no additional taxation is possible. The law of diminishing returns has begun to operate even in the matter of existing taxation.

The sales tax which was introduced to replace the loss of income by the introduction of prohibition is also showing diminishing returns because the purchasing power of the people has gone so low, and industry, trade and commerce and everything is on the downfall. The result is that there is a revenue gap which is developing fast and into menacing proportions. In 1950-51, the revenue gap was Rs. 1.26 crores. In 1951-52, it was of the order of Rs. 5 crores, and in 1952-53, it was to the tune of Rs. 6 crores. Heroic attempts have been made by the Madras State to fill up the gap by increasing taxation, as for instance, the excise duty on petrol, and the surcharge on passenger fares. But even with this, my humble submission is that they cannot make both ends meet. The position is such that loans alone cannot relieve the situation, because the State has not got the wherewithal to repay the loans. So unless there is a grant—and I understand the Madras Government have asked for a grant of Rs. 10 crores—the State will not be able to tide over the difficulties in which it finds itself today.

Long before the Centre thought of a Five Year Plan, the Madras State had launched upon certain schemes of power and irrigation, which are really worthy of commendation. They have the power projects like the Machkund project, and the Mayar project, and irrigation projects like the Tunghabhadra and the Lower Bhavani pro-

jects, not to speak of the Manimuthar, Mettur, and the Malampuzha projects.

An Hon. Member: Rampadasagar project also.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: All these schemes were launched, and the estimated outlay on them was Rs. 85 crores, and the State has spent over Rs. 75 crores on these programmes. They have reached the stage of completion, when we can expect the returns to operate. In 1951-52, the Madras Government actually spent about Rs. 17.6 crores, and in 1952-53 about Rs. 18.5 crores. In 1951-52, the Union Government has contributed Rs. 6 crores from the Special Development Fund, and Rs. 7 crores in 1952-53 as loan. In all a loan of Rs. 13 crores has been advanced. In 1953-54, in order to complete these projects, Rs. 16 crores are necessary, Rs. 7½ crores for the Andhra area, and Rs. 8½ crores for the Madras area. The question is how this gap is going to be filled, and how the schemes are going to be completed. This is a stage at which you cannot give up or slow down these schemes, for the simple reason that with a little more effort, these schemes will come to fruition, and they will begin to pay the dividend. It is, therefore, necessary that the Centre advances the amount that I understand has been asked for by the Madras Government, to the tune of about Rs. 10 crores, in order to enable them not merely to complete these schemes which are at the final stage of completion, but also to meet the extraordinary famine condition prevailing there. We have heard of the Rayalaseema famine, so far, but now the time has come for you to hear of famine in Madras. Unless the aid is given in right time, you will have a situation which will be assuming menacing proportions very fast. It may be that it is not a good precedent to give a grant to a particular State, to the tune of Rs. 10 crores. But I would very humbly and respectfully submit through your courtesy, Sir, to the hon. Finance Minister, that the situation in Madras is extraordinary, and never was such a situation heard of in the annals of that State.

Now, I would like to submit a few suggestions for the consideration of the hon. Finance Minister. I would suggest that a Minor Irrigation Works Commission be started. I have a great admiration for the major works no doubt, but major works, in my humble opinion, create only patches of prosperity whereas there are pockets of depression in several other areas. In

order to diffuse and spread the entire financial resources of the country over the whole of it, to see that employment is given over a wider area, I submit that a Commission should be appointed to investigate into and assess the water resources in every nook and corner of the country, and see that as far as possible minor irrigation works are given preference, so that the people in the locality will be able to get the benefit of the money spent, and make use of the water that is going waste now. In that connection, I would earnestly like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to the enormous quantity of water that is running waste from the Western Ghats into the Arabian Sea. Long ago, in 1897 a European engineer got the brilliant idea of the Periyar lake, by means of which he diverted the water that was going waste into the Arabian Sea, back into the Madura and Ramnad districts, to make them fertile. I want more of such schemes to be undertaken. Plenty of water God has given us, but that is going waste into the Arabian Sea. If only all this water could be harnessed and diverted back towards the east of Western Ghats, then the whole of the Tamilnad area will be smiling with prosperity. I would impress on the hon. Finance Minister, the urgent need for this Commission, to find out ways and means of diverting the water which now goes waste into the Arabian Sea, so as to irrigate the lands east of the Western Ghats, and make the area prosperous.

I would also submit that the Rs. 3½ crores that the hon. Finance Minister has been pleased to allocate for utilisation through voluntary organisations, is not enough. I should have thought that more amount should have been placed at the disposal of the voluntary organisations, because the system has been in vogue and in practice in the Madras State, known as the firka development scheme. There, the Government have been operating on the basis of one-third help by the Government, and two-third help by the people themselves. It is a very salutary provision. If only you could find Rs. 10 crores, you could get Rs. 30 crores worth of work in kind, labour or material. And all told, you will have Rs. 30 crores. This ratio of 2 : 1 should be kept in mind, and I would request the hon. Finance Minister not to think of it lightly, because in Madras at any rate, we have got very many well-organised voluntary institutions which have been doing tremendous work, and incidentally I may also tell the hon. Finance Minister that that will also help in ushering in an era of prosperity in the forgotten

distant State,—that unfortunate State of Madras.

The other point that I would urge is that I am not satisfied with the pattern of industrial development in this country. There is only lip sympathy shown for the small-scale industries. So many deputations have gone to Japan, and yet we are developing on the lines of the U.S.A. and England. The system of large-scale industries is not suited to the genius or the social set-up of this country. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to pay greater attention to the fact that what we should copy is the system that obtains in Japan, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark and such small countries, where the social set-up is very much akin to ours, and the resources also are only limited. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to pay attention to the fact that a re-orientation in the pattern of industrial development is urgently called for. I would submit that a greater emphasis should be laid on the development of small-scale industries, not merely from the strategic point of view, but also from the point of view of giving wider scope for employment in the country which is now being haunted by this ugly spectre of unemployment everywhere.

I was submitting earlier that there was ineffective control over expenditure. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to give pointed answers to the several points that I am raising, with reference to the Explanatory Memorandum to the General Budget.

On page 25, I find that a sum of Rs. 89 lakhs has been spent on service charges for getting the contribution from the International Monetary Fund. Does it take, I ask, nearly Rs. 90 lakhs to get some money out of the International Monetary Fund? What is this service charge which is so excessive?

Again on page 73, I find that on the Cinchona plantation in Bengal, they have spent nearly Rs. 97 lakhs for getting an income of Rs. 14,000. Where has all this money gone? A little while ago, the answer was given by an hon. Deputy Minister 'I do not know the figures', but I stood up to point out the figures. I hope the hon. Finance Minister will explain the position and satisfy the House on this point. At page 96 you will find that a sum of Rs. 6 crores and 60 lakhs is going to be spent for the building of the capital of Bilaspur. After all it is a Part C State and I do not know why such a large amount of public money should be spent on building a capital. I would also invite your attention to a provision of Rs. 5.15 crores made for filling the gap in

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revenue of Part C States. I would ask the Finance Minister: Is it necessary still to continue these Part C States and spend enormous amount of money on small bits of territory. It was just for the sake of prestige that the whole paraphernalia of Government was set up in these States—a Legislative Assembly, a Council and all that. It is much better that they are amalgamated so that we can have more money for nation-building activities, I also do not know whether our Finance Minister would also agree to the abolition of the Council of States in which case we shall have a saving of Rs. 25 lakhs.

I also earnestly submit that the control of these dams must be provincialised. Several points were raised with regard to the Hirakud Dam. I wish to point out that Rs. 173 crores was the estimated sum to be granted for all the major works; now they want an additional sum of Rs. 50 crores. The engineers have placed, I submit with all sense of responsibility, Government in a very difficult position. They have committed Government to a sum of Rs. 170 crores. Government can go neither forward nor backward. Now they want another Rs. 50 crores. The end is not still in sight. Not merely that. They had originally estimated power production to be 9,33,000 kilowatts; now they say firm power will be 3,41,000 kilowatts and in rainy season it will be only 545 kilowatts. What is wrong about these estimates? Can estimates vary so much? What is wrong with the engineers who have estimated in this manner? What has been done to pull them up?

In this connection I would like to point out that the Centre should take a firm stand with regard to certain reforms in the State. For instance, take the question of the jury system and the assessor system. I know it is utter waste. If the Centre could insist upon the abolition of these sections in the Criminal Procedure Code it would be possible for the provinces to save a lot of money. I would submit that the Finance Minister must prevail upon his colleague the Home Minister to see that the sections dealing with the jury system and the assessor system are deleted from the Criminal Procedure Code in which case the Code will be simplified. The upper houses in the States should also be abolished, on grounds of economy, if for nothing else.

Another point about which I want to stress is the over-centralisation that prevails now. I do not see any reason why the All-India Medical Association, the T.B. Association, the All-India Educational Institute, the Reserve Bank

and several other institutions should be centralised in this city of Delhi, complicating the system of transport, living conditions, etc.

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): Did the hon. Member say Reserve Bank?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Yes, Sir. There is no reason why the Reserve Bank should be here. It can very well be in a central place like Nagpur, even from the point of view of strategic reasons. It would relieve pressure on accommodation.

Another point I would like to make is: there is a proposal to spend Rs. 50 lacs on the construction of a building for the Supreme Court.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member must now resume his seat. There are several hon. Members, some of them who are anxious to participate in the debate, wish to speak for the first time.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: That I consider, Sir, is unnecessary now and that money should be saved for some other more useful purpose.

Shri B. L. Tudu (Midnapore-Jhargram—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak today in connection with the lot of the aboriginal tribes. Though I attempted several times before to put up our grievances before the House, I was not able to catch your eye. Due to my deficiency in English, I do not know whether I will be able to express myself clearly or not, I feel it would have been better if I was allowed to speak in my mother tongue, Santali or in my provincial language, Bengali.

It is we, the aboriginals, who have made this country inhabitable by cutting jungles, with the attendant risk of fighting the wild animals, by levelling the grounds, filling up the ditches, etc., and still we are where we were. I am sorry to observe that we are deprived of the opportunity of enjoying most of the fruits of our labours.

You know, Sir, that for thousands of years we have been neglected. For the past nearly hundred years, some well-wishers have tried their best for our uplift in various ways; but due to lack of finances and other difficulties they could not redress all our grievances. Yet we are grateful to them for these partial benefits even. The British Government made provision for the representation of the general public in the Government in 1935, but unfortunately

we were neglected. After independence the leaders of the country, Mahatma Gandhi, our President Dr. Rajendra Prasad, our Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and our Home Minister Dr. Katju and others of the Congress made some provision in the Constitution so that some special privileges may be given for our uplift, with a view to bridge the gulf between us and the other advanced people of the country. Seats in the legislatures of the Centre as well as the States were reserved, so that our grievances may be voiced. We are extremely grateful to them. Though the Prime Minister and our Home Minister are extremely anxious to redress our grievances, they are hard-pressed by other departmental matters. So, though they are anxious, they could not do much for us.

The well-drawn up Five-Year Plan, I have no doubt, will help the average people, but I doubt whether it will help much the aboriginal tribes whose standards are much below those of the average people.

They cannot even imagine our grievances as they are not accustomed to all these difficulties. One of our renowned Bengali poets had rightly said:

“चिरमुलीजन भ्रमे कि क्लान्त
व्यथितवेदन बुझिते परे
कि यातना विषे बुझिबे न किन
कमू अशी वषे दर्शनि परे”

A person cannot feel the pain of poison if he is not bitten by a poisonous snake. So it is in our case. In this House there are discussions about different plans, schemes, Committees, scientific researches etc. about which most of our members cannot even imagine. That is our condition here. In spite of that, I am really grateful that the present Government has appointed one member of our tribes as a member of the Backward Classes Commission to put up our grievances before them. But I think that the said number is not adequate. May I request the House in this connection that, if possible, in all Committees etc. our representatives are kept not to give any instructions or orders but only to acquaint them with the origin of our grievances so that they can make the necessary plans for our development.

In connection with the grow-more-food campaign, I have to say something. The grow-more-food campaign of the Government is more or less successful, but had the plan been implemented in more varied ways, the results would have been much better. It is really very difficult to point out actually

where the defect lies, because there are so many channels lying between the Government and the public through which Government help is coming to us. The help given by the Centre is dried up somewhere in the middle so that the needy persons are actually getting less benefit than they are intended to receive. It is my earnest request that some attention may kindly be given in the matter of redress. I would like to request the Agriculture Ministry particularly so that our young generation may get some practical help from agricultural institutions etc. For the upliftment of the economic condition of our people, provision may kindly be made for getting lands for cultivation permanently whether under the *Bhag Sanga* or 'rented system', and for services in workshops, railways and in other government and private enterprises.

10 A.M.

Regarding education, our benevolent Government is spending much by granting stipends to students who are prosecuting their studies in the colleges. It is true that practically none of the parents can afford the expenses of college education, and the Government cannot grant stipends to all the candidates who apply for the same. It is my request that, if possible, some means may be devised by which all the students can get at least some help in the prosecution of their studies regarding admission fee, college fee, examination fee, caution money etc. and from the rest of the grant, the most deserving students may be given stipends for continuing their higher studies. Then everybody will understand that the Government is doing something for us all and not merely to a few. Our people are striving hard for their mere existence. I would request the Government to make some arrangements by which the tribal Members are empowered to look into these matters during the off-session period—whether things are done properly or not—and to keep in contact with the local authorities for the upliftment of the aboriginal tribes, both educationally and economically.

I further say that the Harijans and the major portion of the Scheduled Caste people are also in the same condition as we are, and their case may also be favourably considered.

In connection with the services, some Government posts are reserved for our people. In a number of cases, a suitable candidate is not found for the post and the post is made 'general'. Why should these posts be made 'general'. Why not the Government train candidates from our community

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to fill up these posts? We are getting only 10 years time. There is a provision of some percentage—five or six—for the backward people. Why only 5 per cent.? Why not more than 5 per cent.—any percentage which the House thinks should be given to us for the upliftment of our community. And I hope the House will not consider this as a sacrifice for us.

श्री के० सी० जैना (बालासोर—रक्षित—
अनुसूचित जातियाँ) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय,
आप ने मुझे हाउस में बोलने का जो मौका
दिया, उस के लिये मैं आप का आभारी हूँ ।

माननीय वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने साव-
धानी के साथ जो वित्त विधेयक बनाया है
उस के लिये मैं उन को भी धन्यवाद
देता हूँ । हाउस में देखा जाता है कि हमारे
विरोधी दल के सदस्य वर्ग बेकारी की
शिकायत करते हैं । यह बात सही है कि
हमारे देश में बेकारी फैली हुई है, लेकिन
मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आजादी मिलने
के साथ ही साथ हमारे यहां बहुत से स्कूल
कालेज आदि खोले गये हैं । जो हमारी
शिक्षा अंग्रेजों के शासन के समय से चली
आ रही है वह ऐसी है कि हमारे स्कूलों और
कालेजों से जो लड़की, लड़के निकलते हैं
वे (१) आफ्रिस में बैठकर कलमचाप के
सिवा और कोई (२) दैहिक मिहनत के
साथ काम नहीं करना चाहते हैं ।

हमारी बेकारी की जिम्मेवारी हमारी
शिक्षा है । जब तक इस शिक्षा में परिवर्तन
नहीं होगा तब तक देश में बेकारी फैलती
रहेगी । हमारी सरकार काफ़ी कोशिश कर
रही है कि शिक्षा किसी तरह से बदली
जाय, इसलिये हमें धीरज के साथ प्रतीक्षा
करनी चाहिये ।

मैं उड़ीसा से आया हूँ और वहाँ के बारे
में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ । मुझे एक हिन्दी

की कहावत याद आती है । सो है “ग्वाले के
लड़के को दूध की शिकायत” । ग्वालों के
घर में काफ़ी दूध मिलने की आशा की जाती
है, उनके लड़कों को दूध न मिलना तो
ताज्जुब की बात समझी जाती है । इसी तरह
हमारा जो उड़ीसा है वहाँ काफ़ी खनिज
पदार्थ हैं लेकिन दुःख की बात है उड़ीसा
में उनको इस्तेमाल करने के लिये कोई
कारखाना नहीं है । इसलिये-मुझे बहुत
शर्म आती है और मैं सरकार से अर्ज करना
चाहता हूँ कि हमारे उड़ीसा की उन्नति के
लिये वहाँ पर कोई कारखाना खोला जाय ।
उधर काफ़ी क्रोमाइट है, काफ़ी लोहा है
और काफ़ी दूसरी चीज़ें हैं उनको इस्तेमाल
किया जाय । लेकिन खेद की बात है कि
उधर अभी तक कोई कारखाना नहीं बन
पाया ।

हमारे हरिजनों और आदिवासियों के
लड़कों की पढ़ाई के लिये सरकार ने जो
कुछ सुविधा की है उसके लिये मैं सरकार
को बधाई देता हूँ । लेकिन इसी के साथ साथ
मैं उन विद्यार्थियों की कुछ कठिनाइयों की
ओर सरकार का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता
हूँ । उनको जो स्टाइपेंड दिया जाता है
वह ठीक समय पर नहीं दिया जाता है ।
हमारे पास कालिजों में पढ़ने वाले बच्चों
की शिकायतें आती हैं कि उनको समय पर
स्टाइपेंड नहीं मिलता है । इसलिये मैं
सरकार से अर्ज करता हूँ कि उन की इस
कठिनाई को दूर करने के लिये कोशिश
की जाय ।

मैं बालासोर कांस्टीट्यूएँसी से आया
हूँ और वहाँ की कुछ बातें कहना चाहता
हूँ । बालासोर एक ऐसी जगह है जहाँ पर
मैं समझता हूँ कि मंलेरिया घर बना कर
बैठ गया है । मैं तो समझता हूँ कि बाला-

सोर झिल्ले में जितने आदमी बसते हैं उनमें से ६० प्रतिशत आदमियों को मैलेरिया बुखार पकड़ता है और बहुत आदमी इस के शिकार हो जाते हैं। इसलिये मैं सरकार से अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि इस की रूकावट के वास्ते वह भारत सरकार की तरफ से एक चलता दवाखाना का इन्तजाम हो जिससे कि गरीब आदमियों के पास मदद पहुंच सके और वे मैलेरिया से छुटकारा प्राप्त कर सकें। इसके लिये सरकार की तरफ से कोई कोशिश की जानी चाहिये।

हरिजनों और आदिवासियों के लिये सरकार की तरफ से कुछ नौकरियां सुरक्षित हैं। लेकिन मुझे जहां तक मालूम है जो अफसर उनकी नियुक्ति करते हैं वे ईमानदारी से नहीं करते हैं। कभी कभी हरिजनों और आदिवासियों के स्थान पर दूसरों को ले लिया जाता है। इस लिये मैं सरकार से यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि जो स्थान उनके लिये निरसुरक्षित हैं उन पर उन को नियुक्त करने के लिये ईमानदारी से कोशिश हो और जो अफसर नियुक्ति करते हैं उन से भी मेरी विनती है कि वे ईमानदारी से अपने काम को निभावें।

अन्त में मैं आप को धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

श्री रणबमन सिंह (शाहडोल-सिद्धि—रक्षित—अनुसूचित आदिम जातियों) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपको धन्यवाद है कि आप ने मुझे भी बोलने का मौका दिया।

अर्थमंत्री महोदय ने जो कुछ रचनात्मक कार्य किये हैं और करते जा रहे हैं उनके लिये मैं उन को धन्यवाद देता हूँ। मंत्री महोदय ने जो फाइनेन्स बिल पेश किया है उस पर आज कई दिनों से चर्चा हो रही

है और कई महानुभावों ने उस पर अपने अपने विचार प्रकट किये हैं और उन बातों पर काफ़ी प्रकाश डाला है जो कि जनता के हितार्थ हैं। मैं भी अपने कुछ चन्द सुझाव पेश करना चाहता हूँ।

