

[Shri T. T. Krishnamachari]

of each of the following papers, under sub-section (2) of section 16 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951, namely:—

- (i) Report of the Tariff Commission on the Fair Retention Prices of Steel produced by the Indian Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., and
- (ii) Ministry of Commerce and Industry Resolution No. SC (A)-2(89)/52, dated the 25th March, 1954.

[Placed in the Library. See No. S-107 54.]

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NOMINATIONS TO JOINT COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS' SALARY AND ALLOWANCES, AND ABBREVIATIONS

**Mr. Speaker:** I have to inform the House that I have nominated Shri N. C. Chatterjee and Diwan Chaman Lal to serve on the Joint Committee on payment of salary and allowances to and abbreviations for Members of Parliament, in the two vacancies caused by the death of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee and the retirement of Shri Amolakh Chand, of the House of the People and the Council of States respectively.

The Chairman of the Council of States has agreed to the nomination of Diwan Chaman Lal to the Joint Committee.

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DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd.

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now resume discussion on Demands for Grants relating to the Ministries of Home Affairs and States. The time allotted is up to 5 P.M. when I shall put the Demands to vote. As the Minister of Home Affairs and States will take about forty-five minutes for replying to the debate, I shall call him at 4-15 P.M.

Thereafter from 5 P.M. to 7 P.M. the Demands relating to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power will be taken up.

**Shri N. Rachiah** (Mysore—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was pointing out that the hon. the Deputy Home Minister was interpreting the words of article 335 of the Constitution in the interests of the Government and the privileged few. The incorporation of this article in the Constitution was with a view to giving adequate representation to the Scheduled Castes in all branches of administration, both at the Centre and in the States. But the test of any provision lies in its interpretation. So I would request the hon. Deputy Minister to interpret article 335 in a manner as to give special protection to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the administration of the country.

3 P.M.

Even according to the report of the Home Ministry only a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs has been provided for more than 5 crores of Scheduled Castes. Sir, according to the report of the Ministry of Rehabilitation Rs. 201.02 crores has so far been spent for the welfare of the displaced persons and Rs. 30.44 crores has been provided this year. So much money is being spent on these 79 lakhs of Refugees, while for nearly six crores of untouchables, who were displaced about two thousand years ago, you are only providing a meagre sum of Rs. 50 lakhs per annum. But no sincere attempt has been made by the Home Ministry. The Home Ministry is a very wide, vast and big department having a large amount of work on its hands. As such the Scheduled Caste problem would not and cannot be dealt with properly by the Ministry of Home Affairs. I therefore suggest that this work may, as in the case of rehabilitation, be entrusted to a separate Ministry so that the work of emancipating or uplifting the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes could be

achieved within the specified period of time. On that score I earnestly and very humbly request the Government to view this problem from a humanitarian point of view.

Coming to another important question I regret to say that no representation has been given to the Scheduled Castes on any Committee appointed by any of the Ministries. Take any of the several Commissions appointed, foreign delegations, foreign embassies, Public Service Commission, Planning Commission, Central Welfare Board and so many other Committees. Although there are about a hundred Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Members here and there are so many ex-Ministers and well-experienced legislators and others outside parliament, no Ministry is particular about giving adequate representation to them in any of these bodies. If what the Deputy Minister accepted yesterday, namely that these classes have been suppressed, that even human rights were denied to them, is a true statement, then they must either accept that we are not in any way inferior to any other classes and give us equal representation in all walks of life and in the administration, or if we are really backward, at least Rs. 50 crores should be set apart every year for the upliftment of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Then only will we be rid of this canker of untouchability. It is not merely social untouchability. It has gone into their very life and millions of people, who were denied human rights, have already died on account of untouchability. I therefore request Government to give very careful consideration to this point.

There must be a Central Committee to watch, guide and advise the Central Government and the State Governments with regard to the welfare and amelioration of the Scheduled Castes. Because each Ministry appoints so many Committees. But the Home Ministry on account of its heavy work is unable to do anything. So

there must be a Central Committee to watch and guide the Government. Why don't they appoint some Scheduled Caste Members on it, because it is only "the wearer who knows where the shoe pinches." We know the Scheduled Caste problems. Why don't you appoint a Committee immediately?

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

You are giving certain grants, at random. Neither the State nor the Centre is interested in the uplift of the Scheduled Castes. The Deputy Minister in reply to the question of Shri Thimmaiah stated, with reference to the allotment of only Rs. 2 lakhs to the Mysore Government for this work, that out of the grant sanctioned to them they could not utilise even 50 per cent. last year. Is that the way to tackle this problem? Or if the Government do not want to tackle this problem, let them bring an amendment to the Constitution to the effect that they do not want to help the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Then we shall seek our own way out. Justice delayed is always justice denied. And where there is a will there is a way. If the Ministry are absolutely honest and have the will to consider the problem from a humanitarian point of view and regard the Scheduled Castes as human beings, certainly there is a way which they can find out within a moment. But, as I said, they are not finding the time on account of their heavy work. I am sure they will not mistake me. This question must be tackled as a national problem.

Coming to Mysore State, during the interim Congress Government, Mr. Reddy's Government did a lot of good things in Mysore State. They created a separate Department, appointed two Regional Officers and eighty-one Revenue Inspectors from the Scheduled Castes, enhanced the housing grant from Rs. 7 lakhs to Rs. 19 lakhs which would go to the benefit of the Scheduled Castes, and appointed some

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Committees to watch the progress of the Harijans in Mysore State. They introduced, in the best interests of the Harijans and to remove untouchability, total prevention of cow slaughter. They extended the prohibition scheme; they also enacted an Act at a time when there was no Constitution in force, the Harijan Temple Entry Act, and the Removal of Disabilities Act. The present Ministry—Mr. Hanumanthiah's Ministry—is only allowing every grant to lapse. The very fact that the Central Government grant has not been used by this Ministry shows its prejudice to the Harijans. More than that, he abolished two regional officers and committees. He removed one Scheduled Caste officer, a Tahsildar drawing Rs. 300/-, a very efficient man and one who has no adverse remark on his career. Such an officer was included in the list for the post of Assistant Commissioners in Mysore by the previous Ministry, but when Mr. Hanumanthiah became the Chief Minister, his name has been removed while he has retained people belonging to all other castes though they are not deserving. Can we expect our salvation at the hands of such a Ministry. Even the popular opinion in Mysore State is that the Ministry is not working in favour of poor people. It is interested in *Samskritha Prachara*. This is not good for an illiterate country; it is only meant for heavenly countries and only for certain sections of people. Then again, he is appointing some ex-officers or ex-Minister and he is not interested in the youngsters. Is that the way? Therefore, I request the Home Ministry to look into this matter. They should not misunderstand me; I am for the Congress and I want the Congress Ministry to continue for hundred years and our people should not be exploited by those people who only talk. I do not want that our people should be exploited politically. Our people are part and parcel of the country and society and that is why I make this request.

Ranade and Gokhale have said that social reformation is very important to the country, more than political reformation. That is how they viewed things. In our country, compulsory education, total prohibition, land reforms and such other things will help the Harijans, but the present Ministry does not want to do it. Therefore, I hope the Home Ministry will take immediate steps to appoint a committee to go into the whole question. In our Constitution the provisions for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been clearly given but four years have passed and the people are feeling a sort of apprehension. This apprehension must be removed by the Centre and they must see that the provisions made in the Constitution are properly implemented. I am very sincere in my opinion and I want that my appeal should be understood by the Home Ministry. They should take the best course to solve this problem. It is not a matter for laughter because every Minister does not take interest in the amelioration of Harijans. It is a national problem and must be tackled in the interest of Ram Rajya, Swaraj and welfare state.

Shri Anandchand (Bilaspur): Sir, I have, on the Demands for Grants under the Ministry of States, moved three cut motions, of which one deals with the control of the Ministry of States over the administration of Part C States. I will not tax the patience of the House on that score because, fortunately, in the summary of the Report in respect of the States Ministry, it is stated that the States Ministry has already given over the administrative functions so far as Part C States are concerned to the various Ministries of the Government of India and henceforth they will only interfere in political, law and order and personal matters affecting States. When I sent the cut motions, what I wanted to point out was that this channel of the States Ministry through which all the administrative problems of the Part C States moved to the

Ministries of the Government of India, was a kind of bottle-neck which resulted in delays. Sometimes, certain schemes which these Governments put up to the Centre could not be pushed through, because the time limit was there. Now that this bottle-neck has been removed, I will not tax the House by speaking on this issue.

The other two points that I wanted to make today relate to the Bilaspur administration and the proposal to merge it with Himachal Pradesh. I saw the report for 1953-54 and I wanted to find out whether it had any chapter about the administration of Bilaspur from which I can find out what had been done during the year that has closed and what were the achievements of the administration. Strange to say, although Bilaspur, constitutionally today, still continues as a Part C State administered by the Centre, this report does not mention anything about the administration of Bilaspur at all. I do not know why this step has been taken. Probably, it is an oversight. If it is so, I would request the hon. Home Minister to rectify it, because, this House which has given a grant for the administration of Bilaspur has every right to see how it was spent, how the administration was conducted there during the financial year that has closed and what improvements, if any, were made for the happiness and welfare of the people put under their charge.

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** May I just interrupt for a minute? Pages 30 and 31 refer to Bilaspur.

**Shri Anandchand:** That is only about the future of Bilaspur. What I was saying was about the administration of Bilaspur during the year 1953-54.

**Dr. Katju:** I beg your pardon.

**Shri Anandchand:** I would refer to what the hon. Minister has pleased to point out about the future of Bilaspur, its integration with Himachal Pradesh. That is the next point I was

coming to. What the report has missed, I wanted to place before the House.

The position was that in 1953-54, we had a Chief Commissioner to administer Bilaspur. The Chief Commissioner was a civilian from the Punjab. The Chief Commissioner had been there for four or five years and there was a constant demand for his replacement. He was replaced towards the end of last October by the Lieut.-Governor of Himachal Pradesh as the Chief Commissioner of Bilaspur also. This change was effected in the last week of October and he took over charge in the first week of November. The inefficiency which I was going to point out really made a beginning then. I am very sorry to say that without any legislation having been brought before the House for the integration or union of these two States, as was desired by the law, a kind of administrative union, in anticipation of Parliamentary sanction, was actually brought about. I do not know how far that was correct. Let us leave it at that. Probably, the Lieut.-Governor of Himachal Pradesh as the Government of Himachal Pradesh took over charge and I think I am right when I say that he is the Government of Himachal Pradesh technically. But this, so far as Bilaspur is concerned, appears to my mind to transgress the provisions of article 239 of the Constitution under which no Government of any neighbouring State can administer a Part C State without the consent of the people concerned. This consent, so far as we were concerned, was never taken. The other things that happened were perhaps corollaries to this change in the circumstances. We find that the secretariat has gone to Simla, the heads of departments of Himachal Pradesh have become the heads of departments for Bilaspur also by a Gazette notification of the Government of India and all the files and papers are moving through them, when technically, legally and constitutionally, Bilaspur still continues as a Part C State of the Union.

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Not only that. We had in Bilaspur a Deputy Commissioner appointed. Of course, that was a corollary. But, here was a Deputy Commissioner who was ten functionaries in one. He was not only a Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate, but also a Revenue officer, a Project executive officer, Land acquisition officer, Electoral officer, Chairman of the Bilaspur Transport Authority, and a Member of the Bhakra Rehabilitation Committee. Lately, I believe, he has also been made a Finance officer.

Naturally, with all these changes, there was bound to be inefficiency in the administration. And what has happened there during the last three or four months is a kind of administrative vacuum in which the files do not move properly. The administration as such, I would say, has become very slow and all the schemes of advancement and improvement have naturally had to be shelved, with the result that during the financial year 1953-54 out of the total allotment made by Parliament of over Rs. 50 lakhs for Bilaspur, no less than a sum of Rs. 16 lakhs had to be surrendered. That is a large surrender for a small State like Bilaspur, which of course had to be on account of the administrative vacuum and bottle-neck.

Then, I would not further go into all this as to what has happened since or how the defects of administration have arisen, because the hon. Minister has very rightly pointed out page 31 of this report dealing with the merger of Bilaspur as such. I would not like to touch upon the constitutional and legal aspect of it, because I believe the Bill is in the Upper House and in due course the House of the People would naturally have an opportunity to look through it and discuss it, to see its clauses and so on. That I think would be the proper time for me to say what I have to say in the matter. Here I would only like to give a small background, with your permission, if I may do so, of this Bill.

This Bill or this decision so far as this merger is concerned, as far as I have been able to find out from the documents of the States Ministry itself, is something not new. It came really in the States Ministry's report in 1952-53. A decision is reported to have been taken in the States Ministry in 1952 at a representative conference of the Governments of the Punjab, PEPSU, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh. The future of Bilaspur was discussed at this conference and it was decided that after a statutory authority had been established for the Bhakra-Nangal Project, the administration of Bilaspur as such would be unnecessary, because it was a small unit, and that it would then be merged with Himachal Pradesh. That was the decision in 1952. Up to 1953, so far as I know, nothing further was done in the matter, so much so, in 1953 in this House when a question was put to the hon. Minister for Irrigation and Power whether a statutory body had been created or the Government intended to create that body, the answer was "No". Now, fortunately, the Demands for Grants of the Irrigation and Power Ministry are following the Grants of the States Ministry, and with your permission I have already sent in a cut motion. There I would like to apprise this House about the details of this Bhakra-Nangal scheme, about what was the idea of the statutory authority and so on. Here I would only say that in spite of the decision taken on 18th August, 1952, and without the establishment of the statutory authority, a new decision seems to have been taken by the Government of India last year, as I see now from page 31 of the report, and in that decision it is reported that it was considered necessary or it was considered advisable not to wait for the eventual formation of this authority and it was good enough if steps were taken for this merger as decided then. If I may respectfully point out, so far as Bilaspur itself is concerned, as the hon. States Minister said and as his report says here, one fundamental point

in keeping this entity was the question of the Bhakra dam. This Bhakra dam question and the rehabilitation problem are still undecided and have been hanging fire for so many years. This year especially after the coffer dam is built, and the pukka dam is beginning to be built this winter, the problem of rehabilitation really starts. Seventeen thousand people have to be rehabilitated, about 47 sq. miles of area will come under water and so on. I think that without making some provision for that it was perhaps a little premature to go ahead with the second half of the scheme, i.e., the union of these two States.

True enough, the Bill as such, or as introduced in the Council,—I have seen it—makes mention in clause 31 thereof that the Central Government would still, after this union has been effected with Himachal Pradesh, be able to—I mean constitutionally and legally—issue instructions to the Government concerned so far as the Bhakra-Nangal dam is concerned, but I think that is not good enough because if this is to be the only protective measure, then item 56 in the Union List is much better than that. It gives Parliament and the Union Government full control for legislation over all inter-State river valleys and so forth, and I think this provision here is probably redundant to that or unnecessary.

Then, I will come to one thing more before I conclude. Naturally, what I have to say on the Bill could only be said when the measure is before the House, but I would make only a general point. In the India that is emerging, we know, and I think this House knows too, that small States, and uneconomic States have to find a future with other States. I think it is absolutely wrong to put before the House the argument that these small units which are economically starved, have not got today enough manpower, could therefore exist as such in the scheme of things to come. I think it was against this background that not only this

House but the country at large has welcomed the appointment of the States Reorganisation Commission. Our point is this. When the States Reorganisation Commission has been appointed, and when the terms of reference, of the Commission, in the Resolution of the Home Ministry, definitely say that the Commission will report on the future of each constituent State of the Indian Union, and when Bilaspur today happens to be such a constituent State, I do not see why there should be this undue hurry about the future of Bilaspur being settled in a particular manner, without the people being given an opportunity to express their views about the same. I am not saying this in the narrow sense of Bilaspur only, because Bilaspur is not the only small or uneconomic unit but there are others. We know that there has been a consistent demand from this House that all the Part C States which are economically not self-sufficient must go. All those things are to be relegated to the Commission. While even boundary disputes in regard to Abu, and Seraikalla and Kharswan in Orissa, etc., have been referred to the States Reorganisation Commission, surely as a part C State, as a constituent State of India, we have every right to demand that we also must be given the right of self-determination, with regard to our future, and that we should also be allowed to go before the States Reorganisation Commission.

Lastly, I would make an appeal to Himachal Pradesh, before I close. It is a neighbouring State, and I personally have quite good relations with a lot of people there, and I want that it should live and flourish. But I personally think that the attitude it has adopted in this Bilaspur controversy, if I may respectfully point out, is not the correct attitude. Only today I was reading in the papers a resolution passed by a convention meeting somewhere in Mandi District, in which they have welcomed the idea about this Bill being introduced in

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Parliament. Now, what I would say is this. If the right of self-determination about the future status of a Part C State is denied to us today, well, tomorrow, I am sure, it will be denied to the people of Himachal Pradesh as well. Once we go by this principle, it would mean that large numbers of people will come integrated or united with the administrative and political structures of neighbouring States, without their viewpoints having been placed either before the States Reorganisation Commission or this august House. I would say in all humility that that would be a wrong approach and an approach with if allowed to continue or go to its maximum would result in total political frustration, and I venture to say it might even ring the death knell of democracy in this country.

**Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru):** I thank you for having given me this opportunity....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am giving only ten minutes. At the eighth minute I will ring the bell, and I will not allow even a second more than ten minutes.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** As the time given to me is only ten minutes, I would like to stress a few points about the way in which this Congress Ministry is handling nation building problems—I am now referring particularly to the problem of Harijan Welfare. Here are two instances, which I would like the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and States to note.

It seems the Harijans in P.E.P.S.U. have cast their votes in favour of a single party. Therefore, they are now being harassed, and a report in the *Times of India*, dated the 24th March 1954, says as follows:

“In some cases, Harijan girls are said to have been molested, and in some villages Harijans have been subjected to social boycott. There have also been reports of various crimes, such as murder, dacoity, robbery and burglary.”

There is one more instance. It is about Rajasthan. I think everybody in the House is aware how recently Mr. Yadav of the Rajasthan Ministry has flung a surprise. About that incident it is stated here:

“The incident is a sad Commentary on the State Government's inability to convince even its own supporters that everything was being done to fulfil the promises given to Harijans under the Constitution. Evidently the Government's performance has been so poor that not even all Ministers are fully convinced of the Government's earnestness in this regard. This simmering discontent among the Congress party Harijan MLAs was never taken seriously until Mr. Yadav surprised his colleagues by challenging Mr. Bhogilal Panday's statement on the reported maltreatment of Harijans in Bundi district”.

