

People everywhere are courageously trying to save crops or to sow fresh crops. Efforts are being made by Government to provide those who are without any means of subsistence with some work so that they could earn their livelihood. Works are being expedited; some of them, such as roads, bridges, canals, public buildings etc., which are included in the Second Five Year Plan are being started ahead of schedule. Other possible avenues of employment are also being explored.

Allegations about some starvation deaths in district Deoria were brought to the notice of the State Government sometime ago but the inquiry made from the local authorities revealed that these were baseless.

Shri S. L. Saksena: Is the hon. Minister aware of...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. No supplementaries are allowed.

MOTION RE. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONER FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES FOR 1953 AND 1954

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion on the Reports of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1953 and 1954.

Out of 10 hours allotted for the discussion of both the Reports, about 8 hours and 15 minutes have already been availed of—excluding 2 hours and 38 minutes, taken on Friday last from the time allotted for the Private Members' Business. This means about 1 hour and 45 minutes are now available for the discussion which will conclude by about 1-45 P.M. today. Thereafter the House will take up the discussion on the White Paper on General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade for which 6 hours have been allotted. As already decided, the House will sit upto 6 P.M. today.

I understand that the hon. Defence Minister wishes to say something on the Reports of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, so far as his Ministry is concerned. He will take about 15 minutes and

not more than that. For the reply at the end, the Deputy Home Minister will take about 45 minutes. That means, between the two, they will take one hour. Forty-five minutes are, therefore, now available for further discussion. I will first call upon Dr. Katju.

The Minister of Defence (Dr. Katju): The two Reports which the House is discussing relate to the two years during which I had something to do with the Home Ministry and the topics with which the Reports deal at length have been very dear to my heart. I do not wish to deal with the main questions raised in the Reports; they had been dealt with adequately by the hon. Home Minister and will no doubt be dealt with further by my colleague, the Deputy Home Minister. I should only like to express once again what I have said in this House many times viz., that the road to progress, in my opinion, lies through more and more education and that Governments, both Central and State, should do the utmost to encourage the spread of education by scholarships and in a variety of ways. That is the first thing.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Secondly, so far as the removal of untouchability is concerned, I think it will be a mistake if we were to adopt a sort of an authoritative attitude of mind trying to remove untouchability. It is desirable that we should follow Gandhiji's method, that is the persuasive method. There is plenty of opportunity for work and plenty of room for work among the so-called higher classes, particularly in the rural areas.

I did not intervene in the debate for saying these elementary things. I have intervened to say something about the representation of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in our Armed Forces. Some hon. Members have discussed this matter and it is a matter of tremendous importance. I only wish to say as to what exactly the orbit of the problem is. The problem is not limited merely to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It is a vaster problem: vaster in this sense.

[Dr. Katju]

When the British were wielding authority here, they had divided India practically into two parts. One they called the martial areas and the other they called non-martial areas. In the non-martial areas, they considered everybody living in that area,—no matter whether he was a high caste man or a low caste man—as unfit by tradition, by buildup, for a military career. It may be that when they were excluding non-martial areas they were also excluding among the people who were considered martial, the so-called Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Then, there is another tract of which scarce notice is taken in these discussions and that is a tract which has now been integrated with India. Scanty attention is paid to that part of the problem. Please remember that three-eighths of India,—I am not sure about the population—was under Indian States. Some of these States were big ones, resourceful ones. But, many of them, hundreds of them were petty little States, with a revenue of Rs. 30 lakhs or Rs. 40 lakhs or Rs. 13 lakhs or Rs. 2 lakhs. In Saurashtra, the number of small States was over 100, probably 200. Some of the big States like Hyderabad, Gwalior and Kashmir maintained their own State troops and there was therefore some military tradition there. It was open to the people residing in those States to join the army and have a military career. But, by far the very large number of smaller Indian States and the people residing therein were totally excluded from service in the Armed Forces. It is true that on paper there was nothing to prevent the resident of any Indian State, no matter how petty, to offer his services to the Army. Take, the State, my own birth-place, a tiny little State called Jaora. It was open to anyone residing in Jaora to offer himself for recruitment. But, no one did. I have received bitter complaints that even today in Madhya Bharat where Jaora is included recruitment is exceedingly scanty. Therefore the problem confronting me today in the Defence Ministry to

equalise the opportunities. The fundamentals are quite clear. Every resident, every inhabitant of this great India of ours is entitled to an equal opportunity. It is one of his, and should be the most cherished, privilege, to offer himself for military service and thereby do his duty by the land: every one of the 36 crores. While you are concentrating your attention upon the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, my heart also goes out to the people living in the so-called non-martial areas in British India who have been excluded from military service for the last 200 years, ever since the battle of Plassey. Secondly, my heart also goes out to those people of the smaller Indian States which have now become part of Madhya Bharat, Rajasthan,—not so much in P.E.P.S.U.—Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. Probably hon. Members are aware that 26 States were included in Orissa in the integration. Even the names of these 26 States are not very well known to us. The population is 4 million and the area is about 29,000 square miles. They have been totally excluded from military service. I am most anxious that our recruitment should be broad based, to give equal and ample opportunity to each one, whether martial or non-martial, whether high caste or low caste, to offer his services. That is the overriding consideration.

The other consideration is that I cannot possibly take any risks. It is not a question of taking a man with minimum qualifications. What we want in the Army is physical fitness, a certain stature, a certain hardihood of temperament. We cannot accept any man if he does not come up to that standard. It does not concern us whether you are a brahmin or whether you are a member of the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes or whether you are a Hindu or non-Hindu. You are unfit, if you are not physically up to the standard. The whole question is how to proceed about. Let me assure the House one thing. So far as our standing instructions go,—I am not talking about the British times—ever since

*sioner for Scheduled
Castes and Scheduled
Tribes for 1953 and 1954*

1948, every single restriction has been withdrawn. Over and over again, the Army, Headquarters, the Naval Headquarters and the Air Headquarters have been told, and the recruiting officers have been told that our Army should be broad based, that it should cover every community, that it should cover not only every community, it should also cover every single tract of India. I do not want that the Army should be a Northern Army or a Southern Army or Eastern Army. It should include in its forces people drawn from all parts of India. There should only be physical fitness and nothing else.

Lastly, there should not be over-recruitment from any part. This is ancient history and this will have to be continued for some time. The British people raised, as hon. Members know, the Sikh Regiment, the Dogra Regiment, the Jat Regiment. They were based upon a sort of a class basis. They are all very proud regiments. I am very happy to go and mix with them. Their history goes back to 100 years, 150 years, 80 years and so on. They live like brothers. If I were to disturb them quickly, the morale will be affected. There will be displeasure. Leaving that aside, I suggest to all hon. Members here that the best way to proceed is promotion of physical fitness of our students and young men, and secondly, larger patronage of the National Cadet Corps and the Auxiliary Cadet Corps. These two bodies are open to all students irrespective of caste, creed or faith. Government is most anxious to spread the movement. The N.C.C., for instance, began with a few thousands, I think 30,000, some 8 years ago. Today, I am glad to say, it is 125,000. Our aims by the end of the next Five Year Plan are very wide. I should be very happy personally if every single student in the colleges were to attend the N.C.C. It will not be possible, because funds are not ample. It requires a vast organisation. But, I want a large expansion. Similarly in the Auxiliary Cadet Corps, where, please remember, it is not a question of military training: the boys live in camps and all distinctions of Scheduled Caste or non-Scheduled

Caste or creed are completely forgotten. They live there a camp life. They dine there in camps. They live like brothers.

Now, the number of the Auxiliary Cadet Corps is very large—it is something like 7½ lakhs—and our ambition is to make it still larger. I suggest to you that hon. Members will consider this matter and will lend us their co-operation and will go about the country-side spreading the message of these things.

And then, there is another matter which is of still greater importance. Probably hon. Members know that the Government has recently started a force which is called the National Volunteer Force. Formerly we had the territorials and territorials were open to every body. We thought that the territorials were a bit small and it must be expanded, because the aim is this I may say at once. We are not now, at present going in for conscription, but we are anxious that there should be military training imparted to all the citizens who require it and who offer for it. We are going in for the voluntary principles, but we are anxious that if a number of volunteers come we will engage them.

The National Voluntary Force is based upon training, military training—I repeat that—of a lakh of people every year, and the scheme that has been worked out is for the training of 5 lakhs of people from the year 1955 upto 1959, and I am very happy to say that the response has been most encouraging. Two hundred camps will be held throughout India, each camp to accommodate 500 people drawn from urban areas and rural areas, drawn from all communities irrespective of, I repeat once again, caste and creed, and thereby we will be training a lakh of people every year. And hon. Members probably know that there is the camp life. They live like soldiers under canvas, just like jawans. They undergo training. They are given lectures, first-aid lectures. They are taught rifle shooting and all that.

I am suggesting that all Members interested in the Scheduled Castes and

sioner for Scheduled
Castes and Scheduled
Tribes for 1953 and 1954

[Dr. Katju]

Tribes and in the non-martial areas and in State areas like mine should take the fullest advantage of this National Volunteer Force, because if the demand is heavy, if the demand is encouraging, then I say we shall consider doubling it. Instead of one lakh will make it two lakhs, and it will be all to the good from the national point of view. It is desirable that there should be, if I may put it that way, a sort of reserves behind the Army, a large reserve, so that, God forbidding, whenever any emergency arises, we may be able to fall back upon it. And secondly, this training for one month, military training, drill and all that sort of thing and living together, also teaches you discipline and for Home Guards and for maintenance of law and order I entertain great hopes of this. Therefore, we have got this for which I ask the solid help, extensive help, vigorous help from each Member of this House and each Member of the State Legislature and from the public at large, for our National Cadet Corps movement, the Auxiliary Cadet Corps movement, our National Volunteer Force movement and our Territorial Army. The Territorial Army which you are familiar with is open to urban areas, is open to rural areas. I attach greater value to the National Volunteer Force and to the National Cadet Corps because this curse of untouchability and of discriminations rests in the rural areas, and our National Volunteer Force is drawn mostly from the rural areas. I am perfectly certain that any single individual who comes and joins the National Volunteer Force and spends a month in the camp is completely washed free of all taints of untouchability and of, so to say, ideas about untouchability. I want that it should be....

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon cum Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): There is not even one per cent of these Scheduled Castes or Tribes employed there or recruited in the National Cadet Corps about which you are saying so much, too much. I feel

that not even one per cent of the untouchables are there recruited by these people. You say all kinds of loud things which is not a fact.

Dr. Katju: The whole point is this. That is what I am saying. My hon. friend has not done me the honour of hearing me. My point is, you go and offer yourself.

Shri Velayudhan: Myself.

Dr. Katju: Not you, of course. You won't do it, I know. But the whole question is, let members of the Scheduled Castes offer themselves for this National Volunteer Force.