सरकार को जब कभी हम कहते हैं कि खर्च में और कुछ कमी होनी चाहिये तो सरकार अपने कर्मचारियों के बारे में शिकायत समझ कर प्रौरन नीची श्रेणी के कर्मचारियों को निकालना शुरू कर देती है जिससे वह बेचारे बेरोज़गार हो कर भूखों मरने लगते हैं। नतीजा यह होता है कि उन में खास तौर से बेकारी बढ़ जाती है और फिर उन की ओर सरकार की तरफ से कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता। वैसे ही हमारी सरकार दूसरे देशों की नकल करने में बहुत कुशल है लेकिन इस बात की नकल नहीं करती कि बरतानिया बेकारी और बेरोज़गारी की कट्टर दुश्मन है। वहां की सरकार खुद इस कार्य की जिम्मेदारी लेती है कि वहां की जनता को काम में और रोज़गार में लगावे और काम दे। अगर वह किसी तरह से नौकरी या रोज़गार नहीं दे सकती तो कम से कम कुछ आर्थिक सहायता तो देती है जिससे कि वे आदमी भूखें न मरने पायें। लेकिन हमारी सरकार अपने ऊपर इस तरह की जिम्मेदारी हरगिज़ नहीं लेती है और जो कुछ कार्य करती है उससे देश में बेकारी और बेरोज़गारी बढ़ती जा रही है। हमारे मंत्री महोदय अपने भाषण में कहते हैं कि जनता को सरकार के काम में मदद देनी चाहिये जैसे सड़क, नहर, कुंवां, मकान वगैरह बनाने में। उन से कहा जाता है कि सोयमश्रम बिना वेतन काम करो। यहाँ तक कहा जाता है कि काम ही पूजा है और पूजा में दूजा की ज़रूरत नहीं

[श्री रणदमन सिंह]

है। लेकिन मैं सरकार से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि भूखी जनता किस तरह से इमदाद दे। एक कहावत है : "चार कौर भीतर फिर देव और पीतर" यानी जब कोई आदमी खाया पिया होगा तभी उसका मन काम करने में लगेगा। भूखे का कोई काम में मन नहीं लगता। मिसाल के तौर पर मैं सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि अभी विशाखपटनम के जहाजी कारखाने में करीब आठ सौ कर्मचारियों को घोखेबाजी और दुर्व्यवहार से निकाला गया है और आज वह बेचारे भूखों मर रहे हैं और उनके लिये कोई व्यवस्था नहीं की गई है। मुश्किल की बात यह है कि चाहे सरकार इकतनी भी पंच वर्षीय योजनायें देश के सामने रखे लेकिन उसको खुद मालूम नहीं है कि जनता को क्या चाहिये और अपने ध्येय पर पहुँचने के लिये उसे किस रास्ते पर चलना है। ऐसी सूरत में यह योजना शरीब जनता के वास्ते आसमान के तारे के समान है कि देखने में तारे नजर जरूर आते हैं लेकिन इस्तेमाल में कभी नहीं आते। कई बार हमारे बहुत से कांग्रेस भाइयों ने इन त्रुटियों पर खुले आम तो नहीं पर परदे की आड़ में प्रकाश डाल कर अपना दृष्टिकोण बताया है। विरोधी दल के आदमी थोड़ा खुलासा कर देते हैं जिससे कि सरकार नाराज सी हो जाती है। लेकिन इन बातों पर सरकार की नाराज नहीं होना चाहिये और सब कष्ट सहयोग लेना उचित है। जनता की इन्हीं वजहों से सरकार की बातों पर और योजनाओं पर भरोसा नहीं है और जब तक सरकार यह भरोसा पैदा नहीं करेगी तब तक किसी कार्य में सफलता प्राप्त होना मुश्किल है। और यह काम तभी सफल हो सकता है जब सरकार अपनी नीति को बदल कर

गांधी जी के उसूलों पर चलने की चेष्टा करेगी।

एक तरफ योजना का विकास करना और दूसरी ओर बेकारी और श्रष्टाचार को बढ़ाना तथा साथ ही सहयोग व सफलता का प्राप्त करना, कहां तक सम्भव हो सकता है? मैं तो अजुं कहेगा कि बेकारी और बेरोजगारी की सही तादाद मालूम करने के लिये सरकार एक कमेटी बनाये और उस के द्वारा देश भर को बेकारी और बेरोजगारी को मालूम करे और जिस प्रान्त में जैसी बेकारी हो, उस को दूर करने की चेष्टा करे और उसके बाद अपनी योजना को चालू करे तो शायद कुछ सफलता प्राप्त हो सकती है। इसी तरह दफ्तरों में कुछ कागजातों के काम का बढ़ावा बहुत हो चुका है। मिसाल के तौर पर जैसे और लोगों का (नान गजेटेड लोगों का) सैलरी बिल इन्कटा बनाया जाता है उसी तरह यदि गजेटेड अफसरों का सैलरी बिल बनाया जाय तो क्या हर्ज हो सकता है, क्योंकि एक एक अफसर का अलग अलग सैलरी बिल बनाने में काम ज्यादा बढ़ जाता है और समय ज्यादा लगता है।

अब मैं कुछ दो तीन बातें विन्ध्य प्रदेश के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। विन्ध्य प्रदेश के लिये जो रकम केन्द्रीय सरकार से दी जाती है उस को ग्रांट कह कर क्यों दिया जाता है? अभी तक सरकार ने कोई ऐसा खर्च विन्ध्य प्रदेश को नहीं दिया है जिस में विन्ध्य प्रदेश का कोई हक न हो, क्योंकि सन् १९४९ में विन्ध्य प्रदेश जब पार्ट सी हुआ तब से कुछ न कुछ बचत सरकार के जिम्मे होती गयी। सन् १९४९-५० में ७० लाख के करीब, सन् १९५०-५१ में ७० लाख के करीब और सन् १९५१-५२

में ७६ लाख की बचत अदा हुई। इस के अलावा सरकार से इनकम टैक्स व एक्स-साइज का जो हिस्सा हमें मिलना चाहिये था वह भी हम को नहीं मिला है। इस तरह से हमारी सुरक्षित निधि करीब साढ़े चार करोड़ के केन्द्र में जमा है। जिस में से सरकार से सन् १९५२-५३ के बजट में ९० लाख और सन् १९५३-५४ के बजट में एक करोड़ ७६ लाख के करीब खर्च के लिये दी जा रही है, यानी जमला दो करोड़ ६६ लाख खर्च के लिये सरकार दे रही है। इस के बाद भी दो करोड़ ३४ लाख के करीब रुपये की बचत हमारी ही आप के पास में है। फिर इस को ग्रांट्स कैसे कहा जाता है सरकार चाहे तो ग्रांट्स के रूप में भले ही दे, हमें कोई ऐतराज नहीं है। लेकिन कभी कभी यह भी कहे कि यह रकम विन्ध्य प्रदेश ही की है, क्योंकि ऐसा न कहने से साल दो साल बाद सरकार यह कह सकती है कि विन्ध्य प्रदेश को इनाम या सहायता कब तक दें। साथ ही यह भी कहा जाता है कि विन्ध्य प्रदेश में जितना खर्च है उतनी आमदनी नहीं। इसलिये यह खत्म या मर्जर क्यों न कर दिया जाय। सरकार से इसलिये अनुरोध है कि ऐसी गलत तिकड़म लगा कर विन्ध्य प्रदेश को ऐसी (मर्जर की) स्थिति में न लावे।

दूसरी बात यह है कि शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स व शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लिये जो रकम सरकार देती है उस रकम को खर्च करने के लिये विन्ध्य प्रदेश में जो कमेटी बनी है उस में उन जातियों के जिलेवार कोई भी मੈम्बर नहीं हैं जिससे उस कमेटी द्वारा उन जातियों को विशेष फायदा नहीं हो पाता। इसलिये रकम बेकार में खर्च हो जाती है। इसलिये वहाँ की प्रान्तीय सरकार को केन्द्र द्वारा सूचित किया जाय कि जिलेवार मੈम्बर उस

कमेटी में शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स और शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट की जनता के चुनाव द्वारा रखे जायें, जिससे इस रकम का वहाँ की गरीब ट्राइब जनता पर्याप्त फायदा उठा सके।

विन्ध्य प्रदेश में तकावी देने का जो नियम प्रान्तीय सरकार ने ट्रैक्टर खरीदने के लिये रखा है उस में एक तो फ्यादातर पार्टी बन्दी के नाते से कांग्रेस वालों को ज्यादा तकावी देते हैं, दूसरों को नहीं और दूसरे सिर्फ उन को तकावी देते हैं जो फ्रगुसन ट्रैक्टर खरीदने को तय करें। मैं सरकार द्वारा जानना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसा क्यों करते हैं एक ही कम्पनी को ऐसा क्यों फायदा देते हैं। इस के अलावा वह ट्रैक्टर छोटे भी होते हैं और वे पहाड़ी मुल्क में काम नहीं दे सकते। इसी तरह पम्पिंग सेट खरीदने में दिया करते हैं जिससे वहाँ की जनता को जिसे वास्तव में तकावी मिलनी चाहिये वह बेचारे परेशान होने पर भी नहीं पाते। ऐसी हालत में वहाँ की आर्थिक समस्या में कैसे सुधार हो सकता है। सरकार से विनम्र निवेदन है कि इस तरह के पक्षपात-पूर्ण व्यवहार को प्रान्तीय सरकार द्वारा विन्ध्य प्रदेश से फौरन दूर करने की कोशिश की जाये।

बजट की बाबत एक बात और है जो बजट सरकार से मिलता है वह इतना देर में मिलता है कि प्रान्तीय सरकार खर्च नहीं कर पाती जिस से वह लैप्स हो जाता है। सिर्फ कागजी दिखावट का एक ढांचा रह जाता है जो जनता के लिये न के बराबर है। फिर सी पार्ट स्टेट को दिये हुए खर्च की रकम को खर्च करने का भी पूरा अधिकार नहीं है जिससे वह समय पर खर्च नहीं कर पाते। मंजूरी लेने में और लिखा पढ़ी करते करते उनका समय बरबाद हो जाता है। इसलिये वह रकम फिर से लैप्स हो जाती है। अस्तु

[श्री रणदमन सिंह]

उन्हें यह अधिकार प्राप्त होना चाहिये कि वह खर्च कर सकें और साथ ही उन्हें यह चेतावनी दी जानी चाहिये कि यह रकम देहातों में जनता के हित में ज्यादा खर्च हो, जैसे तालाब, बांध, कूप, पम्पिंग वगैरह में और सड़कों वगैरह के बनाने में। यह रकम जनता के हितार्थ ली जाती है और फिर दूसरी चीजों पर बेकार खर्च कर देते हैं।

एक बात मुझे और कहनी है और वह यह कहनी है आदिवासियों की बाबत। आदिवासियों के बारे में एक कहावत है "शरीबी में आटा गोला"। इस तरह से जब कि आदिवासियों की बाबत सरकार को मालूम है कि यह लोग खुद नौकरी पेशा पसन्द नहीं करते और न शिक्षा को प्राप्त करने के लिये अब तक इच्छा प्रकट करते हैं और न उस में दिलचस्पी लेते हैं। फिर भी ऐसी हालत में अगर कोई मुश्किल से आदिवासी शिक्षा प्राप्त कर के और सरकार में कोई जगह पाने की या कोई काम करने की कोशिश करता है तो उस के साथ दुर्व्यवहार किया जाता है और उस का अनादर किया जाता है। (इस समय घंटी बजी)। बस साहब, थोड़ा सा एक मिनट और दीजिये।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : नहीं जी।

श्री रणदमन सिंह : कभी नहीं बोला साहब। थोड़ा एक मिनट और दीजिये।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अच्छा, ठीक है।

श्री रणदमन सिंह : तो अभी एक हाल की बात है। मध्य प्रदेश के एक आदिवासी ने किसी तरह बी० ए०, एम० ए० पास करके सरविस की। दस महीने सरविस करने

के बाद उस को सरविस से निकाल दिया गया। यह बड़े खेद की बात है। जब एक मिसाल के तौर पर वह आदिवासी लड़का भरती हुआ था और शायद उस को देख कर बहुत से आदिवासी उत्साहित होते, जैसे कि सरकार की योजना में है कि आदिवासियों को और शेड्यूल कास्ट वालों को प्रोत्साहन दिया जाय तो उस लिहाज से वह परीक्षा पास कर के नौकर हुआ तो दूसरे भाई भी उस तरफ आकर्षित होते, लेकिन उस को प्रोत्साहन देने के बजाय वह निरुत्साहित किया गया। ऐसी हालत में इन जातियों की उन्नति और सुधार होना बड़ा मुश्किल है। इसलिये मैं सरकार से चाहता हूँ कि जैसे सरकार ने अपनी योजना में कम से कम, पांच प्रतिशत के लिहाज से उस को बना कर तैयार किया है, उस लिहाज से इन आदिमियों को जो कि मुश्किल से कोई उत्तीर्ण होते हैं, उन को किसी न किसी हालत में जरूर कोई पेशा या रोजगार सरकार अपनी तरफ से दे ताकि उन को प्रोत्साहन मिले और अपनी आर्थिक कठिनाई को दूर करते हुए वे शिक्षा की प्रगति को बढ़ाने में भी उत्साहित हों।

बस मैं सरकार से विनम्र निवेदन के साथ अर्ज करता हूँ कि वह मेरे सुझावों पर अवश्य ध्यान दे और विन्ध्य प्रदेश के बारे में जो मैं ने अर्ज किया है उस पर भी अवश्य ध्यान दे जिस से कि वहां ऐसी त्रुटि न होने पावे और सरकार वहां गरीब जनता के हितार्थ में ध्यान दे।

Prof. S. N. Mishra (Darbhanga North): I want to congratulate the Finance Minister for a very successful career of our State finances during the last year and also for keeping our national economy in a state of fairly sound health. After the war, I think we can claim for the first time that we have broken the back of inflation. The general price level seems to have

moved definitely in favour of the consumers. The anti-inflationary policy initiated by the Government a couple of years ago seems to have resulted not only in greater price stability but also in bringing the general credit situation under control. Then, Sir, there has been an extraordinary phenomenon in our country, viz. the price recession has been followed by an increase in production. This is probably a phenomenon which has not happened in any other country in the world. And I think it is a matter of no mean satisfaction that our post-war peak level of production was reached in 1952. So I now feel that we have almost turned the corner so far as the economic situation is concerned. Also, the period of economic convalescence is almost over; and with the Five Year Plan the country now seems to be fairly launched upon the high road to progress and prosperity.

It is in view of all these things that it would be no exaggeration to say that if to Sardar Patel goes the credit for political consolidation of the country. I think, the name of the present Finance Minister will go down in history for the economic stabilisation of the country.

But to say all this is not to overlook some of the weaknesses that have crept into our financial position. I feel that after Independence we have almost eaten up our cash balances and now it stands at a precarious level. We have almost used up Rs. 200 crores of our cash balances. In the same way we have increased our public debt to the extent of Rs. 400 crores. And we are poorer in the matter of currency reserves to the extent of Rs. 650 crores. These are danger signals which point out that in the career of our finances we have now reached a stage when we cannot expect to cover our budget by any further raid on our cash balances or by loans and that this can only be done either by foreign aid or by created money.

Then there are some portents rising on the international horizon which I think the Finance Minister would do well to take into account. Only recently the *London Economist* pointed out that there was some sort of a slump coming in America towards the end of 1953. And there is another thing, though very happy and auspicious—the Korean peace prospect is brightened up. Thank God. Particularly we in India are very much anxious that some solution should come up. But I think that so far as the repercussions in economy are concerned, these two factors may well weigh with us so that we may take precautions to

cushion off some of the adverse consequences that may follow in their wake. I am apprehensive that some of the pipelines of our revenue may be choked in consequence thereof. I would therefore like the Finance Minister to take these factors into account.

Then I would like to refer to some of the suggestions regarding the nationalisation of banking and insurance which have been made in this House, not only by the Members opposite but also by Members on this side. As you know, Sir, we in the Congress Party are pledged to nationalisation of key industries as our objective. We are also in favour of nationalising such sources of investment. But it is an objective. At what time, to what extent and in what circumstances and manner, this should be done is a matter for practical and pragmatic considerations. And if the same objective can be achieved by not getting involved in some of the difficulties which may overwhelm us I think we should not insist on some doctrinaire approach towards nationalisation. I feel that the same objective can be achieved by the establishment of a National Investment Board. This is an idea which has fascinated me. So far as the origin of this idea in this country is concerned, I hope you will remember that the National Planning Committee appointed by the Congress had first mooted this idea. And this idea has also been elaborated by eminent socialist thinkers like G.D.H. Cole.

I would like to draw the attention of the House to the idea of a National Investment Board. I find that the hon. Member of the Praja Socialist Party, Mr. Damodara Menon, who had vigorously taken up the idea of the nationalisation of banking and insurance sometime back, seems to have lost the battle as he could not convince the Finance Minister by the rationale of his argument. But I want to take up this idea in a rather practical way. I have suggested that this National Investment Board under the aegis of the State can serve the same purpose. I am definitely of the opinion that if, short of nationalisation of banking and insurance, we want to control investment, if we want to direct investment in a proper channel, if we want to prevent bad investment and also guide and stimulate investment in a positive sense, then this National Investment Board can be of great advantage.

So far as the composition of this National Investment Board is concerned, I would suggest that there should be representatives of the Government at the Centre and also of

[Prof. S. N. Mishra]

the Governments in the States; there should be representatives of the Reserve Bank, the Industrial Finance Corporation and other financial institutions. In this way this National Investment Board would be a representative and effective body and can be very helpful in controlling the main sources of investment.

It would be needless for me to emphasise that if we are pledged to a policy of full employment as our ultimate objective and if we have a National Plan to implement, there is no doubt that we will have to resort to some such course. Sometime back the Minister of Commerce and Industry had hinted that something would be done to attract investment in some desired channels. I think this idea would also meet his point of view, because in my opinion the National Investment Board should be able to guarantee a certain return over a certain period in desired channels of investment. It should not be only a controlling body but, if possible, it should also be a financing or an investing body. But all these things will have to be decided after taking into account the balance of considerations. I leave the idea at that.

And now I would like to say a few words about our financial or revenue policy for the last six years. Viewing it in a broad perspective of the history of the last six years it seems to me that our revenue policy has been mainly in the nature of concessions to the higher income groups. It had been mainly in the nature of a retreat from the Liaquat Ali Khan budget. It has also been disinflationary. So far as it has been disinflationary it has been so good and so desirable. But I feel now a stage has been reached when the Government must realise the utter futility of pursuing further the present policy of taxation; because this concession has resulted neither in greater investment nor in the success of loan operations. So I feel that the Government must now take into account what has been happening to the capital issues; what has been happening in the loan market. And if we take into account these factors, the conclusion is irresistible that we will have to reorientate our taxation policy. In one sense it seems to me that the fundamental dilemma of the revenue policy does not seem to be resolved, Government does not seem to have made up its mind whether the economic salvation of the country lay through higher taxation and a stricter control or through less control and lighter taxation. The Government must make up its mind—Government has tried to

strike a balance, and I think the balance was justifiable to a certain extent in the given circumstances—but now after having introduced a certain amount of stability we must also import elements of progress in our taxation policy. And particularly so far as this year is concerned, I think there could not have been a more propitious year psychologically for raising direct taxation than this year, namely 1953, and that for a particular reason. We have launched a Five Year Plan and we could have appealed to the nation, with ample justification, to make sacrifices for the implementation of the Five Year Plan. But it seems that the Government does not think that any special or additional effort is required for the implementation of the Five Year Plan. The Government thinks that the implementation of the Five Year Plan is an easy and soft job and therefore it does not think in terms of a special effort or sacrifice.

I have no doubt that had Government been not unduly diffident or pusillanimous and appealed to the nation for greater sacrifices, the nation would have been responsive. But I do not know for what reasons this has not been done. I say that I am conscious of the fact that any reasonable increase in direct taxation would not result in greater revenue. Yes, I am conscious of that, but I am looking at it from another angle. You will realise that after having guaranteed the private enterprise a free and unrestricted play in their domain, with this tendency towards stabilising the present taxation policy, it seems that the *status quo* is going to be maintained to a certain extent and concentration of wealth is going to continue in the hands of a few. How are we going to reduce this concentration of wealth in a few hands? There has been set up a Taxation Enquiry Committee—we are glad that such Committee has been set up—although there was inordinate delay in doing so. But I must make it clear that we do not expect much from the present Taxation Enquiry Committee. While I say this I speak with all deference to the Members who man this Committee, but I would have felt happier had one or two persons from public life, with a certain amount of political edge in their views, been represented on this Committee. After all, taxation policy is not a matter to be viewed in an economic vacuum. It has also a certain political and ideological touch about it and so I would have felt happier if this Taxation Enquiry Committee included certain persons of outstanding experience and ability from political

life. Taking all social factors into account, I earnestly request for a re-orientation of the taxation policy so that equalitarian trends may be set up in our economy. As the U.N. expert, Mrs. Ursula Hicks, who conducted a financial survey of India under the auspices of the United Nations, has said for the year 1950 it seems the present taxation policy also is "largely a gamble on the willingness of the well-to-do to save". I think it cannot be characterised in any other manner. Considering all these things I feel that in the balance, it seems that our financial policy has some thing more to achieve. So I would like the hon. Minister not to allow himself to be impressed by the atmosphere in Delhi. In Delhi wherever you go, the roughest thing you collide against is silk and satin. But I would like him to remember that conditions in India, particularly in the countryside are not as soft or silken as that. With these few words, I support the Bill.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkil): I would like to know from the hon. Member the name of the economist who conducted a survey.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: Mrs. Ursula Hicks.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I hear it as.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He cannot interrupt the proceedings like that.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (Calcutta South-East): We have reached the last stage of the drama when bouquet throwing and stone throwing at the Finance Minister will now culminate in some quotations from Telugu and Marathi combined and also some extracts from Sanskrit.