The fate of Harijans in this country seems to be a very despicable one. When Miss Mayo stated that Harijans were living in a worse condition—“less than the dogs”—with nothing but hovels to live in, the whole country protested and thanks to Gandhiji, the whole nation realised its duty by Harijans. But today, Sir, having got freedom, and today we being our own masters in our own State, the Congress Ministries, especially the Home Ministry in the Central Government, are not taking complete cognizance of the needs and necessities of the Harijans. Harijans are being molested not only in Rajasthan and PEPUSU, as has been read out today, but everywhere and nothing has so far been done to rehabilitate them. My friend, Mr. Rachiah, has just now stated that Rs. 320 crores have been spent on the refugees. It is a good sign that the Government have realised the need to rehabilitate these unfortunate refugees. But what about these refugees,

the Harijans? Not yesterday, not day before yesterday, but for thousands of years, this caste Hindu cruelty has been making them refugees. Why don't you face the problem? Here is the Home Minister, Sir. I am glad his name is 'Kailas Nath'. Kailas Nath is Shiva and most of the Harijans are Shaivites. It is a divine trust given into his hands. (*Interruption*) It is a divine trust given into his hands, but he is more bothered about his police, he is more bothered about his States and more bothered about his preventive detention. I say, Sir, all these things are necessary, but here is a trust divinely given into his hands when on the day his father or grandfather named him Kailas Nath, and I want him to take this as a trust divinely given and divinely to be discharged by him. No tinkering with the problem can be tolerated. I earnestly request him that he must apply his heart, his brain and the whole of his being, as far as this problem is concerned.

The other day the Leader of the House said that the present-day war would be different from the past wars and therefore, the defence arrangements we made were not sufficient. I want the Leader of the House as well as the Home Minister to think that the best defence that this country can have is the Harijan. He has saved the religion several times. He has saved the culture of Hindus several times; he has been with Gandhiji and went to jails and he has suffered. He did not want to make the British purchase him. But what is it that you are giving him today?

There is another point I want to bring to the notice of the Home Minister. In several constituencies they are making a lot of changes. For instance, take my own constituency,—Harijans are being deprived of the opportunity for taking advantage of the provision of the reservation of seats in joint electorate.

My constituency has been divided into two and no Harijan seat has been reserved there. Mine is the only con-

stituency in the whole of India from where a Harijan has been returned to the general seat. Why should the Government of Andhra or Madras or even the other organisations connected with this remove that seat and fling it far away from that place? Is it because of the ideal of Gandhiji in insisting and fasting unto death that the Harijans should not have separate electorates? Was it wrong that the voters of this West Godavari constituency elected a Harijan to the general seat that today they are being deprived.....

**Shri A. M. Thomas (Ernakulam):** Sir, a point of order. It is to a decision arrived at by the Delimitation Commission that the hon. Member is referring. Is it open to the hon. Member to raise it on the floor of this House?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** As I think the Delimitation Commission has not concluded its labours so far as Andhra is concerned—there may be tentative proposals—it is premature to discuss them here. And, under the Act itself, it is useless to discuss them here. Therefore, the hon. Member may utilise his short time for other purposes.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** I thank you for the ruling, Sir. I just wanted to tell the hon. House how things are happening under the very nose of Dr. Kailas Nath Katju, our Home Minister, in charge of Harijan welfare also.

There is another point I want to lay stress upon. Here is the directive principle. Article 46 says:

“The State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.”

I want the Ministry to produce a report wherein it is shown that this directive principle is given effect to.

[Shri B. S. Murthy]

I do not think the reports of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will meet the need. I want a change of heart on the part of the Ministry. My hon. friend, Mr. Rachiah and a number of other friends have already said that the Harijans are being ignored as far as Commissions, Committees and appointments are concerned. The hon. Deputy Minister, who has been in charge of this portfolio said, 'Have some patience'. Patience must also have some limit. We have been patient for a long time and still we have been told to have patience. Please give us a time-limit, say twenty years or twenty-five or even a hundred years when this untouchability will be removed altogether from Hindu society.

Another point I want to stress is that any delay in tackling this question will not only disintegrate the Hindu community but will lay the axe at the security of India also.

**Shri G. H. Deshpande** (Nasik--Central): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, during the short time at my disposal, I want to touch upon three or four points in this discussion. Yesterday, much of the time of the House was devoted to the discussion of the problem of missionaries. The hon. Member, Dr. Krishnaswami took a long time in championing the cause of the missionaries and during his speech, for at least half a dozen times, he repeated that he was not advocating the cause of anybody. I do not know what made him repeat that half a dozen times; perhaps, there was a pinching conscience that made him say like that.

Nobody in this country wants to belittle the good services rendered by the missionaries in India, especially in backward areas. But at the same time, if they transgress the limits, if they take undue advantage of the situation, no doubt, Government will have to interfere. It is not desirable that in the name of secular State, the religion of the majority community should be allowed to be abused by anybody at his will. No doubt the

State is a secular State and the Hindu religion and the other religions have every freedom for religious propaganda. If any people want to convert, by legitimate means, they should be at liberty to do so. But that does not mean that Hinduism should be attacked, it should be ridiculed and so on. During the last Christmas, I have found that in my district and in the adjoining district, a week was observed by certain missionaries. I did not find anything constructive in their programme. They tried to ridicule Hindus and special care was taken by them not to touch Muslims. So, it seems that with some missionaries there is a deliberate drive in a particular direction, which ought to be checked, and I do say that especially in the rural areas, from my constituency, there is a demand that the Home Department should take special care of this. These missionaries may have sufficient liberties, but they are transgressing their limits and that point should be taken into consideration.

There was some reference yesterday to the uplift of Scheduled Tribes. The Scheduled Tribes live in a too much scattered condition, and they are scattered over large areas. If that population could be concentrated in rural areas, then alone it will be possible to provide them with amenities such as school, village water supply, medical facilities etc. No doubt these facilities must be extended to the population, but that can be done only if they are brought together and the present scattered condition is removed. If there are villages with a fixed-minimum population of these people, then alone these facilities can be extended. Unless and until this is done, it is no use spending money without a plan. Supposing there are 25 families of these people in a village, nobody can give them a school, nobody can give them an approach road and nobody can give them medical facilities. These can be done if better plans are made and the population is more concentrated and the present scattered

condition of the population is removed. The time has come when we must work out a plan. They were in a miserable condition. We have done much and we have spent large sums of money, but the results are not what were desired. Much remains to be done. What about the Harijans then? So many Members from the Harijan community from this side and that, expressed the dissatisfaction that exists among them. Of course, many of them do appreciate what has been done. A lot has been done, but much remains to be done. Somebody quoted certain things that are going on even today. I was very much pained to read some time ago in the papers that during the Dusehra celebrations there were great wrestling matches in Mysore and Harijans offered themselves as candidates, but they were refused simply because they were born Harijans. Then there was a riot and the police had to take resort to firing. This is the condition which exists even today. When I read the report in the paper, it reminded me of the *Mahabharata* days. When Arjun was said to be the champion and when he was presented with a prize for his efficiency in the art of archery, Karna came running there and said "You are doing a great injustice. I am here and I offer myself as a competitor and shall beat Arjun." What did the great pandits that had assembled there say? Only those who were born of Kshatriya blood can participate in the contest and because Karna was a *suta putra*, he could not be allowed to come in as a competitor. What was Karna's reply?

“सूतो वा सूतपुत्रो वा यो वा को वा भवाम्यहम्  
 देवायत्तु कुले जन्म मदादात्तं तृपो ह्यहम् ।

That evil to this day, persists in the Hindu community. Unless and until we eradicate untouchability as a whole, democracy in India will not be safe. So long as there are some remnants or signs of untouchability in our society, to that extent the content of freedom is inadequate.

71 P.S.D.

The Father of the Nation, when I attended the Nagpur Session of the Congress, said that so long as there was untouchability, he would not say that India was fit for *Swaraj*. We have achieved *Swaraj*, no doubt; we are enjoying *Swaraj*, no doubt; but what about those lakhs and lakhs of people among whom untouchability still persists? In certain States, conditions are still very bad. What do you find in Saurashtra? What do you find elsewhere, especially those States which were the citadels of orthodoxy, which were the citadels of hierarchy, which were the remnants of feudalism? In those States, sufficient progressive measures are not being taken. Mere expression of public opinion is not sufficient. It is the duty of the Home Ministry to have a greater drive than they have had during the last four years.

I would now like to refer to the reorganisation of States. A Commission for Reorganisation of States has been appointed. It has started functioning. I was very much surprised yesterday when an hon. Member from the other side remarked, "It will endanger the national unity." He spoke as if those who want the reorganisation of the States do not have any concern for the national unity. My hon. friend need not be disturbed. I say that those propagate the reorganisation of States are equal, if not, better patriots than those who advocate the maintenance of the *status quo*. Those who are interested in maintaining the *status quo* are not for the masses; they are for the classes. Today, 99.9 per cent. of the people in Hyderabad are for the disintegration of that State, and those who want to continue the *status quo* are, therefore, reactionaries. They want, they should have their own position; they want that landlordism should remain; they want that people should not assert themselves. They wish to deny to people the right to run the administration of their local units; they want to deny them the facilities to take an effective part in the administration. That is, to certain extent, undemocratic and

[Shri G. H. Deshpande]

reactionary in my opinion. Those who want the reorganisation of the States do not want to undermine the safety of the nation; they do not want to undermine the defence of the nation; they do not want to undermine the unity of the nation. Therefore, I would say that for the solving of this problem, a Commission has been appointed, and it has been appointed by the Government of India for solving the problem and not for postponing it. Those who are now trying to carry on propoganda for the purpose of postponing the reorganisation are doing a great disservice to the nation, for if the problem for which this Commission has been appointed will not be solved, then God knows what will happen in this unfortunate land. I would say that that will be an unfortunate day if the problem remains unsolved. On the other hand, if this problem is solved, the country as a whole will rejoice; people will rejoice at the redistribution of States. That is why I say that so far as the removal of untouchability is concerned, a greater drive is necessary; so far as the uplift of the Scheduled Tribe is concerned, a plan is needed; and so far as the question of States is concerned, these small units, these remnants of feudalism which are not moving in a progressive direction, should be assimilated with the progressive neighbouring States. So, in regard to the Commission for the Reorganisation of States, everybody should co-operate with it and get the problem solved.

One thing more and I have done. So far as the law and order situation is concerned, during the last year the conditions were favourable throughout India, but in spite of that, we have marked that in certain big cities certain anti-social elements have gone underground and at times they create unnecessary disturbance. If an economic grievance is there, it is exploited. I would request the Government of India to take good care of them; to find out what they are; to find out who is at the bottom of it all; to find

out what are the plans of these unpatriotic people who want to take undue advantage of the economic situation and arrest the growth and progress of this country. They should be watched carefully and they should not be given the same latitude that they have been given hitherto, so that they will be prevented from playing any more mischief.

श्री नवल्ल प्रभाकर (बाह्य दिल्ली-रहित-अनुसूचित जातियां): उपाध्यक्ष जी आज मैं इस सदन के सम्मुख एक एसी खामी को रखना चाहता हूँ जो कि एक बहुत ही विचारणीय है। सन् १९५१ में दिल्ली में जनगणना हुई थी और जब जन गणना यहाँ पर हो रही थी तो पंजाब की लिस्ट को प्रयोग में लाया गया था और जो दिल्ली की लिस्ट भी उसको प्रयोग में नहीं लाया गया। पंजाब की लिस्ट जिसमें शिद्द्यूल्ड कास्ट की २४ जातियां थीं उसको प्रयुक्त किया गया और दिल्ली की लिस्ट को जिसमें कि ४९ जातियां हैं उसको प्रयुक्त नहीं किया गया। मैं १९५२ के पंपर नम्बर ४ का हवाला देना चाहता हूँ जिसमें गवर्नमेंट ने कहा है :

"Though the President's Orders specifying Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Part C States had not been issued at the time of 1951 Census, the lists used at the Census in Part C States were the same as finally adopted in these States except in the case of Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and Bilaspur where the Punjab list of Scheduled Castes was used at the Census."

इसका मतलब यह है कि पंजाब लिस्ट को प्रयुक्त किया गया। मर्र एक पत्र के उत्तर में डिप्टी रीजिस्ट्रार जनरल ने मुझ को लिखा है कि १६ जातियां तो इसके अन्दर आ गयी हैं लेकिन २५ कास्ट एंसी हैं जो कि प्रयोग में नहीं लायी गईं। मर्र पत्र के उत्तर में उन्होंने मेमोरैंडम भेजा है उसमें भी वही दिया हुआ है कि २५ कास्ट एंसी हैं जो कि छूट गयी हैं और १६ कास्ट एंसी हैं कि जिनकी गिनती हुई

हैं। तो मैं इस सदन से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जिन १६ कास्ट की गिनती की गयी है उनकी संख्या २,०५,००० है। डिप्टी रीजिस्ट्रार जनरल ने अपने मेमोरेण्डम में माना है कि उनकी संख्या २,०५,६१२ है। पंजाब लिस्ट की जो १५ कास्ट हैं उनकी संख्या ६५४ होती है। और जो बाकी २४ कास्ट हैं उनमें से कुछ तो नान एक्सेलबल हैं और बाकी के बारे में एस्टीमेट करके बताया है कि उनकी संख्या ६०,३१० है। मैं माननीय होम मंत्री जी को पेंपर नम्बर ४ से यह बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि जब जनगणना ली जा रही थी उस समय एक इस तरह का प्रावधान था कि बैकवर्ड क्लासेज कमीशन बनाया जायगा और बैकवर्ड क्लासेज की जो जातियाँ हैं उनको लिया जायगा। तो उसके लिए भी गिनती का एक प्रावधान है और वह स्पष्ट रूप से कुछ ग़ुप्स के लिये है। मैं उसको पढ़ कर सुनाता हूँ :

"The relevant Census questions were re-framed so as to enquire, in relation to every citizen, whether or not he was a member of a "Special Group". A person was a member of a "Special Group" if he was a member of any "Scheduled Caste" or of any "Scheduled Tribe" or of any other "Backward Class"; or if he was an "Anglo-Indian".

मैं ने बार २ प्रार्थना की होम मिनिस्टर साहब से। मैं छः महीने से लगातार लिखापढ़ी कर रहा हूँ लेकिन फिर भी आज तक कोई सुनवाई नहीं हुई। जैसा कि मैं ने बताया मेमोरेण्डम में उन १६ कास्ट की संख्या २,०५,००० दी हुई है जो २४ कास्ट हैं उनकी संख्या आज भी छुटी हुई है।

मैं डीप्लीमेटेशन कमीशन के सामने भी गया और मैं ने प्रार्थना की और लिखकर प्रार्थना की कि यह जो खामी रह गयी है इसके सम्बन्ध मुझ न्याय मिलना चाहिए। डीप्लीमेटेशन कमीशन ने मुझ लिख कर दिया और बतलाया कि हमें संख्या चाहिए। हमें आप संख्या लाकर दीजिये तो दिल्ली

के अन्दर एक सीट रिजर्व की जा सकती है। उसके बाद मैं होम मिनिस्टर में गया और मैं ने सेक्रेटरी साहब से अनुरोध किया, मैं ने होम मिनिस्टर साहब से अनुरोध किया और मैं ने कहा कि मुझ सही २ आंकड़ें दिये जाने चाहिए। किन्तु मुझ आज तक भी वह आंकड़ें प्राप्त नहीं हो सके। जब मैंने इस तरह की प्रार्थना की मुझ इस तरह से गोल माल मेमोरेण्डम द दिये गये जो कि किसी तरह से मेरी और यहां के लोगों की समस्या में नहीं आते। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि सन् १९३१ में जब कि जनगणना हो रही थी, उस समय कई तरह की बातें थीं, दश में उस समय कांग्रेस का असहयोग आन्दोलन चल रहा था और उस आन्दोलन के कारण बहुत लोगों ने जनसंख्या के अन्दर भाग लेने से इन्कार कर दिया और वह चीज सन् १९३१ की संशय रिपोर्ट में स्पष्ट रूप से अंकित है। इसके अलावा उस समय जो शंख्यल कास्ट जातियाँ थीं जो कि अनुसूचित जातियाँ थीं वह बहुत पिछड़ी हुई थीं और उनको बहुत हेच ट्रीट से देखा जाता था। सन् १९३१ के संशय में मैं ने देखा कि उसमें एक बहुत बड़ा आइटम जो है वह आर्य जाति के नाम से लिखा हुआ है और अगर मैं गलती नहीं करता तो वह शायद १२ हजार के लगभग होंगे जिन्होंने कि अपने को आर्य लिखाया और यही कारण है कि इस मेमोरेण्डम में जो यह दिया हुआ है और यह जो प्रमाणित करने की कोशिश की गयी है कि जो हमारी एस्टीमेटड संख्या है वह ठीक है और सही है, यह मैं मानने को तैयार नहीं हूँ और यह तो ठीक उसी प्रकार होगा जैसे किसी बच्चे को स्कूल में बहका कर कहा जाय कि यह बात सही है वह इसको मान ले, मैं वह एस्टीमेट मानने को तैयार नहीं हूँ।

एक मेमोरेण्डम मैंने शंख्यल कास्ट के २९ मेंबरों के दस्तावेजों सहित दिया था। उस मेमोरेण्डम के उत्तर में मुझ यह बताया गया कि अगर मान लिया जाय कि ....