Shri Velayudhan: They will not select them, that is the difficulty. People who are recruiting them will not select them. Why don't you understand this?

Some Hon. Members: rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. All cannot talk at the same time. I shall give opportunity to all Members.

Dr. Katju: You let me know, you write to me. I shall see to it that the evil is remedied. I am only saying this.....

Shri Dhusiya (Basti Distt.—Central—East Cum Gorakhpur Distt.—West—Reserved—Sch. Castes): By the time you see, the time is gone.

Dr. Katju: The time is not gone. Time is still there. Camps are being held. (interruptions).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. What I would urge upon the House is, it is a very important matter; there is no doubt about it. Hon. Members who have suggestions to make or questions to put up together and put some questions and the hon. Minister cannot answer. Let them hear the Minister. Time permitting, I will allow a few questions to be put, or whenever an hon. Member gets a turn, he may then speak also.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan (Krishnagiri): May I get one clarification?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not now. Let the hon. Minister go on.

*sioner for Scheduled
Castes and Scheduled
Tribes for 1953 and 1954*

Dr. Katju: I wanted to go on only for a few minutes, but.....

Shri Ramananda Das (Barrackpore): Everybody hears the hon. Minister, but the hon. Minister does not hear anybody.

Dr. Katju: Under the scheme a lakh of people are being trained for the National Volunteer Force. Two-hundred camps will be raised in India. It is impossible to raise 200 camps at one and the same time. The procedure, therefore, has been adopted of raising something like 20 or 21 camps every month, barring the rainy season. About 30 or 40 camps have already been raised. The rest will be raised. And we have taken the precaution of locating these camps in different parts of each State. I repeat this offer once again, that all these camps are open to every section of the Community. If any hon. Member comes to know that the recruiting officer is making any distinction against any section of the community—I am not merely confining myself to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes—or the residents of any particular area or anything, he had better write to me, write to the commander of the local area, better to write to me direct, and I shall see to it that this thing is removed. Otherwise, the whole object will fail. That is all I wish to say.

So far as the Army is concerned, I quite realise that so far as the number of non-combatants is concerned, the number of Scheduled Castes people is fairly substantial—17 per cent in one place, 18 per cent in one place. What we call civilian employees or non-combatants are roughly about 50 per cent, but I quite realise that the criticism may be that this only refers to lower grades and the number of officers is not as much as it ought to be. But I do suggest once again that you are going now in colleges and schools in large numbers. Join the N.C.C. Show your guts there and from the National Cadet Corps the cadets are directly chosen without any examination to the extent of 10 per cent and trained in Kadakvasla in the National Defence Academy. The

will is not wanting. My utmost anxiety is to make the Army as broad-based as I can, so that every single section of the community, whether they be Scheduled Castes, high castes, Hindus or Muslims etc., may say with pride, "this is our army, this is our Indian army."

Shri Kamath (Hoshangabad): On a point of clarification and further information, has not the position as regards recruitment improved in Jaora in particular, and Madhya Bharat in general, since the hon. Minister assumed charge? Secondly, what is the position as regards Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Navy—so far as ratings and officers are concerned—and in the Air Force.

Dr. Katju: The number is small, because there are qualifications, educational and otherwise. Firstly they attach great importance to physical fitness. I am sorry to say that the members of the Scheduled Castes do not at present come up to those standards. But the Navy is a very small Navy. The really important thing is the Armed Forces, that is, the Army.

Shri Kamath: My first question has not been answered. I wanted to know whether there has been an improvement in the recruitment position in Jaora in particular and Madhya Bharat in general.

Dr. Katju: My State? None whatsoever that I know of. I did not know that you were so much interested in Jaora.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the system of recruitment, the procedure, the tests, physical and otherwise, the psychological examinations etc., are all even now based on the old system followed by the British, with the result that the selection is not being made for a national army or a national military force as was the case in the past? I do not know whether any re-examination of these things has been made by the hon. Minister or his Ministry either

[Shri Velayudhan]

now or even in the past. I have got my doubt whether the hon. Minister himself knows about this system at all.

Then, let me tell you further.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How many questions is the hon. Member going to put?

Shri Velayudhan: I am coming to the second point.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Nobody can remember all the questions together.

Shri Velayudhan: This is connected with the other one. What is happening is that the recruitment is made by the officers in the services under the cover of all these tests etc. even now. Practically Government are deceived by the officers. The selection is made under the cover of all these tests, and there is a lot of favouritism and other things. I could give you one example.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I cannot allow the hon. Member to go on like this.

Dr. Katju: He is making a speech now.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He says that the present system of recruitment is not conducive to the object in view.

Dr. Katju: I entirely disagree, because I spent about four hours myself in Meerut to see this selection board business, and I found that they are not concerned with the community at all, nor are they concerned with the tract of the country from which a particular candidate comes. They are concerned only with the human being before them. They put him questions. They test him psychologically, and they put questions in that behalf, and all these questions are concerned with the personality of the candidate. Please remember that the army is not a joke. There may be a question of life and death, and therefore they put these questions.

Secondly, I should like to place before the House one other bit of information. The procedure for re-

cruitment is this. First, there is a written examination held by the UPSC. Roughly, about 4,000 people sit in that examination. In that examination, a candidate has to obtain a certain stated number of marks, before he can be called for the interview. The total number of marks is about 900 out of which 40 percent at least has to be secured by a candidate before he can be called for interview. Then, there are casualties before the selection board, in the psychological examination and other things. And the largest casualties after that are in before the medical board, because the medical boards are very much insistent on physical fitness; and I am sorry to say that most of our young men, irrespective of class and creed, irrespective of whether they are Brahmins, Muslims and so on, do not come up to the physical standards expected. Therefore, I want to disabuse the mind of my hon. friend opposite, when he says that the system of recruitment is some sort of an antediluvian system loaded against the Scheduled Caste and the poor people.

Shri Velayudhan: I did not say that. I said, it is so far all.

Dr. Katju: I say therefore that the system is perfectly all right.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: My hon. friend Shri Velayudhan said a little while ago that the number of entrants into the NCC was very low. May I know whether that is due to the fact that enough number of candidates did not offer themselves, or whether it is so because the candidates have been found to be unfit after they have offered themselves?

Dr. Katju: I am very happy to say that there has been a tremendous awakening on the part of the students. So far as the reports that I have received are concerned, they show that the students are eager to join the NCC; it is the financial trouble, or I may say, want of financial equilibrium that stands in the way. We are trying to straighten that out

At present, 50 per cent. of the cost is borne by the Centre, and 50 per cent by the States, and naturally the States jib at it a little. But I am trying to study the position, and I hope that the NCC will expand greatly during the next Five Year Plan period.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: You are referring to the Scheduled Castes?

Dr. Katju: Of course.

श्री बालमीकि (जिला बुलन्धर-रक्षित-अनुसूचित जातियां) : जब मामूली सिपाही के लिये भरती होती है, तो चूँकि ज्यादातर रिजर्विग आफिसरों मासियल रेसेज के होते हैं, इसलिये भी ज्यादातर हरिजनो को फौज में नहीं लिया जाता है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इस बारे में माननीय मंत्री का क्या विचार है ?

डा० काटजू : मुझे मालूम नहीं कि रिजर्विग आफिसरों कौनसी रेस के हैं—बे सभी रेसज के होते हैं और उनको हिदायत दी जाती है कि रिजर्विग के बक्त वह सिर्फ आदमी को देखें और कौमियत या जात बिरादरी को न देखें। अगर आनरेबल मेम्बर इस बारे में मुझे लिखेंगे, तो मैं तबज्जह करूँगा।

श्री नवल प्रभाकर (बाह्य दिल्ली-रक्षित अनुसूचित जातियां) : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आज भी सिख और राज-पूत रेजिमेंट के नाम से रेजिमेन्ट्स हैं और अगर हैं, तो क्यों ?

डा० काटजू : मैंने कहा है कि सिख रेजिमेंट भी है और जाट रेजिमेंट भी है और वे पिछले डेढ़ सौ बरसों से हैं। आपके पास सोल्जर साहब बैठे हैं। आप उनसे पोषीदा तौर पर पूछ लीजिये कि उनकी क्या हिस्ट्री है और क्या कार हाए-नुमायाँ हैं।

Shri S. L. Saksena (Gorakhpur Distt.—North): Let us resume the debate now. I also want to speak.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am calling upon Shri P. L. Kureel to speak now.

Shri Lakshmayya (Aanantpur): I am the president of a Harijan hostel. So, I may be given a chance to express my views on this important report.

Shri P. L. Kureel (Banda Distt. cum Fathepur Distt.—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to make a few observations in this House. When I spoke last time, I was accused of bitterness. Some of my hon. friends abused me for having expressed bitter sentiments in House. But whatever I said in the House I said with a good motive, and in good faith. I humbly submit that we say in this House whatever we actually feel as representatives of the Scheduled Castes. After all, we are answerable to the electorate we represent. If it was justifiable for us to fight against British domination, it is also justifiable for us to fight against the slavery that exists in the Hindu society today, and which is a hundred times more odious than the British domination.

Last time, I referred to the Treasury Benches being empty. I do not know why the Minister do not take any interest in the problems of the Scheduled Castes. Why are they so indifferent towards their problems? It appears that they have become physically thick-skinned and morally inexcitable. It is a national problem; they cannot ignore it. If they want to achieve national solidarity in the country, they have got to raise them to the level of other communities. This is not a small problem; this is a gigantic problem. Why do they take it so lightly. In 1954, I submitted a memorandum to the Planning Minister with a copy to the Planning Commission. I sent the memorandum on 21st May, 1954 and I received a reply after 1½ years, and that also a vague reply. I received the reply on August 8, 1955.

Shri Dhustya: Thank God he got a reply.

Shri P. L. Kureel: The reply was—"I am directed to say that the various suggestions contained in your

*sioner for Scheduled
Castes and Scheduled
Tribes for 1953 and 1954*

[Shri P. L. Kureel]

note are under examination and necessary action will be taken in due course." This is the indifference of the Government, this is the indifference of the Ministers. Why should we not be bitter in this House? After all, we are answerable to the electorate we represent.

I would like to thank the present Home Minister for having appointed a Scheduled Castes man on the Union Public Service Commission. I am also thankful to him for issuing various circular letters to the various Ministries for securing due representation of the Scheduled Castes in the Ministries, and also for the circular letter which he has very recently sent to the various Ministries for the promotion of Scheduled Castes officers.—It is a very important circular.