I would like to refer to some aspects of our national problems not for the purpose of merely criticising the Government but for sounding some notes of warning. Undoubtedly there are some good features in our financial administration and I for one will be the last person to take a pessimistic view of things. At the same time there should not be an undue complacency and there are certain danger signals which are coming in front of us and it will be the height of folly to ignore them. We are passing just now—I believe the Finance Minister himself has admitted it—from a stage of transition which represents a rather painful changeover to the buyer's market and in its wake it is causing jerks to practically all the components of our national economy. Undoubtedly our industrial production has gone up. It is something on which we can congratulate ourselves but at the same time we are witnessing the effect of a

buyer's market. The cost of living index has not decreased. Rather it has shown a slight increase in some areas. Wholesale price index undoubtedly has been reduced and there has been some reduction in the price of raw materials but so long as the purchasing power continues to be low as it is today, it is ultimately bound to affect our production. We would like to know what exactly the Government's plans are, how they propose to anticipate the prevention of what may amount to be a crisis. How it is to be done is a matter which has to be examined from the point of view of the Government, the industrialists as also the workers. Unless all these three interests put their heads together and keep the consumer's interests in front of them, it is not possible for us to get a solution.

Over and above this, there is an increased competition for exports in the overseas markets and that also is telling very seriously on some of our big industrial productions. If we look at the profits for 1952—we have not been able to get them all—it does indicate that there will be less profits in the industrial field in 1952 than in 1951 and in fact, the financial proposals themselves envisage that there may be less realisation from taxes in some spheres at least.

There is accumulation of stocks in some of the big industries. Some factories are closing down. It is a feature which we find to be a common one in almost all parts of India and naturally, that is resulting in unemployment. Unemployment amongst the workers and unemployment amongst the middle classes due to the policy of retrenchment and want of occupation are assuming very serious proportions we do not see any constructive approach to the solution of this problem either in the policy as adumbrated by the Government or otherwise.

With regard to food, there are famine pockets in this country. I would very strongly urge the Government to change the Famine Code completely. That was based on considerations which existed in this country nearly 75 years ago when we were under foreign rule but now sometimes taking advantage of these rigorous provisions of the Famine Code, Government refuses to offer help in areas where people are suffering for want of food. In many cases it is not physical shortage but it is due to the incapacity of the people to purchase at the current prices. Food prices as you know, Sir, absorb nearly 50 per cent. of our cost of living index and unless and until there is a substantial fall in food prices, we can never expect to have a real improvement in the economic condition of the country.

[Dr. S. P. Mookerjee]

Now our economy naturally largely depends on agriculture. The whole Planning Commission's recommendations allot 50 per cent. of the total amount to agriculture and so far as the other sectors are concerned, they have not received the shares which are really due to them. Look at the condition of some of the major factories. Today in answer to a question, the Minister of Agriculture referred to the sugar industry. He said 13 sugar factories in U.P. have now closed down. The reason is, no sugar cane is available, and as a matter of humour, he said if more sugar cane was available, the factories would not have closed down. Is it a part of the economic planning of the Government that sugar production which reached a certain peak level last year is to be reduced this year? What will be the effect on local consumption? What will be the effect on possible export of sugar outside? What will be the effect on employment? Then, look at tea. I do not wish to go into the details. But, that industry is also presenting problems which have to be taken up from a long term point of view. With regard to jute, the recent Indo-Pakistan Trade Pact has contributed to certain results which have been disastrous to millions of our jute growers. I do not know under what circumstances this Trade Pact was really formulated between India and Pakistan. Of course, the Minister may say that it is not mainly due to the Trade Pact. Let us not quarrel about the quantum of responsibility. But, it is certainly a contributory factor. In any case, the fact remains that the prices of jute have completely toppled down. They have gone down to nearly 10 or 12 rupees in parts of Bengal and Assam. In the U.P., I read about 3 days back that the prices have gone down to Rs. 7 or 8 per maund. While there is a proposal according to the report of the Planning Commission that 3 lakh acres should be allotted for growing jute in the U.P. alone, the Chief Minister there has stated that it may not be possible to have even half of the acreage that U.P. had last year. Last year, U.P. had only 90,000 acres under jute. When the question is raised about the fixation of minimum prices for jute, Government says that it has not made up its mind about it. As it is, the Planning Commission itself puts the issue very clearly and categorically. Maintenance of an adequate degree of control over the prices of different agricultural commodities, it says, continues to be the essential condition of our agricultural planning. The price policy, it says, remains a

pre-eminent factor in the fulfilment of our agricultural plan. But, actually, when you find that prices are topping down, which may affect not only millions of poor agriculturists, but also the future of the entire industry itself, Government says that it has not yet been able to make up its mind and it has no proposals to make at all. These are industries which are virtually controlled by foreign interests. I have no time to go into the details. But, it is of great importance that the national policy must not be dictated by these foreign interests who control the future of these industries. Things have happened in the past which will certainly indicate the desirability of our dictating the policy and not the policy being dictated to us by agencies which may not be ultimately interested in our national welfare.

I come next to the public sector, the nationalised industries, the State concerns which are coming up in different parts of the country. I certainly would like to take a completely non-partisan, and if I may say so, a national attitude towards the future of these institutions. They belong to the nation. It is of the utmost importance that they must be developed to grow in such a manner that we may be able to become self-sufficient in the directions which they are expected to serve, and also they may give us rich experience for the purpose of expanding our activities in regard to the development of national concerns. But, it is also of the utmost importance that nationalised concerns must not become a bureaucratisation of these concerns. We must be able to devise the means so that these institutions can be managed efficiently, honestly and in a business-like manner. All these three conditions should be fulfilled.

It is a matter of great pain when you hear on the floor of the House that our ship-building yard at Vizagapatam today is being threatened with retrenchment to the extent of about 800 workers, mostly technical men. When we discuss this matter on the floor of the House, we are told that because of want of materials or for some other reason, retrenchment has become inevitable. I do not wish to go into the details. But, I would specially appeal to the Minister of Production, who, I am glad, is present in the House, that he should not allow this retrenchment to come without an impartial enquiry. A demand which has been made on behalf of the Opposition and some Members of the Government party also like Mr. Harihar Nath Shastri, is that there must be an independent enquiry immediately, and

that these 800 and odd people should be restored to service. After an enquiry has been made, if it is found that retrenchment is inevitable in some directions, a proposal should be drawn up and it should be effected in such a manner that we do not lose the services of men who are really technically qualified for the purpose of ship-building. Here, the disclosures which have come out in the report of the Public Accounts Committee are really heart-rending. Mistakes may be committed. Of course, when big attempts are made, big mistakes also are made. It is not about the mistakes that we are worried, but about the speed with which we propose to rectify them and prevent the possibility of the recurrence of such mistakes. It is in this respect that Government should come out with their specific proposals.

I had suggested at the time of the discussion of the Budget that there should be pre-audit or concurrent audit system with regard to the management of these institutions. If that is done, this sort of startling disclosures, which are more or less of the nature of a post mortem examination, which may give satisfaction to some, but which are nothing but a matter of regret and humiliation to us all, no matter whether we belong to the Government party or the Opposition, can be avoided. These institutions must be run as business-like institutions. Specially, I would suggest to the Government that the relationship between the workers and the employers in these factories must be of a kind completely different from what we find in a normally private-managed institution. We are talking of a Welfare State. We are talking of creating model conditions so far as the workers are concerned. When we have these national factories, which are dedicated to the service of the country, why should it not be possible for us to establish such a relationship between the workers and the employers there that both may join hand in hand and through co-operative effort build up these institutions of national value and national importance? Unfortunately, in many of these institutions, whether they are Ordnance factories or other factories established in different parts of the country, we are getting complaints from the labourers or workers. It is not for us to judge as to who is right and who is wrong. What I am saying is, there is lack of that atmosphere which can produce united work on the basis of common understanding and common service for the attainment of a common purpose.

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So far as the National Laboratories are concerned, we have spent crores of rupees for building them up. I am proud of them. They are institutions, which, as the Prime Minister said the other day, are capable of producing great results. But, I would like to sound a note of warning here. These National Laboratories will remain only fine buildings, may be fine equipment also, unless you are able to equip them with properly trained men. Where are these men to come from? You are now picking up the men from the existing universities and other institutions throughout the country, and bringing them to the National Laboratories, paying them salaries higher than what they were getting in their own institutions. It may be right, it may be necessary for the time being. But, unless and until you keep these Universities alive and prosperous and you make it possible for them to produce a generation of men, trained in the highest scientific skill and knowledge, so that with our Indian staff we may be able to equip these National Laboratories, there is no future for these great institutions. Unfortunately, the grants which have been made by the Government for this purpose are utterly inadequate. Unless there is a significant change in the policy of financial assistance to our higher technical institutions, and Universities, the future of these National Laboratories also would be doomed, and their tenure will be of a very short-lived character.

With regard to the taxation proposals, I do not wish to go into the details. So far as the postal rates are concerned with regard to books and other things, already, it has been said how it is likely to hit the reading public, especially the student community. The Finance Minister is not getting a very large sum out of this taxation. As a gesture towards the development of educational and cultural activities, perhaps, he might have been able to find some substitute in the place of the increased postal rates. With regard to exemption from taxation for donations for charitable purposes, I certainly disagree with the amendment which the Finance Minister has given that if the donation is made for the benefit of a religious community, such a donation will not be exempted. This is the disease of secularism going so deep into the hearts of Government that it may result in corroding the hearts themselves. If someone gives a donation for the benefit of a religious community, or for the matter of that for a particular community, so long as the purpose is all right, why should it not be regarded as a *bona fide* charity. Even under the existing Constitution, as you know, Sir, the Article makes it

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abundantly clear that there may be special help given to women, children, backward classes, scheduled castes. Supposing you have some orphanage for Hindu children, you have certain widow homes in various parts of the country, and if there is a big donation given for such purposes, I do not see any reason why the Government should withdraw the favour of exemption from the donors to such institutions. Even at this late stage, I would request Government to re-examine it. If there is any unsocial purpose for which a donation is made, it is open for Government to reject it, but merely because a community or a section of the people is helped in accordance with a scheme which is otherwise desirable, the facilities which otherwise would have been open to the donors should not be withdrawn.

With regard to the expenditure which is mounting up, we must be able to regulate it. So far as taxation is concerned, it is difficult; I believe it is not possible to have much more revenues in this country through taxation. Of course, it will take two years before the Taxation Enquiry Committee concludes its labours, but there are certain directions in which we can move, and I would request the Finance Minister to examine these proposals in a detached and dispassionate manner.

I would certainly support the re-imposition of Salt Tax. It will give us at least Rs. 10 to Rs. 12 crores, and it will not affect the consumer. It may affect certain classes of middlemen, and I believe, Sir, that the re-imposition of this tax will bring to the coffers of the Government a decent amount every year through which our development plans may be pursued.

I would urge the Government to re-examine its present prohibition policy. A certain enquiry was conducted in Madhya Pradesh by a Judge or the Chief Justice, and certain ugly disclosures have been made, although the report has not been made available to us. I am not saying that you should encourage people to drink. You can have your own policy. It must be a social matter, but by some revision of the present policy of prohibition which is costing the country nearly Rs. 40 to Rs. 50 crores including what is being spent for keeping the huge Police and C.I.D. paraphernalia, we may easily be able to get at least half that amount, without in any way encouraging any social evil in this country. In fact, even in our present budget we expect Rs. 1½ crores from foreign liquor. So, the possibility of

our getting revenues from liquor is not entirely over-ruled in our budget. We should be able to look into this matter with a certain amount of realism.

I would suggest that we consider the proposal of abolishing the Part "C" States. It is costing us crores of Rupees every year unnecessarily, and now that five years have passed since the Constitution was framed, this whole question should now be reopened and examined not in the light of the interests of individual groups of people residing in some parts of the country, but in the interests of the entire nation. I would certainly ask Government to consider the desirability of abolishing the Upper Houses, not only here but throughout the country. To my mind they are not expected to give us any good results at all. They are totally unnecessary and we may be able to save crores of Rupees every year by this step. It cannot be done overnight.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour):
What about the defeated Ministers?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The defeated Ministers will be appointed to the Planning Commission. You can have some more Planning Commissions.

At one stage, the Finance Minister stated that he was examining the possibility of revising the privy purses, not by direct legislation, but through gentle methods of persuasion. Of course, when his methods of persuasion start, they are sometimes very gentle, too gentle to be resisted. This possibility of revising the allotment to privy purses—whether 50 per cent. be ear-marked for development purposes in the areas where these Rajpramukhs or the Rajas and Maharajas reside,—or imposing income-tax on this total allotment may be examined.

Then, I come to this top-heavy administration. I was glad one Member from the Congress Party yesterday spoke with regard to the large number of Ministers and the manner in which the administration is becoming top-heavy. It is becoming a serious problem not only at the Centre, but in fact, in the entire country. My province in particular, being the smallest province in the whole of India, has as many as 32 Ministers. Of course, as the Chief Minister said, reciprocity came from the Centre very quickly, and what Bengal started, the rest of India, at least Delhi, followed very soon. That gives hardly any satisfaction, and the desirability of improving the condition of this top-heavy administration should be taken up.

If we examine the Police budget—I do not wish to go into details—the Police budget discloses an enormous increase throughout the country. Law and order seems the biggest problem in the country today, and not the amelioration of the conditions. . .

11 A.M.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi (Hamirpur Distt.): You are creating the problem.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The hon. Member says that they are creating the problem. I know it. The problems are created by them. Therefore, law and order is very necessary.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: I said you are creating the problem.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The other day, the hon. Member himself created a minor law and order problem by allowing half his body to come inside, and leaving half outside. In any case, the law and order problem also is there. Of course, it will be there in any country, but if there is to be a Police Raj and not a Raj dependant upon the willing co-operation of the people, obviously the very purpose of any Government will fail.

Now, about the money we are spending on the C.I.D. During the last few weeks, I have been having some experiences with regard to the censoring of letters, about the clumsy and inefficient manner in which it is done. Of course, letters are censored, and among the letters I get, it is very difficult to open many envelopes. Practically half the letter is torn and it is pasted in such an inefficient and clumsy manner that you cannot read it. Sometimes, the postage stamp itself is found inside the envelope, and half of the postage stamp is outside. Three days ago, a letter addressed to me from Calcutta was found in an envelope which came from Bombay, and the Bombay envelope had the Calcutta letter. Of course, the climax we find was in U.P. which was reported three days ago. A letter was addressed to the Secretary of the Teachers' Satyagraha Committee. The envelope came, but inside the envelope was a love letter written by a newly married wife, and apparently, the letter which was meant for the Secretary had gone to the poor husband. Of course, where the husband lives no one can trace. I do not know whether my friend Mr. Algu Rai Shastri, who has been appointed arbitrator, knows anything about it or not. These are clumsy ways of doing things. I would certainly suggest that someone in Government do look into these matters so that, if letters are to be censored or the C.I.D. has to work they may work in a proper,

manner, and not in this crude, inefficient fashion.

With regard to defence expenditure, we are spending Rs. 200 crores now. Of course, as I said at the time of the introduction of the budget, I shall be the last person to suggest that we should slacken our defence requirements. But this question has got to be gone into. Instead of doing retrenchment, you have got now four Ministers. You have the Prime Minister in charge of defence; you have one Minister for defence organization;—I do not know if there is a Minister in charge of defence disorganization—there are two Deputy Ministers also tagged on to it. A Ministry with four Ministers means that the Ministry is looked after by nobody. It is nobody's responsibility. There is no co-ordination.

With regard to defence also, I was rather perturbed when I heard the Prime Minister say that we would be satisfied to have only some second-rate equipments. That is rather a poor way of building up the defence of the country. Second-rate equipment can be blown up by first-rate equipment quickly, and I do not know how our defence organisation will be built up if the basic proposition is that we shall be satisfied to have second-rate equipments and so on.

With regard to the expenditure on defence, I believe Rs. 5 lakhs are spent every day—the Finance Minister may correct me; it was Rs. 5 lakhs previously—on Kashmir alone, which comes annually to Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 crores. Now, what is going to be the future of Kashmir vis-a-vis India. That is a very vital question which has got to be decided. Dr. Graham has submitted his report, and in his report he has virtually pointed out that he expects to give no help at all in the solution of the Kashmir problem. Although we have differed in our approach to the Kashmir problem, on the question of Kashmir vis-a-vis India, yet I believe there is a large consensus of opinion in India that the time has definitely come when the Kashmir issue should be withdrawn from the U.N.O.—withdrawn, not in the sense that we withdraw from the U.N.O. itself—because we went to the U.N.O. with a complaint of aggression, not on the question of accession. And Dr. Graham, in his fifth report, has virtually expressed his inability to do anything in respect of that.

And therefore we should quietly withdraw it from the U.N.O., and say that we do not want the interference of the United Nations at all, and that the matter should be settled between

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Kashmir and India. Of course, we have pleaded and we have urged very strongly that it can only be done on the basis of the entire State coming to India, wholly, completely, unequivocally and irrevocably. So far as the rest of Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, which is in the hands of Pakistan, something has to be done with regard to its future. We have pleaded that that territory must be won back for India. We do not wish that any part of our territory should go to the hands of the enemy, but if that is not done, if the policy of the Government is that the cease-fire line will be the ultimate boundary line between India including Jammu and Kashmir, and Pakistan, let us hear that finally. We do not want it at all. But let us know what is the Government policy in this matter, and we would like the curtain to be drawn finally on the Kashmir issue, so far as its finality of accession to India is concerned, and the greater the delay, the greater the risk of misunderstanding and also the possibility of conflict between India and Pakistan.

Lastly, I would like to say a few words on the impending visit of the hon. Prime Minister to Karachi. If the relationship between India and Pakistan improves on a stable basis, I have no objection at all.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: How does it concern the Finance Bill?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Everything is concerned.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Everything concerns the Finance Bill.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: That shows that it is not merely a law and order problem, but sometimes a problem of constitutional knowledge also.

Unless and until there is some understanding or some possibility of the basic approach of Pakistan towards India changing, I do not think that the hon. Prime Minister should go to Karachi just now. There may be some exploration. There are so many questions such as the passport system, the minorities problem, the evacuee property issue, and the Kashmir issue, the canal water issue etc. In every one of these issues we have been degraded, abused and even misrepresented. The last thing to do is to give any prestige to the present Pakistan administration, which is virtually on the collapse; it had let loose certain forces which are now strong enough to devour the administration itself. Now for us to go and start doing anything for the purpose of giving them a sort of revival will be the highest possible mistake. I am not

suggesting that the two Prime Ministers should not meet. Let me not be misunderstood. But there must be some understanding that the attitude of Pakistan towards some of the basic problems which have divided India and Pakistan, has changed in a satisfactory manner; there must be some proof of it, before our Prime Minister can go to Karachi and meet the Prime Minister of Pakistan.

The other day, as the invitation and telegrams were coming here, there were conferences in Lahore and in Peshawar, which were participated in by the Chief Ministers of the States concerned, and also by the Governors of those States, and there was nothing but abuse of the Government of India, of India, of Hindus etc. Now if simultaneously this hot and cold business is blowing; let them blow hot and cold, but so far as we are concerned, we should be extremely careful in our approach to these problems.