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Two minutes more.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : मैं प्रार्थना करूंगा कि जब तक मैं अपना कंस हाउस में अच्छी तरह समझाना न दूं, मुझमें बोलने दिया जाय, मैं केवल यही बात रखना चाहता हूं और उसे बिल्कुल साफ करना चाहता हूं। मैं यह बता रहा था कि मेरे उस मेमोरेण्डम के जवाब में मुझे यह लिखा गया कि ५.८ लाख अगर आपकी संख्या हो तो आपके लिये एक सीट कायम हो सकती है। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं डिप्लोमेटिक कमीशन की रिपोर्ट जो गजट में छपी है और डिप्लोमेटिक कमीशन के सेक्रेटरी साहब से मिलने पर मालूम हुआ कि ५.९ के ऊपर एक रिजर्व सीट कायम हो सकती है। अब दिल्ली में तीन सीटें हैं और जब ५ लाख, ८० हजार के ऊपर एक सीट बनती है तो इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि ५.९ के ऊपर अगर एक सीट दी जाय तो उसमें शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट की संख्या यदि २ लाख, ६९ हजार हो, तो यहां पर एक रिजर्व सीट दी जा सकती है और सीटें इस आधार पर कायम की गयी हैं। मैं आपको आसाम के बारे में बताऊं कि ५६ के अन्दर एक सीट दी गई है, विन्ध्य-प्रदेश के अन्दर ५६ के ऊपर एक सीट दी गयी है, और मनीपुर के अन्दर ६७ के ऊपर एक सीट दी गयी है।

गृह मंत्रालय से मुझमें जो मेमोरेण्डम मिला उसमें यह कहा गया है कि यदि आपकी जन संख्या ५.८ लाख हो तो आपको एक सीट मिल सकती है और इसलिए हम जो दो लाख अड़सठ हजार मानते हैं उस २ लाख, ६८ हजार को मान भी लिया जाय तो भी आपको सीट नहीं मिल सकती है। मैं कहता हूं कि २ साल ६८ हजार जन संख्या इन्होंने अपने मेमोरेण्डम में मानी है। इसके अलावा वह कहते हैं कि आठ कास्ट्स एंसी हैं जो नान अवैलेबुल हैं और वे कास्ट्स ये हैं: अहीरिया, बलाई, घरामी, कूचा बन्ध, लाल बंगी, मेघवाल और सींगी बाला या कालबीलिया। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं बतलाना चाहता हूं कि दहली में पैदा होने के नाते मैं यह बखूबी जानता हूं कि कौन कास्ट

कहां पर है और कितनी है। बालाई कास्ट उनमें से एक एंसी कास्ट है जिसको ले लीजिये, दहली में बहुत सी पाकेट्स में जानता हूं यहां इस जाति के लोग बड़ी संख्या में आबाद हैं और मैं विश्वासपूर्वक कह सकता हूं कि अगर उनकी जांच करके हिसाब लगाया जाय तो अकेले बालाई कास्ट वालों की संख्या दहली में कम से कम २०, २२ हजार के लगभग होगी और अगर उनको शामिल कर लिया जाय तब भी हमारी जन संख्या तीन लाख के ऊपर पहुंचती है जिस से तीन सीटों में एक सीट रिजर्व हो सकती है ....

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

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : सबसे पहलें इन्होंने पत्र लिखा, उसके बाद टेलीफोन से मुझमें बतलाया गया कि आपकी जो जनसंख्या है वह तीन लाख से ऊपर है, लेकिन उसके बाद मैं मुझमें जो मेमोरेण्डम दिया गया उसमें २ लाख, ६८ हजार, २७७ बताया गयी, इसलिये मैं यह सब मिनिस्टर साहब के सामने रखना चाहता हूं और उनसे प्रार्थना करता हूं कि दिल्ली की शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट की जो जनसंख्या है, उसका पूरा २ और ठीक २ विवरण दें और इस तरह का प्रबन्ध करें जिससे दिल्ली के हरिजनों को न्याय मिल सके।

**Shri Biren Dutt (Tripura West):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the very outset I must say that our Home Minister has not changed his policy of distrust of the people of India. During the discussion on the General Budget he gave us a maxim—confidence is a plant of slow growth. He said that he has a grouse that the people of our country do not consider the police stations as their police stations, that they do not look upon the law courts as their law courts.

With this idea as his basis he began the operation of his policy throughout India. He tried to inspire confidence all over India by his methods. I shall cite only a few instances, because the time at my disposal does not permit

my telling the whole story. Coming Statewise, the people of the Garo Hills in Assam presented a memorandum asking for relief to the refugees, provision of seeds, agricultural implements and cheap credit to the agriculturists and construction of schools and hospitals. Their leader was arrested and detained. In Manipur about 450 college and school students were arrested, and 62 of them thrown into prison. In Tripura 51 persons were beaten and 61 persons taken to prison. In West Bengal it is a matter of common knowledge how teachers were lathi charged, how Burnpur workers were shot down resulting in seven casualties, how the Panchet Hill workers were attacked, how history was created by attack on the Pressmen during the tramfare struggle, how section 144 was promulgated in Asansol and many other places, and shooting of the tea estate workers was resorted to at Bardighi to protect the interests of the British estate owners.

In Bihar in defence of the British coal miners in Girdih there were arrests of workers. In the same State in defence of the zamindars many *kisans* were killed. In Hirakud in Orissa, section 144 is in force. In Madhya Pradesh five people were killed in a place called Chuikidan, out of whom three were women. In Hyderabad I.N.T.U.C. workers were lathi-charged five times and 90 persons were injured and 500 persons arrested. In another place in the same State 12,000 colliery workers were attacked by police of whom 56 were arrested; 500 women were tear-gassed and 25 of them were injured. In Pardi (Gujarat) in Bombay State, 1,055 persons were arrested, of whom 97 were women. Section 144 is in operation in several places there.

4 P.M.

By these methods, he has, however, not succeeded in inspiring confidence in the mind of the masses. On the contrary, the House would have seen during the discussion on the Press Amendment Bill, how even the confidence reposed in him by his own party has melted away.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava so vigorously opposed that Bill. You have seen how Mr. Gadgil was opposing the fervour shown by the Government in defending the profits of foreigners and big capitalists. You have seen how Mr. Tripathi was asking for a stop of the aggression of the workers of this country. You have seen how Swami Ramananda Tirtha demanded the abolition of the institution of Rajpramukhs and the disintegration of Hyderabad State. You have heard Shri L. Jogeswar Singh yesterday demanding the abolition of the Chief Commissionership in Tripura, Manipur, Kutch and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Not only these. Those men who belong to the profession of law and who want to restore confidence in the law courts have said something which I shall read to you. This is a "Call by the Organising Committee of Democratic Lawyers" and they say:

"When civil liberties are being trampled on and false prosecutions by the police to serve the political ends of the Ministry in power are mounting, it is time that organisation of a Democratic Lawyers Association got under way.

"The lawyers have always stood for fair trial and above all justice. They will be acting upto this glorious tradition if they in their own way but in an organised manner sided with the people in their fight for constitutional principles and liberties."

This is the part people are taking. Every shooting resorted to against workers, peasants, students and teachers is looked down upon by the whole country as a shooting against democratic movement of our people. By this way they cannot carry the confidence of the masses of the people of India. I must say that the hon. Minister should look to the counsels of his own party men regarding the introduction of responsible government in these Part C States, where people are denied every right. I may

[Shri Biren Dutt]

clearly state that you will not find a single Act enacted during the years of regime of the Chief Commissioners in Tripura, Manipur or any other place where the people can breathe freely. This was a feudal area. But in spite of this the Ministry of States is not taking any interest in it. On the contrary the Chief Commissioner is allowed to beat and shoot people as he likes. I would urge the Government to consider very seriously the situation that is growing in those parts of the States. We have seen that there is no legislation for the progress of the people of Tripura. But there is a Forest Law. By that law the Tribal people, about whom so much is spoken here, are debarred from adopting their natural process of earning. *Joom* cultivation has been stopped without giving them any land or rehabilitation facilities. Millions of Tribal people are going to be affected.

In the same way you will see that everywhere the Chief Commissioner's regime is creating devastation Tripura was a surplus State. But it has been made a deficit area. You have heard about the condition of Manipur. I urge upon this House, the press and the public of India to stand by the people of Tripura and Manipur for the speedy introduction of legislative assemblies there.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya** (Muzaffarpur Central): In a five minute discourse on the affairs of the Home Ministry one could as well remain dumb like a drum with a hole in it.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member may have ten minutes.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** I shall, however, content myself by recalling the old saying that brevity is the soul not only of wit but also of wisdom.

The Home Ministry deserves our congratulation not merely for its stewardship of the Home Affairs during the last one year, but also for the light manner in which it has got off in this debate. I suppose it also owes

a debt of gratitude to you, Sir, for giving quite a good deal of time, and rightly, to those sitting on the benches behind. It is as well that all sides of opinion must be expressed in this House.

There is one thing to which I wanted to draw pointed attention, and that was to the speech of my friend Dr. Krishnaswami who is unfortunately not here just now and who was advocating the case of conversion to Christianity. I was reminded of a story of a new civilian magistrate who had passed his first order in a criminal case and he found that neither the prosecution nor the defence felt satisfied and happy with his order. So he ran to the district magistrate thinking that probably he had made some serious mistake because no party seemed to be satisfied with his order. The district magistrate told him: you are right, if neither of them is satisfied then you have done the right thing. The hon. the Home Minister might as well congratulate himself that on one side there are some people who accuse him of being soft to the missionaries, and on the other side there are people who accuse him of being hard on the missionaries. In any case I suppose it is a certificate to him that he has been following the golden mean in this direction.

With regard to the most important and, I suppose, the most burning topic on the home front, that is with regard to the States Reorganisation Commission, I felt personally that the present was the stage of convalescence, so far as this country was concerned, from a state of slavery to freedom, from a sick state to a healthy life; and in my humble opinion perhaps the Government and the country would have done well by waiting for a little while longer before raising this difficult problem and trying to solve it. Of course a democratic Government would not be worth its name if it did not respond to the demands of the people. And there can be no denying the fact that there has been

a most persistent and insistent demand for carving out new States out of old ones, readjusting the boundaries of existing States and of merging former Indian Rulers' States with this State or the other. Government perhaps had no other alternative. But in doing so I think the Government were following the practice of an Irish leader who was running pell-mell, in hot haste and who asked some people whom he found on the way whether they saw a crowd running ahead. They said "yes, we have seen a crowd ahead". He said "I am their leader and I must follow them". I thought that in this very ticklish problem the Government and the ruling party—when I say ruling party I mean the political party which has formed the Government—would give a lead to the country, would stand pressures if it honestly and really thought that in the present situation of the country the raising of any such question would be harmful and will not bring about any good.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram** (Visakhapatnam): You won your elections on this promise.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya**: Perhaps you did. We know what the promises were. I stood on the Congress ticket. You didn't. So I know what my promises were.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker**: Let both of them address the Chair.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya**: I beg your pardon, Sir, I was addressing him through you.

Whatever it may be, the fact of the matter is that the States Reorganisation Commission is now a settled fact and it has started functioning. It is no use, therefore, in weeping over spilt milk; but let us beware that we spill no more milk, and that we do not create situations which might in the end be more harmful than bring in the good which we have had in view. How can that be prevented? I submit, Sir, that the question of re-distribution of boundaries by adjustment of existing States or even by carving out

new States out of existing ones, must be looked at in a cool and thoughtful manner rather than in the manner of creating political situations and expecting results to come out of that. This is an important problem for this country, for we know it—much to our discomfiture—that small things in this country have led to conditions which have ultimately resulted in serious harm and injury to this country. I think in a situation like this, the Government and the political party forming the Government have a special responsibility of creating public opinion. After all, we know that these tendencies have not exhibited themselves for the first time in this country. We know it very well that Abraham Lincoln had to fight a battle in his own country and internecine warfare in order to keep the whole of the limited states together. We know how it was possible for Bismarck to bring all the Germans together. Therefore, perhaps in a situation like this here is an occasion for some leaders of public opinion to take things in their own hands and to say boldly that this is not the time to raise such questions.

However, the position today is that the situation in the country is not getting on as it should. The first requirement in my opinion today—the States Reorganisation Commission being a settled fact—is that, we must create conditions where the people inhabiting these different States and also the States Reorganisation Commission may be able to look at these things in an unprejudiced manner. What is happening, however, is that, some people following old traditions call up meetings, where about a hundred people assemble, but the organizers naturally give out to the Press that a mass meeting of thousands of people was held and a particular resolution had been unanimously passed, whatever the strength of the dissentient element might have been in that meeting. Now, the fact is that, if situation like these are created there is no doubt that the country as a whole will suffer. In my opinion, today

[Shri Syamnandan Sahaya]

there is nothing truer than what was once said: "Who gains if India loses?" The problem, therefore, has to be tackled and considered not from the angle, importance or requirements of one individual unit, but of the whole of this country, and I have no doubt that, if the problem is looked at from that standpoint it will perhaps be possible for us even now, in the existing circumstances, to arrive at reasonable and fair conclusions.

Sir, in this House, unfortunately, we have heard matters of law and order with regard to States being raised. I do not know whether it is either a good precedent or a sound convention. My own feeling is that, it is not. Even so, perhaps things have been raised and in consideration of certain circumstances, we have permitted debate or discussion on that subject. In this connection, there are two things which came to my knowledge and which I think it would be necessary for me to mention as instances to point out how this States Reorganisation business is being carried on; also, how the people are being led to think that the States Reorganisation Commission will be guided by these extraneous factors rather than by hard facts and past history. For instance, in this House even yesterday we heard a Member talk something about Tusu Song, and another Member saying something about Sarai Kalan and Kharsawan. Sir, you will be surprised to hear that this Tusu Song, this Tusu function is almost a century old, if not more. Now, some songs have been newly composed and the new compositions have also been named as Tusu Songs although they do not say anything about the Tusu girl in whose memory, and to immortalise whom the songs were at one time sung; but the new songs have been composed in such a way as to create a kind of ill feeling for Hindi and for Beharis. Even a cursory reading of the new editions of these songs which have been published, printed and distributed, will indicate that, that is not the right spirit in which

the propaganda or agitation with regard to States reorganisation should be conducted. The same is the position with regard to Sarai Kalan and Kharsawan. Here again we hear that a certain Raja presided over a meeting, and his arm was fractured as a result of an assault on him and he became unconscious. When however we go into the records we find that there was nothing of the kind; he had a head injury; when the doctor was putting on a stitch he shouted for chloroform, and he was given two ounces of brandy which served the purpose of chloroform and he did not shout again. What I am saying is based on certain facts which have been brought to my notice and I am willing to place the papers on the Table of the House. These things are sometimes brought up to create a situation which to my mind should not under any circumstance be done.

About the language question, Sir, I may tell you that Bengali is being taught as the medium of instruction in 1472 schools in the Manbhum District in Bihar and about all these schools are aided by the Government. In my University, Bengali is also a medium in one of the colleges. All such unjustified propaganda that the Bengali language is being suppressed in my opinion, only take away from the case, the real merits thereof. We ought to concentrate on the real issue confronting the country.

The hon. Home Minister, will I trust appreciate if I conclude by saying that when faced with such unfounded allegation one is reminded of that Urdu couplet:

कुसूर हूँ निकाला फूकत जफा के लिये

Dr. Katju: Sir, this had been for me an exceedingly instructive debate and the House has heard, I imagine, both with profit and instruction, the various views expressed on the question of foreign missionaries. I shall deal with that topic a little later because my name has been brought into the debate and has appeared during the last two years very much in the newspapers. I

have tried to understand the opposite point of view as well as I could and I may tell the hon. Members frankly that I have not completely been able to understand the so-called opposite point of view. I would not go into that now and I should like in the beginning to deal with a few matters which have been raised in the debate.

To go backwards, my hon. friend there, for whom I have very great regard...

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** What about others who have spoken?

**Dr. Katju:** ...for whom I have great regard, raised one single question in this big debate about the right of the Harijans in the Delhi State to a reserved seat. When he was speaking he referred to me and to the Home Ministry in rather unkind words. I do not want to exchange compliments with him nor would I go deeply into the question, because it is a matter entirely for the Delimitation Commission. Of course, according to him we have been guilty of dealing with his requests in a very *gal mal* fashion, and trying not to appreciate his point of view. That is what every applicant or every litigant in a court of law says, that the Judge has not been able to understand his point of view. But the Judge is still there. The Delimitation Commission has advertised certain proposals. It will hold a public meeting. That is not a matter to be discussed here before 400 or 300 Members of this House. My hon. friend has reason on his side; he said so. He has got figures on his side; he has said so. The Delimitation Commission consists of retired Judges. He has only to make out his case before them and they would listen to him. That is all I have to say here.

Then, there is my hon. friend the Raja Saheb of Bilaspur, and he was addressing the House from a high pedestal. Of course, we deal with all questions in a disinterested manner. I sometimes wonder whether the House has got a conception of the area of this great State of Bilaspur I

do not want to make any mistakes; but my impression is, it may be, because it is a hilly area, 100 square miles or 400 square miles; that does not matter if it is not populated.

**Shri C. D. Pande** (Naini Tal Distt. cum Almora Distt.—South West cum Bareilly Distt.—North): The population is 1 lakh.

**Sardar A. S. Saigal** (Bilaspur): Four hundred fifty three square miles.

**Dr. Katju:** There is the Sutlej. I understand that when the Bhakra Dam is built, nearly 200 miles will be submerged in water including a part of the town of Bilaspur. We are as much alive, even more alive than Shri Anandchand himself that the people whose lands and whose houses are submerged should get adequate compensation and that they should be rehabilitated. But, that has really nothing to do with these big State questions. It is a tiny little thing which cannot possibly live, particularly after the submergence. My hon. friend said that it is a Part C State and has got its independent rights, and asked, what have you done? What was the state of administration there? There was a Chief Commissioner. He referred to all that. I was astonished when he said that all portfolios have been abolished that the secretariat has been taken away—as if it was another U. P. or Bombay Presidency, with innumerable secretaries, innumerable departments and the head of the State above that, and we have removed all of them in the twinkling of an eye! It was a most expensive administration. My hon. friend knows that, I do not want to go into the details. The administration became chaotic. Why? He knows it very well. What did we do? Till we obtained Parliamentary sanction, we did not amalgamate Himachal Pradesh and Bilaspur. The Lieut-Governor of Himachal Pradesh is a high public officer appointed by the President. Instead of having a Chief Commissioner for this tiny little thing, we said to the Lieut-Governor of Himachal Pradesh, you go and take

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over charge on behalf of the President. The Lieut-Governor is a high officer with great experience and he went there and took over charge. I really thought that my hon. friend representing the people of Bilaspur would have been in a congratulatory mood as some of you have been. But, here he said that the whole of democracy has come to an end because the secretariat officers had been taken away from Bilaspur. I submit that it is not a stateable case. What is there to argue about?

There were some questions raised by my hon. friend Shri U. C. Patnaik. He is a friend of old standing. He is very fond of and he has really studied the whole question of civil defence.