With this submission, I would like to say something about their representation in the services. In spite of the various attempts that have been made from time to time on the floor of this House and outside, the Scheduled Castes have not been able to secure proper representation in the services. Their representation in classes I, II and III of the Government of India services—I mean Central services—is very inadequate, and their representation in the higher administrative posts like I.A.S. and I.P.S. is notoriously inadequate; I would say, it is almost negligible. During the last four or five years, hundreds of Scheduled Castes have appeared in the competitive examinations. Only last year, 1954-55, 171 Scheduled Castes students appeared in the examination for IAS and 82 students appeared in the examination for IPS, and not one of them was taken in the IAS proper or IPS proper. There were many amongst them who qualified in the written test and also qualified in the viva voce test. But I do not know why they were not appointed in the IAS and IPS proper.

In this connection, I would like to point out two very important points. Firstly, the Scheduled Castes have

taken to education very late and it will be long before they will be in a position to compete with the major communities. Secondly, on account of social habits and training for centuries, certain communities in India have acquired the genius of passing examinations. Compare the son of a cobbler with the son of a judge. The son of a judge is borne and brought up in a favourable atmosphere, he is well fed, he has a certain amount of leisure that helps in developing his mental and physical faculties. The poor cobbler's son is borne and brought up in ignorance, superstition and economic distress. He is worried about his family because they are married at an early stage. So compare the atmosphere there with the environment here. At every step, the judge's son learns something, his relatives are educated, his friends are educated, he moves in a cultured society where educated and enlightend people are there, whereas the poor cobbler's son has friends who are illiterate and relatives who are ignorant. So you cannot expect the cobbler's son to compete with the judge's son. This is a natural difference. Besides this, when a man is hungry, when his belly is empty, it is natural for him to react differently from the man who is satisfied and has something to fill his belly. So this difference of environment and training has got to be taken into account.

I have got to make one very important suggestion in this respect. I would refer to the Government of India Resolution, 1934, from which I would like to read out a small paragraph:

"In order to secure fair representation for the depressed classes, duly qualified members of these classes may be nominated to the public service, even though recruitment to that service is being made by competition. Members of these classes if appointed by nomination, will not count against the percentages reserved in accordance with clause 1 above".

sioner for Scheduled
Castes and Scheduled
Tribes for 1953 and 1954

So even if reservation is there, the Scheduled Caste people are not in a position to compete with Caste Hindu candidates. I would request the Government to select Scheduled Caste people by nomination. If in the year 1934, the Government of that time, could select Scheduled Caste people by nomination, I think the present Government can certainly select some capable Scheduled Caste candidates by nomination. Let there be an all-India competition which should be open only to Scheduled Caste candidates, and you take some of them. If you take some of them, I think there is no reason why their representation in the higher administrative services should not improve. I know two Scheduled Caste I.C.S. officers who were taken by nomination. I can assure you Sir, as well as this House, that they are doing better than those candidates who have been taken by competition. I know officers in the States, belonging to the provincial civil service. They were taken by nomination. I know quite a number of them; they are very efficient in their duties. I would request the Home Minister and the Deputy Home Minister to see that if Scheduled Caste candidates do not come in by competition, they are selected by nomination. This is one submission.

As regard promotions, they are generally made on two grounds, efficiency and seniority. If a Scheduled Caste happens to be senior, his case is rejected on the made up excuse of his being incompetent; if he is competent, his case is rejected on the plea of his being junior. I know a number of Scheduled Caste officers in class I and in other categories where they have been superseded by junior officers. I know certain officers in the CPWD, I know certain officers in other Ministries who have been superseded. I do not want to name them, because their case might be prejudiced. But I would request Government to see that if there is any suppression of promotion in the case of a Scheduled Caste officer, even if

he is rejected by the DPC and the rejection is ratified by the UPSC, the case should be considered by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. Every such case must go before the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. It should be decided at a higher level; it should not be left to the Minister or the officers in the Ministry, even if the rejection is ratified by the UPSC because a member of the UPSC happens to be chairman of the DPC; so naturally UPSC cannot go against the wishes of the DPC—I would request the Government to see that every such case of suppression of promotion goes before the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

The second thing I would like to emphasize is this. Whenever we ask that Scheduled Caste men should be appointed on higher diplomatic posts it is said that candidates with the requisite qualifications are not available, that it requires talent of a very high order. I do admit it is so, and it should be so. But do they think that people with the requisite qualifications are really not available among the Scheduled Castes? When they say that, do they know what they mean? It is an insult to the work of Mahatma Gandhi in this country. It is an insult to the work of all the progressive agencies working for the uplift of the Scheduled Castes? It is a challenge to the work of the ruling party, the party in power; it is a challenge to the uplift work that they themselves have done for the Scheduled Castes.

If they really feel and decide that the Scheduled Caste people should be appointed, I think there is no reason why they should not be available. For instance, Shri Pillai, who has recently been appointed a member of the Union Public Service Commission, could have been appointed in 1945. I do not know what additional qualification he has aquired during this period. Similarly, Shri M. L. Das who has been taken as a member of the Railway Service Commission could have been appointed in 1944 or 1945 when he was a Member of the Council of States here. I do not know

[Shri P. L. Kureel]

what additional qualifications these two gentlemen have acquired in the mean time.

It is a question of realising the necessity. It is a question of what you feel for the Scheduled Castes. If you feel for the Scheduled Castes I think you will be able to find many capable Scheduled Caste men in the country.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This Government was not in office in 1945.

Shri P. L. Kureel: One more point which I would like to place before the House is this. Army service plays an important role in the regeneration of a people. It carries with it not only administrative authority but also social prestige. But I am sorry to say that the representation of the Scheduled Castes in the Army is negligible. I would like to remind you, Sir, and the House the resolution which I moved in the Central Assembly in 1943 that the Scheduled Castes should be recruited to the combatant ranks of the Army. The resolution was accepted by the Government. During the discussion of the First Report of the Commissioner I referred to this resolution. Several Scheduled Caste regiments were raised, the Chamar Regiment, the Mahar Regiment, the Bihar Regiment. I asked the question why they were disbanded after the war and why no effort was made by the national Government to see that these Scheduled Caste people also continued to have representation in the Army. In spite of my having referred to this question during the discussion of the First Report of the Commissioner, nothing has been said or done by Government.

In this connection, so far as their martial qualities are concerned I would ask you, Sir, to see the great monument at Koregaon; it is a living testimony to that. And as regards the services of the regiments which were raised during the war, the then Commander-in-Chief paid very high tributes to the services rendered by the Chamar Regiments. I shall just

read out from the press report issued in 1945:

"Fighting in the Chamar Regiment, one of the youngest infantry regiments of the Indian Army, scheduled class Chamars have been in action in Burma since September, 1943.

Although mostly engaged in patrol activities and guarding lines of communication, the Chamars have had many brushes with the Japs and have inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy.

First recruited in June 1943, the Chamars formed the 27th Battalion of the second Punjab Regiment."

It is a big note. Suffice it to say that the Scheduled Castes are second to none in their ability to fight. But the trouble is that the officers in the Indian Army suffer from the notions of martial and non-martial classes. The last war has exploded this myth of martial and non-martial classes. It is a fact that the people who belong to the so-called non-martial classes can also prove that they can be useful if they are given an opportunity and appointed in the Army. For instance, some of the ex-criminal tribes belong to some of the bravest people in the country; similarly are the Mahars to which class Dr. Ambedkar belongs. The Mahars Regiment has been made permanent for which I am thankful to the Defence Ministry. But the Chamars Regiment has been disbanded, and I strongly protest against that.

One more point I would like to make, and that is that all the M & R Regiments which mostly consisted of Scheduled Caste people have now been re-named as the Sikh Light Infantry, and the whole credit is taken away by the Sikhs. I would ask that the name of these regiments should be changed.

Even if I admit that these people do not belong to the martial classes it is the duty of the national Government to make them a martial community. The Sikhs were not a martial community during the time of

Guru Nanak. The Sikhs became martial during the time of Guru Govind Singh and Guru Tegh Bahadur. The circumstances made them a martial community. Even if for the sake of argument I admit that they do not belong to the martial community, it is the duty of the Government to see that they become a martial community. Every man is a soldier at the time of war. We lost our freedom because we failed to think in terms of countrymen and only one-fourth of the total population was allowed to carry sword. I would request the Government and particularly the Defence Minister to issue special instructions to the authorities. Have a special committee for the appointment of Scheduled Caste people in the Army. Unless this is done I doubt that there will ever be enough representation of the Scheduled Caste people in the Army.

डा० कामले (नान्देड-रक्षित-अनुसूचित जातियां) : शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट कमिश्नर की रिपोर्ट में ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ी उस पर और किया और मैं इस नतीजे पर आया कि कमिश्नर की की हुई सिकांरिशों पर अगर सरकार ने चौथाई भी धमल किया तो हरिजनों की समस्या हल हो जायगी। परन्तु सरकार निहायत सुस्त है और इस मामले में लापरवाही कर रही है और अगर इसी धीमी और सुस्त चाल से वह कदम उठाती रही तो दस साल तो क्या सौ साल में हरिजनों का प्रश्न हल न होगा।

१९३२ में पूना पैक्ट हुआ और २० साल में हरिजनों की समस्या को हल करने का वायदा किया था परन्तु आज तक यह सवाल हल होना बाकी है। महात्मा जी ने पूना पैक्ट के वक्त हिंदू समाज पर बड़ा उपकार किया। उन्होंने हरिजनों पर कोई उपकार नहीं किया बल्कि पूना पैक्ट में एक राजकीय दृष्टिकोण था, जिसकी वजह से हरिजनों को स्वतंत्र मतदान संघ नहीं मिला।

अगर पूना पैक्ट न होता और हरिजनों को स्वतंत्र मतदान संघ मिलता तो आज पाकिस्तान की तरह दलितस्थान भी क्रायम हो जाता, परन्तु महात्मा गांधी ने देश पर और हिंदू समाज पर बड़ा उपकार किया है लेकिन दुःख की बात है कि हिंदू समाज पूना पैक्ट बूल गया है।

जहां तक सरकारी नौकरियों में हरिजनों के लिये सुरक्षित स्थान रखने का प्रश्न है उसके लिये मेरा कहना यह है कि शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट कमिश्नर की रिपोर्ट देखने से साफ जाहिर होता है कि हरिजनों और गिरिजनों के लिये कोटा मुकर्रर होता है, उस पर कोई मुहकमा धमल नहीं करता और वह कोटा सिर्फ कागज पर ही लिखा धरा रह जाता है राज्य सरकारों और केन्द्रीय सरकार का ध्यान ही नहीं है। अगर हरिजनों को उनका मुकर्रर कोटा मिला होता तो उनका आर्थिक प्रश्न हल होता, परन्तु दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि राज्य सरकारों और केन्द्रीय सरकार का कोई भी मुहकमा इस पर धमल नहीं करता और हरिजनों को उनके लिये रक्षित कोटा नहीं मिलता मैं दावे के साथ कहता हूँ कि सरकार के किसी भी मुहकमे में रक्षित कोटे पर धमल नहीं होता है। जब रिजर्वेशन है तब यह हाल है, रिजर्वेशन खत्म होने के बाद क्या हाल होगा, यह परमात्मा ही जाने। गवर्नमेंट विचार कर रही है कि हरिजनों को जो सुरक्षित कोटा दिया जा रहा है, वह किस तरह कम किया जाय।