Then, so far as the condition in the country today is concerned, the other day, the hon. Prime Minister—we saw it in the papers—at his party meeting read out 12 certificates, or some certificates from some foreign quarters and said that according to some foreign estimates, India is one amongst the 12 best-administered countries in the world. We do not know the list of those countries. We do not know on what pattern, these foreigners who came to this country either for health reasons or for political reasons or various other reasons, chose to give these certificates. But the real touchstone will be not the verdict of foreigners who come to this country as guests, either wanted or unwanted, temporary or permanent, and then go away, but a verdict on the basis of the willing decision of the people themselves, and that must be on the basis of the solution of the immediate problems, economic, social, political and international, on which the safety, prosperity, honour and the economic advance of the people as a whole depend. That will be the real touchstone, and it is a matter of regret to say that so far as that is concerned, so far as the verdict of the people generally is concerned, that verdict is not yet in favour of the Government, and it is rather definitely against it.

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल (विलासपुर) :

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, ग्रथ मंत्री जी ने जो यह फ़ाइनेंस बिल पेश किया है, उसका मैं स्वागत करता हूँ। इस प्रवचन पर मैं किसी एक खास प्रान्त की चर्चा करना नहीं चाहता, बल्कि

सारे भारत की उन्नति को दृष्टि में रखते हुए अपने विचार आप के सामने पेश करना चाहता हूँ।

देश के फ़ौजी विभाग के लिये जो खर्च होता है उस पर काफी कड़ा नियन्त्रण रखना जरूरी है, मुझे दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि जो विभाग ज्यादा पैसा खर्च करता है उस पर काफी नियन्त्रण नहीं है। रक्षा विभाग में सन् १९४७-४८ के बीच जो उसकी द्वितीय रिपोर्ट है उस में जो कड़ी आलोचना की गई है अब तक उस पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई यह अभी तक सदन के सामने नहीं आया। इसी तरह से सन् १९४९-५० की रिपोर्ट रक्षा विभाग की जांच पड़ताल के बाद सदन के समक्ष जल्दी आनी थी, परन्तु उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप को बतलाऊँ कि फ़रवरी माह में जब मैं ने उस सम्बन्ध में एक प्रश्न पूछा और उस प्रश्न का जवाब ४ अप्रैल सन् १९५३ को दिया गया, उस के बाद ही १९५० की आडिट रिपोर्ट हमारे सामने आई, उस से पहले नहीं। आडिट रिपोर्ट को देखने से मालूम हुआ कि २३ अक्टूबर, १९५१ को सेक्रेटरी, मिनिस्ट्री आफ़ डिफ़ेंस गवर्नमेंट आफ़ इंडिया ने उस पर अपने हस्ताक्षर किये और उस के बाद आप के कम्पट्रोलर जनरल और आडिटर जनरल ने २० फ़रवरी १९५२ को अपने हस्ताक्षर करके हमारे सामने भेजा। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय अर्थ मंत्री महोदय को यह देखना चाहिये और इसका प्रबन्ध करना चाहिये ताकि फ़ौजी विभाग में जो खर्च होता है उस की रिपोर्ट जनता के सामने और खासकर इस सदन के सामने जल्द आना बहुत जरूरी है और मेरे इस कथन की पुष्टि भारतीय संविधान की धारा १५१ (१) करती है। उस धारा के मुताबिक यह सब चीजें जल्दी ही हमारे सामने रखनी चाहियें। विधान में आडिट रिपोर्ट्स के बारे में सफ़ ६९ पर १५१ (१) में इस प्रकार लिखा हुआ है :

151 (1) The reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India relating to the accounts of the Union shall be submitted to the President, who shall cause them to be laid before each House of Parliament

लेकिन यह चीज हमारे सामने नहीं रखी गई। उसी तरह से मैं आपसे यह कहूँ कि रक्षा विभाग की १९५०-५१ की आडिट रिपोर्ट हमारे सामने नहीं आई है। यह आशा करनी चाहिये कि जल्द से जल्द वह रिपोर्ट हमारे सामने रखी जायगी।

[SHRIMATI RENU CHAKRAVARTY in the Chair]

रक्षा विभाग में जो तनख्वाह दी जाती है वह मैं कहने के लिये तैयार हूँ कि वह तनख्वाह हमारे यहां कम है और यह बहुत जरूरी है कि हमारे देश के अन्दर जो लोग रक्षा का कार्य कर रहे हैं उन्हें हम पूरी तनख्वाह और पेन्शन दें, ताकि उन में असंतोष की भावना पैदा न हो और वह पूरी तरह से संतुष्ट रह कर देश की रक्षा का कार्य ठीक तरह से कर सकें। इसी के साथ साथ मैं आप का ध्यान तीसरे और चौथे वर्ग के सिविल मुहकमों के जो कर्मचारी हैं, उनकी ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ, उन को हमें उनकी लियाक़त के मुताबिक तरक्की देनी चाहिये, क्योंकि अगर उनको उनकी वाजिब तरक्की ज्यादा दिन तक नहीं दी जाती और उन्हें कायम मुकाम में देर तक रक्खा जाता है तो उससे उन लोगों में असंतोष होने की सम्भावना रहती है। यह सरकारी कर्मचारी सरकार की सलतनत को चलाने वाले हैं और अगर मैं उनको सरकार की रीढ़ की हड्डी कहूँ तो गलत न होगा।

मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि किसी भी देश की सलतनत ठंडे हाथों से नहीं चलती बल्कि उसको चलाने के लिये कड़ाई से कार्य करना बहुत जरूरी है और उस के लिये हमारे साथियों को जो दूसरी विचार-

[सरदार ए० एस० सहगल]

धारा के हैं, खबराना नहीं चाहिये। बल्कि सल्तनत का साथ देना चाहिये। सल्तनत में जो खराबियां हैं उन को दूर करना हमारा और आप का धर्म है और उस में जो भी गलतियां हों उनको हमें और आप को दूर करना होगा। मैं आप के सामने यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जिन नदी घाटी योजनाओं को पंचवर्षीय योजना के द्वारा आप कार्यरूप में ला रहे हैं, तथा भूमि के गर्भ से क्रीमती चीजें निकालने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं, इस के अतिरिक्त पहाड़ों को खोद कर उस में से खनिज पदार्थ पैदा करने का विचार कर रहे हैं, उस में मैं आप का ध्यान अपने यहां की एक खास चीज पर दिलाना चाहता हूँ, यह न समझा जाये कि मैं अपने प्रान्त के लिये कह रहा हूँ बल्कि देश की तरक्की के लिये रखना चाहता हूँ। मैं आपकी आज्ञा से CWINC रिपोर्ट, अप्रैल १९४५ से मार्च १९५० तक के कुछ भागों को पढ़ना चाहता हूँ :

"Madhya Pradesh (M.P.) is one of the richest States of India in minerals. There are large deposits of coal, bauxite iron, copper, manganese, limestone, etc. No large scale industrial use of the mineral wealth has so far been attempted. Absence of cheap power appears to have been the principal handicap. Surveys for the purpose of utilising the water resources of the area were undertaken about thirty years ago but the reports were discouraging. It was, at the time brought out that, in spite of the copious rainfall over the entire area, the water resources could not be utilised to produce cheap power or cater for large scale irrigation of the millions of acres of cultivated areas. Recently, however, at the request of the Government of M.P. a fresh reconnaissance was carried out by the CWINC, and it was revealed that potential for power exceeded one million kw. and water could also be made available for perennial irrigation of nearly a million acres of land".

इस तरह से इस रिपोर्ट को पढ़ने से आप के जरिये नदी घाटी योजना मंत्री जी को मालूम होगा कि मध्य प्रदेश में कितनी ज्यादा सहुलियतें खनिज पदार्थ तथा नदी घाटी योजना के लिये मिल सकती हैं। इस के साथ साथ इस में यह भी दिया है :

"The Bastar area of the State is a sparsely populated tract. Cultivation is done on a restricted scale and the plentiful mineral resources have not been explored or exploited. A part of this tract is on a plateau at an elevation of over 2,000 feet above mean sea level. The rainfall is good and climate exhilarating. The area therefore offers great scope for resettling and rehabilitating refugees from Western Pakistan. This can be achieved without disturbing or encroaching upon the areas occupied by the tribal population".

इस के साथ साथ मैं आप का ध्यान सफ़ह ६१ के इस पैराग्राफ़ की तरफ़ दिलाना चाहता हूँ :

"The principal river of this area, the Indravati, has great potential for power development which is absolutely necessary for exploiting the rich iron ores concentrated in two comparatively small areas, aggregating to over 100 crore tons, and containing 68 to 70 per cent. of pure iron, for the manufacture of pig iron, cast iron, steel, etc."

मैं आप के जरिये से मंत्री महोदय से अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि स्टील प्लैन्ट लगाने के बारे में उन्हें इस एरिया का जहाँ कि इतना ज्यादा लोहा मिल सकता है, विचार करना चाहिये। जब भी वह शीर करेशन को अपनी CWINC की रिपोर्ट को देख कर तब कोई क्रदम उठाना चाहिये। और लोहे का कारखाना इन कारणों से मध्य प्रदेश में लगाना चाहिये :

इस के साथसाथ मैं आप का ध्यान इस तरफ और दिलाना चाहता हूँ :

"At the request of the States Ministry, a reconnaissance survey was carried out by the CWINC in Bastar area and four suitable dam sites were located where development appeared attractive. Three of them are on the Indravati and one on the Sabari, both tributaries of the Godavari. The power potential of these will be in the neighbourhood of 31,400 k.w. continuous. Besides, the dam on the Sabari river will provide irrigation facilities for an area of about 7 lakh acres".

यह जो चीजें हैं इन को अगर हम जो हमारी पांच वर्ष की योजना है उस में मिला लें तो उन से बहुत कुछ फायदा इस स्थान का हो सकता है जहां कि रहने वाले आज बहुत बुरी हालत में रह रहे हैं ।

इस के बाद मैं आप का ध्यान इस ओर भी दिलाना चाहता हूँ :

Hasdeo Dam Project—Rain gauges were fixed at the dam site and in the catchment area. Gauge, discharge and rainfall observations were in progress till the close of the sub-division.

Later on, the State Government desired to keep in abeyance investigations on the Hasdeo Project and, as a result, the Hasdeo Sub-Division was abolished on 26th December, 1949.

मैं यह कहूंगा कि इस हसदेव डैम तथा अरपा प्रोजेक्ट जो सरवे हो गया है उसे आप पांच वर्षीय योजना के बजट में अभी नहीं तो सन् १९५४-५५, १९५५-५६ या १९५६-५७ में शामिल करें और और करें तो आप बहुत बड़ा फायदा यहां के रहने वालों का कर सकेंगे । जो ज्यादा से ज्यादा गल्ला आप को देते हैं ।

अब मैं आप का ध्यान पब्लिक ऐकाउन्ट्स कमेटी की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ । मैं माननीय अर्थ मंत्री जी से यह कहूंगा कि पब्लिक ऐकाउन्ट्स कमेटी ने जो रिपोर्ट दी है उस पर भी आप ठंडे दिमाग से गौर करें । और विचार करें कि कौन सी ऐसी खराबी है जिस को दूर करना हमारा और आप का दोनों का फर्ज हो जाता है ।

मेरे पूर्व जो माननीय सदस्य बोले हैं उन्होंने प्राहिबिशन पालिसी के बारे में बतलाया है । मध्य प्रदेश की जो प्राहिबिशन पालिसी थी उस के सम्बन्ध में मैंने खुद अपने विचार प्रकट किये हैं और मैं यह कहने के लिये तैयार हूँ एक कांग्रेस-मैन होने के नाते कि जो हमारी प्राहिबिशन पालिसी है उस की फिर से छानबीन करनी चाहिये । उस के छानबीन करने पर कोई नुकसान नहीं है जो ज्यादा रुपया आज हमें नहीं मिलता है वह हो सकता है कि ज्यादा तादाद में मिल सके । आजकल की प्राहिबिशन पालिसी से स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को नुकसान हो रहा है, इस के लिये आल इंडिया बेसिस पर हमें प्राहिबिशन पालिसी को फिर से बारीकी से छानबीन करके दोहराना चाहिये ।

अंत में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो हमारे सी पार्ट्स के राज्य हैं यदि उन में सालाना आमदनी कम है तो जितनी जल्दी हो सके उतनी जल्दी उन को आस पास के स्टेटों में मिला देना चाहिये । मैं तो यहां तक कहने के लिये तैयार हूँ कि बी क्लास स्टेट्स के लिये भी अगर कोई ऐसी स्टेट्स हैं जिनको आमदनी जितनी है उस से खर्च ज्यादा है उन के लिये भी हमें विचार करना चाहिये ।

[सरदार ए० एस्० सहगल]

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आप को धन्यवाद
देता हूँ ।

Shri B. C. Das (Ganjam South): The Finance Bill is discussed in the background of the Five Year Plan. The Minister for Planning and Irrigation has called the River Valley projects "the very substance of the Plan". He has said—I am quoting him—

"They are the gems of the Five Year Plan on which the success of the solution of the shortage of our food problem depends."

Then, if that is so, we have to carefully scrutinise these projects when we see them going wrong. Also we have to see that these projects are run properly and are really turned into national undertakings enthrusing joyous participation of the people. But are they so? A few days ago we had the report of the Public Accounts Committee before us. We also heard the Planning Minister's reply on the 27th March. Before that on the floor of this House several complaints on the working of the Hirakud project were made by several members from different parties including the Congress party. In the Press of Orissa you find complaints against the working of this project. We have also seen in the all-India Press certain reports—very nauseating reports—about the working of the Hirakud project being published. At last we found the Public Accounts Committee sitting in inquiry to find out the working of this project and submitting a report. What is this report? Certain persons try to make it out as an exhaustive report and that all that is bad and undesirable in the working of the project has been noted in it—which is not a fact. The Public Accounts Committee themselves do not claim this. If we read the reply of the Minister for Planning, we find that the impression he wants to give us is that it is an exhaustive report—that no wrong done there has been left out by the Public Accounts Committee. That is what he has said in his speech on the 27th March:

"The Committee has taken notice of everything wrong that might have occurred. A few lakhs have been wasted and if you take the project as a whole, the loss is very negligible and can be easily ignored."

I am question him again:

"Let us not talk as if a large-scale wastage has occurred in relation to the work that is being done. We have got hundreds of officers engaged in it and out of that four or five cases have been found."

This is what the Minister says. But let us see what the Public Accounts Committee themselves say about the working of the project. The Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee in his introduction has succinctly put the charges against the project authorities—I am just quoting:

"The Committee wish to draw special attention to the following facts:

(a) the continued execution of works without detailed sanctioned estimates for five years from the commencement of the project contrary to established practice and rules;

(b) the failure from the very commencement of the project to make adequate arrangements for the storage and caretaking of crores worth of plant, machinery and stores and their proper accounting;

(c) the flouting of financial and account rules by responsible engineers on a scale and in a manner which have assumed grave proportions; and

(d) instances of nugatory and infructuous expenditure, and what is worse, instances of contracts and consequential expenditure involving serious irregularities and disregard of public interest."

This is very serious charge in moderate language. This is what the Public Accounts Committee say.

On the question of appointments we heard the Minister saying that there were only 4 or 5 wrong cases. But, what does the Public Accounts Committee say? I am quoting.

"Obviously, it is not possible for the Sub-Committee to go into each individual case of appointment but certain cases have been brought to our notice which show the unsatisfactory manner in which the recruitment was made."

Madam, I will not go into individual cases. But, if we go into certain cases what do we find? In the case of the Executive Engineer, Stores, Hirakud Project, we will find the way in which he was appointed does not redound to the credit of the Government of India, especially the Central Waterways and Power Commission, because the way he was manoeuvred into that office is scandalous and this has been clearly mentioned in the Report. I do not say that this was a single instance. The entire system is wrong. Something is wrong in the system. Therefore, for the hon. Minister to say that there were 4 or 5 instances is not right. The Committee have cited some sample instances. Hirakud is not a special case; it is a pointer to us; it is a warning to us that in several instances in India we find corruption rampant. This corruption has to be rooted out, mismanagement has to be done away with. How can we do that? If we do not go to the root of the matter, if we do not properly understand why this corruption raises its ugly head, then it will not be possible for us to eradicate corruption, nepotism, wastage and consequent general demoralisation.

From the Report of the Public Accounts Committee, we find certain glaring facts. Government started work on the Hirakud Project on the basis of the Project Report of 1947, which, according to the Committee, did not contain "any designs or Plans and the estimated costs were no more than lump sums based on guess work". That is one of the charges. You start huge projects without any estimates or designs.

The second charge was, that the project was entrusted to one body for all practical purposes. The Central Waterways and Powers Commission was entrusted with the execution. The same Commission was the Consulting Engineers. Subsequently, its Chairman became the Additional Secretary to deal with multi-purpose projects. So, there was no supervising authority and everything emanated from one head and corruption was inevitable.

Another glaring defect we find is that stores to the value of 5 crores of rupees were brought in 1948, but, for lack of accommodation at Hirakud, they were kept in the open. There was no check and control, and, from the report, we understand that some of them were rendered useless.

Then, right from the beginning a large number of works were undertaken without sanction. As a consequence of that we find Government

undertaking huge projects and abandoning them in the middle. There was the case of the subsidiary canal. Government spent 2 crores on it and found it unnecessary. Because they had no plans in their head, they wasted 2 crores of rupees. There is a case of a bridge being constructed, it is half finished and it is now abandoned. An aerial rope-way was purchased, but was not put into use. Thirty thousand rupees was thrown into the water. You find a catalogue of all this wastage in the report. None can say how huge is the loss as there is no accounting of the stores and works were without sanctioned estimates.

Now, coming to the condition of the people there, what has happened? The Government did not take the people into their confidence. The people were uprooted, they were not properly treated and were not given proper compensation. We find from the Report that only those people who owned lands, the landlords, were given compensation but the real tillers of the soil were simply evicted. They were not given any compensation. The Committee has recommended that they should be given land to be rehabilitated. That has not been done.

What about the workers? They have been treated as chattels. I wish to bring to the notice of the House the case of the President of the Workers' Union. He was discharged and dismissed summarily on the flimsy ground that he broke a mug of water. He was discharged without any explanation being taken from him. That is a scandalous affair. A copy of his complaint has been sent to the Labour Ministry. I think the Labour Ministry will take note of it. No reply has been received till now. It is a fact. And now what happens? The workers are treated miserably; there are no houses for the workers; thereby a large number of workers have to live in the open. Last year, cholera broke out and took a cruel toll of thousands of people, as a consequence of scarcity of water. That was the plight of the workers. If you see the officers, they are living like Nawabs in big bungalows. The people of the country, the people of the province for whose benefit the project is intended are treated as hewers of wood and drawers of water. In such cases, can you expect any justice, can you expect public enthusiasm, can you expect corruption to be eradicated, can you expect enthused participation of the people for making the Hirakud Project a grand national undertaking of which everybody could be proud?