**Shri S. S. More** (Sholapur): Are you replying to your friends alone?

**Dr. Katju:** Will you be silent, please? My hon. friend has said to me privately that he deliberately intervenes in order just to provoke me. I hope he will remain silent and not provoke me.

**Shri K. K. Basu** (Diamond Harbour): Get it on record.

**Dr. Katju:** It will now go on record.

My hon. friend has taken interest in this vitally important matter: our armed forces, our defence forces and civil defence. We had a discussion the other day on rifle training. My hon. friend, the Minister for Defence Organisation referred to it in the course of his speech. We are most anxious to provide facilities for rifle training to all the citizens of India. I am very happy to say that the Defence Department have offered us their fullest collaboration. A scheme is under contemplation by which, as my hon. colleague said, rifles would be available, training would be available at every police station. The trainee can go there and can learn. They will be provided with free rifles. They will have to pay one pice or half an anna. (An hon. Mem-

ber: One anna.) Or one anna for every round that he fires. I think it is a nominal charge and there would be provision for instructors there. I do hope that this arrangement will be welcomed by all Members of this House, on all sides, and also by the country at large. I do also hope that every citizen would make it a point to take the utmost advantage of this arrangement which has been made.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Have you made sure that people do not get away with the guns?

**Dr. Katju:** No, no. I have got another arrangement. When they try to get away with the guns, there is the police station.

**Shri Velayudhan** (Quilon *cum* Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): He is in the police station.

**Dr. Katju:** Either you go this way or that.

Something was said about Railway police. As the House knows, in the beginning, it was under the Central management because it was a matter of some importance. We have now been taking steps to liberalise that arrangement. I am hoping that in the course of a few months, arrangements will be made by which the State Governments will be put in charge of this department of railway policing in their own territories. There should be no difficulty about it.

My hon. friend from Neemuch mentioned about the Central Reserve Police. Very often I have spoken about that force in this House. I sincerely think that the country should be proud of the force at Neemuch. That is a police force; but they have been recruited on army lines. They have rendered service in every part of India, particularly Northern India. The House might probably be aware that before the British left, they established what was called the

Crown Representative's Police force. That police force has been maintained and the name has been changed and instead of the Crown Representative's Police force, it is called the Central Reserve Police force. It consists of about 2000 men. One thousand have been recruited on a permanent basis and as the work has expanded, 1000 have been recruited on a temporary basis. The question as to whether these 1000 men should or should not be absorbed permanently is under consideration.

Inasmuch as they work under difficult conditions and more or less on the lines of the Armed Forces, their pay naturally stands on a footing on its own. I say it once again, they are entitled to our appreciation for the work that they have done everywhere. Wherever there is difficulty, wherever there is a difficult law and order situation we receive request for their help and that help is always fully appreciated.

My hon. friend also said—I refer to the hon. friend from Neemuch—that the Arms Act rules are not being properly worked and he made a complaint that the District Magistrates in the Part B States have not been fully authorised. That is partly accurate and partly not accurate,—partly accurate in this sense that relating to pistols and revolvers, the sanctioning authority is the Government itself and not the local District Magistrate. So far as other arms are concerned, the District Magistrate exercises the same power as in the Part A States, but I am looking into this matter and I shall ask the Part B State Governments to consider whether they cannot pass proper orders delegating authority to District Magistrates in this regard.

Then, there comes another point raised by my hon. friend, and that is rather a delicate subject, viz., the arrears in different High Courts, particularly in the Rajasthan High Court, and he mentioned the desirability of appointing a seventh Judge there. Hon. Members know it is not desirable

that we should discuss the affairs relating to High Courts on the floor of the House. We want to leave this matter to the Chief Justices of these Courts and the Chief Justice of India. We do not want to interfere in the exercise of their judicial functions or the administration of their own High Courts. But the fact remains that arrears have accumulated, in some Courts in a small measure, in some courts in a large measure. Now, being myself a practitioner of some standing—about 40 years...

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Of long standing.

**Dr. Katju:**...sometimes, not always I come to the conclusion that the solution of this evil or this mischief does not lie in merely thoughtlessly increasing the number of Judges, because my experience is this. One Secretary told me when I was in office: "Look at the files. We gave them nine Judges, there were 5,000 arrears. We made the figure 11, the arrears increased to 8,000. We made it 12, the arrears still mounted up." This is a matter which requires close consideration of the Judges and the co-operation of the Bar.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Is it the same with Ministers also?

**Dr. Katju:** Because it is a matter not of how many cases, how many Judges, are there, but the question is control of the judicial proceedings, the way in which the case is argued and the way in which the case is put before the learned Judges. I have come to this conclusion that the whole of this system of arguments requires very careful consideration, so that on the one side the litigant should have the satisfaction of feeling that his case has been fully put before the Judges, whether he loses or whether he wins, particularly the loser. If he is satisfied that his lawyer has been allowed opportunity to place his case, then he feels: "It was my ill-luck. Either my case was bad or it was my ill-luck because the Judge was not sympathetic." But at the same time, you cannot give

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an opportunity for rigmarole arguments going on and on for days and days, months and weeks. There was one case in one High Court where it was said that the hearings began on the day when the Court reopened after the long vacation, and the hearing closed the day that the Court closed for the long vacation—exactly. When I said this in America, they could not believe it. They said: "It is something incredible. How can we believe it." It is the same thing everywhere. Secondly, it is not properly appreciated that for proper administration of justice according to our system of oral arguments it is absolutely essential, it is of vital importance, that at any given moment there should be from six to twelve members of the Bar of sufficient seniority, of sufficient forensic skill, of adequate learning of adequate experience, to grasp the case, to go to the root of it, and to place it before the Judges within half an hour and either win or sit down. But the difficulty in Courts is—I will not pursue this matter further—there are difficulties on every side. Because of the sudden convulsion in your national life things have happened. Therefore, I say to my hon. friend from Neemuch that this matter is under consideration. As a matter of fact, when we get requests from State Governments for some more Judges, I say to them: "Have you got competent men? If you have got, well and good. But, will there be competent men left at the Bar to assist the Judges? That is for you to see—or competent District and Sessions Judges." I will not go into this matter any further because I deliberately want to leave it untouched.

My hon. friend from Hyderabad mentioned the Osmania University. That really has been a sort of comic affair in a way. We appointed a Committee at the request of the Hyderabad Legislative Assembly. That was, I believe, about a year and a half ago. The Chairman was

Acharya Narendra Deva. The Committee never met. They said either the Chairman was ill or some Member was ill and we all know that our hon. friend Acharya Narendra Deva has not been in very fit health. He resigned the chairmanship in January, 1954. Then the Education Ministry appointed in his place another Chairman—Dr. Zakir Hussain. The Committee has not been able to meet because the Committee wanted the Hyderabad Government to submit a memorandum of their views on this topic. The Hyderabad Government has not done so. They said: "We have been very busy with our Budget session." Now, the latest that I know of is that they propose, or they have promised, to submit a report in two weeks' time, and I do hope that the Committee of investigation will now be able to make good progress and a report will be forthcoming.

[PANDIT TEAKUR DAS BHARGAVA  
in the Chair]

Shri B. S. Murthy: It is hoped nobody is sick now!

Dr. Katju: Then I have had the usual observations on Manipur and Tripura. I submit, Mr. Chairman, that if some statistician were to make a survey in the House, it can be said without any fear of challenge, that comparing the size, the population and importance, Manipur and Tripura occupy the largest attention of the House in the question-hour. Every single thing comes up here. The hon. Members from there are really so vigilant. I trust every other Member would do the same thing. Not a mosquito bites there and there is a question in the House. If there are five cultivators going to be ejected, they come and they are heard. They mentioned: "Oh, the police has been guilty of atrocities." What atrocities? They did not mention the strike by the teachers in Calcutta and the repercussions in Tripura in the Girls High School. I

have been to that Girls High School myself.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** I see!

**Dr. Katju:** Not as a student! The girls wanted to go into the school. The great member of the Communist Party stood there trying to pull back the girls from entering.

**Some Hon. Members:** No, no.

**Dr. Katju:** That is a fact. That is the report. The result is policemen are hurt and arrests are taking place. The matter is under enquiry. What is to be done? The police will have to be cashiered if they do not intervene on an occasion like this. They must do their duty. I do not want to go into this matter further.

My hon. friend touched upon the States Reorganisation Commission. I think personally it would be very undesirable on my part to anticipate their decisions or to say anything in this House, and I respectfully suggest the same to the hon. Member who raised the debate on the matter. We are all here as citizens. It is open to us to make a representation before the Commission, to tell them what we think about the matter, because it is certainly a matter of the most important significance in India today, and because the whole map of India is going to be recast. As you now see from the newspapers, every day people are coming with new theories and new demands, and everybody is trying to reshape or redraw the map in one way or another.

My hon. friend from Manipur said that Manipur must be left alone, and that it must not be absorbed with any other neighbouring State. That is very good. But that is for the Commission, and they will go into this matter. So, I do not propose to pursue this matter here.

Then comes the other big question which has been raised, namely the question of the Scheduled Castes and

Scheduled Tribes. If it is not imperative for me to say so, if there is one matter which is constantly in my thoughts—I say it with all reverence—it is the plight, the condition and the question of the uplift of the Schedule Castes and my brethren in the tribal areas. They have been backward, and they are backward. If we include also the number of the backward classes, that makes an enormous aggregate, and we would be failing in our duty, if each one of us were not to do the utmost in our power to promote their welfare. I am just telling you how I feel about it, and my hon. friends know it.

It is not a question of increasing the status of one man here or one man there. It ought to be done, surely. We should have from them as many district magistrates as possible. We should give them higher jobs. They should get membership of the Public Service Commission. If they are qualified, they should be made judges of the High Court. But the way in which my mind works sometimes is this. If you give the jobs, which ought to be given, you raise the status of the community indirectly, but so far as material improvement is concerned, you improve the condition of those few men, may be ten thousand or fifty thousand from them. But there they are. If you go to the villages,—and everyone of us is familiar with that—you find that they are impoverished people; they should be helped, so that they may become literate and improve their condition. That is what Gandhiji felt. Therefore, my endeavour has been always that the one thing which should be done at almost electric speed is to make them literate, to help them in every way to shake off illiteracy, to acquire higher education, etc. They should get free education. In most of the States, I think, particularly in the primary stage, education is free. Then there are stipends. If I had my way, and if finances permit, and if Parliament were to give its sanction, we should have free education.

[Dr. Katju]

up to the high school stage, and even up to the university stage. They should be granted the largest number of scholarships, not only for purely literary training, but also for training in science, engineering, medicine etc. We should have engineers, doctors, teachers etc. from among them, and they should be sent abroad. That is the way of raising them up. They should be given technical training and vocational training, fine institutions for imparting vocational training, in cottage industries, and all sorts of such industries. That is the way to proceed. I do not want to tire the House by going into details.

Everybody is now familiar with what the States are doing, and what the Centre is doing. You have sanctioned a grant of Rs. 2 crores or more, and we have got a special Commissioner to look after their welfare. If any delay takes place, it takes place not because there is any dilatoriness in the Centre; I do not blame the States, either for they have to draw up schemes, and sometimes they are novel schemes, and therefore, many people have to be heard; then the schemes come, and they take a little time in sanctioning. We are now revising the rules, so that there may be no delay whatsoever, and I am endeavouring, and I hope I shall be able to persuade the Finance Ministry that so far as this matter is concerned, there should never be any lapse of any grant. And I do hope that during this year, 1954-55, no lapse will occur in any funds which have been sanctioned by Parliament.

I look upon this as a purely non-party matter. It is not that I am claiming any great virtuosity for myself, but I am only trying in my poor language to voice the feelings of all of us here and say that this is a matter of the most vital consequences in which progress must be at a very very speedy rate. That is

the feeling with which the Central Government are working, and I know, the State Governments are also working.

**Shri P. N. Rajabhoj** (Sholapur—Reserved—Sch. Castes): What about the Public Service Commission? There is no Scheduled Caste member in the Public Service Commission. As long as there is no Scheduled Caste member...

**Dr. Katju:** My hon. friend might come to me personally...

**Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** There is a Mohammedan, there are members of other communities, there are Brahmins.

**Dr. Katju:** See the bent of mind of the hon. Member. If you appoint a Harijan as a member of the Public Service Commission...

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** He will appoint only Harijans.

**Shri Velayudhan:** It is forgotten that there are seven or eight members in the Public Service Commission. One Harijan member alone has not got the right to appoint anybody.

**Dr. Katju:** This is the trend of thought of my hon. friend, that if you appoint a Harijan as a member of the Public Service Commission, he becomes the representative of the whole lot of Harijans.

**Shri N. Rachiah:** What is your scheme then? (*Interruptions*)

**Dr. Katju:** I would not enter into that. When there is the question of any appointment, you may take it from me that my sympathy and my first impulse is to appoint, if it lies in my power, in my department a Harijan, provided a competent Harijan is available. (*Interruptions*)

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, order. Let the hon. Minister proceed. Questions may be put later.

**Dr. Katju:** I would like to say a few words about this missionary problem. I shall speak with the greatest restraint, because the subject has been much discussed, and views have been attributed to me which I do not hold, and which I have never expressed.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Thank you.

**Dr. Katju:** Do not thank me so very quickly. Please listen first.

So far as this topic is concerned, I have been endeavouring, probably not very successfully, to follow in this sphere also as in other spheres, the teachings of Gandhiji. He had been writing about this matter in the *Harijan*, and speaking about it in *prarthana* meetings and elsewhere, and I should like the whole House, all Members, including my hon. friends the Indian Christians and others, to remember his teachings. I have got with me here two books. One is entitled *Christian Missions—Their Place in India*. It is a representative collection of articles in the *Harijan*, by Mahatmaji, and published in 1941. The other has been published recently in the United States, and is called *The Mahatma and the Missionary*. It is an American publication which purports to quote in the exposition of its thesis the very words of Bapuji. What I have imbibed is from these. It may be my understanding is all wrong. In the first place, before I deal with this matter, in another two minutes, I should like to dispel some misconception in this regard. An idea is prevailing that missionaries are being squeezed out, that they are not allowed to come in, and that visas are not being granted to them. My hon. friend Dr. Krishnaswami waxed eloquent and said that the freedom of these missionaries is being restricted. I tell you I was surprised at it, because there was no provocation for it. He stated completely unstateable propositions. I would not go into this matter, because my hon. colleague Shri Datar has dealt

with this argument that articles 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 25, 26 and in fact, the whole of our Constitution says that every foreigner should be entitled to come to India, whether he comes by sea or glides in by air in the aerodrome, or comes by some other means. I have never heard of any such thing. The Constitution has been made by the Indian people for themselves, and it would be the height of impertinence for Parliament to make a constitution for American citizens. (*Interruption*) They cannot do it. If they come, they come with their national passports, they come with our visas. They owe no allegiance to the Indian flag. If they remain here, they are subject to our laws to a limited extent. They can walk out anyday they like. What is the good, therefore, of trying to confuse the issue by drawing attention to this thing?

Then there is some sort of a feeling—I do not know how it is brought about—that the missionaries are being squeezed out. I have got the figures here. This is the latest from Bihar. In Bihar for the five years ending August 1947, there were 54 foreign missionaries, including 26 Americans. In the five years following, *viz.* 1947 to 1952, there were 213...

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** I may tell you, Sir, they are all very merry there.

**Dr. Katju:**.....including 135 Americans. I have got a longer list here. From 1942-47—five years—the number of Protestant missionaries was 1451, Catholics 820, total 2271. In the next five years, the Protestants were 2814,—exactly double of what was the number in the period before—Catholics 1879—more than double—and the total number was 4683. Now what is the complaint? (*Interruptions*) From 1942 to 1947, the number was 2271 and in 1952, it was 4683. And please remember one thing. These are all foreigners. We draw a distinction—Indian nationals, Commonwealth citizens and foreigners. I have got no figures...

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** For the Commonwealth.

**Dr. Katju:**...of the Commonwealth citizens. I do not know how many there are. Now, what is the basic thing? As my hon. colleague put it to you yesterday, this has really nothing to do with religion. It is more or less a political problem; it is also a national problem.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Shahabad South):** Why are you creating this?

**Dr. Katju:** What has Gandhiji said?

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** What has he said?

**Dr. Katju:** It is rather curious. It may be—I am only quoting—that these missionaries have all changed now completely their *modus operandi*.

**An Hon. Member:** It cannot be changed.

**Dr. Katju:** Now in this book *Christian Missions—Their Place in India*, at page 95—this was an article which he published in 1936—Gandhiji said:

“The Church Missionary Society of England has published a pamphlet prepared by Prebendary W. W. Cash...”

...it was an appeal for £ 20,000...The appeal ends thus:

“The movement among the out-castes is spreading to the caste-people, and within the last five years it is estimated that no less than 30,000 caste-people from 51 different castes have become Christians.”

Gandhiji says this is all false.

“This is a movement of such far-reaching consequences that we dare not refuse help. The thousands of today may become millions of tomorrow. Will you help us to go forward in a great

advance that the harvest may be reaped”.

Then there is an article under the heading ‘How they convert’. I wish hon. Members would read it. It is at page 108.

“After having visited the village and created familiarity with the Harijans they at once start a school and put it in charge of a Harijan teacher who either himself is an influential man or related to such a one. Whenever they come to learn that some tension or actual litigation is going on between the Harijans and other villagers, they at once seize the opportunity to take up the side of the poor Harijans and help them with money and advice. They are thus hailed as saviours, and conversion follows...”

as a consequence.

Hon. Members heard yesterday a speech from a lady Member whom we hold in great reverence Shrimati Maniben Patel. So far as I have seen her, she is not given to indulging in rhetoric or overstatement of the case. She gave you instances from personal knowledge. I should like to assure my Christian friends from Travancore-Cochin—from any part of India—that it is not as if I do not like them. They are the sons of the same mother, Bharat Mata, whom we revere, whom we worship. They are entitled to profess their faith, propagate their faith. But the national importance is this, namely, that I look at it more or less from the law and order point of view also. As Gandhiji has said over and over again, in India we have been taught by our ancestors, by our holy books, that every religion is entitled to equal reverence, every religion contains the truth. I tell you—probably you do it also—that whenever I pass anywhere in the city and I come across a mosque, a temple, a church, a gurudwara, a Jewish synagogue, I revere it, because people go there in

search of the same God. There are not 500 different Gods. (*Interruption*) But the result is this. What Gandhiji emphasised over and over again is that if you come here into free India, if you want, if anybody wants—I am not mentioning any name—if anybody starts a sort of competitive race saying “My faith is good. Your faith is hopeless. Your faith is utter idolatry. Your faith teaches you immorality, ‘Devadasis’ and so on and so forth” then it will not be a question of religion; it will be a question of law and order. People will not tolerate this now. That is where it goes to the root of the matter.