जनरल एलेक्शन में हैदराबाद प्रसेम्बली में हरिजनों की ३१ सीटें थीं और इस हिसाब से कांसिल आफ स्टेट में हरिजनों के दो सदस्य थे, परन्तु हाल ही में जो जन गणना हुई है उसमें ३१ की बजाय २६ सीट्स क्रायम की गई और राज्य सभा में हैदराबाद से

[डा० कामल]

एक भी हरिजन प्रतिनिधि नहीं है, उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यहां पर दीपक के नीचे घोर भ्रंशकार है और जहां भ्रंशेरा ही भ्रंशेरा हो, वहां पर क्या हाल होगा, यह आप समझ सकते हैं।

अस्पृश्यता हिन्दू धर्म पर कलंक है और यह हमारे दुर्भाग्य के सिवाय और क्या हो सकता है कि हमारे देश और समाज में इतने भ्रवतार, संत, महात्मा और समाज सुधारक पैदा होने के बावजूद यह कलंक अभी तक क्रायम है। अस्पृश्यता हिन्दू समाज की आध्यात्मिक प्रवृत्ति है और यह उसको माता के दूध के साथ विरासत में मिली है। और जब तक हिन्दुओं के प्राचीन धर्म ग्रन्थों की रचनाओं को बदला न जाय, अस्पृश्यता का नष्ट होना असम्भव है। रामायण में भगवान राम ने शंभूक को सिर्फ इसलिये मारा क्योंकि वह अश्रद्ध था। मनुस्मृति में मनु ने स्पष्ट कहा है कि ब्राह्मण श्रेष्ठ और शूद्र कनिष्ठ, इसलिये शूद्र को वेद के अध्ययन का अधिकार नहीं है। जगद्गुरु शंकराचार्य ने भ्रवैत मत का प्रचार किया परन्तु वह सिर्फ काताज की हद तक ही रहा, व्यवहार में द्वैत भाव क्रायम रखा, भ्रवति में ब्राह्मण हूँ और तू शूद्र है, यह व्यवहार रहा है और अभी भी है। रामायण के रचयिता गोस्वामी तुलसीदास ने भी कहा है कि डोल, गंवार, शूद्र, पशु, नारी, यह सब ताड़न के अधिकारी। जब इन बड़े बड़े महापुरुषों और संतों का यह हाल है तो सामान्य हिन्दू जन से आप क्या उम्मीद रख सकते हैं। हिन्दू प्रो लकीर का फकीर है। मैं हिन्दू धर्म मार्तण्डों से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि उनके पास इच्छा क्या उत्तर है कि जिस तरह ईसाई लोग एक चर्च में जाकर प्रार्थना करते हैं, मुसलमान लोग एक मस्जिद में जाकर नमाज पढ़ते हैं और इबादत करते हैं, उसी तरह क्या हिन्दू जाति के सारे लोग

मिलकर एक साथ मंदिर में भगवान को प्रार्थना करते हैं? एक सनातनी ब्राह्मण एक अश्रद्ध हिन्दू को देखकर उसी तरह भ्रिन्न-कता है जिस तरह एक पागल कुत्ता पानी को देखकर भ्रिन्नकता है, ऐसी सूरत में एक साथ पूजा व प्रार्थना करना तो एक नामुमकिन सी बात हो जाती है। इसके विपरीत हरिजन लोगों को परधर्मियों से आदर और सम्मान मिलता है परन्तु स्वधर्मी हिन्दू से घृणा और अपमान ही उसको मिलता है और सर्वधर्म हिन्दुओं के इस तरह के व्यवहार के कारण हमारे बहुत से हरिजन भाई धर्म छोड़कर ईसाई हो रहे हैं। असल बात यह है।

परन्तु विष्णु संतोषी धर्म के ठेकेदार वह पसन्द नहीं करते। उनकी मनोवृत्ति है कि हरिजन जिस हालत में पहले थे उसी हालत में रहें। और वह हिन्दू समाज का आधिक सामाजिक तथा धार्मिक गुलाम बना रहे। और हमेशा हिन्दू के द्वार पर याचक जैसा पड़ा रहे। हरिजन समाज की उन्नति हिन्दू व्यक्ति फूटी आंसू से देखना भी पसन्द नहीं करते। यह है-हरिजनों के प्रति हिन्दू समाज की मनोवृत्ति जो हिन्दू व्यक्ति को अपने माता के दूध के साथ मिली है। इसका सरकार के पास क्या इलाज है और शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स कमिश्नर ने इसको दूर करने के लिये क्या सुझाव दिया है? रोजाना अखबारों में खबरें आती हैं कि यहां पर हरिजनों पर यह अत्याचार हुआ, उस गांव में हरिजन को होटल से निकाल दिया, इस जगह मंदिर में नहीं जाने दिया। परन्तु अफसोस है कि शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स कमिश्नर ने इस जुस्म वह अत्याचार का कहीं भी जिक्र नहीं किया है। जहां पर विनोबा भावे जैसे संत को जूते मिलते हैं वहां पर गरीब व बेजबान हरिजनों का क्या हाल होगा, यह बयान से बाहर की बात है।

1 P.M.

अमरीका में भारतीय हाईकमिश्नर को अमेरिकन हवाई ग्रुप के होटल से निकाल देने से दुनिया के प्रसिद्धियों में खबरें छापी गई और उनसे माफी मांगी गई, परन्तु भारतवर्ष के ग्राम के होटलों में रोजगारी कितने हरिजनों को अपमानित कण्ठे बाहर निकाल दिया जाता है और बेइज्जती की जाती है, इस पर सरकार ने कभी विचार ही नहीं किया। अफ्रीका में अंग्रेज भारतीयों के साथ अस्मृश्य जैसा व्यवहार करते हैं, उन पर तो हर भारतीय को गुस्सा आता है, परन्तु हमारे भारत में अपने घर में हरिजनों के प्रति कैसा बर्ताव होता है इस पर भारतवासी कभी शीर ही नहीं करते।

हरिजनों का मसला एक राष्ट्रीय मसला है सरकार ने जिस तरह रिफ्यूजियों का मसला राष्ट्रीय मसला समझकर हल किया उसी तरह इस मसले को भी हल करना चाहिये। इसके लिये एक स्वतंत्र मंत्रालय कायम करना चाहिये। मैं जब पार्लियामेंट का मेम्बर चुना गया, उसी वक्त राष्ट्रपति, पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू, पंत प्रधान, अध्यक्ष अल इंडिया कांग्रेस कमेटी, और प्लानिंग मिनिस्टर श्री गुलजारीलाल नन्दा की सेवा में हरिजन उन्नति के लिये एक योजना तैयार करके रवाना की थी कि हरिजनों का मसला हल करने के लिये एक पंचवर्षिय योजना बनाई जाय और कम से कम सौ १०० करोड़ रुपये मंजूर करके एक स्वतंत्र मंत्रालय कायम किया जाय। परन्तु उसकी ओर कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया गया। रिजर्वेशन की मुद्दा सिर्फ ६ साल बाकी है और हरिजन कार्य अभी ४ आने भी नहीं हुआ है।

साबिक गृह मंत्री काटजू साहब ने प्रसंग मंत्रालय का घोर विरोध किया था और एक सभा में उत्तर दिया था कि मैं खुद हरिजन हूँ और हरिजन मंत्री के नाते इतना ही हरिजनों का कल्याण कर सकता हूँ। बल्कि उससे ज्यादा कर सकता हूँ।

मैं खुद अपने आप को हरिजन समझता हूँ पूज्य काटजू साहब के प्रति हमारे दिल में आदर हो वह हरिजन मंत्री से ज्यादा हरिजनों का कल्याण कर सकते हैं। इस बारे में सन्देह नहीं परन्तु मैं उन को नभ्रता से जवाब देना चाहता हूँ। महाराष्ट्र के प्रसिद्ध संत तुकाराम महाराज कहते हैं :

“परणयेतलामासा निद्राघेतो कैसा जाये त्याचा वंसा तेज्हां कडे”

पानी में जो मछली रहती है वह किस तरह नींद लेती है अगर यह मालूम करना हो तो मछली के पेट में जन्म लो तभी मालूम होगा पूज्य महात्मा गांधी ने कहा था कि मुझे स्वर्ग नहीं होना चाहिये मुझे मोक्ष नहीं होना चाहिये मुझे एक भंगी के घर जन्म मिलना चाहिये ताकि मैं हरिजनों की परिस्थिति पूर्ण रूप से मालूम कर सकूँ और उन की योग्य सेवा कर सकूँ जब तुकाराम महाराज और महात्मा गांधी हरिजनों की परिस्थिति का एहसास नहीं कर सकते तो हमारे साबिक गृह मंत्री काटजू साहब कैसे हरिजन बन सकते हैं, यह आपश्चर्य है। बन्ध्या क्या जाने प्रसूति वेदना? हरिजनों का दर्द सिर्फ हरिजन ही जानते हैं। जिस तरह डा० अम्बेडकर और जगजीवनराम महसूस कर सकते हैं उस तरह काटजू साहब नहीं महसूस कर सकते इसीलिये इस मसले को हल करने के लिये एक हरिजन मंत्री नियुक्त करना चाहिये। मैं अपना अनुभव आपको बताता हूँ। मैं खुद टैरिटोरियल प्रार्मी में चुनाव के लिये गया था। मेरठ में सेलेक्शन का काम होने बाधा था। मैं मेडीकल टैस्ट, फिजिकल टैस्ट बगैरह सब में फिट (योग्य) आया था, मेरे साथ २४ और लड़के भी थे। मेरा बँच नं० १८२० और चैस्ट नं० १३ था। उन २४ में से सिर्फ मैं हरिजन था और बाकी २३ हरिजन थे। उनमें से ३ एन० सी० सी० का सर्टीफिकेट पाये हुये भी थे। उनमें से ७ आदमियों को आखिरी चुनाव के लिये छांटा गया, लेकिन बाद में सेलेक्शन बोर्ड ने जिसके

[डा कामले]

चेयरमैन-कर्मल दुबे थे, एक भी आदमी नहीं लिया। मैंने इसके लिये बड़ी दौड़भूप की, पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू और श्री त्यागी तक भी पहुंचा, लेकिन इसमें कुछ नहीं हो सका।