लाला अचिन्त राम (हिसार) : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं सब से पहले फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब को धन्यवाद देता हूँ और उनको काँग्रेसुलेट करता हूँ। अब तक बहुत सी तकरीरें हुई हैं, हक में भी हुई हैं और बर्खलाफ भी हुई हैं। उन तकरीरों का अन्दाज़ा लगाते हुए अगर मैं यह नहीं कहूंगा तो अपने सवालनात को छिपाऊंगा कि हमारे फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब जो रोल प्ले कर रहे हैं वह बड़े महत्व का रोल है। मेरे दिल में उनके लिए बड़ा भारी आदर है क्योंकि इन दो तीन सालों में वे मुल्क के अन्दर जो इकानामिक स्टेबिलिटी लाये हैं उसमें उनका बहुत बड़ा हाथ है। यह अलग बात है कि अगर मैं कुछ नुक्ताचीनी भी कहूँ। लेकिन सच्ची बात नहीं छिपायी जा सकती। सच बात तो यह है कि उन्होंने जो काम किया है और जिस तरह से वह मुल्क के अन्दर इकानामिक स्टेबिलिटी लाये हैं उससे इन्कार नहीं किया जा सकता। चन्द मिन्टों में मैं दो एक मामलों के मुताल्लिक बात करूंगा मसलन रिफ्यूजीज़ के मुताल्लिक और पोस्ट मैन और लाइन्स मैन के मुताल्लिक जिनसे मेरा सम्बन्ध रहा है।

पहले मैं शरणार्थियों के मुताल्लिक अर्ज़ करना चाहता हूँ। आपको मालूम है कि पीछे रिहैबिलिटेशन पर डिबेट हुई थी। उस समय १७ स्पीकर्स बोले थे और उन में से हमारी एक अध्यक्ष साहिबा भी थी। हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब ने उनको क्रेडिट दिया था लेकिन यह बात कही थी कि जो १६ स्पीकर बोले हैं वह उनके खिलाफ बोले हैं और उनका कहना था कि वह उनके खिलाफ एक टाइरेड था। आपको मालूम है कि मैं १५ मिनट बोला था और उसमें छे तकरीबन आधा टाइम या उससे ज्यादा टाइम उन की तारीफ में बोला

और गर्वनेमैंट के हक में बोला इस सवाल से कि गर्वनेमैंट ने रिफ्यूजीज़ के लिए खासा काम किया है और उनको बसाने की कोशिश की है और उनको इसमें एक हद तक कामयाबी भी हुई है और वह हद ऐसी है जो कि खासी है जिसकी हम तारीफ किये बगैर नहीं रह सकते और मैं कांग्रेस का मेम्बर भी इसी वास्ते हूँ क्योंकि मैं समझता हूँ कि कांग्रेस गर्वनेमैंट मुल्क के लिए आन दी होल मुफोद है। लेकिन अगर एक आदमी आपको सब चीज़ों को अच्छा समझता है और किसी एक चीज़ को बुरा समझता है उसके लिए अगर यह कहा जाय कि वह गर्वनेमैंट के खिलाफ है और उसकी स्पीच एक टाइरेड है, मैं समझता हूँ कि इससे गर्वनेमैंट का भला होने वाला नहीं है।

श्री एस० एन० दास (दर्भंगा मध्य) :
ऐसी शिकायत नहीं है, ऐसा सवाल सरकार का नहीं है।

लाला अचिन्त राम : ऐसा सवाल नहीं है तो मैं अर्ज़ करता हूँ कि यह कहना कि जो सोलह के सोलह मेम्बर हैं, और उन के अन्दर मैं भी शामिल था, वह टाइरेड था, उस के साथ कनसिस्टेंट नहीं है, मुनासिब नहीं है। खैर, उस स्पीच के अन्दर, बजट के वक्त जो मैं ने दी थी, जब कि मैं उन १६ मेम्बर में शामिल हुआ, तो जो यह कहा गया कि वैंस्टर्न पाकिस्तान से जो रिफ्यूजीज़ आये हैं वे देश की इकानामी में ऐसीमिलेट हो गये हैं, मैं ने इस पर ऐतराज़ किया था कि यह मुनासिब नहीं है, यह ठीक नहीं है। मदद उन की है, यह ठीक बात है। लेकिन पूरी तरह रीहैबिलिटेट हो गये हैं यह कहना ठीक नहीं है। मैं समझता था कि यह पब्लिक की आवाज़ नहीं है। पब्लिक की आवाज़ इस से मुस्तलिफ़ है। तो मैं कुछ ज्यादा नहीं कहूंगा सिर्फ़ चन्द एक शब्द आप को पढ़ कर सुनाऊंगा। आप को मालूम है

कि इस वक्त नार्दन इंडिया के अन्दर जहाँ पर कि वेस्टर्न पाकिस्तान से रिफ्यूजीज आये हैं, बसे हैं, बहुत से अखबारों में हैं। लेकिन हो सकता है कि कोई अखबारों संघ के स्थाल के हों, या प्रजा सोशलिस्ट स्थाल के हों, या काम्युनिस्ट स्थाल के हों। लेकिन मैं इस वक्त उस अखबार की राय बताऊंगा कि जो प्रो कांग्रेस समझा जाता है। वह इंडिपेंडेंट अखबार है। उस से पता लग जायगा कि आया जो १६ मई यहाँ बोले थे उन्होंने ने पब्लिक का नुकतेनिगाह बतलाया था या मुखतलिफ़ था। पहले मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि यह ट्रिब्यून अखबार है जो नार्दन इंडिया का बड़ा बैलेंस अखबार है।

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज (शोलापुर—रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियाँ) : क्या नाम है?

लाला अचिन्त राम : ट्रिब्यून। तो उस की रायबताता हूँ।

प्रो० डी० सी० शर्मा (होशियारपुर) यह भी रिफ्यूजी अखबार है।

Mr. Chairman: Order, order, I would request the hon. Member to continue, because he would not have very much time to finish his speech.

लाला अचिन्त राम : उस ने लिखा है :

"It may be that Mr. Jain himself is anxious to introduce speed and expedition in what he does for giving relief to the sufferers from partition and that the peculiar intricacies and complexities of the problem stand in his way. But his major assumption is wrong".

उस के आगे फिर बयान यह है कि ऐसी-मिलेशन हो गया है। यह बात शलत है :

"Displaced persons have not yet been "assimilated" in the country's economy in the sense in which Mr. Jain used the word "assimilation."

दूसरी बात उस में यह लिखी है :

"What has been demanded is that they should be afforded suffi-

cient facilities to earn their livelihood with the sweat of their brow and to merge themselves in the economy of India. In this regard the Government have undoubtedly spent large sums of money, but that money is not commensurate with the magnitude of the problem. In addition, there has been lack of sympathy and understanding in dealing with refugees, particularly in regard to their shifting from one place to another."

फिर लिखा है :

"Not infrequently the approach to them has been devoid of what Pandit Nehru once called the "human touch"."

फिर आगे लिखा है :

"Many of them have taken to vocations which are new to them and of which they have little experience. They are still struggling to find their feet. But as they are not in the habit of shouting it should not be interpreted to mean that rehabilitation has been completed".

Mr. Chairman. The hon. Member should not make his references longer than his original speech.

लाला अचिन्त राम : all right, Madam, मैं आपको मंडम ही कहता हूँ। तो एक फ़िकर और कहने की मुझे इजाज़त दें। मुझे कहने की ज़रूरत नहीं पड़ती, क्योंकि हम अपनी राय तो बतला चुके हैं, सिर्फ़ पब्लिक की राय बतलाना चाहता हूँ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : आप तो अपनी राय दीजिये।

लाला अचिन्त राम : मैं तो कहता हूँ कि असीमिलेशन नहीं हुआ। लेकिन हमारी बात को आप कहाँ मानते हैं, कहते हैं कि टाइरेड है। मैंने पब्लिक की फीलिग बतलाई अब यह लिखा है :

"Only those who are in contact with them know how many of them

[लाला अचिन्त राम]

are facing starvation and destitution. An enquiry into their economic condition will at once reveal shocking results. Unfortunately those in authority are incapable of appreciating and understanding their misery".

तो मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि इस वक्त जो पिक्चर आगे बतलाई गई थी वह दर हकीकत पब्लिक की पिक्चर है। पब्लिक इस बात को महसूस करती है कि गवर्नमेंट ने बहुत काम किया है। लेकिन इन हालात के अन्दर तो रिपयूजीज की ऐसी हालत है कि जैसे कोई एक पंखी हो। उस को पकड़ लिया जाय और पकड़ कर उस का दायां पंख भी तोड़ लिया जाय और बायां भी तोड़ लिया जाय और उस के रिश्तेदार और करीबी भी सामने धायल हो गये हो। फिर वह कहाँ जाय। वह नई लैंड की इकानामी में फिट इन हो गये, यह मुश्किल है। आज उनकी यही हालत है। मैं अर्ज कर रहा था कि उन का एक पंख जो मूवेबिल प्रापर्टी है वह वहाँ रह गई। जो दूसरा पंख इम्मूवेबल प्रापर्टी है वह भी वहाँ रह गई। उन के पर गायब हैं। फिर उन के जो कमाने वाले हैं वह मर गये, रह नहीं गये। आज उन की देखभाल करने के लिये कौन है। इस लिये यह कहना कि नई लैंड में वह ऐसीमिलेट हो गये हैं, मैं कहूँगा कि मुनासिब नहीं होगा।

I hope you will allow me 15 minutes.

Mr. Chairman: He has already taken 12 minutes. I will give him 3 minutes more.

लाला अचिन्त राम: उन्होंने एक बात अपनी रिपोर्ट में कही :

"A vast majority of displaced persons from West Pakistan have been rehabilitated and their problem is expected to be largely liquidated by the end of 1953-54."

मुझे खुशी है कि मिनिस्टर साहब ने कम्पेनसेशन के हक में तक्रारी की कि हम कम्पेनसेशन देना चाहते हैं। अब मैं यही अर्ज करूँगा कि कम्पेनसेशन के बारे में सब को इतिफ़ाक़ है। मिनिस्टर साहब को इतिफ़ाक़ है। मैं सिर्फ़ फायनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब से दरख्वास्त करूँगा कि आप कम्पेनसेशन दें तो मुझ को खतरा है कि कम्पेनसेशन शायद इस वास्ते कहीं न रुक जाय कि क्योंकि हम तय नहीं कर सके कि मुस्लिम इवैक्यूई प्रापर्टी जो यहाँ पर है उसका टाइटल क्वेश किया जाय या नहीं। मैं इस से डरता हूँ। या फिर कहीं ऐसा न हो कि आप कहें कि पाकिस्तान के साथ आपका मुआहिदा मुकम्मिल नहीं हो सका। मेरी आप से दरख्वास्त है कि आप इस बात की परवाह न कीजिये कि टाइटल क्वेश हो या न हो। यह मामूली बात है। आप का पाकिस्तान के साथ तय हो या न हो, यह मामूली बात है। जरूरत इस वक्त इस बात की है कि जितने क्लेम वैरीफ़ाई हुए हैं, ५०० करोड़ के, उस का १० पर सेंट कंश में या बांड्स की शकल में दें। अगर आज उन को यह इमीजियेट रिलीफ़ नहीं मिलेगा, तो उन का रीहैबीलिटेशन मुकम्मिल नहीं होगा।

दूसरी बात मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि इस वक्त मिनिस्टर साहब के साथ स्टेट्स को आपरेट नहीं कर रही हैं। आज स्टेट्स के अन्दर क्यों ऐसा हो गया है? स्टेट्स के अन्दर टू मच अटानामी है यहाँ पर कैंम्प से रिपयूजीज आते हैं, योल कैंम्प से आते हैं और वे हस्तानापुर को भेजे जाते हैं। वहाँ गवर्नमेंट कहती है कि जगह नहीं है। कोल्हापुर भेजते हैं, वहाँ भी कहते हैं कि जगह नहीं है। इस तरह से आज इस मामले में सेंटर का मिनिस्टर डरता है, क्योंकि उन की बात कोई मानता नहीं है। तो आप को ख्याल करना चाहिये कि यह क्यों है। यह जो हक़ आप ने

आटोनामी के नाम से स्टेट्स को दे दिया है, इस वजह से यह नहीं मानती हैं। यह आप को अख्तियार अपने पास रखना चाहिये।

तीसरी बात यह कहनी है कि जो रिपयू-जीञ वंस्टन पाकिस्तान से आये हैं वे करीब ५० लाख एकड़ जमीन वहां छोड़ कर आये हैं। इस वक्त फूड की मिनिस्ट्री लैंड डवलप कर रही है। उन का ख्याल है कि आठ मिलियन एकड़ लैंड डवलप करेंगे। मेरी आप से यह दरखास्त है कि जो लैंड डवलप हो वह रिपयू-जीञ को मिले। जिन के पास जमीन थी और जो जमीन पर काम करना चाहते हैं उन को जमीन दी जाय। (इस समय फिर घंटी बजी) जस्ट वन प्वाइंट मोर (केवल एक बात और)। वह सिर्फ यह है कि आज आप को मालूम है कि देश में बीमारी बहुत है, खासकर टी० बी० की। टी० बी० बीमारी से आज हमारे पांच लाख आदमी बीमार हैं। एक लाख आदमी टी० बी० से मर जाते हैं। लेकिन आप की सूचना के लिये मुझे यह कहना है कि आज जो रिपयूजीञ हैं उनके अन्दर टी० बी० बड़ी तेजी से बढ़ रही है। मैं कल्याण कैम्प में गया था। वहां एक कैम्प में ५०० मरीज टी० बी० के थे। आज हम मिनिस्ट्री से कहते हैं कि आप खान के लिये उन को नहीं दे सकते तो अच्छा, कोई बात नहीं। पहनने के लिये नहीं दे सकते तो मामूली बात है। लेकिन जब वह बीमार पड़ जाते हैं तो कम से कम मरने के लिये तो जगह दे दें जहां कि वह आराम से मर सकें। इस वास्ते मेरी प्रार्थना यह है कि इस वक्त १३ हजार टी० बी० के बँड्स हैं। आप इन दो हजार नये बँड सैट अपार्ट कीजिये और हैल्थ मिनिस्ट्री के सुपुर्द कीजिये कि जो रिपयूजीञ हैं वे आ कर रह सकें। मेरी आप से यही प्रार्थना है।

आखिर में मैं एक बात और मिनिस्टर साहब से अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ।

करप्शन के बारे में आपके पास पब्लिक एकाउन्ट्स कमेटी की रिपोर्ट आ चुकी है और आप इस बात के हक में हैं कि करप्शन और अष्टाचार देश में से मिट जाय। इस लिये मेहरबानी करके उस कमेटी ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में जो फाईण्डिंग दी है और करप्शन के क्लेज पकड़े हैं, उनको आप कबूल कर लीजिये ताकि मालूम हो कि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट करप्शन दूर करने के बारे में वाकई सीरियस है।

डा० जाटव-बीर (भरतपुर—सवाई माधोपुर—रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियाँ) : माननीया सभानेत्री महोदया, आज इस सदन में मैं विस्त मंत्री को वन्यवाद देता हूँ कि उन्होंने फ्राइनेंस बिल के द्वारा तमाम बजट का सारांश रख दिया। महोदया, मेरा तो यह मत है कि देश में चाहे कोई भी सरकार हो, लेकिन जिस के राज्य में जनता भूखी, नंगी और अशिक्षित हो तो उस दशा के लिये वह शासन उत्तरदायी है। आज भारत को स्वतंत्रता प्राप्त किये हुए ६ वर्ष व्यतीत हो गये, और देश में इस स्वतंत्रता के आने का ढिंढोरा तो बहुत पीटा जा रहा है, लेकिन जब हम देहातों और शहरों में बसने वाले उन दीन दलित और शोषित भाइयों की तरफ नजर डालते हैं तो हम पाते हैं कि आज स्वतंत्रता आने के पश्चात् भी उन की अवस्था में कोई सुधार नहीं हुआ है, यह हमारा शोषित वर्ग जो हजारों वर्षों से दबाया और सताया हुआ है अथवा जन्म जाति के आत्माभिमानियों द्वारा उनको हमेशा कुचला गया है, जब हम उन की दुर्दशा को देखते हैं तो हम इस के सिवा और क्या कह सकते हैं कि स्वतंत्रता आ तो गई लेकिन वास्तव में वहीं तक सीमित रही जो इस की लालसा में लग्न थे। वह उनके यहां नहीं आई, क्योंकि उन शोषित जाति के भाइयों की आज भी वही दशा है जो आज से दस वर्ष पहले थी और मैं यदि अपने उन देहात में बसने वाले भाइयों की

[डा० जाटव-बी०]

हालत का आप के सामने वर्णन करूँ तो महोदया जी, आप ही नहीं बल्कि सारा सदन जो यहां बैठा है अश्रुधारा बहाने लगेगा। भारतीय संविधान में अयोग्यता निवारण सम्बन्धी धारा बनने से पहले कई प्रान्तीय सरकारों ने अयोग्यता निवारण सम्बन्धी कानून अपनी अपनी विधान सभाओं में बनाये, लेकिन दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि कागनेजेबिल आफ्रेस (हस्तक्षेप्य अपराध) न होने के कारण वह कानून मंत्रियों के कार्यालयों और सरकारी दफ्तरों के अन्दर ही सीमित रहे और उसका कोई प्रभाव न तो जनता पर पड़ा और न उन पिछड़े हुए पीड़ित लोगों पर पड़ा, उनकी आज जो दुर्दशा हो रही है वह बड़ी दर्दनाक है मैंने भी यहां पर कई बार उसके बारे में सरकार का ध्यान दिलाया, इस के अतिरिक्त विधान सभाओं के प्रतिनिधियों ने अखिल भारतीय शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट फेडरेशन के सभापति, मंत्रियों ने और भारतीय डिप्रेस्ड क्लास लीग के सभापति, मंत्रियों ने और इस सदन के सदस्यों ने इस की ओर सरकार का ध्यान दिलाया और भारतीय सरकार पर इस बात का जोर डाला कि वह एक अयोग्यता निवारण और अस्पृश्यता निवारण हेतु कोई विधेयक लाये जो कागनेजेबिल हो, दस्तन्दाजी पुलिस हो।

श्री एस० एन० दास (दर्भंगा मध्य) :
इस बात को कल कहियेगा।

डा० जाटव-बी० : फिर समझ में नहीं आता कि सरकार इस अस्पृश्यता और अयोग्यता निवारण के लिये जल्दी से जल्दी कोई कानून क्यों नहीं पास करती। मुझे बड़ा दुःख है कि जब इस सदन में यह चर्चा हो रही थी उस समय देश के भिन्न भिन्न भागों में इन पददलित जातियों पर अत्याचार हो रहे थे। सरकार का ध्यान दिलाया। मध्यभारत में मुरेना परगने में दलित जाति के समुदाय पर उन

रूढ़िवादी लोगों ने शूटिंग की और सात निर्दोष आदमियों को गोली से उड़ा दिया, बात कुछ भी नहीं थी केवल पंचायत में उस जाति का एक मेम्बर हो गया था। महोदया, इधर आप अस्पृश्यता निवारण का ढाँगा बना कर व्यर्थ का ढिंढोरा पीट रहे हैं। मैं आपको आगे बतलाऊँ कि धौलपुर स्टेट राजस्थान में संपूज्यभोला के मंदिर में जब गत वर्ष वहां के चमारों ने महादेव पर जल चढ़ा दिया, यह दृश्य को सवर्णों से सहन नहीं किया जा सका और फलस्वरूप आगजनी और लूटमार की घटनाएँ हुईं और करीब चालीस गांवों में आतंक मचा, आग लगा दी गई। लूट मार हुई, नाना प्रकार के अन्याय अत्याचार हुए।

विन्ध्यप्रदेश के बारे में आप को सुनाऊँ, वहां के सदस्य भी इस सदन में मौजूद हैं वह भी जानते हैं कि शोषित और परिष्णित जाति वाले लोगों ने जब गत वर्ष गांव बाढ़ीन में रेडियो लंगाया, तो उन लोगों का घर जला दिया गया और विवाह की तमाम सामग्री लड्डू, कचौरी पूरी आदि जो थी, वह सब लूट ली गई अथवा बर्बाद कर दी गई, उन के रहने की शौंपड़ी बरबाद कर दी। क्यों नहीं सरकार एक ऐसा बिल लाती अथवा कानून पास करती जिस से यह चीजें हमेशा के लिये रुक जायें। हमारे श्री रेशमलाल जांगड़े ने भी इसी बात के लिये सदन से मांग की लेकिन यह बड़े दुःख का विषय है कि हमारे गृह मंत्री ने जहां और सब बातों का तो उत्तर दिया लेकिन पिछड़ी हुई जाति के समुदाय जिस का शोषण हो रहा है, की अवस्था में सुधार करने की तरफ अपने भाषण में कोई भी प्रकाश नहीं डाला।

अब मैं कुछ गृह-निर्माण के विषय में कहना चाहता हूँ। आप देखते हैं कि जो पीड़ित लोग हैं, आज भी गांवों में उन के रहने के लिये जगह नहीं है और इसी कारण से उन लोगों से

बेगार ली जाती है। और उन लोगों पर नाना प्रकार के अत्याचार होते हैं, क्यों नहीं सरकार उन के रहने के लिये ध्यान देती और रुपया खर्च करती जब देश का करोड़ों रुपया और और बातों में खर्च कर रही है। रेपयूजीज के लिये सरकार करोड़ों रुपया खर्च कर रही है, मुझे उसमें कोई एतराज नहीं, आखिर रेपयूजीज भी तो हमारे भाई हैं और जमाने के सतायें हुए हैं, लेकिन मैं आप को बतलाऊं कि यह विच्छड़ी जाति का समुदाय असली रेपयूजीज है। आज उनकी अवस्था दयनीय है जब कि वह बचारे देहात को छोड़ शहरों में सड़कों पर बांस के टट्टर, पत्तों की झोपड़ी और सिरकी के पल्लर डाल कर जिन्दगी के दिन काट रहे हैं और आपको यह भी मालूम होना चाहिये कि वर्षा ऋतु में मूसलाधार पानी में वह वहीं रात काटते हैं, वहीं परिवार की रोटी करते हैं और वहीं उन की औरतों के बच्चा पैदा होता है। वहीं मृत्यु होती है। मैंने पूज्य ठक्कर बाबा का ध्यान इस और दिलाया था और मैं आशा करता हूँ कि टंडन जी जो इस समय सदन में बैठे हुए हैं वह अवश्य इस और ध्यान करेंगे, जिन्होंने गृहवाटिका स्कीम तैयार की, सरकार पर इस के लिये जोर डालेंगे कि वह उनके रहने के लिये जगह दे अथवा गृह-निर्माण की सुविधा दें। आखिर यह कौसी स्वतंत्रता है जिसमें लोगों को रहने के लिये जगह न हो। ट्रेनों में आप अक्सर आते जाते हैं, ट्रेनों और प्लेटफार्मों पर हमारे देश की जवान जवान लड़कियाँ जिन के सिर पर व अन्य भाग पर कपड़ा नहीं होता, आप के पास आकर एक एक रोटी का टुकड़ा मांगती हैं, जिस देश के अन्दर ऐसी हालत हो, उसके लिये आप कैसे कह सकते हैं कि वह देश स्वाधीन है ?