When I gave that answer in the Council of States, there was a lot of noise about it. I find that in the *Harijan* dated 20th June 1953, some articles were published and this is a quotation from Gandhiji’s statement:

“What is the place of Christian missions in the new India that is being built up today? What can they do to help in this great task?

“To show appreciation of what India is and is doing. Up till now they have come as teachers and preachers with queer notions about India and India’s great religions. We have been described as a nation of superstitious heathens, knowing nothing, denying God. We are a brood of Satan as Murdoch would say. Did not Bishop Heber in his well-known hymn ‘From Greenland’s icy mountains’ describe India as a country where ‘every prospect pleases and only man is vile?’ To me this is a negation of the spirit of Christ. My personal view, therefore, is that if you feel that India has a message to give to the world, that India’s religions too are true, though like all religions imperfect for having percolated through imperfect human agency, and you come as fellow-helpers and fellow-seekers, there is a place for you here. But if you come as preachers of the ‘true Gospel’ to

a people who are wandering in darkness, so far as I am concerned, you can have no place. You may impose yourselves upon us”.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair.]

5 P.M.

This is not mine; this is Gandhiji’s.

Mr. Speaker, before I sit down—I would just take one minute—I want to say I have received several files full of communications; many of them have come from Indian Christians. Here is one big thing which you may read from anywhere without a telescope. ‘Foreign Christian Missions in India slander their Indian brothers abroad.’ Indian Christians have come and told me. I wish Mr. Alva were here. They say Indian Christians are not being properly treated. We are all believers in God. I hold the Sermon on the Mount with as great reverence as the Gita itself (*Interruption*) You have heard protests from Madhya Bharat. It is not a question of...

Mr. Speaker: It is time that we finish; it is time for guillotine. How much time will he take?

Dr. Katju: I do not want to take much time; five minutes.

Mr. Speaker: Five minutes is too long; he can finish the sentence.

Dr. Katju: I do not want to finish the sentence; I do not stand in the way of guillotine.

Mr. Speaker: In financial business we must be very strict about time. I will first take the Ministry of Home Affairs. Unless any hon. Member wants me to put a particular cut motion separately, I shall put them all in one group.

*The cut motions were negatived.*

Mr. Speaker: I will now put the Demands to the House.

The question is:

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the

[Mr. Speaker]

third column of the Order Paper in respect of Demands 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58 and 126 be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of the corresponding heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof."

*The motion was adopted.*

[The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the House are reproduced below—Ed. of P. P.]

**DEMAND No. 52—MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,43,36,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Ministry of Home Affairs'."

**DEMAND No. 53—CABINET**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 23,78,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1953, in respect of 'Cabinet'."

**DEMAND No. 54—DELHI**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,44,80,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Delhi'."

**DEMAND No. 55—POLICE**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 94,64,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to

defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Police'."

**DEMAND No. 56—CENSUS**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 18,86,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Census'."

**DEMAND No. 57—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,71,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs'."

**DEMAND No. 58—ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,80,54,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Andaman and Nicobar Islands'."

**DEMAND No. 126—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 21,06,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Home Affairs'."

**Mr. Speaker:** I will now put all the cut motions to the Demands relating to the Ministry of States.

*The cut motions were negatived*

Mr. Speaker: I will now put the Demands to the House.

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper in respect of Demands 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95 and 134 be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of the corresponding heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof."

The motion was adopted.

[The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the House are reproduced below—Ed. of P. P.]

**DEMAND No. 88—MINISTRY OF STATES**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,74,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Ministry of States'."

**DEMAND No. 89—PRIVY PURSES AND ALLOWANCES OF INDIAN RULERS**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,96,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Privy Purses and Allowances of Indian Rulers'."

**DEMAND No. 90—KUTCH**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,07,22,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Kutch'."

**DEMAND No. 91—BILASPUR**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 34,65,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Bilaspur'."

**DEMAND No. 92—MANIPUR**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 75,82,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Manipur'."

**DEMAND No. 93—TRIPURA**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,20,61,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Tripura'."

**DEMAND No. 94—RELATIONS WITH STATES**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 53,35,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Relations with States'."

**DEMAND No. 95—MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF STATES**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 94,86,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of States'."

**DEMAND No. 134—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF STATES**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,98,83,000 be granted to the President

to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of States'."

DEMANDS\* FOR GRANTS—contd.

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now proceed with the consideration of the Demands for the Grants Nos. 61, 62, 63, 64, 128 and 129 relating to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power.

Members and Leaders of Groups may hand over the numbers of the cut motions which they select to the Secretary in fifteen minutes. I will treat them as moved if those hon. Members in whose names those motions stand are present in the House and those cut motions are otherwise in order.

The usual time-limit on speeches will be observed.

I shall now place before the House Demands Nos. 61, 62, 63, 64, 128 and 129.

DEMAND NO. 61—MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,70,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

DEMAND NO. 62—IRRIGATION (INCLUDING WORKING EXPENSES), NAVIGATION, EMBANKMENT AND DRAINAGE WORKS (MET FROM REVENUE)

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 27,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year

ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Irrigation (including Working Expenses), Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works (met from Revenue)'."

DEMAND NO. 63—MULTIPURPOSE RIVER SCHEMES

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 38,23,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Multipurpose River Schemes'."

DEMAND NO. 64—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 31,75,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

DEMAND NO. 128—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON MULTIPURPOSE RIVER SCHEMES

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,65,61,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Multipurpose River Schemes'."

DEMAND NO. 129—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,63,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in

\*Moved with the previous sanction of the President.

course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

I have received a list of the cut motions proposed to be moved. They are: Cut motion Nos. 146, 788, 863, 946, 1032, 1228, 1114, 1115, 1116, and 1193 on Demand No. 61;

Cut motion No. 1229 on Demand No. 62;

Cut motion Nos. 641, 865 and 1230 on Demand No. 63; and

Cut motion Nos. 431, and 432 on Demand No. 128.

*Delay in payment of compensation for land acquired by D.V.C.*

Shri Tushar Chatterjea (Serampore): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Immediate necessity for small irrigation works in Tripura*

Shri Dasaratha Deb (Tripura East): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Unsatisfactory policy regarding Multipurpose River Schemes*

Shri Meghnad Saha (Calcutta—North-West): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Water charges levied on cultivators*

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri (Berhampore): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Necessity of integrating Silai and Kasai Schemes.*

Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Undue weightage on power projects in preference to flood control*

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to provide land for land and house for house compensation for land acquired for Hirakud Project*

Dr. Natabar Pandey (Sambalpur): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Delay and dissatisfaction in the payment of compensation in Hirakud Project.*

Dr. Natabar Pandey: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Mismanagement in work done by various offices of Hirakud Project*

Dr. Natabar Pandey: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to adopt a definite policy with regard to Bhakra-Nangal Project particularly regarding rehabilitation*

Shri Anandchand: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to provide for the Ganga Barrage Project in an adequate manner*

**Shri K. K. Basu:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Irrigation (including Working Expenses), Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works (met from Revenue)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Inclusion of Nandi Konda Project Scheme on River Kistna in the Five Year Plan*

**Shri C. R. Chowdary** (Narasaraopet): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Policy and Programme of the Government both in point of Planning and execution*

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to tackle on national level for resuscitation of the tidal rivers and canals of the 24 Parganas*

**Shri K. K. Basu:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to give adequate finance to Andhra State to bring lands in Tungabhadra Project area under cultivation*

**Shri Gadlingana Gowd** (Kurnool): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Capital Outlay on Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to give the assistance of the Central Tractor Organisation to Andhra State for cultivation*

*tion of lands in Tungabhadra Project area*

**Shri Gadlingana Gowd:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Capital Outlay on Multipurpose River Schemes' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Speaker:** These cut motions are now before the House.

**The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda):** Mr. Speaker, Sir.....

**Shri T. N. Singh** (Banaras Dist.--East): May I say, Sir, that there are four hours, two hours today and two hours tomorrow and the Minister will always get an opportunity to reply later on. So, let the Members get an opportunity to speak on the various points.

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants to have an extension of time, I think.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** At any rate, the time taken by the Minister today should be made good tomorrow, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** There seems to be some misapprehension about this position. It is a definite rule that so far as the financial business is concerned, the time-limit has to be strictly observed. Otherwise there is no point in providing for guillotine. The Minister may adjust his speech, make it as short as possible, and save time. But, he is entitled to speak.

**An Hon. Member:** Or not to speak.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. If there are criticisms, I think he is bound to speak, and give explanations and replies to various points that the House may like to raise. So, it is not a question of his choice of not speaking. Of course nobody can force the Minister to speak if he does not want to speak. That is a different matter.

**Shri Nanda:** I thank you for allowing me to speak now, but I do not propose to take much time. I believe that if, at the outset, I give some factual information to the House with regard to the work of the

irrigation and Power Ministry, it may facilitate discussion in the House and save the time of the House later on. It is in that hope and belief that I thought I should give some information at the outset.

**Shri S. S. More:** Has it not been circulated?

**Shri Nanda:** It is something additional and I hope the hon. Member will find it very useful.

The work of any department of the Government during the years of the Plan has to be judged in relation to the implementation of the Plan. This is a crucial test of performance. The Irrigation and Power Ministry has also to answer the question how far it has fulfilled its part in the Five Year Plan. I therefore propose to give the overall picture the figures about the progress regarding the irrigation and power programmes in the Centre and, to some extent, in the States. To save time, I would confine myself to the essential information regarding these aspects.

In the Plan, provision of Rs. 174 crores was made initially for the four centrally financed projects, namely, Bhakra-Nangal, D.V.C., Hirakud and Harike. A lump sum of Rs. 50 crores was also provided for increases due to revision in estimates for enlargement of the scope of the projects. On all these projects, expenditure amounted to Rs. 33 crores in the first year, 1951-52, and this works out to 14.9 per cent. of the allocation for the five-year period. In 1952-53, it was Rs. 42 crores, that is, 18.8 per cent. For 1953-54, the revised estimate is Rs. 54.59 crores, that is, 24.4 per cent. In the three years together, these figures come to 58 per cent. Adding the budget figure for 1954-55, the expenditure for four years would be 82.7 per cent. of the Plan for irrigation and power. Compared to the year 1951-52, that is, the first year, the pace increase by 26 per cent. in the second year and 64 per cent. in the third year.

I should give somewhat fuller information about the year 1952-53, the latest for which actuals are available. I am doing so particularly because the figures pertaining to this year have been misquoted. The original allotment in the Budget this year was Rs. 40 crores. Later in the year, further allocation was made and the revised estimates stood at Rs. 45.57 crores. The expenditure incurred in 1952-53 is Rs. 2 crores higher than the original budget allotment but Rs. 3.5 crores less than the revised allocation. Out of these Rs. 3.5 crores, Harike, which has been completed, accounted for Rs. 1.82 crores.

Now, I come to the States. This information is relevant because the Irrigation and Power Ministry has been called upon to assume a measure of responsibility for the implementation of the Plan in the States. In the State Plan, the total expenditure incurred in the first three years is Rs. 170 crores, which represents 58 per cent. of the total expenditure provided in the Plan, whereas expenditure on these projects in 1951-52 was Rs. 42.7 crores, in 1952-53 about 56 crores and in 1953-54 about Rs. 66 crores. At the end of the fourth year of the Plan, it is expected that more than 85 per cent. of the total expenditure would have been incurred. The acceleration in the rate of progress would be clear from the fact that compared to 1951-52, the expenditure in the second year was 18 per cent more than in the first year, and in the third year it was 38.5 per cent. more. Provision for 1954-55 represents an increase of 70 per cent. For the Centre and the States together, the expenditure in the first three years is 58 per cent. and including the fourth year it is 84 per cent. of the total Plan allocation.

I will give a little information about the major projects individually.

The Damodar Valley Project has been making satisfactory progress.

[Shri Nanda]

Tilaiya and Bokaro were completed in 1953. Konar will be completed before the monsoon this year. Owing to the late arrival of sub-station equipment from overseas, a circumstance beyond the control of the D.V.C., there has been delay in delivering power to prospective consumers. The present load of 26,000 k.w. to Bokaro is expected progressively to rise to 65,450 k.w. by December 1954. The installed capacity for the D.V.C. system would be 2,76,500 k.w. in the first phase, including 22,500 k.w. of surplus power from Sindri, but excluding the Konar hydro-power station. According to load anticipation, this power should be used up by 1958-59. The transmission system, exclusive of the recently approved extension to Calcutta and Gaya-Patna-Dalmanagar is scheduled for completion by June 1955. The Maithon Dam is expected to be completed early next year; the Durgapur Barrage by June 1955; and the Panchet Hill by April 1956. Kharif irrigation will commence from the middle of 1955, though the entire canal system will be completed by the end of 1957.

I realise that the programme of construction of the canal system should have been synchronised better in order to utilise fully the stored waters for irrigation. The cost estimate of the projects stood in 1951-52 at Rs. 76.87 crores, and the latest revised estimates stand at Rs. 88.99 crores, including Rs. 1.6 crores for capital expenditure on ropeway and mining, but exclusive of Konar hydro station (Rs. 3.85 crores) and the recently approved transmission system to Calcutta and Gaya-Patna-Dalmanagar (Rs. 6.41 crores). The execution of the project has been steadily gaining in tempo. The total expenditure for the first three years of the Plan is Rs. 41.93 crores. Excluding an expenditure of Rs. 16.87 crores before the Plan, the total expenditure of the project comes to about Rs. 59 crores.

The D. V. C. Board has been re-constituted with Shri P. S. Rau as Chairman.

A few words about Bhakra-Nangal. The estimates of Bhakra-Nangal have undergone a number of revisions. The latest estimate, that is, 1953, which is under scrutiny by the Control Board and C. W. P. C. is Rs 156 crores, against the Rs. 133 crores according to the estimate prepared in 1949 before devaluation. The estimate under consideration, however, does not provide for distribution of bulk supply of power and development of roads and *mandis* which accounted for a sum of Rs. 15.2 crores in the 1949 estimate. I have not yet had the opportunity of scrutinising the revised estimates, as they are still under the consideration of the Bhakra Control Board. The causes for the rise as reported are: increase in the quantity of work on account of insufficient data available at the time of the preparation of the 1949 Project; improvements in design and specifications; increase in the scope of the Project; rise in prices of equipment due to devaluation and the Korean war; rise in the prices of materials and wages of labour; inadequate provision for construction plant and other job and access facilities; assumption of too high a life and re-sale value of machinery and inadequate provision of overheads and repairs; employment of foreign specialists etc. I am giving my personal attention to this matter and will report to the House in due course.

The expenditure on this project before the Plan was Rs. 23.56 crores. The tempo of expenditure on this project has been rising. In the first year of the Plan, Rs. 9.86 crores were spent. In the second year Rs. 18.82 crores were spent and in the third year, Rs. 28.83 crores were spent. On the Bhakra Dam itself, 33 per cent. of the estimated expenditure has been incurred. As regards the Bhakra Dam, access and job facilities have made good progress and

an expenditure of Rs. 12.5 crores has been incurred on them. The right diversion tunnel is carrying the whole discharge of the river at present. Cofferdams will be started in October-November 1954. A detailed construction plan has been prepared, and the plant has already arrived or is in order. Twenty-five per cent. of the stripping of the abutments has been completed. Out of about 3,000 miles of the canal system Punjab is ahead of schedule, while Rajasthan and PEPSU are behind schedule. However, the Chief Engineer, PEPSU, is confident that they will be able to utilise water for irrigation in the coming *kharif* season. Rajasthan will be able to take limited supplies only. In Punjab, water will be released for irrigation in June 1954. The area expected to be irrigated in the three States would be six lakh acres.

Power House No. 1 on the Nangal Hydel channel will be commissioned in July 1954. Power House No. 2 will be commissioned in November 1955. The Dam is scheduled to be completed by 1959-60. The Special Enquiry Agency consisting of a Superintending Engineer (part-time), a Deputy Superintendent of Police and the necessary subordinate staff was appointed in October 1952 to investigate some serious cases of corruption in the Bhakra-Nangal Project. The prosecution of one Assistant Engineer, three Overseers and two clerks has been sanctioned. Government is considering prosecution of two Executive Engineers and three S.D.Os. Other cases are still under investigation.

Now, a little about Hirakud. The original estimate of the Hirakud Project was revised to Rs. 67 crores for Stage I, and now stands at Rs. 70.78 crores as approved by the Orissa Government. Out of a total expenditure of Rs. 33 crores incurred up to 31st March 1954, an expenditure of Rs. 26 crores has been incurred during the Plan period. The tempo of expenditure will increase during the current year. The progress at the end of March 1954 was: concrete

dam 37 per cent.; earth dam 43 per cent.; dykes 56 per cent.; main canals and branches 85 per cent.; distributaries and minors 30 per cent. There was some set-back to progress in January-February 1954 due to a partial labour strike, but every endeavour is being made to make up the backlog during the course of the season.

The Dam will be substantially ready by July 1956. Originally, the irrigation from this Project was contemplated in 1955-56, but under the revised programme, the work on the earth dam has been staggered and it will now be ready by June 1956. The power also will be available at the same time. The load expectations are 28,000 k.w. in 1956 and 78,000 k.w. in 1957, taking into account the requirements of the steel factory and aluminium and ferro-manganese factory. By 1961, the demand is expected to increase to 1,35,000 k.w. due to increased demands of the steel and ferro-manganese and aluminium factories as against the firm power of 85,000 k.w. to be generated from the main Dam. *Prima facie*, there is need for generation of more power by utilising the tail waters of the main Power House. The Hirakud Project, Stage I, will give irrigation water to 4,48,600 acres of culturable land in Sambalpur and Bolangir-Patna Districts enabling the cropping of 6,72,900 acres of land in both the *Kharif* and *rabi* seasons. A separate scheme has been prepared for extension of irrigation in the Mahanadi Delta estimated to cost approximately Rs. 15 crores. This will give irrigation water to a culturable commanded area of 10.77 lakhs acres nearly enabling the cropping on 17,89,000 acres in both *kharif* and *rabi* seasons.