महाशय, इसलिये मैं बहुत नम्रतापूर्वक आपसे कहना हूँ कि इस काम के लिये एक अलग मंत्रालय खोलना चाहिये। अगर ६० लाख निर्वासितों का मसला हल करने के लिये अलग मंत्रालय कायम किया जा सकता है तो ६ करोड़ हरिजनों का मसला हल करने के लिये जो हजारों साल से निर्वासित और दलित हैं, क्यों न अलग मंत्रालय बनाया जाय? इस सदन में जितने गिरिजन और हरिजन सदस्य हैं सब इसके अनुकूल हैं और ये सब हरिजन और गिरिजन सदस्यों की मांग है। जनाबभाली जब गुलाम को उसकी गुलामी का एहसास नहीं होगा तब तक ही वह अपने मालिक का गुलाम रहेगा, जिस बक्त उसको अपनी गुलामी का ज्ञान होगा उसी वक्त वह बग़ावत करेगा और गुलामी के बन्धन को तोड़ देगा। इसलिये जब तक यहां हरिजन प्रतिनिधि शान्त बैठे हुये हैं तब तक ही सरकार दया और उपकार की भावना को छोड़कर इस काम को एक राष्ट्रीय कार्य समझकर और हरिजनों का सामाजिक अधिकार मानकर उनके लिये कम से कम १०० करोड़ रुपये की एक पंच वर्षीय योजना बनाये और एक स्वतंत्र मंत्रालय ख़ास इस काम के लिये कायम किया जाय। इसी में हरिजनों का और देश का कल्याण होगा, वर्ना बाद में बिगड़ी हुई हालत को बनाने में देश का बड़ा नुक़सान होगा। महाशय, जब रजाकार गवर्न-मेंट जो सबसे बुरी गवर्नमेंट कही जाती थी उसने हरिजनों की उन्नति के लिये हैदराबाद में १ करोड़ रुपये बिया था, तो हमारी भारत सरकार के लिये १०० करोड़ रूपया खर्च कर देना कोई बहुत बड़ी बात नहीं है और उसको इसमें आपत्ति नहीं होनी चाहिये।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं जानता हूँ कि सरकार हरिजन उन्नति के लिये पानी की तरह रुपया उदारता से खर्च कर रही है, हरिजनों के हितों की रक्षा करने वाली कई संस्थायें जिनको सरकार मुक्त हाथ से मदद दे रही है, परन्तु मुझे अफ़सोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि सरकार के धीवमय की यह गंवा गरीब हरिजन की झोंपड़ी तक पहुंचने के पहले ही सूख जाती है। ऊपर से हरिजनों के हितों की रक्षा करने वाली संस्थायें वास्तव में कफ़नचोरों की जमातें हैं। यह संस्थायें पहला और आखिरी मौका समझकर उससे ख़ुब फायदा उठा रही हैं। सरकार को सावधान हो कर ऐसी संस्थाओं को कोई रक़म न देना चाहिये, और यदि बिया भी हो तो उसकी पूरी जांच पड़ताल करनी चाहिए। और इन के तबस्सत में मदद देने की बजाय यग्य हरिजनों की सीधी मदद करनी चाहिये।

हन्दू समाज की तरह से हरिजनों में भी अलग अलग जातियां हैं और अज्ञान की वजह से उनमें काफी मतभेद है। इनके आपसी झगड़ों की वजह से समासी जमातें और उनके लीडर बन्दर के इन्साफ़ की तरह फायदा उठा रहे हैं। जिस तरह बन्दर के इन्साफ़ में दो बिल्लियां आपस में मक्खन के डले के लिये संड़ती हैं और उसकी तकसीम के लिये बन्दर के हवाले करती हैं, और वह बन्दर जिधर वज़न ज्यादा होता है उस बाजू का मक्खन खाता है और आखिरकार सारा हड़प कर लेता है, और दोनों बिल्लियां बैठी मुंह ताकती रह जाती हैं। यही हाल हैदराबाद में हुआ है। मराठाबाड़े के एक भी जिले को अनटचैबिलिटी रिमूवल के लिये सरकार से कोई रक़म नहीं मिली, न अस्पृश्यता निवारण पैम्फ़लेट या पत्रक मिले और न प्रचार से मेरी नम्र बिनती है कि इसकी निगरानी रक्खी जाय और जो भी रक़म सरकार से मंज़ूर हो वह किसी संस्था या व्यक्ति को न

देकर, एक सलाहकार समिति कायम की जाय और उस कमटी की सलाह से रकम दी जाय, तभी हरिजन समाज को फायदा पहुंचेगा।

सरकार ने जो अनटचैबिलिटी आफ्फेन्स बिल पास किया है, उसकी इतना अभी तक कलेक्टर और डी० एस० पी० जैसे जिम्मेदार अफसरों को नहीं है। हैबराबाद के मराठा-बाड़ा इलाके में अधिक अस्पृश्यता कायम है। श्रीमान दातार साहब को जब वह परभनी के दौरे पर आये थे तो यह परिस्थिति बताई गई थी। वहाँ के होटलों में अभी तक चाय के कप हरिजनों के लिये बाहर रखे हुये हैं। हज्जाम हजामत नहीं बनाता, धोबी कपड़े नहीं धोता, बावलियों पर हरिजन पानी नहीं ले सकते। यह हाल है। इसलिये इस बिल पर अमल करने का ह्वम तमाम माल और पुलिस अफसरों को देना चाहिये और उसकी माहवारी रिपोर्ट देखनी चाहिये साथ ही देश में काफी प्रचार और प्रोपेगेन्डा करना चाहिये। जो सरकारी बावलियाँ हैं वह सब के लिये खुली करनी चाहिये। होटल हेयर कटिंग सेलून व लांड्री वाले अगर छूत छात मानते हैं तो उनको लाइसेंस ही न देना चाहिये। इससे काफी असर पड़ेगा।

आखिर में मैं पंडित पंत से जो हमारें गृह मंत्री हैं और अन्नाहम लिंकन और प्रिंस बिस्मार्क जैसे कुशल राजनीतिज्ञ हैं, नम्र विनती करूंगा कि हिन्दुस्तान के हरिजनों की गुलामी नष्ट करके उन को समता का और सामाजिक दर्जा दिलाने के लिये, मुकर्रर मुद्दत में अस्पृश्यता नष्ट करने के लिये व स्वतन्त्र भारत के नागरिक होने के नाते इज्जत और मान का दर्जा दिलाने के लिये उचित कदम उठावें।

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava
(Gurgaon) rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am sorry I am not able to afford time.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: One hour was given both to the Deputy Minister and the hon. Minister for Defence. The Defence Minister himself has taken more than 30 minutes. It is from the non-official Members' time that he has taken up. It was said that the Deputy Minister would take 45 minutes and Dr. Katju would take up 15 minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Fifteen minutes were devoted to his speech and 15 minutes were taken up in answering questions.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: In that way he has taken more than half an hour, about 45 minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No; he has taken only half an hour. He began at 12-07 and completed by 12-37, just half an hour. Fifteen or twenty minutes were taken up by questions.

Shri Bogawat (Ahmednagar South): When we made a request to the Speaker he said.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The same Speaker has asked me to call upon the Deputy Minister at one o'clock. I find so many hon. Members standing.

Shri Bogawat: The Deputy Minister will have no objection to giving a few minutes to others.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is Swami Ramanand Shastri; he comes from the community.

Shri Balmiki: I also want to express my views, Sir.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: There were a number of speakers from the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. For two days every Member of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was given an opportunity. Almost 90 per cent of them were given an opportunity to speak. We wanted at least one or two hours. Therefore, we thought that this time will be given to those other persons who

[Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava]

had something to say. We also want to express our views and give suggestions for future work. We are also as concerned in this matter as the Members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Shri Bogawat: There was a proposal to extend the time.

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): I may suggest that one Scheduled Caste Member and one non-Scheduled Caste Member may be allowed to speak.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: One more? Yes, then Shri Ramanand Shastri.

स्वामी रामानन्द शास्त्री (जिला उन्नाव व जिला रायबरेली-पश्चिम व जिला हरदोई-दक्षिण-पूर्व-रक्षित-घनुसूचित जातियां): इस रिपोर्ट पर काफी बहस हो चुकी है और बहुत से सदस्यों ने उसमें भाग भी लिया है और करीब करीब सभी पहलुओं पर अपने विचार भी प्रकट किए हैं मैं समझता हूँ कि अब कोई विषय बात कहने को नहीं रह गई है लेकिन फिर भी दो बार बातें हैं जिन की ओर मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ भारत जो जनता रूपी एक सरीर है और उसमें जो पिछड़े वर्ग हैं जब तक उनका उत्थान नहीं किया जाता, हमारा राष्ट्र उन्नति नहीं कर सकता है मैं समझता हूँ कि केवल अस्पृश्यता मिटाने से ही ये लोग उन्नति नहीं कर सकते और उनकी समस्याएँ हल नहीं हो सकतीं। मैं मानता हूँ कि अस्पृश्यता को मिटाना एक बहुत जरूरी चीज है लेकिन इसके साथ साथ और भी बहुत से काम हैं जो हम ने करने हैं। उनकी जो आर्थिक अवस्था है वह बहुत ही सोचनीय है और आप जब तक उनकी आर्थिक अवस्था अच्छी नहीं बनाते तब तक आप छुआछूत को भी नहीं मिटा सकते। आप दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना बना रहे हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं सरकार का ध्यान

इस ओर खींचना चाहता हूँ कि उनमें बेकारी बहुत बढ़ रही है और उनकी आर्थिक दशा को भी सुधारने की आवश्यकता है। मेरा सुझाव है कि उनमें से बेकारी को दूर करने के लिये और उनमें छोटे छोटे उद्योग धंधे चलाने के लिये सरकार एक अरब रुपये की व्यवस्था इस योजना में करे।

एक माननीय सदस्य : दो अरब रुपया।

स्वामी रामानन्द शास्त्री : यदि आप इतना रुपया नहीं रखते हैं तो मैं समझता हूँ आप उनकी सहायता जिस हद तक करनी चाहिये आप नहीं कर सकेंगे और उनकी दशा नहीं सुधरेगी। जो भाषण इस सदन में हुये हैं और जो बातें माननीय सदस्यों ने कही हैं मुझे मालूम है उनका उत्तर आप देंगे, लेकिन केवल उत्तर देने से और आश्वासन देने से काम नहीं चलेगा। जब तक हम सक्रिय रूप से उनकी आर्थिक दशा सुधारने का प्रयत्न नहीं करते ऊंचे नहीं उठ सकते तो उनकी समस्याएँ हीं वे हल नहीं हो सकतीं।