मैं तो वित्त मंत्री महोदय से कहूँगा कि यह सब आप के हाथ में है, भंडार उसी के हाथ

में होता है जो कुबेर होता है, देश का कोष जिस के हाथ में है, और यदि सज्जान्ची रुपया नहीं देगा तो कोई भी सुधार का कार्य सम्पन्न नहीं हो सकता।

आज इस बात का बड़ा दिढोरा पीटा जा रहा है कि जो भूमिहीन हैं, कृषिकार मजदूर लोग हैं उन को ज़मीनें दी जायेंगी, लेकिन मुझे दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि वह स्वप्न है बहुत से लोग जो दूसरे उद्यमों में लगे हुए हैं, व्यापार आदि करते हैं, खेतिहर मजदूर नहीं हैं भूमिहीन मजदूर बन गये और इस तरह उन्होंने ने नाजायज़ लाभ उठाया। सरकार नहीं देखती कि यह क्या हो रहा है। चाहे वह दुकान हलवाई की करते हों, लेकिन लैंडलस लेबरर बन कर और भूमिहीन किसान बन कर ज़मीन ले लेते हैं। लाला जी करते तो व्यापार हैं और दुकानदार हैं, चार आने की टोपी लगाये हुए नेता हैं, तिलक भी लगाते हैं लैंडलस और भूमिहीन बन कर सरकार की आंखों में धूल झाँक कर बंजर ज़मीन स्वयं प्राप्त कर लेते हैं और उस भूमि को उन्हीं मजदूरों को शिकमी जोत या बटाई की जोत देने वाले हरिजनों को दे देते हैं और दस रुपया लगान का उन से पचास रुपया फ्री बीधा लगान ले लेते हैं। मेरा यह कहना है कि गांवों में जहाँ यह आबाद हैं, उन को उस ज़मीन का मालिकी का हक दिया जाये और बटाई की खेती में शामिलता का हक हो, बंजर भूमि विशेषकर इस समुदाय के लोगों को दी जावे जो वास्तव में खेतिहर मजदूर हैं। दिढोरा तो बहुत पीटा जाता है, लेकिन करा कुछ नहीं जाता, यही मुझे आपको बताना है।

देहातों में गृह निर्माण के लिये आप लोग उनको ज़मीनें दीजिये, दासता की धुँसला से मुक्त करें। शहरों में उन की दशा में आपको बतलाऊं कि वहाँ भी ठीक नहीं है। यहीं इसी दिल्ली में जो सारे भारत की राजधानी

[डा० जाटव-वी०]

है और जहां सारे देश की पार्लियामेंट है वहां पर पूज्य ठक्कर बापा के नाम से जो कालोनी कई वर्षों से बापानगर बसी हुई है, वहां पर से लोगों को अब बेदखल किया जा रहा है और मुकदमे चलाये गये हैं; उन बेचारे हरिजनों ने पहाड़ को तोड़ कर रहने लायक स्थान बनाया और आज उन की यह दुर्दशा की जा रही है, दर्दनाक है, दयनीय है, यही दशा आनन्द पर्वत में जो बसे हैं उन की है। यही हालत थान-सिंहपुरी जहां पर हरिजन लोग बसे हैं, है। सरकार शीघ्र से शीघ्र उस भूमि को एक्वायर कर उन लोगों को दे और इसी प्रकार उन के रहने के लिये देहातों में अधिक से अधिक सहायता न कर सके तो उन के लिये रहने के लिये भूमि के टुकड़े दे दे जिस से वे भी स्वाधीन हो कर इस स्वतंत्रता का आनंद ले सकें। भारत देश में जहां पर करीब करीब चौदह करोड़ लोग दुखी हैं और जिन की इस प्रकार दुर्दशा हो, उस देश को यह कंसे माना जा सकता है कि स्वतंत्रता आनन्दमय है।

अब मैं थोड़ा सा आप से चर्म उद्योग के सम्बन्ध में कहना चाहता हूं। मुझे दुःख है कि श्री कृष्णमाचार्य इस समय यहां मौजूद नहीं हैं, नहीं तो मैं उन को बतलाता कि चर्म उद्योग की क्या दुर्दशा है। सन् १९४७ में ६३ लाख, ४४ हजार १५७ रुपये का कच्चा चमड़ा विलायत भेजा गया, आशा तो हम यह लगायें हुए थे कि हमारे देश का चमड़ा यहां रहे और यहां के लोग चर्म दस्तकारी का व्यापार करें और उन्नति करें। पहले इस देश का चर्म व्यवसाय काफ़ी बड़ा हुआ था और यहां के बने जूते तथा अन्य चर्म वस्तुयें ऐशिया के सभी भागों में जाती थीं और दूसरे देशों से घन आता था। लेकिन आज हम देखते हैं कि चर्म उद्योग जो देश का घरेलू धंधा है दिन प्रति दिन गिरता जा रहा है और जूता कारीगर

भुखमरी का शिकार बन रहा है। मैं आपको इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ फ़ीगर्स देना चाहता हूं, जिस से मालूम होगा कि इस घरेलू उद्योग की क्यों अवनति हुई।

सन् १९४७ में ६३ लाख, ४४ हजार १५७ रुपये का, सन् १९४८ में ६ करोड़, ६४ लाख ८ हजार पांच सौ चौरासी, सन् १९४९ में ७ करोड़, २० लाख, ४९ हजार ८५७ और सन् १९५० में १० करोड़, २३ लाख, २८ हजार ५१८ यानी करीब १ करोड़ से १० करोड़ का चमड़ा विलायत भेज दिया गया और भेजा जा रहा है। आज चर्म उद्योग के दिन प्रति दिन गिरने के कारण बेकारी की समस्या ने भयंकर रूप धारण कर लिया है। जूते का उत्पादन और चमड़े रंगने का काम इन के हाथों से निकलता जा रहा है। बाटा और फ्लैक्स जैसी मिलों ने इन के इस घरेलू उद्योग को और भी चौपट कर दिया है। आज के दिन उसी आगरा नगर में जहां सन् १९४५ में ३५,००० जोड़ी जूते प्रति दिन बनाने का औसत था, आज वह करीब केवल दस हजार जोड़ी जूते ही बना पा रहे हैं और लोगों में बेकारी के कारण त्राहि त्राहि मच रही है। कुटीर कारीगरान अत्यन्त संकट में हैं।

आप कहेंगे कि हम इस के लिये कोशिश कर रहे हैं। आप यहां का कच्चा चमड़ा बाहर भेज देते हैं। जो हमारा कच्चे चमड़े का घन है वह यहां से $\frac{1}{2}$ रुपये या एक रुपये का ढो पींड जाता है और वहां से फिर इस देश में ६ रुपये से १० रुपये पींड आता है। हमारी इच्छा यह है कि इस का टर्निंग यहीं हो और यहीं गृह उद्योग द्वारा नाना प्रकार की वस्तु बनें। लेकिन आप क्या करें? आप को तो डालर चाहियें, डालर। चाहे आदमी मर जायें, देश तबाह हो जाय, लेकिन विदेशों के लिये चमड़ा भेजे जायें।

कहाँ गये हमारे बलवंत सिंह मेहता जिन्होंने ने सदन में कहा था कि बिना उद्योग के भील लोग मांस खाते हैं, राजस्थान के अन्दर तो भूखमरी फैल रही है, उत्तर प्रदेश में कारीगरों के जेवर व मकान तक बिक गये हैं। मैं कहता हूँ कि आप वहाँ लैडर फैक्टरी क्यों नहीं बनाते ? जयपुर, भरतपुर में बनाइये, बीकानेर में बनाइये। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार को जल्दी से जल्दी इसका प्रयत्न करना चाहिये। मैं आप के विरोध के लिये नहीं कह रहा हूँ, क्रिटिसाइज भी नहीं कर रहा हूँ। मैं तो केवल आप को बतला देना चाहता हूँ कि आप को फ़ौरन इस के लिये कार्य करना चाहिये। अन्यथा भयंकर परिणाम होगा।

अब मैं सुझाव रखना चाहता हूँ गृह निर्माण के लिये बीस करोड़ ३३ लाख रुपया तथा कूप निर्माण के लिये १८ करोड़ रुपये हैं। आप को मालूम होना चाहिये कि जब कि आप लोग बिजली के द्वारा डंढा किया हुआ पानी पीते हैं, तब हमारे हरिजन भाई सवर्ण हिन्दुओं के कुओं से पानी नहीं ले सकते। उन को दूर दूर से पानी लाना पड़ता है। और तालाबों का कीच भरा हुआ पानी पीना पड़ता है। इस के लिये १८ करोड़ रुपये कम से कम रखने चाहिये। चर्म उद्योग के लिये कम से कम पांच करोड़ रुपये रखें। मैं जानता हूँ कि अयोग्यता निवारण के लिये क़ानून बनेगा। इसके लिये रुपये की ज़रूरत है। अगर आप अयोग्यता निवारण के लिये रुपया नहीं रखेंगे और क़ानून अमल में लायेंगे तो उसके लिये रुपया कहाँ से आयेगा ? इसलिये अयोग्यता निवारण के लिये मैं ने दो करोड़ रुपये की मांग की है। विदेशों और यहाँ की छात्रवृत्तियों के लिये कम से कम ६० लाख रुपया रखना चाहिये। इस प्रकार से कुल ४५ करोड़ ६३ लाख रुपये होते हैं। यदि आप इस

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प्रकार से पंच वर्षीय योजना में प्रबन्ध कर दें तो मैं समझता हूँ कि आप काफी सहायता करेंगे। देश का वह अंग जिस में कीड़ा लगा हुआ है, जिसे आप अपने देश का चीथा अंग मानते हैं, वह जरजर हो गया है, सड़ गया है, गल गया है, उस के रोग को दूर करने के लिये औषधि की आवश्यकता है। मैं नहीं चाहता कि कोई कार्य नारंगी की तरह से हो जो कि ऊपर से सुन्दर दिखाई देता है लेकिन भीतर फांक ही फांक होती है। मैं तो चाहता हूँ कि वह खरबूचे की तरह हो जो कि ऊपर से देखा जाय तो फांक फांक ही होती है, लेकिन भीतर से वह एक होता है। परमात्मा वह दिन लावे कि हम सब भारतवर्ष के आदमी एक हों। न कोई छूत छात हो और न यहाँ पर कोई किसी से नीचा अथवा ऊंचा हो। इसी तरह से हमारे देश का स्तर ऊंचा हो सकता है। अगर इस को किया गया तो मैं समझता हूँ कि देश का कल्याण होगा।

मैं आशा रखता हूँ कि हमारे वित्त मंत्री सब बातों पर प्रकाश डालेंगे। कहीं ऐसा न हो कि तमाम बातों का उत्तर देते हुए वह इन को भूल जायें। हमारे भाई आप के भी भाई हैं। मैं आपके मुख से सन्तोषप्रद उत्तर सुनना चाहता हूँ।

Mr. Chairman: Shri Thimmaiah—I can only allow you 5 minutes.

12 Noon

Shri Thimmaiah (Kolar—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I would like to say a few words about the Bhadra Project in Mysore State which has yet to receive full justice at the hands of the hon. Finance Minister. The project was started in the year 1947 by the Mysore Government and it is one of the biggest multi-purpose projects and it had to be left for want of finance. After integration we expected that the Central Government would take up the execution of the project which is not completed. Even in the Five Year Plan we see that a very meagre amount is allotted for 5 years and that will not be sufficient for the full execution of the project. Perhaps the hon. Finance Minister has no idea about the advantages of the project. It is a project under which about 2.24.000

[Shri Thimmaiah]

acres of land will be irrigated and thereby it will increase the production of food by one lakh tons. This will not only solve the food problem but also the shortage of fodder required for the cattle. Also, if this project is executed, it will produce about 18,500 k.w. of electric power including the seasonal power for providing supply to the iron and steel works at Bhadravali where you can increase production of iron and steel.

In the Five Year Plan I see the Government has allotted about Rs. 36 lakhs for 1952-53 and Rs. 40 lakhs for 1954 and 40 lakhs for 1955 and Rs. 40 lakhs for 1956 but the estimated cost of the project is Rs. 18 crores and now a stage has reached when the work can be speeded up provided finance is available. With a little expansion and extension of the organisation and by mechanising the labour to the extent required to speed up the work and also to save working costs, it is possible to spend about two crores of rupees per year. At this rate we can complete the project within 8 years. This fact has been submitted several times by the Mysore Government and the Chief Minister has written to the Prime Minister also and it has not received full justice at the hands of the Central Government. I submit to the Finance Minister that the irri-gable area under this project is a dry area with scanty rainfall and it is often affected by famine and the Government of Mysore is spending a lot of money by means of remission in revenue and on relief works. All this amounts to a crore of rupees and this can be saved and the financial position of the Mysore State can be stabilised.

The Finance Minister is well aware that Mysore State is the foremost State which had started huge developmental schemes and large irrigational projects. Naturally, after integration, it cannot be considered on a par with other States. It can be treated as a special case. Also the needs and the requirements of the State should be considered and the necessary finance should be allotted to the Mysore State. The people of Mysore are very particular about the execution of this project which will make the State self-sufficient in regard to food. Therefore, I request the hon. Finance Minister to consider this and see that full justice and sufficient finance are given to Mysore State to complete the execution of this project.

One more point. That is taxation on tobacco growers. I submit to this House that before integration, the tobacco growers in Mysore were en-

joying immunity from taxation and today even the tobacco stem-dust which are used for manure purposes are taxed and the tobacco growers are expected to pay to the tune of Rs. 5,000 to 10,000 as tax. But their property and their earthly belongings will not even amount to Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 6,000. Today they are in a pitiable condition. Therefore I request the hon. Finance Minister to consider this taxation on the tobacco growers liberally. I understand that some representations have been sent to the Central Board of Revenue. They must be considered liberally and it should be seen that the tobacco growers are not taxed.

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): In the course of the debate, deep concern has been expressed by some hon. Members over the proposed retrenchment of surplus labour in the Vizagapatam Shipyard. My hon. friend, Dr. Lanka Sundaram, had particularly devoted the major portion of his speech to this question. In the course of his speech he referred to certain aspects of the working of the shipyard in a detailed manner. I am afraid I have not got sufficient time at my disposal to refer to all the points that were raised by him. So I will confine myself to the retrenchment question and refer even in respect of that only to some broad aspects of the subject.

At the very outset I would like to strike a personal note. As one who has had very intimate and long association with trade unions, whenever a proposal for retrenchment is made, my immediate reaction is not a favourable one. I would like to avoid retrenchment, if possible, and to explore all possible avenue by means of which such retrenchment could be avoided. It is only after a full and careful consideration of all the aspects of the case a conclusive case is made out for retrenchment, that one should agree to it. So in the present case of retrenchment in the Vizagapatam Shipyard, the main question that we have to address ourselves to is whether a full case has been made out for the proposed retrenchment. In regard to this, I think I would do well to review briefly the course this proposal for retrenchment has taken. As early as in 1949, when the Scindias were managing the shipyard and also owned them, they became aware of the fact that the labour force in the shipyard was much larger than was warranted either by the building capacity or their possible building programme. Action to retrench surplus

labour at that time was however withheld because it was felt that the possibilities of developing the yard to its full capacity had yet to be properly explored. In the mean time, the shipyard continued to suffer heavy losses mainly on account of the overheads due to the existence of a large number of surplus workmen. Government had to step in and keep the shipyard running by placing orders on Government account and by paying subsidy.

In January, 1950, the Government of India asked the shipyard to reduce its expenditure. The question of retrenchment therefore came up again. But, this was averted by an agreement between the Labour Union and the management on 26th January, 1950, according to which the workers agreed to accept a voluntary cut in their dearness allowance by one-third so that the necessary savings in the total wage bill could be effected without resort to retrenchment. The shipyard continued to run at a loss.

In 1952 the Government decided to take over the shipyard from the Scindia Steam Navigation Co. The new company took over the shipyard on 1st March 1952 and Government appointed a senior officer as the managing director. It is obvious that the transfer of this yard to the new company automatically terminated the previous agreement between the management and the labour union. The Scindia Co. however requested the Government that for a period of 6 months after the taking over, retrenchment should not take place. It was in pursuance of this understanding that I assured the shipyard workers in July 1952 that no retrenchment would be undertaken. In the meantime, the dispute between the management and labour union had been referred to the Labour Tribunal. By an order dated 14th March 1952, the tribunal ordered the restoration of the cut in the dearness allowance effected by the Agreement of January, 1950. This restoration of the cut automatically released the management from its obligation not to effect any retrenchment under the agreement of 26th January, 1950. No action was however taken in view of the assurance given to the Scindia Co., not to effect retrenchment in view of the possibility of developing the shipyard which was still being explored. I have referred to the previous history of the subject because, at the time the retrenchment was undertaken, there was no proposal by the labour union that they would forego a part of their dearness allowance, as was sought to be made out by an hon. Member. Nor was the shipyard under any agreement not to have recourse to retrenchment. That was the posi-

tion in January 1950 and that continued up till March 1952, but not later. Certain provisions for the development of the shipyard have been made in the Five Year Plan; the programme is to build 50,000 dead-weight tons of ships by 1956. In April 1952, an agreement was entered into with a French company who placed two technicians at the disposal of the shipyard. The experts, after detailed examination, have laid down a plan for the development of ship-building at the shipyard. They are of the view that the number of workers in the yard is not only in excess of the present day to day requirements, but also exceeds the number likely to be required when the production capacity and output of the yard will have increased to 4 ships a year as against the present 2½ ships a year. Accordingly, the present requirements as well as the future requirements of the shipyard have been carefully studied for each category of workers in a detailed manner and it has been found that in all 830 workmen are likely to continue to be surplus for a long time. Government are fully aware of the hardships that may be caused to the workers who may be retrenched. For the last one year attempts have been made to explore every possibility of alternative employment. The industrial field in Vizagapatam is very limited and it is impossible to find suitable employment for all these men at once. Attempts have been made to absorb them in the Port and the Railways. Moreover, the conditions of service in respect of wages and dearness allowances prevailing in the Hindustan Shipyard are much more favourable than under any other employer including the Port in the locality. The workers are unwilling to take up any other employment offered to them. Last year, at the instance of the Chittaranjan Locomotive works, a request was made for 16 workmen in different grades to volunteer for transfer from the shipyard. Not a single volunteer was forthcoming in spite of the fact that service in the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works entitles the workers to some special concessions. Government have also considered the possibility of absorbing as large a number of these surplus men in the proposed Oil Refinery by Messrs. Caltex Co., and also in the proposed building of the dry dock at the port. Unfortunately, both these projects are not likely to mature before another two years. It will be ruinous for the shipyard to carry the burden of these surplus workmen for such a long time.

The estimate of total expenses on account of the 830 men now being

[Shri K. C. Reddy]

retrenched comes to about Rs. 20,00,000 a year. When the shipyard is being run with a subsidy from the Government, when on every ship, there is a loss which is being made up by a subsidy, this means, payment of doles by the Indian tax-payer for the retention of a large number of men without any work. This is a state of affairs which is undesirable not only from the point of view of the tax-payer, but also from the point of view, if I may say so, of the men themselves.