The Hirakud Control Board has approved of the schemes and has forwarded it to the Orissa Government and the Planning Commission for consideration. Thus, the Hirakud Project will provide irrigation canal

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facilities for cropping over two million acres.

Sir, a little about the new projects included in the Five Year Plan.

**Kosi.**—A Delegation is proceeding to Khatmandu shortly to discuss Kosi with the Nepal Government, as the site of the dam proposed to be constructed at Hanumannagar lies partly in Nepal territory.

**Chambal.**—A Control Board will be constituted shortly at the request of the Governments of Rajasthan and Madhya Bharat on which the representatives of the Centre will be represented. This will enable closer coordination between the two States.

**Koyna.**—The representatives of the World Bank have made an on-the-spot study of the project and their report is awaited.

**Rihand.**—Preliminary work on Rihand has started and an agreement has been concluded with the TCM who have offered 8·5 million dollars for equipment for the project and another 2·5 million dollars for experts, if required.

**Krishna.**—A joint report of the Andhra and Hyderabad Government on the various alternative schemes is awaited. We have been urging upon the Andhra Government to expedite their views.

**Rural Electrification.**—Extension of power to rural areas has been engaging the attention of the Planning Commission and the Ministry. Recently a letter has been sent to the State Governments in which loan assistance has been offered to the States to enable them to extend supply of power to community project areas where existing skills and local resources can be utilised in connection with the development programmes for increasing employment and also to small towns with a population of 10,000 and above in the neighbourhood of rural areas.

Arrangements are in progress for the preparation of the Second Five Year Plan and this fact is known to hon. Members.

Sir, I had thought that I might also give some information to the House regarding the measures taken by the Ministry in pursuance of the implementation of the recommendations of the various committees. But as it might take too much time, I shall take the opportunity of mentioning it in the course of my reply.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy (Salem):** Could the hon. Minister have a copy of his speech circulated to us?

**Shri Nanda:** Regarding what I have stated, or what more I had to say, but for want of time could not?

**Mr. Speaker:** What the hon. Minister has spoken and what he had to add.

**Shri Nanda:** Yes, I shall.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** Mr. Speaker. Sir, we have listened to a very interesting review of the progress of the river valley schemes from the hon. Minister of Irrigation and Power. I am sorry that he has not reviewed in detail the recommendations and findings of the Rau Committee.

The House will remember that during the last session many speakers criticised the administration of the river valley schemes, as a result of which an enquiry committee was appointed to go into the matter. At that time it was said that the opposition were exaggerating matters. But the findings of the Rau Committee show that almost every one of the allegations which was made by the Opposition has been upheld.

With regard to the Damodar Valley Corporation it was pointed out that all the mismanagement was due to the non-appointment of the Chief Engineer. This has been upheld by the Rau Committee. The Committee

has definitely come to the conclusion that for two years no progress could be made because there was no Chief Engineer. This finding has also been upheld by Government and the Chairman of the Corporation had to go and we have got a new Chairman. One has naturally to go into detail as to why this was allowed to take place. Unfortunately, I have not got the time to do so.

The Corporation itself—or at least the late Chairman,—was not very keen on taking a Chief Engineer, because he thought that he could do the work of the Chief Engineer himself. After some time it was found that a civil servant might do anything, excepting converting a man into a woman, but that he was not good for engineering work. This lesson, once having been learnt, will, I hope, not be forgotten—that civil servants like liquid water cannot be fitted into any vessel and for specialist's work you must have a specialist,—you cannot leave it to a civil servant. The non-appointment of a Chief Engineer had held up the work of the whole scheme for two years? The appointment of the Chief Engineer was held up by intrigues between the Irrigation and Power Ministry and the Finance Ministry. I think it is given in the Rau Committee report that the appointment of the Chief Engineer was held up because there were no dollars available. I hope these mistakes will not be committed in future at least.

The Rau Committee has found that the Damodar Valley Corporation Act is quite sound in principle, provided you can find out the right type of personnel. The Committee found that the work of the two other river valley projects was formerly under the Control of the Chairman of the CWINC. This arrangement was not satisfactory, because the Chairman of the CWINC was combining in himself the functions of Brahma Vishnu and Maheshwar. He drew up the designs, he executed the schemes himself and as Secretary he passed the

whole thing himself. That was the greatest blunder in the administration and I am glad that this defect has been rectified by the removal of the Chairman and placing all these river valley projects more or less on the same pattern as the Damodar Valley Corporation. The administration has now taken a proper shape and we are getting more and more experience in the handling of these projects, on which the future of India lies.

In this connection I would like to put one question of the hon. Minister. The Konar project was to have cost Rs. 4 crores. But the cost has jumped up to Rs. 8 or 9 crores. In an interview that the hon. Minister gave me I put it to him why the cost has gone up. The Rau Committee has gone into the details of this matter and it has found that the Damodar Valley Corporation has been cheated of Rs. 1 crore 64 lakhs. They have also mentioned the parties which were responsible for the cheating. They are the Swiss Company, the Greuner Brothers, the officers of the Corporation itself, the Executive Engineer whose business it is to go through the bills properly and check them, and lastly the contractors. This being admitted, I would like to know what steps have been taken by the hon. Minister to recover all this money from the three guilty parties, the Swiss company of Greuner Brothers who were the consultants, the officers of the Damodar Valley itself whose duty it was to check the bills and pass them, and thirdly the contractors.

I shall just read one passage from page 77 of the Rau Committee Report:

"This enhanced rate was agreed to at a meeting of the Corporation's engineers, Greuner Brothers and the contractors, held on the 27th March, 1951. We consider they are all to blame".

**Shri T. N. Singh:** Can he read from a confidential document, Sir?

**Shri Nanda:** We propose to lay copies of this Report on the Table

[Shri Nanda.]

of the House. The matter was placed on the agenda of the House two or three days ago. But on the advice of the Deputy-Speaker this was withheld. So till now, Sir, the House is not in possession of this document.

**Mr. Speaker:** How did the hon. member get a copy?

**Shri Nanda:** We had taken it for should be no publication before it is the Table of the House and in the ordinary course copies had been circulated with the instruction that there should be no publication before it is laid on the Table of the House.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think under the circumstances, if the hon. Member is in possession of it lawfully, then he is entitled to refer to it. It was a mistake to have circulated the copies in anticipation of the Report being laid on the Table of the House. But if a mistake is committed, the consequences must be taken.

**Shri Nanda:** It was not circulated privately like that. It was issued to the press in anticipation. But telegrams were sent and no press has published it.

**Mr. Speaker:** How did the hon. Member get the copy?

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** A copy was given to me. But I was never told...

**Mr. Speaker:** By whom was the copy given?

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** I got the copy.

**Mr. Speaker:** But by whom was it given?

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** I think the hon. Minister can say that.

**Shri Nanda:** I will have to probe into the matter for that.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** How is it possible that the press should get a copy?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think it is the practice to give it in right time on condition that they do not publish it before the specified time. That is the usual practice.

Anyway, the hon. Member has got a copy, and I do not see how I can prevent him from referring to it. He has not got it by any underhand means.

**Shri Nanda:** If that is your feeling, Sir, he may proceed.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** There are two copies of the Report, one abridged and the other unabridged, both printed. Are both going to be placed on the Table of the House?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is a different issue. I am on the question whether the hon. Member can refer to the contents of the Report or not.

**Shri Nanda:** Other Members have not got it, and the House will not be in a position to judge on whatever is stated regarding the Report by the hon. Member opposite or by myself.

**Shri Damodara Menon (Kozhikode):** Then the remedy is to supply us with copies.

**Mr. Speaker:** That may be done later on. The only question was whether the hon. Member should be permitted to refer to a document which was not in the possession of the House.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon):** And which is not public, so far.

**Mr. Speaker:** There is a difference.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das (Dhenkanal-West Cuttack):** Yesterday or the day before in reply to a question of mine, the Deputy Minister had said that this Report and one other report would be submitted to the Estimates Committee first and then they will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Shri Nanda:** Yes, that is the position.

**Mr. Speaker:** The problem before me is if he got a copy of the Report, as I believe, quite legitimately, then—it may be through some mistake, or some anticipation going wrong—I really do not know how I can prevent him from referring to its contents.

**Shri Nanda:** He is free to, Sir, if he thinks it is proper. Technically he is free to do so. But if he thinks that in view of the circumstances it may be deferred to another time, it may be helpful.

**Mr. Speaker:** I may suggest by way of compromise that he may base his arguments without practically reading the Report.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** I bow to your decision, Sir.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** I found these two volumes, both abridged and unabridged, with another hon. Member whose name I need not mention. May I know whether both will be placed before the House?

**Shri Nanda:** The Estimates Committee has got copies of this report, and several Members of Parliament have therefore got this.

**Mr. Speaker:** Whatever it may be, the hon. Member will base his arguments on it, if he likes, without referring to the Report.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** I bow to your decision, and I shall not read any passages from that Report. But I can say everything from my own memory.

Regarding the Konar Dam my impression is that the total amount of fraud committed is about Rs. 4 crores. I gave all the points to the Ministry and I asked the Ministry to enquire into it. When a reference was made to the Rau Committee, the reference was made only on a particular part of the item. I think this is a sort of malpractice which is going on which ought to be stopped in the interests of the nation.

The other points to which I wish to invite the attention of this House are certain remarks which have been made by the Rau Committee. They have pointed out that the Damodar Valley is the "Ruhr Valley" of India. It con-

tains coal, it contains iron, it contains any amount of minerals. And they have said that there should be a Planning Committee for the development of these minerals. At the present time they are being developed by private parties on a very un-systematic scale. But further development has been prevented on account of some work of the Railway Board. The Railway Board has said that the traffic in the Damodar Valley is too much congested and no factory should be built up there for another four or five years. I do not at all agree with the findings of the Railway Board. After having spent nearly sixty or seventy crores of rupees on the improvement of the Valley, not to take advantage of the natural resources of the Valley appears to be like mid-summer madness. I think this kind of contradictory opinions on the part of the different sections of the Government are hampering the progress of this country. If the traffic there cannot be borne by the Railways, it is for the Railways to project new lines and to find out how, by the alteration of the present methods of traffic, communications can be improved. I therefore suggest that the hon. Minister of Irrigation, who is also the Minister of Planning, will kindly go into this affair. Unfortunately the planning of the Damodar Valley for the exploitation of the resources cannot be done because interested parties from the other sections of the Government are standing in the way.

Sir, I would not take much of the time of the House. From the little knowledge which I have got about the other river valley project it appears that none of them has been done on very sound lines. The engineers there have unfortunately been catching some slogans "we shall make the highest dams in the world". Well, this may be very good as a slogan, but it is very bad from the scientific point of view. The Himalayas are a recent mountain and most of the rocks there are very weak. It has been found after crores of rupees have been wasted that

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you cannot build a very high dam on the foundations of Himalayan rock. I think that is one of the chief reasons why the Bhakra-Nangal scheme is costing so much money. We were talking of the highest dam in Kosi and ultimately had to abandon it for a dam of very modest dimensions. I think in the planning of these projects, we require the co-operation of not only engineers but also geologists and also co-operation of neighbouring countries like Nepal. As far as I know, the schemes have been rushed through without proper examination of the survey. I think it will take a long time before we get the results of these schemes and they begin to yield us wealth. This is on account of the lapse between the setting up of the different works and their utilisation. Now, we have got the Bokaro Thermal Station. I do not think we have got the plans yet for the utilisation of all that power. In the case of the Tungabhadra scheme, the irrigation projects were ready three years after the dam was completed. I think in the Damodar Valley Project, the irrigation projects will lag a long time behind the completion of the canals etc. I think, on account of these reasons it is very necessary that the work on these river valley projects should be very carefully gone into and planning should be made on a sound line. When you are developing power, at the same time, simultaneously, plans should be matured for the utilisation of all that power and all that water.

Lastly, I want to touch upon only one point more. Whenever we start these river valley developments, we always think that America has said the last word on it; that is not so. Soviet Russia has constructed many multi-purpose river valley projects which are much more extensive in their concept than the American projects. The great Volga river has been converted into a number of lakes and it has been utilised not only for navigation but also irrigation of very large tracts of the country and power

has been developed to an extent which is unheard of. I do not see why we should depend always on United States of America. We should send our experts to Soviet Russia to find out how all this work has been done. Ultimately, I wish to say that our engineers have now been learning all these lessons and probably very soon we shall not need the services of any foreign expert. The hon. Minister should see whether amongst the Indian engineers persons have come forward who can take up the work from their American supervisors. The river valley projects are our great hopes. We have committed blunders in the past, but we hope we shall learn from mistakes and we shall be able to put them on the right track.

Shri L. N. Mishra (Darbhanga *cum* Bhagalpur): Sir, the House is aware of the fact that our National Plan has laid considerable importance to the development of multi-purpose projects in our country for augmenting the country's agricultural and power resources. We know that the water resources of our country are plentiful and their proper and scientific utilisation will be of great benefit to the country. By having these multi-purpose projects we shall not be solving the fundamental problem of our hunger, but we will also lay the basic foundation of industrial development in our country. Therefore, I support the Demands for Irrigation and Power.

Our National Plan which has 140 irrigation projects and 100 power projects, is expected to irrigate about 8.5 million acres of additional land, generate 1.08 million k.w. of additional power and raise the food production by 2.1 million tons annually. I think with the materialisation of this Plan enough of good will be done to the country.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair.*]

Coming to the execution and working of the projects, I feel that satisfactory progress has been made

in the irrigational schemes of the multi-purpose projects and the progress made in the power side is more than what was anti-capital when these projects were taken up. It is easy to find some loopholes here and there and make some adverse remarks against the working of the river valley projects; but a study of the record of progress made by this will convince anyone that commendable work has been done and our engineers have done pretty well. It must be said to the credit of the Irrigation and Power Ministry that they have made rapid progress in their work. It was only in 1948 that a regulated attempt in the direction was made and that too in the face of various difficulties like lack of data of topography and hydrology. People who criticise our river valley projects should bear in mind the difficulties that our engineers had to face. Moreover, our engineers were new to river valley projects of such dimensions and therefore they were not immune from committing some mistakes. It was but natural that they should commit some mistakes here and there, but proper assessment of the work will convince anyone that the work that our engineers have done is not inferior to the work done by engineers of countries like U.S.A., U.S.S.R., and others.

Speaking about the achievement of the Irrigation and Power Ministry I would like to thank this Ministry for the new step they have taken in having organised seminars of engineers who are connected with river valley projects. The first seminar was organised at Nangal and I think continuance of such seminars will help us in solving not only economic problems, arising out of wastage of materials etc., but will also achieve co-ordination at all levels. I would also like to express my sense of gratification on the move that this Ministry has made in associating Members of Parliament of all the parties with the working of the various river valley projects of the different States and if this is continued, I think, a large amount of the misgivings will be allayed.

Some doubts have been expressed both inside and outside the House regarding the financial proposition of river valley projects. The question raised is as to how far it is advisable to allot this Rs. 765 crores to this aspect of the Plan. Sir, before making such remarks one should realise that the very conception of river valley projects has been changed radically today. Originally it meant only the construction of a few embankments and canals for irrigation and food production, but today the treatment of rivers means a multi-purpose project which is a very complicated affair. Today we have dams, barrages, storage for water etc., and not only canals and embankments. The experience the world has gained in the working of multi-purpose projects has created a new faith. A new faith has arisen in these projects and that is why this system of treatment of rivers has been adopted by the world.

Besides, it is not wise to judge the river valley projects from the direct financial returns. For that, some profound insight is necessary to ascertain the indirect benefits gained by the control of floods and the production of more agricultural wealth and power. Only to have a commercial sense to foresee the financial profit from it is not desirable. Even judge in that light, our river valley projects are not uneconomical. They are remunerative and they are good financial investments. The House will accept that the successful completion of these projects would solve our chronic problem of food and in that alone, we are going to save Rs. 150 crores of foreign exchange every year, and this will be no ordinary achievement.

I would like to say a few words about the betterment levy. There has been some criticism of the decision of the Government to have a betterment levy. Much criticism came from Bengal. I do not know what justification one has to criticise the betterment levy. Nor do I understand why those people who are having additional benefits as a result of the State's enter-

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prise, should hesitate to pay for the additional benefits that they are going to have. The betterment levy is not an ordinary tax, but a demand upon the extra income brought to the society as a result of the new facilities provided by the State in the shape of irrigation, etc. I feel that it is a just and right demand and every responsible citizen has to popularise it if he is at all convinced of the utility of the river valley projects in our country. The experience of those countries where river valley projects have benefited the people, is that the beneficiaries have gladly come forward to pay since the yield from their lands has increased many times more than the demand that is made on them. This betterment levy has been in practice in many foreign countries, I may state some countries: U.S.A, Australia, New Zealand, Egypt, South Africa, Italy, Spain and Canada, with the only difference that they are called 'repayment charges.' All the countries have tried to base their policy on the benefit assessment theory. Some have got on uniform rates and some have on *ad valorem* method. Irrigational facilities make our agriculture immune from the whims and caprices of nature and almost scientific accuracy is achieved in agriculture. If scientific accuracy can be achieved in agriculture, I see no reason why the cultivator should not pay something for that. Further, the proposed charges under this system of levy will represent only a very small fraction of the additional gain that would become available to the agriculturists. Therefore, I think this is a reasonable demand and any responsible citizen should support it.

I would like to refer to two or three particular river valley projects. Coming from an area which is devastated and ravaged by the Kosi every year, I would express my deep sense of gratitude to the Government of India for accepting this new forty-crore scheme and promising to give an immediate start to the project. This decision of the Government of India has

brought great jubilation in my part of the country and millions of people in that part of the country are anxiously looking forward to the dawn of a new era when tales of the misery and devastations, which are brought every year by the floods in the Kosi, will be heard no more, and the present life of misery will be transformed into a life of plenty and comfort.

6 P.M.

While thanking the Government for their decision to execute this project, I am constrained to complain that the seriousness that is necessary for such a gigantic work has been wanting. There has been enough delay in giving a start to this work. If any further delay is made, I am afraid the whole blame will come to the door of the Government of India for not starting the work at the right moment. There is hardly one month left for work, Since the floods in Kosi come early in June, it will not be possible for any machinery to work till the end of October. Therefore, a day's delay will mean a year's delay. I therefore plead for the immediate starting of the work. I understand that no final decision has been made as regard the machinery to be put in charge of the execution of the project, and that formal financial sanction has not yet been given to the project. The hon. Minister said that a delegation is leaving for Nepal to get sanction from Nepal. I think it was necessary to have agreement from the Government of Nepal previously. From whatever estimates have been made available to us, I find that there is no provision for the construction of tramway lines or railway lines to the site of work to provide facilities for transporting the huge quantities of materials that are to be transported to those remote rural areas on the borders of Bihar and Nepal.