जो उनकी छोटी छोटी समस्याएँ हैं लेकिन जिनको मैं बहुत गम्भीर समझता हूँ, उनकी तरफ मैं आपका ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूँ। गांव के घन्दर एक एक घर में १०-१० और १२-१२ आदमी रहते हैं। १०-१५ फुट के मकान में यदि १०-१२ आदमी रहें तो आप भंसाजा नग सकते हैं कि जिस घर में उसका लड़का भी रहता है, उसकी बहू भी रहती है, उसके दूसरे बाल-बच्चे भी रहते हैं उनकी कैसी बुरी हालत होती होगी। इस तरह से एक तो समस्या उनके लिये रहने के लिये मकानों की है। इसके बारे में मेरा सुझाव है कि जो जमीनें इन जमींदारों के पास और जिन पर इन्होंने किसी तरीके से भी अधिकार किया हुआ है वह जमीनें इन लोगों को दे दी जाए और अगर वह जमीन कम है तो इनको भी व जमीन दी जाये ताकि ये लोग छोटा

मोटा मकान बनाकर रह सकें। मकान बनाने के लिये भी मेरा सुझाव है, कि इनको आर्थिक सहायता दी जाये।

दूसरी चीज जो मैं कहना चाहता हूँ वह इनमें जो बेकारी फैली हुई है उसके बारे में है। इसके लिये मेरा सुझाव है कि जोतने के लिये इन लोगों को कुछ जमीन दिलाई जाये और साथ ही साथ इनको आर्थिक सहायता दी जाये ऐसा करने से एक तो उनमें से बेकारी दूर हो सकेगी और दूसरे कुछ अस्पृश्यता भी मिट सकेगी। मेरा खयाल है आपके पास अभी बहुत सी जमीन पड़ी हुई है और अगर उसमें से इन लोगों को जोतने के लिये और मकान बनाने के लिये जमीन दे दी जाये तो एक तो लोग जमींदारों के पंजों से निकल सकेंगे और दूसरे इनकी आर्थिक हालत भी अच्छी हो सकेगी जिससे अस्पृश्यता भी कुछ हद तक दूर हो जायेगी।

पिछले दिनों मैं राजस्थान गया था और आज ही वहाँ से आया हूँ और वहाँ के लोगों से मुझे मालूम हुआ कि राजस्थान में तो हरिजनों की बहुत ही बुरी हालत है। वहाँ की जो मिनिस्ट्री है उसकी भी कुछ ऐसी ही हालत है। वह मिनिस्ट्री ऊपर से कुछ और है और भीतर से कुछ और ही है। भाई बारूपाल ने अपने भाषण में कई बातें बताई हैं। परसों पंत जी भी वहीं पर थे। मुझे वहाँ के जो लोग हैं उनसे मालूम हुआ है कि राजस्थान में यह हालत है कि कलेक्टरों के उस कानून के बारे में जो कि पार्लियामेंट ने पास किया है कि अस्पृश्यता एक अपराध है, सरकार की तरफ से कोई सर्क्यूलर ही नहीं अभी तक भेजा गया है। इसका नतीजा यह हुआ है कि वहाँ पर कोई केस ही रजिस्टर नहीं किये जा रहे हैं और जो लोग जाते हैं उनको निराश वापस आना पड़ता है।

नौकरियों में जो हरिजनों की हासल होती है वह आपको मालूम ही है। १९५४

में मैंने एक रामजी दास जो इस्टर्न कोर्ट में काम करता है और जिसने सुराही को छु लिया था उसकी बात बतलाई थी। उसको खूब मारा और पीटा गया था। एक डी० डी० गुप्ता प्रिंसिपल इंजिनियर है उसको दरखास्त भी दी गई थी और उन्होंने उसको फाड़ दिया। धानरेबल संचार मंत्री का ध्यान भी आकर्षित किया गया था लेकिन कुछ भी नहीं हुआ। मैं तो कहता हूँ कि यह अफसर इतने कमीन हैं कि ये रिपोर्ट का जवाब तक नहीं देते।

श्री बारुमीक : कर्महीन कहिये।

स्वामी रामानन्द शास्त्री : दोनों का एक ही मतलब है। साथ ही साथ मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि दफतरो में इन लोगों की पानी पीने या पिलाने के लिए लोटा छने नहीं दिया जाता है। मेरे कहने के कारण अगर किसी को दुख हुआ हो तो मेरी उससे प्रार्थना है कि वह उस गलती को सुधार करके धाबे से ठीक तरह से काम करे और जो वह कहता है वही करे।

मेरी प्रार्थना यह है कि जब तक आप उनकी आर्थिक दशा सुधारते नहीं है तब तक यह समस्याएँ हल हो नहीं सकती हैं। मैंने दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में एक प्रारम्भ रूपया अलग रखने की मांग की है और मैं चाहता हूँ कि वह कम से कम धन राशि है जो कि जरूर ही रखी जाये। इस रुपये से उनमें छोटे छोटे जो घरेलू धंधे हैं उनको चलाने में मदद मिलनी चाहिये। साथ ही साथ उनकी सामूहिक रूप में कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटीज बना दी जायें जिनमें आधा रूपया सरकार का हो और बाकी का आधा रूपया सोसाइटी को इकट्ठा करना चाहिये। ऐसा करने से उनकी जो आर्थिक दशा है उसमें सुधार लाया जा सकता है।

छुआछूत के सम्बन्ध में मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि हमारी सरकार छुआछूत दूर करके के लिये काफ़ी रूपया दे रही है लेकिन मैं

[स्वामी रामानन्द शास्त्री]

समझता हूँ कि यह रूपया घाटे में नमक के बराबर है। साथ ही साथ मैं समझता हूँ कि केवल रूपया दे देने से ही काम नहीं बनेगा। मेरा खयाल है कि हमारे जितने भी गांव हैं और जितनी भी पंचायतें हैं या शहर हैं उन सब में जो कानून हमने अस्पृश्यता के बारे में पास किया है उसको हर एक प्रांतीय भाषा और हिंदी में छपवाकर बांटा जाय और यह भी कहा जाये कि जिस अफसर के हलके में किसी किस्म का भी किस्सा होगा उस अफसर को बरखास्त कर दिया जायेगा। जब तक आप इस तरह के सेस्त कदम नहीं उठा-येंगे तब तक अस्पृश्यता दूर नहीं हो सकती।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं और समय न लेता हुआ कमिश्नर साहब को उनकी रिपोर्ट के लिये धन्यवाद देता हूँ और उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपका भी मैं आभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझे बोलने का समय दिया। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि जो कुछ भी बातें मैंने कही हैं उन पर ध्यान दिया जायेगा और उन पर अमल करने का प्रयत्न किया जायेगा।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Bogawat.

Shri Kamath: May I request that my friend who is standing here be allowed to speak, particularly as he belongs to the Scheduled Tribes?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Bogawat.

Shri Bogawat: This is a very important question and I must congratulate the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, who is doing very good work. Throughout his whole life he has spent his time in doing work for the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes. One of the Members was not right—I must say we are very ungrateful—in criticising or condemning such a person who is equally a patriot and as earnest as any Member of this House.

According to our Constitution, we have not done as much as we ought to have done for these classes. Under the Constitution—and it was the ardent desire of the Father of our nation—much should be done in the interests of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. He worked for them throughout his life. Though there is article 46, have we taken special care to promote the educational and economic interests of these weaker classes? The finding would be “no”. It is only recently that the hon. Home Minister was kind enough to make a declaration that there would be free education throughout the universities, colleges, high schools, etc., but this ought to have been done long ago because this is a national problem. The greatness of our country depends on the improvement and the welfare of these people. Only Rs. 4 crores were assigned out of Rs. 2,200 crores in the Five Year Plan for the upliftment of these backward class people. It was very insufficient and I am amazed to see that out of Rs. 4 crores, only Rs. 1.65 crores has been spent and the remaining amount is yet to be spent. With such a very insignificant amount, can we expect the welfare of such a very big class of people, who number about seven crores out of the thirty-six crores? Impossible. May I request the Home Ministry to take special care and try at least for Rs. 10 crores in the Second Five Year Plan for the welfare of these people so that they can come up to the level of the other classes and get as much education as possible. The welfare of the people can be improved only if their economic conditions are improved.

I have to say a few words about the conditions of their houses. Out of about seven crores of people, about one crore live in dungeons, such bad houses and slums where even cattle would not be kept. I suggest that if really the conditions of these people are to be improved at least Rs. 100 crores should be reserved out of the amount set apart for housing for these one crore of people. For a house cos-

ting Rs. 1,000, at least Rs. 500 should be lent so that all these people can have at least good houses. Secondly, I suggest that the Home Ministry should insist on the municipalities gram panchayats and other local authorities to give sites to these people not outside the village or town but inside so that they may associate with other people. Untouchability will then go by itself.

What is the use of passing these laws and making a declaration without achieving these things? We must achieve things. What have we achieved? Not so much as we ought to have. There is still exploitation in the villages. The village headman and the officers still exploit them. Untouchability has not been removed in the least. These poor people still suffer and the Ministry should take special care.

I am sorry that several States have not given their reports and the Commissioner was bold enough to express his free opinion as regards those States. Why should these people neglect their duties when the Father of the Nation had given so many directions as regards the raising of the status of these people. There economic conditions are very pitiable. Still we have not put any ceiling on land. How can we give lands to these people?—Their livelihood and maintenance is on the lands—by working on the lands. They do not get their maintenance. Unless you give lands to these people, their economic condition would not improve. Much care should be taken so far as this problem is concerned.

As regards the services, so many hon. Members from these classes have expressed their opinion. Why should not these people be given some concession? Even if they have not got a particular number of marks, give some concessions at least for five years and appoint some as officers so that they can bring about improvement.

I know in the last war and the one before that the Mahar and Chamar regiments proved themselves very

good compared to the Germans, Italians and other martial races. There is a record to that effect. If they are brave people, competent people, powerful people (*An Hon. Member*: Patriotic people), then why were they disbanded? That regiment ought not to have been disbanded but kept in service. That has not been done.

If we look at the reports of all the Ministries, I find that only the Railway and the Communications Ministries have a good number of those people employed. But that is all in the third and fourth grades—not in the higher grades. As regard other Ministries, no special care is taken.

We should also protect these people from social injustice and exploitation. About social injustice, I must say that still in the villages, there is injustice done to these Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Every attempt must be made through our officers and public workers and there must be a drive and a big propaganda so that there will not be any social injustice.

Shri Kamath: There is one Scheduled Tribes Member standing. He may be given two minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Has no Scheduled Tribes representative spoken?

Shri Kamath: Not today.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right. Two minutes for Shri Randhama Singh.