Every effort has been made for enlisting the co-operation of the labour union before embarking on this measure. It is regrettable that the attitude of the labour union has been unhelpful. It was felt that it would be possible to eliminate a substantial number of the idle workers who are either physically unfit or are superannuated. The presence of such workers in the pay roll was admitted by the labour union in the agreement of 26th January 1950, to which reference has already been made. So, on the 26th January, the Secretary of the labour union was requested to co-operate in the medical examination of the workers to find out those who are medically unfit. The Committee which was to carry out the medical examination, verification of age, etc. was to consist of the Shipyard's Medical Officer, a Labour Officer and the President of the Labour Union. Unfortunately, the Labour Union did not co-operate in this measure. The attitude of the labour union made it clear that prior consultation in the matter of the proposed retrenchment which had been hanging fire for so long would not produce any results. It was under these circumstances that on 30th March 1953, this year, that the Secretary of the labour union was informed by the management that it was proposed to retrench 813 men from various grades from 1st April 1953, on the basis of (i) those who are 55 years of age, (ii) those who are physically unfit and (iii) the balance according to juniority in service.

In this connection, it may be pointed out that under the Trade Union law, it is not obligatory in an industry of this kind for the management to give notice of retrenchment to the union before embarking on a measure of retrenchment.

Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru): Who said so;

Shri K. C. Reddy: It is sufficient if 14 days' wages are given in lieu of notice. As I have already indicated.

there is no agreement in force which bound the management not to effect retrenchment. The agreement of January 26th, 1950 was for no retrenchment so long as the workers accepted one-third cut in their dearness allowance. With the restoration of the cut in March, 1952, this agreement ceased to be effective.

A suggestion has been made that retrenchment is being undertaken to cover the costs involved in the employment of a French firm as Consultants of the Shipyard. The remuneration payable to the French firm and the technical experts lent by them to the shipyard have been disclosed in Parliament on a previous occasion.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

It is wrong to suggest, I submit, that the workers are being retrenched to enable payment to the French firm. On the other hand, their technical assistance is expected to increase the efficiency of the shipyard and bring about an overall economy in shipbuilding in the future. This will be brought about not only by working the shipyard to full capacity, but also by greater efficiency in the methods used. The terms offered by the company to the retrenched labour are generous judged by any standard. It should enable a large number of affected workmen to rehabilitate themselves within a short time. They are being paid not only their accumulated wages, earned allowance and leave wages and 14 days wages with D.A. in lieu of notice but also some special benefits. These are:

(1) Under the rules the workers are entitled to gratuity at the rate of 15 days for each year of completed service provided they have put in a minimum of 20 years continuous service, but the retrenched workers are being paid at the same rate irrespective of the service put in by them.

(2) Regarding Provident Fund, the Company's provident fund amount to each worker will be paid in full, and thirdly and most important,

(3) A purely *ex-gratia* payment of three months' basic wages excluding dearness allowance will be paid to each retrenched worker as a further rehabilitation grant.

These are the facts of the case. I would like finally to say that an appeal has been made that this matter should be referred to an Adjudication

Tribunal. Government would, no doubt, welcome if such an Adjudication Tribunal comes into the picture in order to settle the dispute. The Provincial Government—in this case, the Madras Government—have been approached in the matter, and I hope the Tribunal will be set up. So far as the management is concerned, they will offer their full co-operation in order to settle this dispute on an amicable basis.

Dr. Mookerjee suggested that perhaps this retrenchment there was owing to want of supply of materials. I would like to submit that it is not because of that reason that this retrenchment is being undertaken. As I have pointed out in the course of my speech, this has been undertaken after a very thorough and careful examination over a long period of time, and because it was inescapable this measure of retrenchment has been resorted to. I hope, however, when the Adjudication Tribunal is appointed, the whole matter will be gone into and the dispute viewed from all angles and a reasonable and satisfactory solution, both from the viewpoint of labour and management, will be evolved.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: May I ask whether meanwhile the retrenched staff will be reinstated?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I cannot commit myself regarding that.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: What is the use of referring the matter to adjudication after killing them? Keep them alive.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): May I know, Sir.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, Sir.

Shri Meghnad Saha (Calcutta—North-West): With your permission...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will not give permission.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Your predecessor.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, Sir. I will not give permission. There ought not to be interruptions like this.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I find that I have to reply to the observations made by more than 30 speakers in less than 60 minutes.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Two minutes each!

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That comes to a little less than two minutes each.

The discussion has ranged over a very wide field, and if I had the time, I should have liked to have answered almost every Member because of the variety of subjects that they have dealt with. However, I must resist that temptation—particularly, the temptation of dealing somewhat fully with the weighty and constructive speeches which have come both from this side as well as the other side. I shall, therefore, confine myself—that is my usual lot, Sir—to certain selected topics. But before, I proceed to do so, I should like to make one or two general observations.

One is: again and again, we seem to come back to this question of priorities in a state of affairs where almost every matter appears to be an urgent one, indeed, a clamant one. I have no doubt that what the hon. Members have spoken so feelingly about the many subjects nearest to their hearts, has, in a sort of absolute sense, a great deal of validity. Whether it is the subject of rehabilitation or whether it is the subject of the advancement of the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes or the backward tribes, or whether it is the fortunes of local areas like Madras, Travancore-Cochin or Vindhya Pradesh, I hold that a good case has been made out for some kind of consideration to the important problems that have been projected. But, as I said, finally we come back to a consideration of what resources we can command, and that really brings in the question of a plan. As I have pointed out before, the present budget really tries to reflect a particular phase of the plan. And, however anxious the Finance Minister may be to meet the needs—the manifold needs—that have been pointed out, I hope it will be admitted that he is limited, circumscribed, by the circumstances in which he has to work. Therefore, I have no direct answer to Members like the hon. Member who is not here, representing Scheduled Castes, who, I think, wanted Rs. 75 crores to be provided for the uplift of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. If I had the money, I should have liked to have provided.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Thank you for that assurance.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is not an assurance, because I am not in a position to provide it. It is the expression of a genuine goodwill.

Shri Nambiar: A very big "if", Sir.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Therefore, I say one has again and again to come back to this question of priorities.

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We have, unfortunately, with the dawn of independence, inherited a very bad legacy. Now, that is, shall we say, the culmination of years of dependence on others, and we have a variety of problems not all of which yield to ameliorative measures that we might take or institute. Some of them have perhaps, and to our regret, to take a lower place.

Now, I have mentioned some of these problems. I would like to mention in particular the question of compensation to displaced persons, because I believe it has been the impression that the displaced persons will get compensation which they might be disposed to regard as satisfactory but for the intransigence of the Finance Minister.

Lala Achint Ram: I never said so; nor I believe in it.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I looked at the hon. Member only fortuitously. But, anyhow, the problem is a very complicated one, and it involves a matter of principle. Since the hon. Member has drawn my attention to his own observations, the point is whether the State should undertake the responsibility of paying compensation out of its own revenues.

Lala Achint Ram: That is the assurance of the Government. The point is that an assurance has been given by a responsible Minister of the Government from time to time during the last six years.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is where I differ from the hon. Member. An assurance has certainly been given that compensation will be paid.

Lala Achint Ram: By contribution of Government.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: But this principle has never been conceded by Government that that compensation should, by and large, come out of public revenues. Now, in the meanwhile, Government have never denied their liability for rehabilitating the displaced persons, and crores of rupees have been spent for this purpose, and it continues to be the plan of Government to provide such additional expenditure as may become necessary. It is possible to concede the point that if it were to be possible to pay compensation to some extent, although it is not clear whether it will be to an equal extent, Government might be relieved of the necessity of providing for large sums for rehabilitation.

That is a matter to be considered. It is also true, I think, that many displaced persons who are now occupying houses which have been constructed by Government have not yet been fully rehabilitated, and may find it difficult to pay the book rents which would be in accordance with the book rents resulting from general Government construction. That is a sector where a certain amount of investigation seems to be called for. I myself cannot see the sense of trying to bring local proceedings against the displaced persons who are housed in houses built by Government, if that is going to lead to their ejection, if in the meanwhile they have not been rehabilitated, because you then begin the whole circle over again. Therefore I do hold that that problem requires very careful investigation.

Now, the other question that complicates matters is, of course, the question of titles and the washing of titles.

Shri Gidwani (Thana): May I make one submission to the hon. Minister, Sir?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is these complicated issues which have been remitted to a committee of the Cabinet.

Shri Gidwani: The hon. Minister made an announcement. I would request that instruction should be issued; actually, coercive proceedings are being taken in places, and people are being ejected in the Bombay State.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: As I was saying, these problems have been remitted to a committee of the Cabinet, and the first meeting of this committee is going to take place on the 20th.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Meanwhile action may be stayed.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Today is 16th, and I shall take note of the suggestion that has been made by the hon. Member, because I have a certain amount of sympathy for people whom you house and for whom you have not been able to find an occupation out of the proceeds of which they can pay the rent. It is just ordinary commonsense. So, I shall look into this matter of ejection proceedings, in advance of the date of meeting of the committee.

Similarly, I have a great deal of sympathy for the observations that came from two or three hon. Members who represent the Tribal areas. They made various suggestions. It struck

me that some suggestions really referred to the State Government's administration, as for instance, the taccavi and various other matters. Whatever that might be, it is our duty, I conceive, to examine these speeches very carefully and to see if one could give some kind of encouragement and some kind of cause for hope to these populations which form a very considerable, apart from interesting, percentage of the total population of the country.

After these general remarks, I should like to deal with some of the specific points that were raised relative to the subject-matter of the Bill. The first one, to which I am going to refer, was raised by Shri Deshpande, Shri Ramachandra Reddi, and I think, Dr. Mookerjee. According to them, the benefit of exemption under Section 15B of the Income-Tax Act, should apply even to communal institutions meant for any particular religious community. Now I fear that there is some misapprehension on this point. These communal institutions will be exempt on their income under section 4(3)(i) of the Income-Tax Act, so that there is no complex in this matter, so far as the Government are concerned.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Half-complex, so far as the donation is concerned.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There is no such thing as a half-complex.

Shri Nambiar: One-third complex.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: But the benefit of exemption to the donors of these institutions will not be available. What I wish to point out is that this is not a new condition that is being put into law. When the provision was made in 1948, the State Governments were informed that the institutions recommended by them for approval should be such as were wholly and expressly non-communal. As the Government gives income-tax rebate in respect of such donations, it means in effect that Government donates to the extent of such rebate, and as a matter of policy, Government would like to confine its donations to non-communal institutions only. In other words, what were formerly thought of as executive instructions have now had to be put into this new provision, because, for general reasons, we wished to avoid cases coming up to the Central Board of Revenue for disposal and approval or otherwise. The whole point is that as the law stood supplemented by executive instructions, it was only a very limited category of cases for which this concession was available, namely All-India

purposes, humanitarian purposes and educational purposes in the case of institutions affiliated to universities. So, all I wish to point out is that we are not making in effect any new provision in this respect.

I next come to the question of customs and excise duties. I shall not deal with the controversial subject of the salt duty. So far as my personal attitude is concerned, the matter is not remitted indefinitely to the future. But it may be that one would have to consider the desirability or otherwise of this measure, at the proper time, and, again expressing my own personal views, I do not judge that that proper time has arrived.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: It may come.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I admit that it might come.

Then in regard to the tobacco duty, appeals have been made to me that I should take measures which would avoid harassment to the grower. I am always alive to the desirability of bringing this about, and I should be very glad to receive concrete complaints into which I could investigate. It is very difficult to deal with complaints of a general nature. Whenever I go out to an area which grows tobacco, I do make enquiries as to how the administration is actually being carried out. But I shall feel obliged if hon. Members will make a point of forwarding to me any concrete complaints that may come their way.

I do not think it is true to say that unlimited powers are being exercised by the subordinate officers of the Central Excise Department. It is true that on the basis of their local experience, they can make recommendations to their superior officers, for the proper assessment on any variety of tobacco. But the decision to declare it as fit for assessment at any rate of duty higher or lower according to capability for use, rests ultimately with the Collector of Central Excise, who is required to notify that variety. I do not think, therefore, that it can be generally true that the discretion is being abused by junior Central Excise officers. There was some reference made also to the question of encouraging the production of tobacco. I must confess I am not very familiar with the agricultural aspect of this, but I have been assured that a variety of measures are being taken for improving the quality and yield of tobacco, as for instance, by supplying seedlings of good quality from approved

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nurseries, propagating the use of manures and fertilisers and adopting plant protection measures. Research is also being carried on in the Tobacco Research Stations under the Indian Central Tobacco Committee and the State Governments, and the results of research are published in bulletins and pamphlets issued by the Tobacco Committee.

There was some reference to the desirability of reducing customs duties on some medicinal preparations. Now our difficulty is that some of them are articles which are used for other purposes, as for instance, industrial purposes, and it is not possible to make a distinction between their use for Ayurvedic preparations and their use for such other purposes. The hon. Member who referred to this matter named a few—*Banslochan*, *Priyangu* and so on. Well, it may be that there is a case here if one can isolate these for a sort of peculiarity of use. It may be that there is a case for modifying the duty on some of these commodities and that matter is receiving consideration in my Ministry.

Then there is the question of the postal rates, I dare say I shall have many opportunities of referring to these in the course of the discussion on amendments, but I should like to give certain figures in continuation of the information that I gave when I introduced this subject. The loss on unregistered packets is nearly 60 lakhs and the loss on registered packets is 18 lakhs. Then on unregistered parcels the loss is about 31 lakhs and on registered parcels it is 59 lakhs. Then on V.P. parcels it is 45 lakhs and insured parcels 17.4 lakhs. Of course, the biggest loss is on postcards which is Rs. 1,32,00,000 which we are not touching. There is also a great deal of loss on registered newspapers and here also we are not, at the moment, thinking of making any change in the postal rates.

One hon. Member said that this proposal has already led—I hope I am quoting him right—to an increase in the price of books—raising of the price of books by local booksellers. I have had inquiries made from booksellers in Delhi and I find that there has actually been no increase. Indeed, there is no reason why there should be an increase because the increase takes place only after the House has approved the increase in the rates. Actually books are ordered and sold in quantity and the transport is usually by railway parcel in bulk. So, it is only purchasers of individual books in the mofussil who may have

to send a single book by book packet or unregistered parcel. In the case of educational institutions, for instance, most of them have arrangements for collective buying either through co-operative effort or by nominating particular companies. I think in this matter, it is possible to exaggerate the hardship that might be caused by a rise in these rates by taking absurd examples, as for instance, the cost of the book being one rupee and then adding on the postal forwarding charges etc. Actually one has to take an average or a representative case. And, taking such a case into consideration, I am not persuaded that the proposals will involve any undue hardship to the public affected.

Now, that is all that I wish to say in regard to this part of my speech, namely, the specific proposals. I next come to the general observations in regard to the political and economic situation that fell from hon. Members. I do not think I am really competent to go into the two political matters to which Dr. Mookerjee referred, but, on behalf of Government, I must give some answer. In regard to Kashmir, it is no longer true that our expenditure rate is what was quoted by the hon. Member. It cannot be because there are no active operations now and I think it is well-known that the number of troops that are stationed there are not what they were.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: What will be the rate roughly?

An Hon. Member: It is not in public interest.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is not in the public interest that I hesitate to give a reply. I do not think I can be very accurate. One has to station troops somewhere on the frontier and, I think, the only additional expenditure is on account of the fact that they get some kind of field allowance or operational area allowance. But, as I said, for the reduced number of troops there now, it is not very considerable. Anyway, it is not as much as to cause anxiety to the Finance Ministry. I would like to put it that way.

Now, in regard to the question of the meeting of the Prime Ministers, I can only give my own experience. In the matter of arriving at understandings or carrying out the agreements at the international gatherings, whether it is in Washington or in London, the representatives of Pakistan and India have always pulled in the same direction and have generally supported each other, I think, to the

mutual benefit of both countries. In regard to financial matters, it is true that we have had several inconclusive meetings. But, we have always parted with the feeling that we are a step nearer to solution. I still repeat that I have hopes that we shall arrive at some sort of agreement in regard to the outstanding issues during the course of next year.

Now, in regard to other matters, I think the Press in Pakistan and perhaps here have over-played the canal water dispute. But, finally what seems to have transpired is that at the sowing time there might have been some shortage of water from Indian canals and I believe it is now being recognised after a sifting of facts that Pakistan's food difficulties have not mainly or largely been caused by any alleged action on the part of the Indian authorities, even if we assume that some mistakes were made at some short period which in any case did not exceed one or two weeks. So, with this clearing of the atmosphere and with perhaps the improved tone of public pronouncements in Pakistan as well as the views that have been expressed by various non-officials, I would myself judge that the time was opportune for the two countries to try and get together a little. I am confirmed in this by my general study of what happens to the defence budgets in both countries. I think there is now a realisation that this kind of waste cannot possibly continue, and each country is really on the horns of a dilemma. Do you plump for additional security by buying the latest equipment from grudging foreign countries and neglect the basis of that security, namely, economic prosperity; or, do you apply all your resources to developing your economy and neglect immediate problems of security? Now, a balance has to be struck somewhere and I believe the balance is steadily being tilted towards this view, that it is much better at least to arrest this race's progress on increase of armaments and to try and spare resources for economic development.

That brings me to the next question of defence industries. I think Dr. Mookerjee made some reference to something that fell from the Prime Minister in regard to second-rate equipment. There, I think he oversimplified the problem. The real problem is: can a country like India, or for the matter of that Pakistan, frame its defence budget on the assumption that it will have to fight a major Power in the world? The answer, I think, is obviously No. No matter how perfect your planning may be, you are bound to be defeated by, what is in essence, the technological superiority

of that other foreign country. Therefore, one has to have a lesser objective and without meaning any ill-will to any neighbour, I think that every country has to imagine some kind of hostility from a neighbour and it is on that hypothesis that one frames the whole of one's defence budget. Viewed in that perspective, I think most hon. Members would agree that instead of wasting our resources in trying to purchase the latest equipment in almost every sector of armament from foreign countries, it would be better to confine our purchases to what is absolutely essential and then to divert resources in the form of capital for starting industries which will enable us to produce those other things. Now, let me take an example. I think most hon. Members would like to see India equipped with the latest jet fighters, because they have an essential use in any kind of campaign—offensive or defensive—that one might think of. But is it necessary that one should have the latest kind of rifles? It may be that a larger number of somewhat inferior rifles will do the same work as a smaller number of more costly rifles. I only give this as an example. I do not quote this as a particular problem that is being considered.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: It should be all right if your friendly neighbour is also dumped with second-rate goods, but your friendly neighbour has first-rate goods from other so-called friendly nations living at a distance and that makes it rather difficult for India.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I get the hon. Member's point and even if one assumes that he is right, I do not think that this equipment will ask for ever. Its rate of wastage and obsolescence is very great, as we have found to our cost. We have tanks and so on and they have been moving up and down the country from one training centre to another and from one border area to another, and we find that they are now showing signs of wear, and I have no reason to believe that the equipment which is in the other country is not suffering the same fate. Therefore, the point still remains that one has to take a decision, and I think it would be a wise decision to try and concentrate more on the establishment of well-selected defence industries rather than waste our substance in buying the absolutely latest, e.g., bomber. It may not be necessary to go in for the absolutely latest bomber. A bomber may do a certain amount of damage in foreign territory, but it would be very much better to have the capacity to penetrate into an area from where the bombers are coming.

Shri Raghavaiah (Ongole): We are discussing military campaigns.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am not discussing any campaign, but I think it is a very important issue that has been referred to.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: It is only dreamland. You are not looking at future realities.

Shri Joachim Alva (Kanara): What happens when Britain supplies Pakistan from its secret list—from a list about which we do not know?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not think that that is true. Britain has not supplied anything to Pakistan which she has not supplied to us.

Shri Joachim Alva: But Pakistan has better air defence and better weapons than we have got, at least in respect of some of them.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: If it is a secret list, will it be known only to Mr. Alva?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am sorry for my trenching on the field of my hon. friend the Deputy Minister for Defence, but I have to carry the burden in this debate.

Shri Joachim Alva: It is a well known fact that there is a known list and an unknown secret list from which Britain supplies Pakistan.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Because it is 'unknown' it is unknown to him!

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: We should be very glad to get the information which the hon. Member has in his possession. Obviously, that is the commonsense way of dealing with this matter—not on the floor of the House.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: To be 'secretly' passed over to Government!

Shri Joachim Alva: It is not a matter for ridicule.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am not ridiculing, I am asking him to send me the information which is in his possession. It is very important information and we should like to check it up. All I say is that I do not know of any such distinction.