To defeat all, I find that not even the selection or appointment of the Chief Engineer has been made. The

House is aware of the fact that the successful execution of such gigantic projects depends upon the ability of the Chief Engineer and the efficiency of the executing machinery. Therefore, it is not happy to find that these two preliminary things, the constitution of the machinery in charge of the project and the appointment of the Chief Engineer could not be done so long. The people were told that the Kosi control board will be modelled after Bhakra-Nangal or Hirakud. I have no objection to that because I feel that none of these machineries is inferior to any. I have faith in this system of machinery and I will have no objection if the machinery is modelled after Hirakud.

I may point out one thing. Our Bihar Government have no experience of executing any river valley project of such a dimension. Its Irrigation and Public Works Departments are not as developed as in some other States. Therefore, it will not be justified and advisable to leave the entire burden upon the weak shoulders of the Government of Bihar. So far as technical and financial matters are concerned, I plead that it should be the responsibility of the Government of India to take an active interest and guide that Government.

While speaking on the execution of the Kosi project, a thought comes to my mind. It was not wise on the part of the Estimates Committee to prevent the Central Water and Power Commission from taking up the execution of the river valley projects. I feel that for minor failings and mistakes, it is not desirable to sacrifice the larger interests of the country. I feel that the question should be reopened and the Central Water Power Commission should be authorised to take up the execution of those projects which are complicated and gigantic for the ordinary normal machinery of any State Government.

I would also like to mention one thing. In a section of the press in my State, there is a propaganda regarding the employment of Biharies and

non-employment of Biharies. I think the Government need not get panicky on that account. We people coming from the Kosi area have nothing to do with who is the Engineer, who is the overseer, etc. We are interested in efficiency. We are interested in the successful conclusion of the project. I would like to say that this agitation is from a section which is interested in something else. They have their own cause of complaint. Therefore, I say that the Government should proceed on with its own programme without waiting any more. The speed should be there.

Before I conclude, I would like to refer to one or two things. I may say a word about the phasing of the power part of the project. I admit that except in the case of the Damodar Valley Project, none else has the industrial hinterland for consuming the enormous power to be generated by the river valley projects. That need not deter us from having the hydroelectric power project since I believe that demand need not precede supply. I believe in the theory that supply should anticipate demand.

Moreover, power creates its own demand: Apart from that, it has been found in the Vienna Section of the World Power Conference that the consumption of power in rural areas has been more popular. In our country also, the demand for power may become popular, and the days are not far off when our people will be power-minded and would like to use power.

Efforts should be made to concentrate on getting the people's co-operation in the river valley projects. Sufficient attention has not been paid to this so far. People should be inspired by the idea of partnership in these river valley projects and every locality should feel that it is the proprietor of the project that is under execution in its area. People have enthusiasm, but there is no machinery to canalise it. In my own area, I appealed for voluntary labour for Kosi and the response I got was unexpected. Therefore, I would say that some

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machinery should be evolved to canalise the people's co-operation for these projects. If we believe that in a democratic set-up, both for social and economic reconstruction, a joint partnership between the state and the people is necessary, I think success in this direction will be guaranteed.

**Shri Bogawat (Ahmednagar South):** I must thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I rise to support the demands of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power.

I am very glad that the most spectacular progress in food production and agricultural raw material has been made due to increased irrigation in our country. In themselves, the major irrigation projects alone will irrigate more than 80 lakhs of acres when completed. Of course, completion of some of the number of schemes has brought benefit to several areas.

The chief aim and object of our Five Year Plan is an increase in agricultural production and agricultural raw materials, and therefore much importance is given to irrigation and power and agriculture. The planners have given their attention to the control of floods, the ravages and devastation caused by floods, and they are spending crores and crores, but I am very sorry to say no such attention is given to the famine-stricken areas of our country.

About thirty per cent. of our land area is famine stricken. The Minister is quite aware that Bombay State is deficit in food and there is a long strip of land from Panchmahal to, say, Ahmednagar, part of Poona, Sholapur and Bijapur and even up to Rayalseema in Andhra State, which is always affected by scarcity. This area ought to have been taken into consideration in the first Five Year Plan, because the people in this area are very much affected and there is terrible havoc. The people are reduced to such a state that there is poverty, hunger, disease and misery every now and then and there is damage to the extent of crores and crores.

Only recently in Maharashtra in about eight districts there was a big famine and the people suffered very heavily. Even in my district it is said that the damage was up to Rs. 15 crores. For tiding over this scarcity, the Bombay Government and the Central Government required about Rs. 8 to 9 crores. So, I humbly submit that in order to avoid these calamities there must be every attempt made to save the people in the famine area.

The people in the famine area were of the hope that as soon as independence came they would be saved from these calamities and difficulties, but no serious attention has been given to this very important problem.

Now, in these areas there are very good projects, and I humbly say that there are the indispensable needs of the major irrigation projects of the protective type amongst which the Mula and Kukadi irrigation projects occupy a prominent position. The Kukadi project is situated in such a place that about nine to ten Taluks in Poona, Ahmednagar and Sholapur Districts which are very much affected by the famine every now and then would be saved, but little attention has been paid to this. Recently there was a very big famine in this area last year, and again there is famine this year. Even in Ahmednagar, the city tank has gone dry. There is no water for the city and the Municipality is trying its best, spending lakhs and lakhs over water difficulty. There is also the same difficulty in the other Taluks and villages—in hundreds of villages. There was scarcity last year, and there is scarcity in five or six Taluks in Ahmednagar and Poona Districts in the area where this Kukadi project would be done.

Besides this Kukadi project, there is also the Ghodanadi project which would be useful for nine or ten Taluks in two districts. They have got good, rich, fertile lands between the rivers Bhima, Krishna and Godavari, and if there are only two good rains, then

these lands give bumper crops. This Kukadi is called the granary of the Deccan, but no attention—proper attention I must say—is given to this very important project, and unless this project is taken on hand the people of the scarcity area would not be saved. They have suffered for years and years. During the last 120 years there were about thirty to forty scarcities and famines, and people had to migrate. So my humble submission to the Government and the Planning Minister and the Minister of Irrigation is that special attention should be given to these projects.

I am very glad to read from the summary here that "schemes for dealing with permanent improvement of areas of chronic food shortage have also been brought into its purview". So, if it is to be done, I think it must be done by the Centre, because the Bombay Government has not got so much money to spare for the other projects which have not been taken, but there is immediate need and I would request that the Government will give its attention to these very important projects which are situated in the area which is very liable to famines.

Then, as regards the power projects, there is the Randhara cum Bandardhara project. There is a natural waterfall and there is a tank called Bandardhara tank and there would be power for the Districts of Nasik, Ahmednagar and Khandesh. Also there is a big tank. A very little amount—Ra. 3 to 4 crores—would be required for this project which would give electricity to a number of villages. There would be increase in agricultural production and there would be also development of industries.

This area is a very backward area, an undeveloped area, with Adivasis and backward class people. It is quite essential that these people must be given help by way of such projects and the industry of this area should be developed.

We approached the Bombay Government and they have taken it into consideration, but without help from the

Centre it is not possible because everything depends upon money, and unless money is given by the Centre or some help is given, it is not quite possible.

Then, I want to say that the community projects, have done a lot.

Several thousands of acres of land are being irrigated under the community projects, and a number of villages have been developed thereby. Of course, in our State, there are very few community projects, and yet we could see that they have helped us very much in our development programmes in agriculture and other sectors, and the purchasing power of the people is increasing day by day, and the people are becoming happier and happier.

I am very glad that the Ministry of Irrigation and Power are doing tremendous work in this regard. If only they could give proper attention to the areas which are frequently subject to famine, the poverty-stricken people in these areas, who are suffering from misery, disease and hunger, could be saved. This is my request to the hon. Minister.

**Shri Raghavachari (Penukonda):** I rise to voice the feeling of utter neglect of the areas from which I come. Before I do that, I certainly see that so far as planning is concerned, these multi-purpose projects and these big river valley projects were conceived with the idea of solving the dependence of this country for food, on other. Surely, one cannot find fault with the plan. But what unfortunately has happened is that in this enthusiasm of proceeding with such huge projects, they started upon things, without sufficient investigation, and without sufficient understanding of the scope of financial commitments involved etc. It is in that hurry, that the biggest projects were started. They also knew—I cannot say they were ignorant of it—that the beneficial effects could only be had after a fairly long time. But as they started these projects with insufficient data in their possession, the result naturally was that additional technical experiences had to be consulted, all of which rather resulted in changes in the origi-

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nal designs and programmes, and led to further investments. This naturally resulted in a good deal of waste of public funds. I am not concerned only with that aspect just now; but I would like to point out another thing. I remember the hon. Finance Minister himself stated last year that he was faced with a situation, when this kind of a hasty commitment to projects involving further expenditure of crores of rupees came in the way of further planning. Having started these projects, we cannot leave them in the middle. So, more crores of rupees must be found, and the consequence is that the Plan in other aspects will have to be materially affected by this.

However, there is not much purpose in trying to criticise these things, because they have been criticised threadbare in this House on earlier occasions. During the last two years, I have been listening to the criticism in regard to wasteful expenditure, mismanagement of the projects etc., in the North. I do not wish to find fault with engineers or others. But my own impression is this. In the South too, we have built certain big projects. For instance, there is the multipurpose project of Tungabhadra, which has never been the subject of criticism at all. In fact, there is no such waste or mismanagement there, and I would be very happy to pay the necessary tribute to the staff and engineers who have successfully executed this project, without much of criticism as we hear every day about projects of the North.

Government themselves have come to feel that they should have given more stress and attention to minor and medium projects. To that extent, it has been the good fortune of the country, that from huge multipurpose projects, they have now come to smaller projects too.

Before I come to these smaller projects, I would like to say a word about Andhra. In the Five Year Plan, they have indicated one project on the Krishna. But it is unfortunate that

even today, in the report of the Ministry itself, we still find it 'a project' for the Krishna. Of course, there are reasons for it, but I am not concerned with those reasons here. The unfortunate position is that the fight for the Krishna waters by the vested interests in this matter, and the legitimate complaints of the people who would naturally be deprived of its waters, simply made the whole thing to be put off on the ground of investigation, further investigation, re-examination etc. It is a matter of satisfaction that ultimately the Khosla Committee held that there was something in the complaints of the people, and therefore they have now tried to modify it. I must thank the hon. Minister of Irrigation and Power for having given us an opportunity the other day of placing these matters before him. My impression as a result of all this is that the Irrigation Ministry is prepared to favourably consider the execution of this 'a project' for Krishna to be 'the project' soon. As to what 'the project' should be, I would only like to state what we feel in this matter, namely that it is best that the Khosla Committee but as further benefit a large extent of land. I do modified in the light of our representation to go into these details, but my feeling is that this project may be taken up, not as an individual project. That is a project which is expected to be taken up, not as an individual project. **The Nandikonda project** is taken on tation and as probably it may be agreed to by both the Governments concerned, and after further examination by the Planning Commission. project, but as a composite project, by the different States concerned. If this project is executed, it will serve a very large extent of the country, which is unfortunate in having very little rainfall. At present, the waters of the Krishna which flows from areas where there is a heavy rainfall, are allowed to go waste. If this project is taken on hand, a portion of these waters may be made available to that part of the country which is in need of it most.

More than all this, I wish to stress the importance of the Tungabhadra

Project, as it is executed, and as it ought to be executed as well. Here, I would like to emphasise two or three main points. We find, first of all, that though it was started some years ago, still it has been included in the Five Year Plan. But the most unfortunate thing is this. So far as irrigation is concerned, the dam is complete, and water has been stocked and stored. But there is not enough land made ready to be irrigated. I do not know whom to blame for this. But the fact remains that the waters from the Tungabhadra have to be flowed down the stream for hundreds of miles, and then used to irrigate a second crop in the Krishna delta. That was not the purpose at all for which this Project was meant. As I said earlier, there is no use complaining even in this respect. At least now, Government will have to think of solving this problem, by bringing the large extents of land available there immediately under cultivation. As we represented the other day, if necessary, a committee can be set up to look into this matter. To me it looks as if this problem can be solved only by means of a committee. The big landowners there possessing hundreds of acres of land are hardly likely to invest additional funds in this regard. So, new conveniences have to be provided for.

I would like also to stress the importance of doing something for the K. C. Canal.

In this respect, the Bhattacharya Committee which went there to investigate into the amelioration of the famine conditions and then the Khosla Committee also have recommended that this K. C. Canal must be extended to carry 3,000 cusecs of water, the design altered, silting attended to and the sluices closed up to be opened etc. I understand that with the capacity of the existing channel, (nearly 4,000 cuses of water can be led) and nearly 2 to 2½ lakh acres of land can be cultivated. Now with the Tungabhadra dam, and with plenty of water available in the K. C. Canal, this is a thing which must also be soon decided upon. I request that it may be executed soon.

Then there is another thing. That is about the high level channel of the Tungabhadra. The Tungabhadra scheme was designed as a composite scheme, not merely for damming the river. It is a multi-purpose scheme. The high level channel was part of it. It is expected to cultivate two to three lakh acres of chronically famine-stricken area. The district from which I come has absolutely no chance of getting even a drop of this water unless the high level channel is taken up. They have to provide the sluice in the dam and there it stops. This high level channel is estimated to cost Rs. 10 crores. I understand the Mysore Government is not very enthusiastic about the matter. In spite of that, pressure has to be put and this expectation, this promise, this design originally made by Mr. Mackenzie years ago for a high level channel has to be undertaken, should be fulfilled. The water is sufficient not only to irrigate this extent, but it can also supply water to another big project called the Gandikota project. The waters will be so much in surplus in the Tungabhadra that it can not only irrigate 2½ lakh acres under the high level channel, but it can also supplement the flood waters from the Pennar at the Gandikota. So this high level channel should be taken up.

I will take one more minute before I close. The other thing—the other day I suggested it—is this. Between the Tungabhadra dam and the present project where the K. S. canal is diverted, there is another project, Razula Banda, which was investigated in 1942 by Madras and Hyderabad. The Hyderabad Government has actually built a dam across, and on the left bank of it nearly 70,000 acres are being brought under irrigation. On the right bank it is only a channel that has to be dug and that would irrigate about 80,000 acres, of which 60,000 acres can be double-crop lands. This extent is now designed to come under the low level channel of Tungabhadra. If this channel is dug it will release that quantity of water. Otherwise, drawn to irrigate these 80,000 acres from the Thungabhadra Dam. It

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would provide more water in the Dam for other use. This water will have to be taken along the upper, high level channel of Tungabhadra not only to irrigate the extent now designed to be brought under the High level channel but also to supplement the water at Gandikota.

One word more, and that is about minor and smaller projects. As regards Andhra, they have chosen about 17 out of 28 suggested. Out of the Rs. 40 crores available in the Plan as the previous speaker said, you must have a plan of some subsidy of 50 per cent. or more and then encourage a number of these small projects which alone will save those parts of the country, frequently affected by recurrent famines.

श्री के० सी० जेन्ना (बालासोर-रीढ़त-अनु-सूचित जातियाँ) : सभापति जी, आपने मुझे इस हाउस में जो बोलने का आज अवसर दिया है, उसके लिये मैं आपका आभारी हूँ। मैं मिनिस्ट्री आफ इर्रीगेशन एन्ड पावर की जो डिमांड्स हाउस के सामने स्वीकृत के लिये पेश हैं, उनका समर्थन करते हुए कुछ शब्द कहना चाहता हूँ।

अभी हमारा दश को स्वतंत्रता प्राप्त किये हुए केवल ७ वर्ष ही हुए हैं और अभी वह बच्चा ही है और उसके सामने अनेक समस्याएँ हैं जिनके कि उसे हल करना है। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह जो प्लान इर्रीगेशन एन्ड पावर का है, इससे दश में बहुत कुछ उन्नति हो सकती है और आज जो बेकारी की समस्या हमारा दश के सामने भयंकर रूप में खड़ी है, उसको हटाने के लिये यह एक सफल उपाय और तरीका है। मेरे निर्वाचन क्षेत्र बालासोर जिले में कम्प्युनिटी प्रोजेक्ट्स का काम हो रहा है और इस काम को चलते देख कर मुझे बहुत संतोष और आनन्द होता है। मैं देखता हूँ कि उधर नये रास्ते बनाये जा रहे हैं, कंग्रे खोद जा रहे हैं और स्कूल खोल जा रहे हैं, यह सब काम हो रहा है और उस सब को होता देख कर मेरा हृदय

आनन्द से भर जाता है और एक गर्व का भी अनुभव करता हूँ कि हमारा दश में एक नये जीवन की हवा फैल रही है।

अब जो एक हमारी कठिनाई है उस के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। कठिनाई यह है कि वहाँ पर प्रोजेक्ट एरिया में बाहर से आदमी ला कर रखे जाते हैं। खास करके वे हमारे विलेज लेवल वर्कर के काम आसानी से नहीं कर सकते हैं, जो लगे वहाँ पर अंचल में रहते हैं वे उधर के सवालों को और उधर की ज़रूरतों को आसानी से समझ सकते हैं। उधर के लोगों को विलेज कर्मि बनाना चाहिये। जब बाहर से आदमियों को ला कर वहाँ रक्खा जाता है तो उनको तकलीफ होती है। उन लोगों को यह समझाने में दूरी लगती है कि वहाँ की क्या ज़रूरतें हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ कि वहाँ के ग्रामवासियों में कोई डीलापन नहीं है। जो भी डीलापन है वह सरकार की तरफ से है। जब हम किसी अफसर से कुछ पूछते हैं तो वह कहता है कि हम क्या करें, यहाँ की शासन प्रणाली जो है वह ऐसी ही है। मैं ऊपर के अफसरों के पास लिलंगा। उन से सैक्शन आयेगा, रुपया पैसे आयेगा, तभी तो हम बनायेंगे। इस कारण से हमारा काम जरा पीछे पड़ जाता है। जितने काम की हम आशा करते हैं उतना काम नहीं हो पाता है।