श्री रमधमन सिंह (शाहडोल-सीधी--
रसित--अनुसूचित आदिम जातियां) :
शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के
विषय में जो रिपोर्ट इस सदन में प्रस्तुत की
गई है, उसके लिये मैं कमिश्नर साहब को
धन्यवाद देता हूँ। गृह मंत्री महोदय ने
आदिवासियों और हरिजनों के लिये जो
सहानुभूति दिखाई है, उसके लिये मैं उनको
भी हार्दिक धन्यवाद देता हूँ। किन्तु साथ
ही मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि आदि-
वासियों और हरिजनों के हितों की रक्षा

[श्री रनदमन सिंह]

और उनकी उन्नति के विषय में जो विचार यहां पर प्रकट किये गये हैं, उनको बहुत जल्दी कार्यान्वित करने और एक योजना बनाकर उसके अनुसार चलने की बहुत आवश्यकता है। रामायण की एक चौपाई में कहा गया है :

का वर्षा जब कृषि सुखाने,
समय चूकी पुनि का पछताने ।

अगर कोई कार्य उचित समय पर किया जाये, तब ही वह लाभप्रद हो सकता है। किन्तु समय बीतने पर उसका कोई फायदा नहीं हो सकता है। आज कल जिस प्रकार काम हो रहा है, उससे मुझे एक घटना का स्मरण हो आया है। एक मर्तबा हमारे यहां जंगल में मई के महीने में भाग लग गई और इस विषय में जंगल डिविजन को रिपोर्ट की गई तो अक्टूबर के महीने में आदेश दिया गया कि भाग को बुझाने का जल्दी से जल्दी प्रबन्ध किया जाये। इस तरह से काम नहीं होना चाहिये। कागजों और फाइलों पर तो आदिवासियों के लिये बहुत कुछ काम किया जा चुका है और किया जा रहा है, लेकिन अगर आदिवासियों के क्षेत्रों में जाकर उनकी आर्थिक और सामाजिक परिस्थितियों को देखा जाय, तो पता चलता है कि उनकी क्या हालत है। जब तक आदिवासियों और हरिजनों में फैली हुई बेकारी और बेरोजगारी को कम करने का प्रयत्न न किया जायेगा, तब तक वे शिक्षा और अन्य क्षेत्रों में आगे नहीं बढ़ सकते हैं।

आदिवासियों की आर्थिक अवस्था के बारे में मैं पहले भी इस सदन में बहुत कुछ कह चुका हूँ, लेकिन उनकी आर्थिक दशा की सुधारने की ओर कोई विशेष ध्यान नहीं दिया जा रहा है। वे लोग ऋण में फंसे हुये हैं और दिन रात परिश्रम

करने और हल जोतने के बावजूद भी ऋण से मुक्त नहीं हो रहे हैं। क्या इस विषय में कुछ सोचा जा रहा है? आज जब कि ७५ परसेंट आदिवासी बेकार और बेरोजगार हैं और ऋण की जंजीरों में फंसे हुये हैं, तब उन्नति का क्या रास्ता हो सकता है और उनके बाल-बच्चों का क्या कल्याण हो सकता है?

अभी हाल की बात है कि कुछ जमींदारों और पूंजीपतियों ने रात के समय एक जगह के हरिजनों और आदिवासियों को उनके घर में जाकर जगाया और डरा-धमका कर कहा कि चलो, हमारे यहां हल जोतो, नहीं तो तुमको जान से मार डालेंगे। इस तरह उनको डरा धमका कर उनसे हल जुतवाया गया और उनसे काम लिया गया। एक व्योहर एक आदिवासी को धोखा देकर घर में ले गया और खम्भे में बांधकर खूब पिटाई किया था, थाने में भी सुनवाई नहीं हुई। हरिजनों और आदिवासियों के बच्चों को स्कूलों में धमकाया जाता है और कहा जाता है कि अगर हरिजन और आदिवासी ही स्कूलों में पढ़ने लग जायेंगे तो बाकी लोग कहाँ जायेंगे। इस बारे में डिस्ट्रिक्ट इन्स्पेक्टर आफ स्कूल का ध्यान आकर्षित करने की जरूरत है। गो कि सरकार यहां से उन लोगों को स्कालरशिप और वजीफा देने के लिये बहुत रुपया भेजती है, लेकिन पता नहीं, उस रुपये का कैसे उपयोग किया जाता है और कहां पर खर्च किया जाता है? मैंने समाज कल्याण विभाग के वैलफेयर आफिसरके आफिस में दो चार स्कूलों का रिकार्ड देखा, जिससे पता चला कि बहुत से बच्चों के लिये साल भर का वजीफा मंजूर कर लिया गया और खर्च कर दिया गया था, लेकिन मुझे ज्ञात हुआ कि किसी बच्चे को दो तीन महीने का वजीफा देकर फिर बन्द कर दिया गया।

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल (बिलासपुर):
उस स्कूल का नाम तो बतला दीजिये ।

श्री रनबमन सिंह : वह सीधी स्कूल है और मडवास स्कूल है । यह तो मेरे सामने की बात है । कोई सुनी हुई बात नहीं है ।

बहुत से हरिजन और आदिवासी बच्चों को बजीफा नहीं मिलता, उनके पास खर्चा नहीं होता यद्यपि वे पढ़ने के इच्छुक होते हैं पर अपनी आर्थिक हालत के कारण उनको मजबूर होकर दूसरे काम में लग जाना पड़ता है और वे अपनी पढ़ाई जारी नहीं रख पाते । उनमें से धक्कर को मजदूरी करनी पड़ती है इस विषय में मैं मंत्री महोदय और पिछड़े वर्ग के कमिश्नर महोदय का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ । मैं चाहता हूँ कि वे इस विषय पर गौर करें और इस समस्या को हल करने के लिये ठोस कदम उठावें ।

कहा जाता है कि बहुत से उद्योग धंधे खोले जा रहे हैं जिनसे बेकारी दूर होगी और लोगों को काम मिलेगा जिससे कि उनकी आर्थिक समस्या हल होगी । लेकिन आज तक हमारे प्रदेश में कोई ऐसा उद्योग नहीं खोला गया है जिससे कि हरिजनों और आदिवासियों की आर्थिक समस्या हल हो सके ।

नौकरियों के सम्बन्ध में भी यही हालत है । मैं आपके सामने सन् ५४ की रिपोर्ट से कुछ आंकड़े पेश करता हूँ । पहली और दूसरी श्रेणी के तो इन लोगों को योग्य ही नहीं समझा गया । तीसरी श्रेणी में अनुसूचित जातियों के ५२ और आदिवासियों के तीन आदमी लिये गये हैं । चौथी श्रेणी में हरिजन ७६९ और आदिवासी ८५ लिये गये हैं । जहाँ आदिवासियों की आबादी करीब ५ लाख है वहाँ सरकारी विभागों में ८५ लिये गये हैं । इस तरह से हिसाब लगाइये तो मालूम होगा

कि उनकी जितनी संख्या ली जानी चाहिये उसका सौवां हिस्सा भी नहीं लिया जाता । इस बारे में ऐसा प्रबन्ध होना चाहिये कि उनको नौकरियों में लिया जाय और ज्यादा रियायत दी जाय । ये लोग भूखे रहते हैं और बचपन ही से काम में लग जाते हैं इसलिये इनका क्रुद इतना लम्बा नहीं होता कि जितना कि और जातियों का होता है । मैं चाहता हूँ कि उनको क्रुद के बारे में भी कुछ रियायत दी जानी चाहिये ।

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : उनको चाहिये कि दंड बैठक करें ।

श्री रनबमन सिंह : यह तो आप करायेंगे तभी हो सकता है ।

तो मेरा कहना यह है कि जब तक इनकी आर्थिक और सामाजिक अवस्था में सुधार नहीं किया जायेगा तब तक ये शिक्षा की दिशा में भी आगे नहीं बढ़ सकते । हम आजकल देखते हैं कि हमारे कुछ हरिजन माई आदिवासियों की अपेक्षा अधिक संख्या में शिक्षा पा गये हैं लेकिन उनको सरकारी विभागों में नहीं लिया जाता है । हमें डर है कि जब आदिवासी तैयार होंगे तो उनकी भी यही दशा होगी ।

आखिरी विषय यह है कि बहुत से आदिवासियों की गणना आदिवासियों में नहीं की गई है । यह किसी भूल के कारण हुआ है । मैं चाहता हूँ कि इन लोगों को भी आदिवासियों में लिया जाय । खासतौर से मध्य-प्रदेश में २४ लाख आदिवासी हैं, इसी तरह से बिहार में हैं, उत्तर प्रदेश में ३२ लाख आदिवासी हैं उनको नहीं गिना गया है । उत्तर प्रदेश में तो आदिवासियों का जिक्र ही नहीं किया गया है । ये लोग प्रोपेगेंडा करते हैं चिल्साते हैं और अपनी मांग पेश कर रहे हैं कि इनको आदिवासियों में गिना जाय । वे कहते हैं कि उनके पड़ोसी प्रांतों में विवाह

[श्री रनदमन सिंह]

सम्बन्ध दूसरे आदिवासियों से हैं। इसके बारे में एक कमीशन द्वारा जांच भी हो चुकी है और शायद कमीशन ने अपनी रिपोर्ट भी दे दी है। इस बारे में मैंने पिछड़े वर्ग के कमिश्नर साहब को जबानी भी कहा है और लिखा भी है। पता नहीं कमिश्नर साहब ने इस ओर क्यों ध्यान नहीं दिया। और उन शरीबों के साथ अन्याय किया जा रहा है। आखिर में मैं.....

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : कितनी बार आखिर हो सकता है ?

श्री रनदमन सिंह : एक मिनट।

अब जो मंजूर शुदा रकम आदिवासियों के लिये दी जाती है उसके बारे में मुझे कुछ कहना है वह रकम दी जाती तो आदिवासियों और हरिजनों के नाम से है पर ज्यादातर बैंकवर्द्ध लोगों पर खर्च हो जाती है। मैं इस बारे में यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि यदि यह रकम आदिवासियों पर खर्च न हो पावे तो उसको वापस सरकारी खजाने में लेप्त होना चाहिये, नहीं तो नाम होता है दूसरों का और खर्च होता है दूसरों के लिये। इस बारे में क्या किया जाना चाहिये।

पाथ साथ एक विषय और है। खास तौर से मध्य प्रदेश में आदिवासियों को ईसाई मिशनरी ईसाई बना रहे हैं। इस बारे में आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। ये आदिवासी ईसाई ज्यादा पढ़े लिखे होते हैं और इसलिये जो रुपया आदिवासियों के लिये मंजूर किया जाता है उसमें से अधिकांश वे पा जाते हैं। दूसरे आदिवासी अभी उतने जागृत नहीं हैं। इसलिये वे उस रुपये को नहीं पा सकते। इसके अलावा जो आदिवासी पढ़कर तैयार भी होते हैं उनको कोई सड्यूलड्राइब तसदीक नहीं करता। एक आदिवासी मेम्बर होने के नाते बिहार से और उत्तर प्रदेश से पचासों घंटे पास रिपोर्ट आई है कि जिसम कुछ आदि-

वासियों ने बतलाया है कि वे पढ़कर तैयार हो गये हैं पर उनको कोई जगह नहीं दी जाती, न कोई उनकी तसदीक ही करता है। इसलिये धीरे धीरे इन लोगों में बेकारी बढ़ रही है। इसलिये मैं मंत्री महोदय और कमिश्नर महोदय का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। मेरी प्रार्थना है कि वे इस ओर ठोस कदम उठाने का प्रयत्न करें। यह नहीं होना चाहिये जैसे कि हाथी के दांत दिखाने के और होते हैं और खाने के और होते हैं। कागज की नाब हमेशा नहीं चल सकती।

इसलिये मैं नम्रता से अर्ज करूंगा कि इस ओर आप विशेष रूप से ध्यान दें।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, I call the hon. Deputy Minister.

