

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am only concerned with what is mentioned in the report of the Planning Commission. The hon. Member has not been listening to my arguments. It is not my case that anything is to be denied or that anything is not to be started. To me,—it means either to the Finance Ministry or the Planning Commission—it does not make very much of a difference. Here, I am speaking after making an examination of what the Planning Commission's feelings in this matter would be. If it appears to them, and if it is considered by them, that the elimination of famine and scarcity conditions has become a far more urgent and immediate issue, then I think they will certainly be very glad to agree that certain works be substituted for something else. Whether such a substitution is possible, it is not for me to say, and I am not saying that these works can be substituted only in the same field, viz. irrigation. It may be that room can be found for additional irrigation works by contracting something else, such as education, or may be transport, or tarring of roads, or any thing else. As I say, it is for the new State Governments that are about to emerge to first find out what their share of the Plan is and what the needs of the situation are in regard to this problem, which has somehow become a far more immediate and urgent problem, namely, the possible elimination of the recurrence of these scarcities. Therefore, if hon. Members will have a little patience, then I think that they will give a fair chance to the new Governments that will be coming in, and the matter can then be considered in a cool and dispassionate manner. But it does not indicate any kind of apathy towards the suffering of the people. As I have already postulated, so far as the immediate requirements of the situation are concerned, if there is any residual action to be taken, it will be our duty, that is to say, of the Central Government and the Madras Government, to sit together and find a way out. So far as long-term solutions are concerned, there is nothing very much that can be done till the new Governments are in the saddle.

Shri N. P. Damodaran: I put a question this morning about famine conditions in Malabar. It has not been answered.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have no information. We have not received any representation. At least so far as I am concerned, we have not seen the municipal committee's representation. It necessarily concerns the

State Government in the first instance.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Is it the same question that was answered in the morning?

Shri N. P. Damodaran: Yes.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have undertaken to find out if there is any distress among the fishermen community in Malabar. I have undertaken to find out what the situation is.

Shri Nambiar: What happens to the gruel centres which have been closed? Is there any prosperity of their being reopened?

An Hon. Member: Prosperity of their being reopened?

Shri Nambiar: I am sorry, Sir. I mean, is there any prospect or possibility of their being re-opened?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members have heard the statement at length. If the local Government starts gruel centres, the Centre will bear half the cost. That is what has been stated. They should be satisfied with that. Why should they discount the services of the local M.L.As. and ask these questions here?

Shri Nambiar: Are we not entitled to ask?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no. I am afraid hon. Members here are under the impression that they are the custodians of the whole of India, notwithstanding the fact that in the various States there are responsible Ministers and M.L.As. who have been elected under adult suffrage as much as we have been elected to Parliament.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is an encroachment on the rights of the M.L.As. from Madras.

MESSAGES FROM THE COUNCIL OF STATES

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

(1) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, I am directed to inform the House of the People that the Council of States, at its sitting held on the 14th May, 1953, agreed without any amendment to the Air Corporations Bill.

1953, which was passed by the House of the People at its sitting held on the 8th May, 1953."

(2) "in accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, I am directed to inform the House of the People that the Council of States, at its sitting held on the 15th May, 1953,

agreed without any amendment to the Tea Bill, 1952, which was passed by the House of the People at its sitting held on the 9th May, 1953."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now stand adjourned *sine die*.

The House then adjourned sine die.