एक बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप अक्सर यह कहा करते थे कि उड़ीसा के लोगों को दूध मिलना कठिन है। किस को मिलता है और किस को नहीं मिलता है। मैं देखता हूँ कि उड़ीसा के लोग जब प्रोजेक्ट एरिया में अच्छे गाँवों और साँड़ों के होने से कुछ दूध पा सकते हैं। इस का इन्तजाम सरकार की तरफ से अब ही किया जा रहा है। हमारा यहाँ प्रोजेक्ट अंचल में डाक्टस्वान भी खोल जा रहे हैं और वहाँ बीमारों का इलाज हो रहा है। इस से मालूम होता है कि वहाँ पर नई हवा फैल रही है।

में मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम में से बहुतों के पास शिकायतें आती हैं जिन में कि शिकायतें आती हैं कि जो हीराकुद प्रोजेक्ट उड़ीसा में चल रहा है, जहां तक मुझ पता है हमारी उड़ीसा सरकार यहां से उस के लिये खूब लोन पर लेती है, उड़ीसा को वह लोन चुकाना पड़ेगा।

में समझता हूँ कि उड़ीसा के आदमी ऐसे हैं जो इंजीनियर वर्गों में नहीं हैं। इस लिये आप बाहर से आदमी बुलाते हैं। फिर भी मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि छोट २ किरानी वर्गों में उड़ीसा लोग जो वहां नोकरी करते हैं उनकी तादाद जो पहले भी वह अब घट गई है। जहां तक मुझ पता है वह आधी के करीब हो गई है। मैं माननीय मंत्री से यह प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह जरा वहां के अधिकारियों के ऊपर कड़ी निगाह रखें ताकि वे भविष्य में ऐसा न करने पायें और पछें कि कितने आदमी हटाये गये हैं और उन का क्या कसर है। इस के बारे में मंत्र पास शिकायतें आती हैं, लेकिन जो शिकायतें आती हैं उन का मैं जवाब नहीं दे सकता क्योंकि वे अनानिमस आती हैं, गुमनाम आती हैं। इसी लिये मैं मंत्री जी को यह बात नहीं लिख सकता। मैं मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह इस पर अपना ध्यान जरूर दें।

उड़ीसा एक ऐसा सूबा है, जहां पर खास तौर पर धान की प्रधान फसल होती है। आप यह भी जानते हैं कि उड़ीसा में हर साल बाढ़ आती है और उस से धान की फसल खराब हो जाती है। इस बाढ़ को रोकने के लिये हीराकुद बांध जैसी और योजनाओं को आप को हाथ में लेना चाहिये। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं दो एक सुझाव भी देना चाहता हूँ बालेश्वर जिले में बैतारणी साहीलन्दी प्रोजेक्ट को गवर्नमेंट को हाथ में लेना चाहिये। सुवर्णरेखा प्रोजेक्ट को भी इसी तरह से शुरू किया जा सकता है। इस के लिये तीन राज्य सरकारों, बंगाल, बिहार और उड़ीसा, से सलाह मरिबरा कर के काम शुरू

कर देना चाहिये, क्योंकि इन तीनों का इस से सम्बन्ध है। सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट अगर बाढ़ को रोकने का इतना प्रबन्ध कर दे तो इस से हमारा बहुत लाभ हो सकता है।

**Shri T. Subrahmanyam (Bellary):** Two Members from the Opposition have participated in the debate. One Member congratulated the engineers who were responsible for the construction and the completion of the Tunga-bhadra Project. Another Member took up rather an unfortunate attitude and did not congratulate those engineers who were responsible for the construction or the undertaking of Bhakra-Nangal. The Bhakra Dam is 680 ft. high. It will be the highest straight gravity dam in the world. What should have been a matter for congratulation and gratification was given an improper twist. One hon. Member said that the Himalayas were of recent origin and therefore, there was not much safety in building that highest dam there and we need not have taken pride in that. I am a layman, I am not a geologist or a scientist. But, still it stands completely consistent with commonsense that the Himalayas have stood there for millions of years and are likely to stand there for eternity. It is enough for our purpose if the Bhakra dam stands there safe as long as the Himalayas stand. To make our country self-sufficient and to provide cheap power to our country, this glorious chapter is being written. Six hundred crores of rupees out of Rs. 2,069 crores are being spent on these multi-purpose projects. By 1955-56, 8.5 million acres more will be brought under irrigation and 1.1 million k. w. of power would be provided for the people. This is not a small thing.

It is true, as one Member said, some mistakes were made in the estimates originally made. When the figures were finalised, they had to be revised. It was obviously due to the fact that there was insufficient data and in experience was also there. This is the first time in our history that we are taking up such huge projects. Then, we had to deal with machinery of a

[Shri T. Subrahmanyam.]

very complicated and unique type and the cost of this machinery in the countries from which we got them was being altered from day to day. On account of all these factors, it is true that the original estimates had to be revised. Recently, as one Member remarked, a seminar was held in Nangal by which the experience and talent in our country would be pooled, machinery would be standardised and spare parts would be brought in one stock so that no machine will be idle. It is true that for some time 40 per cent. of the machines were laying idle because they had not the proper type of the spare parts, while spare parts were available in other areas. On account of this confusion, there was some unfortunate delay. Recently the Machinery and Equipment Committee was set up, the object of which is to standardise machinery and to properly maintain the equipment and spare parts and also to regularise the supply of all these machinery to the various projects wherever there is need, so that this delay may be eliminated. A Rates Committee has also appointed, by which standardised schedule of rates will be worked out for the various processes of the irrigation projects, just as digging foundations, earth-work, concreting etc. It will be very helpful in future for the preparation of the estimates of these projects and to expedite the construction and completion of the projects more efficiently.

As I said at the outset, by 1955-56 nearly 8.5 million additional acres are estimated to be brought under irrigation. But I feel there is one bottleneck in this respect. The construction of the projects and the construction of the dams will go on according to schedule, but bringing the land under irrigation will involve some delay. There is a weak link in the chain; the agriculturists have to take up the work. They have not got the wherewithal nor sometimes the know-how. Therefore, I fear that there is likely to be a delay in this matter and I urge the Government with all the emphasis

and sincerity at my command that this aspect should be given the utmost attention so that we can have things expedited. In 1952-53 1.89 million acres were to be brought under irrigation but only 1.5 million acres were brought under irrigation. With regard to power, it has exceeded the schedule and it is a matter of gratification. But I feel, with regard to bringing the extra acreage under irrigation—take the Tungabhadra Project, for instance, which is in my constituency—there will be a time lag and there will be inordinate delay. If the target is to be reached successfully and if we are to produce 2.1 million additional tons of foodgrains and bring 8.5 million additional acres of land under irrigation, I feel that the ryots should be helped with long-term loans through the institutional agencies such as the land mortgage banks and others. The Government should also take the greatest interest in this matter; supply them with tractors wherever they are necessary and get things done by manual labour also. It is also likely to solve the unemployment problem. Therefore, I feel it is a very important matter and I again lay great stress on this.

My friend, Mr. Raghavachari on the other side, was saying that the high level canal should be taken up under the Tungabhadra Project. The project costs Rs. 43 crores and the sluice already provided in the dam for the high level canal will bring another two lakh acres under irrigation. Therefore, to maximise the benefit accruing from the Tungabhadra Project, I urge the Government to take up this high level canal.

A word with regard to power. In our country, up to 1950, 1.72 million k. w. of power was generated. By 1955-56 we are likely to instal another 1.1 million k.w. Till now, all the towns with a population of 50,000 and over are provided with electricity. With regard to the villages with a population of under 5,000, we have got 559,000 villages; of these nearly, 2,800

villages have been provided with electric power. I feel that the Government should give special attention to this and appoint a special agency and work out a target so that rural electrification may be successful. If we want our cottage industry schemes to be successful, if we want to make our villages happier and brighter, if we are to help our villagers in pumping water where canals are not available, if we want to improve the entire agriculture of the villages, the scheme of rural electrification must be taken up with greater emphasis and special attention should be paid to it.

I feel that arrangements must be made for the production of materials and equipment required for the distribution agencies and the consumers. I know that the Committee which has been appointed for looking into the question of machinery and equipment are also considering this question regarding materials required for electrification. I request that, if rural electrification has to be pushed up, this must also be taken up and expedited.

One more point. In each project, we have got a number of buildings and workshops. These buildings are of fairly pucca structure. I request that these buildings may not be left to go to ruins but that they may be utilised as nucleus for some Technological or Engineering colleges or some such institutions because there will be multi-purpose projects where there will be workshops also which can be utilised.

There is also an attempt to increase technical skill and to pool all the experience. If an experiment is being made, I suggest that the Indian Service of Engineers, which was abolished some time ago, may be re-constituted on the model of the I.A.S.

**Dr. Nataraj Pandey:** Mr. Chairman, Sir I thank you for the opportunity you have given me.

I beg to submit before the hon. Minister of Irrigation and Power the problems of land acquisition and compensation and I suggest in detail about the problems of land acquisition, com-

pensation and resettlement. When the Hirakud Dam Project was first conceived, large promises were given to our people. I may refer you to the Hirakud Dam Project Report, 1947, in which a lot of things have been described on 13-4-1948, Pandit Nehru, when he came to lay the foundation-stone of the Hirakud Dam Project, delivered a speech in Sambalpur College and a good many promises were made by him to those people who were affected. He said that they would be given better lands and houses and would be paid adequate compensation. But after eight months, that is on 11-12-1948, the Revenue Minister of Orissa introduced a bill in the Legislative Assembly to restrict the market price of land acquired at 1939 price plus 50 per cent. The index of prices in 1948 was near about 400, taking 100 as the basic index price in 1939. This restriction gave rise to grave misapprehension in the minds of the people when the bill was sponsored in the Orissa Legislative Assembly. At that time, the then Revenue Minister and the then Chief Minister, Shri Mahtab, assured the Members of the Legislative Assembly that the promises will be fulfilled by them. The bill, however, was passed but no promise has yet been fulfilled.

In the Act, known as Orissa Act XVIII of 1948, it is provided that when the land of a person is acquired, the compensation at the first instance will be arrived at by an agreement between the person whose land is acquired and the Land Acquisition Officer. If the person is dissatisfied or there is no agreement reached between him and the Land Acquisition Officer, the matter will be referred to an arbitrator. The arbitrator cannot award compensation at more than the market value and the standard market value that the arbitrator is competent to give is not more than the price plus 50 per cent. In the first instance, when the land of a person is acquired, the Land Acquisition Officer offers him any amount at his discretion. By Government Notification, the Government authorised the Land Acquisition Officer to award compensation for every

[Dr. Natabar Pandey]

piece of land having rental of one rupee compensation amounting to between Rs. 288 and 500 and in the case of *ryoti* lands, even out of this, he was to deduct 20 per cent as the share of the Government and the landlord. This wide margin of discretion in the hands of the Land Acquisition Officer to award compensation between Rs. 288 and 500 minus 20 per cent, gave rise to a lot of dissatisfaction, discrimination and corruption. I shall not make this speech long by giving concrete illustration of discriminations, but you can well imagine the scope for discrimination if such a wide margin of difference is left in the hands of an officer. Incidentally, I may mention that in the year 1952-53, the Government framed a rule regarding lands acquired in the Sambalpur District that for *ryoti* land, having a rental of one rupee, Rs. 192 was the adequate compensation. In 1948, the amount of Rs. 288 was arrived at by adding 50 per cent. to this Rs. 192.

If there is no agreement between a person and the Land Acquisition Officer the matter was to be referred to the arbitrator, and the arbitrator has absolutely no option under the Act but to give Rs. 288 for land having a rental of one rupee. So, you can see that the whole scheme is inequitable and Gilbertian. If a man wants compensation for his land, then the Land Acquisition Officer says, "Well, you take Rs. 288 or Rs. 300 or Rs. 400 upto Rs. 500." but if the *ryoti* says that he is dissatisfied and that the compensation is inadequate and asks the Government to refer the case to the arbitrator for the determination of proper compensation, then the arbitrator has to say under the law, "Well, whatever be my feeling or ideas about the proper and adequate compensation to be paid, my hands are tied under the Act and I can only pay you Rs. 288 though I may agree that your land has a much higher value and though the Land Acquisition Officer himself offered you more than Rs. 288."

This arrangement has given rise to a lot of dissatisfaction to the already dissatisfied people of the area affected by the Hirakud Dam. Believe it or not, in the very village where the Hirkud colony not stands the people have been offered Rs. 18-12-0 per acre of land—the village is known as Jamda. You might have heard some interesting figures of the amount of compensation paid to different persons for their lands acquired. In this connection, I may draw your attention to page 311 of the proceedings of the Orissa Legislative Assembly, dated the 13th March 1950:

Name of person	Land acquired	Compensation paid
Baidchi	9·37 acres	Rs. 697-10-0
Raibari	1·44 "	" 28-11-6
Braja Bhoi	0·66 "	" 12-9-0
Bidyadhar	0·56 "	" 21-4-0
Gandajhankar	0·77 "	" 13-14-0

These villagers are illiterate and Adibasis, and taking advantage of their simplicity, they have been asked to give thumb marks and vouchers and paid nominal sums as shown above and the land taken from them. This is one of the thousands of such illustrations and I need not multiply them.

Originally, the total compensation to be paid for 84,960 acres of cultivable land and 65,000 acres of uncultivable land was estimated at Rs. 537 lakhs. Under the revised estimate, 1,42,290 acres of cultivable and 65,624 acres of uncultivable land will be submerged and the estimate of compensation is Rs. 1,247 lakhs. If the Government proceed as cleverly in paying compensation to the unsophisticated and illiterate villagers having the above illustration, they can manage to compensate the whole area with a comparatively very small amount. That would be a very poor reward for the sacrifice of the people of the area affected by the Hirakud Dam Project. Since the date I was elected a Member of Parliament, I have been trying to get a chance to raise my voice, but I am sorry I was never given a chance till

now. If after going through the facts which I have brought to your notice you consider that we are not having a fair deal from the Government of Orissa, I hope you will kindly exert your influence with the Government to see that the dissatisfaction is removed. To me, the whole thing appears to be scandalous.

Going to the problem of rehabilitation, a man whose land is acquired for the Hirakud Dam Project usually wants that land having production equal to that which he loses should be given to him, and you will agree with me that this is a very reasonable demand. If he is paid at the present rate of Rs. 288 to Rs. 500 and is asked to make his own arrangement to buy his own land, he is faced with two difficulties: (1) the present market value of land is extremely high even apart from the fact of increased demand of land in connection with Hirakud Dam Project; and (2) the *ryoti* land in the District of Sambalpur, which covers three-quarters of the cultivable area of Sambalpur District, is non-transferable. As the people of the District are unsophisticated, for a large Adibasi population, the tenancy law prohibits transfer of *ryoti* land so that the land may not pass out of the hands of the agriculturists to speculators and capitalists. This salutary law now acts as a great handicap to the people who are deprived of their land and seek to purchase land elsewhere.

If we leave aside the consideration of asking the people to make their own arrangement of rehabilitation, to purchase land elsewhere and build their own houses, another alternative is to provide them with land elsewhere. Lands are being reclaimed in the different reclamation centres and you have taken great pains in visiting some of the reclamation centres. I do not know what your impression is about these centres, but the fact remains that the people are not attracted to these areas. The authorities explained away the matter by saying that the people have great attachment to their old homes and lands and unless the land is actually submerged,

they will not go to these centres. That explanation should convince nobody. People who are fortunate enough to find cultivated land elsewhere have made their arrangements long ago, and knowing fully well that the lands would certainly be submerged, there is no reason why, if the lands in the reclamation centres were really paying they should have shifted to these reclamation centres long long ago. The fact is that the land was not productive. In 1950, the Government carried on experimental cultivation in the Lam Dungri Reclamation Centre, only four miles from Hirakud. Paddy was sown in six acres of land but not a single grain was reaped.

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, order. I cannot allow the hon. Member to go on reading. I have already given him eleven minutes and he will appreciate that in reading he has given more material than he could have if he had only spoken. I would request him to finish. As there are several pages more, I cannot allow him further time to read out and finish his manuscript.

**Dr. Nataraj Pandey:** I shall only take two minutes more.

**Mr. Chairman:** I have already allowed 11 minutes to the hon. Member. I take it that he has finished his speech.

**Shri S. C. Deb (Cachar-Lushai Hills):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to congratulate the hon. Minister of Planning, Irrigation and Power and while supporting the Demands I would like to offer some observation for his consideration.

Sir, our aim is a welfare State and we want to develop mixed economy. For that our work of planning is to be so co-ordinated as to bring the industrial development large industries and small industries to be fitted in a structure, and to build up the economy of the country on a sound footing. Our economy is to be so planned as to raise the standard of living of the common man to such a level that he

[Shri S. C. Deb.]

may feel himself comfortable, free from daily wants and miseries, and also to solve the problem of unemployment that is staggering us in the face. The plan should be so broad-based as to cover all strata of society and touch every corner of the country. I would like to impress upon our planners that for the planned economy they have to take into consideration the question of unemployed and under-employed, irrespective of the fact whether he is a peasant, a labourer or an educated youth. All the developmental programmes should go hand in hand, whether they be in the industrial sector, whether big or small, public or private, basic or otherwise, with a view to serving the community at large. In the industrial sector our object should be the development of industries, along with their co-ordination, integration and mechanisation, ultimately with a view to increasing production. I would like to deal with this matter more elaborately if I get an opportunity to speak on the Demands relating to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Coming to the question of river valley projects and hydro-Electric power development, I would ask the Minister to give due consideration to what I propose placing before him

about Assam and my own area of the District of Cachar-Lushai Hills.

As I could gather the Government of Assam feel that the Central Water and Power Commission are not doing justice to Assam's needs where a number of rivers require immediate investigation and proper planning for river control. So far as my area is concerned, I can say that the River Barak which originates from Manipur flows through Cachar District. It is an annual feature with us to be visited by floods, sometimes even twice of thrice a year. Crops over a large area get damaged, resulting in untold hardships to people. Unless immediate investigation is undertaken and hydrological data explored all other development works undertaken there under the community project schemes will be set-at naught by the ravages of flood. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the Barak Hydro-electric project was given second priority.

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member may resume his speech tomorrow.

*The House then adjourned till Two of the Clock on Wednesday, the 7th April 1954.*

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