Now I come to the cognate subject of retrenchment in ordnance factories. (Some Hon. Members: It is very important). Since 1947 attempts have been made to utilise the surplus capacity in the ordnance factories for the production of goods for private industry as well as the other civil government departments. Certain difficulties have, however, stood in the way. And

you can imagine. The first one, of course, is that government departments wish to buy in the cheapest market, and sometimes it happens that the ordnance factories are not able to produce the goods required at the cheapest possible rate. Now, one reason is that their plant, unless special care is taken, is not specially suited for the manufacture of a particular item; or sometimes it happens that it is because of heavy overheads that they have to carry in any particular goods, as they must retain a certain amount of spare capacity against an emergency. Now, this is as regards government departments. And it seems to me—I am only thinking aloud here—the solution would seem to lie in a careful examination of the spare capacity and a determination of the limits of excess up to which other civil departments could buy from the ordnance factory rather than from the open market. In other words one could say that if it is hundred per cent. more costly, then it should not be bought; but if it is ten per cent. more costly—I think we do that with *khadi* and certain other articles which are produced in the country, I think about ten or fifteen per cent.—well, according to the importance of the factory to the country one may determine these percentages and then issue instructions to the other Ministries to patronise these ordnance factories. It is a problem which requires further attention.

Similarly there has been difficulty in expanding production in the ordnance factories of goods for the private trade. We have not hitherto manufactured for stock but only against orders. This means that, normally, before the ordnance factory can accept an order they have to provide samples, and they cannot always take the advantage of any surplus capacity that may exist till an order is placed on them.

Now, both these matters are being given attention to and a procedure is being devised which will enable ordnance factories to switch on, more flexibly, to the production of goods for other government departments as well as private trade. This, it is hoped, will enable the ordnance factories to be run on maximum efficiency in the sense that any capacity surplus to the requirements of the Defence Services will be utilised for the production of goods for either the government departments or for private industry. So I think this will help in avoiding retrenchment where such retrenchment might otherwise be necessary owing to the fluctuating needs of the Defence Department itself.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: We would like to know the figures about retrenchment. This is an important matter.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I can give the figures of actual notices issued. As a result of the fall in demand from the Defence Services for the year 1953-54 of certain stock items of production in the Ordnance Factories, it was anticipated earlier that some 2,000 to 3,000 workers, mostly unskilled but semi-skilled also, might become surplus to requirements. As soon as this position came to notice, steps were taken to expand the possibilities of increasing civil production so as to keep this surplus labour employed and it is expected that as a result of the vigorous measures now being taken, a considerable proportion of these workers can be kept in employment. If, however, it becomes necessary to discharge workers, before they are actually discharged, the possibility of finding alternative employment for them in other Defence installations will also be examined. We have a zonal scheme in force for this purpose whereby surpluses and deficiencies in each zone are adjusted and it is only when there is a net surplus there that personnel are discharged and when they are discharged, they are registered with Employment Exchanges run by the Labour Ministry so that when, in future, alternative employment becomes available they should get re-employment. Under Government orders, normally fresh recruitment, if it becomes necessary, is to be done primarily through these Exchanges.

Now hitherto we have issued discharge notices to only 53 persons.

Shri Nambiar: I have just got a telegram from Jubbulpore saying that 105 workers have received discharge notices. I can produce that telegram.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I shall be glad if the hon. Member forwards that to me. This note was drawn up just before the Jubbulpore incident happened. Hitherto we have issued discharge notices only to 53 persons. That is my information. This note was drawn up yesterday as a reply to the points made by hon. Members. Discharge notices were issued to 53 persons who were previously employed in a depot near Calcutta. This was taken over from the Iron and Steel Controller about two years ago with a view to transferring its stocks to other Ordnance Factories and closing down the depot. This process has been completed and therefore the staff which was taken with the depot has become redundant. Apart from these 53 persons only warning notices were issued a few months ago by Superintendents of

Ordnance Factories to a number of personnel intimating that they might become surplus. These are not discharge notices but merely a warning so that the officer concerned might choose to look after alternative employment elsewhere. In fact, however, the possibility of absorbing these persons either in the Ordnance Factories themselves or elsewhere is, as I said, being vigorously pursued and therefore no actual discharge notices have been issued to these personnel.

Apart from that, I am afraid that about 200 people are likely to be surplus in the M.E.S. This is the general position which is, I submit, not too disturbing.

Now, as we are on the subject of retrenchment, I might as well mention what happens in regard to personnel retrenched from the civilian side. I have not been able to verify fully the statement made by one hon. Member that while retrenchment takes place on the one hand, recruitment takes place on the other. I have called for figures which show that as in the case of the Defence Services, the retrenched personnel are registered with Employment Exchanges. I had figures somewhere where they showed that a certain number of them were re-employed. The reason why I am not able to give complete figures is that I have not been able to find out from the various Ministries how many have been recruited. All I can say is that this problem is very much in our minds and that we shall not allow an absurd situation to happen. That is to say, if we can take care of retrenched personnel, then we will ensure that they are recruited first. In theory, of course, they have, I think, the second priority. The displaced persons have the first priority.

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: What about scheduled castes?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: They do not come in this particular category. They cannot enter everywhere. Logically they cannot. We are thinking of different categories. Your problem is recruitment, not retrenchment.

We are now considering this question and we find one actual principle is failing to be carried out in practice.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Is this done on a zonal basis?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There are hardly any zones so far as other Ministries are concerned.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: If I may just point out, appointments are made through Regional Exchange offices. The

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names of the people who are retrenched are not entered in the Registers of the offices where the vacancies arise.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I should like to find out if any kind of zonal exchange could be instituted. Then, we shall investigate the possibility of doing that.

In regard generally to retrenchment, hon. Member opposite has suggested a lot of attractive savings: salt duty to 10 crores; prohibition, any double figure one can think of; Part C States 5 crores; Privy purses 5 crores. Certain other Members have suggested sources of retrenchment or saving in the Ministries. One hon. Member, I think, objected to the total number of Ministers.

Shri Nambiar: And Deputy-Ministers.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Apart from the non-serious aspect of this, I do think he was somewhat hard on Government. Because, it is my belief that a certain number of junior Ministers must be trained in the arena of government. I myself find that apart from giving some kind of assistance to me and some relief so far as the other House is concerned, it gives me the satisfaction of being able to pass on to them whatever I know about the art of governance in my particular section.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Some of them are older.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think it is time, talking seriously, that in India we do create a level below the topmost level for taking over the reins of office. I myself have always gone on the theory that one should try to make oneself dispensable and not indispensable.

Apart from that, really, the work that is involved in these two Houses has raised considerably the burden on the Ministers. As hon. Members expect a little verse from me, I might put that in the form of a verse:

हा वाग्मिता प्रसरतिप्रतिवासरे या
सभाद्वये नैक विधेयनिष्ठा ।
सा मन्त्रिणां कार्यसमूहसिद्धौ
सम्पद्यते हन्त महान्तरायः ॥

Some Hon. Members: Translate.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That eloquence which goes on from day to day in both Houses relative to various measures of legislation, forms alas, a very big obstacle in the way of the full execution and successful accomplishment of their duties.

That, Sir, is some justification for allowing a sufficient number of Ministers.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: But, the English proverb is, too many cooks spoil the broth.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Is there not a rule in certain countries that not more than a certain percentage of the elected Members should be on the pay rolls?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That may be a rule, Sir. But, I am quite sure that so far as we are concerned, we should be within that rule.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: If the Upper House is abolished, it may be different.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That may be different. With 750 Members now, it is not worth while going too much into this matter. That is as regards retrenchment and number of Ministers.

Some observations were made in regard to slack financial control, and like King Charles's head, Hirakud now comes to the surface every time. I think that it is necessary to have a sense of perspective in this matter. I myself am not very happy over the fact that the original estimate of Rs. 45 crores has had to be nearly doubled, but then, almost the same thing has happened in every case or is likely to happen—for example in the case of the Damodar Valley. I believe what occurred was that in our enthusiasm generated by the advent of independence—actually, Hirakud was started earlier: the orders were issued by the previous Government not by this Government—we started on these development works without, it is true, making detailed estimates and plans. What worries me about Hirakud. I might confess here, is not so much these irregularities which we would have to follow up, to pursue and to prevent recurrence of, but the actual size, the absolute size of the estimate, and the possible profitability of the enterprise. Now, on that score, I am not yet quite satisfied, although the Orissa Government have not yet approved of the final revised estimate—and I am anxiously awaiting their decision in this matter—because it is my impression that irrigation rates in Orissa are not very high as compared to other States, and therefore, I wonder

now how this aspect of profitability will look in the revised estimates. That worries me very much more than this particular aspect on which so much stress has been laid, perhaps properly, following the publication of the Public Accounts Committee's report.

One hon. Member was—on this side of the House curiously—uncharitable enough to suggest that somehow I am slowing down the work of Hirakud in order to find money for States in which I am interested. My answer is that I am interested in all States. And if we were to follow the logic of the hon. Member, then the Finance Minister would have to be a non-elected Member of the Parliament which seems to be an impossibility after the initial period of six months.

Shri Nambiar: An Upper House Member can come here.

An Hon. Member: He will also be elected.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: He will have to come through some kind of election, and he will have always to be attached to some kind of State. In other words, a Stateless Finance Minister should come, which seems to be an impossibility.

In any case these are the actual figures. Let us see what the basis of fact to this somewhat lightly spoken observation is. This is the actual progressive expenditure on Hirakud:

1948-49—The money sanctioned was Rs. 81 lakhs. Actual expenditure—Rs. 41 lakhs.

1949-50—The money sanctioned was Rs. 3 crores. Actual expenditure—Rs. 2.97 crores.

1950-51—The money sanctioned was Rs. 4.39 crores. Actual expenditure was Rs. 4.67 crores.

1951-52—The allotment was Rs. 8 crores, and the actual expenditure was Rs. 8.58 crores.

1952-53—The money allotted was Rs. 8.85 crores, and the expenditure up to January, 1953 was nearly Rs. 4 crores.

And the budget provision for 1953-54 is Rs. 11.72 crores. I hope, that the hon. Member will go home and chew these figures. I am not asking him to eat his own words.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: What about concurrent audit? Will that be considered?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am glad the hon. Member has raised this point. There has been a certain amount of disagreement between the representatives of Finance and the representatives of the Ministry in regard to the actual financial procedure on accounting and audit because audit is the concern of the Comptroller and Auditor-General. And after a series of conferences, we have remitted the problem to the Comptroller and Auditor-General as a sort of sole arbitrator. In other words, it is not his constitutional duty to advise us on the precise form which accounts as to payments should take, but he has, in view of the importance of the subject, been good enough to agree to pay a visit to the Hirakud works, to go into the difficulties of both sides, so to speak, and to evolve a form of accounts which both the Ministries have agreed and advanced to observe.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I am not referring to Hirakud alone. I am referring to all.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I know the hon. Member referred to the question of pre-audit or concurrent audit in regard to the operations of Government concerns. Now that is a matter which I shall have to take up with him. I do not quite know whether he will find it possible with the staff at his command to do so. At the moment, the position is that these corporations, not companies so much, have their own auditors, and then the Auditor-General also can audit.

Shri B. Das (Jajpur Keonjhar): May I ask one question, Sir? How will you compel the Irrigation Ministry, in view of their performance during the last five years, to abide by the decision of the Auditor-General of the Government of India?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: He is the arbitrator-general.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is quite right. They have agreed. There was no dispute. They have agreed to that.

Shri B. Das: Will they carry out the decision of the Auditor-General? The last five years have belied it.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The new five years are going to be quite different.

I should like to devote a little attention to the question of the Plan. My time is running out, and to deal in particular with the very important observations that were made by Shri Meghnad Saha I think I require an extension of time by about 15 minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes, the House can sit till 1-30 P.M.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Of course, I should like to deal with another matter, after I finish this, and that is the aid to Madras and Travancore and Cochin. In this, I have listened with attention and due deference to the criticism of a financial policy, and indeed the whole approach to the Plan, by Shri Saha. While I do not accept the criticism, I must say that I agree with the main thesis advanced by him, viz. that rapid development necessitates a substantial stepping up of the rate of investment in the economy. And this in fact, if he will care to read, is the thesis advanced in Chapter I of the Report of the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission has considered two or three alternative rates of capital formation, and the implications of each alternative in terms of the level of consumption that is feasible. The calculations showed, for instance, that if capital formation were to be stepped up from the beginning, by as much as two-thirds of the additional income generated each year, then the national income could be increased by over 160 per cent. in about 22 years. But this would necessitate a reduction in *per capita* consumption standards for a period of ten or fifteen years. If, on the other hand, capital formation was raised only gradually, say, by 25 per cent. of the additional income in each period, this would mean an increase of only 80 per cent. in the national output at the end of twenty years. So capital formation on this scale would not involve any significant reduction in present consumption standards. But the results it would produce by way of improvement of living standards would be correspondingly poor, and almost nil. Obviously it would be desirable to avoid both these extremes. At least that is the view that was taken by the Planning Commission. Accordingly they proposed that from 1956-57 onwards, investment should be stepped up each year by an amount equal to 50 per cent. of the additional output. On this basis, investment in the economy would go up to about 11 per cent. of national income by 1960-61 and to 20 per cent. by 1967-68. To step up investment in this manner is not an easy task. How best this could be done has to be examined carefully, and we hope that the Taxation Inquiry Committee will go into all aspects of this difficult and complicated problem of mobilising our resources for development on a big scale.

The real question is whether given the conditions prevailing in the

country at present the rate of investment could be increased substantially even in this initial phase of planning? In the last analysis, it is not the lack of financial resources in the narrow sense, which comes in the way—it is a point which we have made over and over again; any amount of finance can be raised provided the community is prepared to pay the price, and this price is not merely hardship and privation.—it is very often disorderly and unbalanced growth.

Prof. Saha referred to the high level of capital formation in the U.K. and France. He has commended the progress made by these two countries in the postwar period. Now the point to bear in mind in this connection is that recovery of production to a level which had been attained in the past is much easier than new development. If a country already has plant and equipment, even though in a depleted form, and if it has also a well-organised system of transport and communications and if it has the necessary 'know-how', then it can increase the national production quite rapidly. The problem in an under-developed economy like India's is that many of these things have to be built up from scratch. And we must not forget that U.K. and France received in the postwar period large amounts by way of external aid.

Now, Prof. Saha also held up the example of the U.S.S.R. There is no doubt that that country has achieved great things, and it has developed at the cost of great effort and sacrifice a pattern of development. Perhaps historically that was the only pattern that could have worked in the U.S.S.R. We do not know. But whether that pattern is suitable under all conditions is a matter on which, I submit, there is room for differences of opinion. As Prof. Saha has pointed out, the plan did not spring like Minerva fully armed, from Lenin's brain. It meant considerable experimentation and trial and error. Even at the very last minute of putting that plan into operation there were wide differences of opinion. If this is true, there is no reason to feel unduly depressed with our present effort, much less to despair of being able to better them in the future. The Five Year Plan does not betoken the end of the journey. The journey is long and arduous and we are only taking the first necessary steps in the direction of our goal. So the emphasis in the Plan is on improvement of agriculture and the building up of the basic services like irrigation, power, and transport, and we think that that accords best with the requirements of

our economy at this stage. But industrialisation, which Prof. Saha has stressed, is the inevitable next stage in the Plans to come. We hope that the scheme of priority will then change accordingly.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Why not in the first stage?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: All that I have said has been useless. Then there are two matters I should like to deal with. One is the state of scarcity and famine in Madras.

I think it is true to say that Madras has suffered from two difficulties. One is, I think, they went all out on development expenditure relying perhaps on forecasts which were made in 1945 or 1946, which were on a very generous scale. Actually, I have figure somewhere here of the size of their Plan, as compared with the size of the Plan of the Bombay State. There is not really very much difference. The Madras Plan was Rs. 14,084 lakhs and the Bombay Plan was for Rs. 14,643 lakhs. I think both States are spending about the same on agricultural and rural development. One is 28 crores and the other is 22 crores. But, on major irrigation and power projects, whereas Bombay was going to spend Rs. 33 crores, Madras is going to spend 84 crores. Bombay is aiming at spending 67 crores on social services, whereas in Madras, the provision in the Plan is Rs. 28 crores. So, when they were overtaken by adversity in the form of short rainfall and so on, I think they found that they had extended too much and could not draw back. We tried to help them as much as we could. The Central aid given in 1951 to 1953, for these two years, to Bombay is Rs. 642 lakhs—I think there will be demands from Bombay to raise this amount—and Madras Rs. 17 crores. In addition we have given very massive ways and means accommodation to Madras. It is true that attention has been concentrated on the scarcity in Rayalaseema and I find on enquiry that we really have not got sufficient information in regard to the extent of scarcity or unfavourable conditions in the South. But, it looks as if a quite large population is affected by scarcity.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether Madras State has not reported that many districts in Tamilnad are rather in a very bad condition?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The report is not in that form. They have given figures of population affected but there is really no proper appraisal of the extent of scarcity in the South. I have seen the statement of the Chief Minis-

ter and whereas it is accepted that so far as famine is concerned, there should be separate provision from the Centre on certain principles, it is difficult to accept that Madras is entitled to a subsidy for a deficit on its revenue working. And, it is that particular point which I have found it impossible to accept so far as the establishment of relief works is concerned, our offer stands, namely, that to the extent of half the cost, we shall advance the money and as there are special difficulties, we should even be prepared to consider other proposals in the way of making further loans for any relief works that may be necessary.

Shri Nambiar: For Cyclone relief, nothing was sent from the Centre.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: From scarcity we are going to cyclone.

Shri Sarangadhar Das (Dhenkanal—West Cuttack): May I know whether the Minister is aware of famine conditions in large parts of Rajasthan?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There too our trouble is that reliable figures are not available. I think such statements were also made by hon. Members. In 3 cases we have sent teams of officers to find out what exactly the situation is and it may be that we may have to make further investigations. It is not a complaint, but I must say that I cannot reconcile the observations that were made by hon. Members here and the information that has come up from the two Governments in regard to the extent of scarcity. However, it is a matter which does seem to call for investigation.

Now, with regard to Travancore-Cochin it is admitted that it is an area with peculiar difficulties. It is true that the population is the densest in India—by densest I mean the density of population—and it is also true that they have suffered from power shortages.—I find from statements that I called for, in about 4 years out of 5 sometimes 40 per cent, sometimes half and so on. This year, I think it is 100 per cent. But recently I have got the information that they have restored 40 per cent. of the cut and that is a problem which requires some kind of long term solution and it may be that the Travancore-Cochin Government and the Centre will have to get together and see where that solution would lie.

Then, there are other matters like the supply of rice and the export of tapioca. I find that the export of tapioca was permitted, because there was a surplus of it in the districts

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh]

which were growing it. From this one may conclude that tapioca is not grown in the district which the hon. Lady Member is representing, because that district seems to be consisting of consumers of tapioca. Now, it is very difficult to reconcile these two interests. We are up against this problem all the time, whether it is tapioca or anything else. Incidentally, I might say that in jute also it is the same kind of problem. One might think in terms of fixing a minimum price as for cotton, but then the question arises: where are we to sell the goods that would be manufactured out of that jute? It is not within our power to sell all those jute goods. I believe an hon. Member said that the minimum price for jute could be raised here and now by a few rupees per maund if the mills could be modernised, but then again, we are on the horns of a dilemma, i.e., if we were to modernise the mills, it will throw about 80 thousand labourers out of employment. This is a kind of problem for which there is no easy solution. All that I can say is that these problems receive constant attention and in so far as tea is concerned, I think the hon. Member will agree with me that the position has improved very considerably. Today, the price of tea is over 3 shillings and I think many gardens are reopening. In regard to rubber, our minimum price has worked well. I think we get Rs. 1-6-0 as against 1 sh. 7 d., which is the outside price.

I shall have only one more observation to make before I sit down. The hon. Lady Member quoted some very gloomy reference from THE MERCHANT OF VENICE. There is another portion of the same play which I would like to quote to her in conclusion. This is what Portia says towards the end of the play:—

“Speak not so grossly.

And I have better news in store for you

Than you expect: unseal this letter soon;

There you shall find three of your argosies

Are richly come to harbour suddenly.”

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1953-54 be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is another matter, namely, the motion regarding the Central Excises and Salt (Amendment) Bill. Am I to understand that the general discussion should be carried on into the extra one hour allotted for this purpose, or that it should end now? I suggest that the extra time may be devoted to clause by clause consideration and hon. Member can have a separate discussion on the Tea Bill. I shall not be very meticulous. Hon. Members may refer even to matters which touch more than one clause. So, I suggest we may close the general discussion now.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: All that has to be said relates only to the clauses.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then we shall reserve it for the clause by clause stage and I shall put the motion to the House. The question is:

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

The motion was adopted.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock on Friday, the 17th April, 1953.