Shri Balmiki: Sir, I am also a Schedule Caste Member and I should like to express my feelings.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: At the next opportunity now, I have already called on the Deputy Minister.

Shri Datar: We have had over 12 long hours' detailed discussion on the problems bearing on the conditions of the Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes. We have had before us the reports for the years 1953 and 1954 and a number of hon. Members belonging to these castes and tribes as also those who do not belong to them have contributed very valuable suggestions for the Government and for others to act upon if this evil of untouchability as also the backwardness of these Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have to disappear within as short a period as possible. I am grateful to all the hon. Members who have taken part in this debate and who have spoken with evident earnestness, though sometimes, they were slow to find out what the Government have done. I have no time, Sir, within the very short time at my disposal, to deal with what the various State Governments have positively done in this respect. I am re-

questing the Commissioner to submit, along with his report for the year 1955, a full report of what the various State Governments have done during the first five year period after 1950 so that, if that document is placed before the House and if the House will go into the various measures that have been taken by the State Governments in this respect, then I make bold to suggest that the House will find that all our State Governments, inspite of all that has been stated against them, have been carrying on their work with a heroic effort and that they are, therefore, entitled to a measure of appreciation, if not actual gratitude. Now, this is a problem which is stupendous.....

Shri Velayudhan: Why would there be gratitude; it is only doing social justice?

Shri Kamath: He said: 'appreciate'.

Shri Datar: 'Appreciate' is quite all right. I have no doubt that the Governments have striven very hard and are trying to help us. Kindly take the phraseology in a proper way. It would not be proper to merely believe that nothing has been done by the State Governments or that only a very little has been done by the State Governments. I am, therefore, looking at this problem from the point of view of what is further to be done. Whatever we have done is already there and will be before the bar of the public opinion here as also the opinion outside; but, I would point out that though the pace is slow, the pace is certain and the pace of progress is steady. That is what I am trying to impress upon the hon. Members of this House on behalf of the numerous States which are trying hard in this respect. I may also point out that we are trying to have more funds.

Shri Balmiki: But, so far....

Shri Datar: Please sit down and I shall reply to all the charges now.

I may also point out to this hon. House that we are trying our best to improve the conditions of the Schedu-

led Castes and Scheduled Tribes at a far greater pace during the next Five Year Plan and for that purpose.....

Shri Dhusya: Which is, unfortunately, not recognised by the Scheduled Castes people.

Shri Datar: ...we are trying to get more funds and place at the disposal of the State Governments more funds in this respect in addition to what the States themselves have done. Sometimes, what happens is that here in this case we are at a disadvantage. So far as the execution of the various schemes is concerned, it is by the State Governments and secondly, so far as the Centre is concerned, the Centre is supplementing the efforts which the State Governments have themselves been carrying on.

Shri Dhusya: They are doing nothing.

Shri Datar: Please do not disturb now. The whole picture is not before us.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The subject has been discussed for twelve hours. If each hon. Member goes on interrupting, then there can be no end to this kind of disturbance. The hon. Minister will kindly proceed.

Shri Datar: I am submitting to this House that the whole picture will be understood, as I believe it will be, when the next report will be before this House along with what has been done by all the State Governments during the last five years. This is all that I have got to say so far as the alleged deficiency of work, as has been stated by many Members, is concerned. Government are fully aware that this is a very important problem. I would assure the hon. Members who the other day charged us with a feeling of self-satisfaction or self-complacency, that there can be no feeling of self-complacency and much less of self-satisfaction, because we are aware that this problem is concerned ultimately with the fate of the Indian nation. If nearly one-fifth of the population remains absolutely backward and remains under

[Shri Datar]

certain handicaps and disabilities, then democracy in India cannot succeed; a welfare State also cannot succeed. Therefore, in the larger interest of the country as a whole as also with the desire to help these unfortunate brethren, Government are fully seized of this problem and Government will do whatever is necessary to see that all these disabilities are a matter of the past and that progress is assured at a far greater pace than what has been possible during the last four or five years.

Secondly, there is a certain misapprehension in the minds of a number of people, namely, that all this has got to be done within ten years; that schemes for the improvement of betterment of the lot of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have to be executed only within ten years and that after ten years all this has to lapse. That is entirely incorrect. The Constitution has stated that the reservation of seats in Parliament and in the State legislatures has to be for a period of ten years. But the Constitution has laid down certain obligations upon the nation and upon the Governments in the country that the conditions of these people have got to be improved as early as possible. Therefore, let not the hon. Members feel impatient that after ten years all this work will be completely stopped. This work has got to be done not only within ten years but could extend even beyond ten years to the extent that is necessary.

Before I deal with some of the specific points, I would also request the hon. Members that whenever they go to their constituencies they should create public opinion in this respect not only with regard to the Harijans but also the non-Harijans. Now, no problem can be solved, with whatever money that the Government can spend, unless we have the active co-operation of an active, vigilant democracy. Therefore, for this task we require the co-operation not only of

the various State Governments, not only of all the officers concerned, but also of the hon. Members as well as of the public at large. This work can be carried on with the full co-operation and co-ordination of effort between governmental and non-governmental agencies together and if this awareness is there on the part of the public as also on the part of the State Governments and of the Central Government, I am quite confident that this problem would be solved far earlier than what some hon. Members believe. I appreciate their impatience; I appreciate their desire that the conditions ought to improve as early as possible, and therefore, I would assure all those hon. friends that no effort will be wanting on our part to see that their conditions are improved as early as possible. All that I would implore with those hon. Members is that they ought to understand that this is a heritage of the past and the inequalities and the numerous disabilities from which they are suffering are a matter of history, of unfortunate history, and they have got to be removed and strongly faced. The whole citadel of orthodoxy or backwardness has to be demolished as early as possible. Therefore, I desire that we should have the co-operation of all the people. I am very happy that some hon. Members who did not belong to these unfortunate castes and tribes have also expressed their fully sympathy and support to the measures that the Government and the public have to take in this respect.

Now, I would proceed to mention a few points only because only a very short time is at my disposal. It was contended that though the Untouchability (Offences) Act was passed by Parliament in the last session, still, nothing has been done. So far as the Government are concerned, Government are taking steps to see that whenever such offences are committed, quick action is taken. As the House is aware, this is a cognisable

offence and the State Governments have already issued instructions that the provisions of this Act have to be duly enforced. But you will realise that some time would be necessary for making the whole machinery absolutely ready for investigation and for prosecution under this measure. This is a penal measure and, therefore, we shall be issuing instructions to the Governments of the States that copies of this Act should be printed in the various regional languages and the matter should be broadcast in all the villages in the rural areas. I would also invite the all-India associations and other associations dealing with this problem to take part in this work and to see that the provisions are known to all the people concerned. So far as police officers or other officers of Government are concerned, you will see that it is their duty to investigate offences, because the offences under this Act are cognizable offences and if any instance comes to the notice of the Central Government or the State Governments of either a dereliction of duty or an omission to do anything proper, then, I would point out to the House that Governments are there to take as strong a notice of such action or omission on the part of the officers and take suitable action. You will find that you have got an Act solemnly passed by the Parliament and any infringement of the provisions of this Act, any neglect to enforce the provisions of this Act, would be a misconduct on the part of the officers. I would see that the State Governments again issue instructions in this matter, but ultimately, you will find that we require the co-operation of the public also. The public has also to be vigilant and if that is achieved, then, next time you will have instances where our police officers have taken cognizance of these cases and have duly investigated and that the persons concerned are brought to book. I would see that whatever possible is done and that the people are made aware of the penal provisions of this statute, though, as you, Sir, would

agree in some cases, even where injustice happens people are slow to see that the provisions are taken advantage of, because there are other disadvantages also.

Shri Velayudhan: This provision is ineffective and it could not be applied. Judges and lawyers have expressed their difficulty.

Shri Datar: I have not been able to find out any passage in any judgment in connection with the administration of this Act. If there are any difficulties, then we are prepared to place an amendment before this House. But we are anxious that the provisions of this Act are fully availed of for the purpose of creating a feeling of fear in the members of the other Hindu communities. The other sections of Hindu society must understand that untouchability has not only been abolished, but it is an offence to practise it. If they do it, they do it at their own cost. I would not deal with the question of services at length, because I have dealt with it at very great length in the other House and the hon. Home Minister has also dealt with some aspects of this question. We are trying to do our best to increase the intake. The increase in intake is bound to be gradual; it cannot be sudden. I would only point out to this House that this is a very big problem. It is not a question of distribution of patronage at all; it is a question of appointment of proper officers. We are anxious to see that as large a number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes members are taken in service as possible and whatever can be done in this respect will surely be done. As I pointed out to this House, we are having a special section where the question of recruitment has been constantly kept in view. An hon. Member on this side asked me as to what we were going to do so far as the non-enforcement of the policy of the Government was concerned. We have got Ministers at the head of various Ministries and whenever it is found that in the matter of promotion, a Schedule Caste or

[Shri Datar]

Scheduled Tribes members is superseded, that case has got to go to the Minister; the Minister will have to satisfy himself that the supersession, if it was there, was proper. If he comes to the conclusion that it was wrong, then it will be set aside. Therefore, our Government are taking every step possible; let not the House be under the notion that Government are against the untouchables or against the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes. Government do desire that there should be a fairly adequate representation, so far as these sections of the Hindu community are concerned.

I will now deal with certain points that were raised during the debate. One point was about census enumerations. As a result of 1955 enumeration, certain difficulties have been pointed out. Government have considered these difficulties and have met them in certain cases. I would point out in this connection that even before the 1951 elections were to be held, the Government took a policy decision in 1949 or 1950 that so far as the enumeration of individual castes was concerned, that enumeration should not be there at all, because it was the desire and view of Government that there should be a casteless and classless society. Therefore, when the preparations for the holding of the 1951 elections were going on, then a policy decision was taken that there ought not to be any enumeration of castes, sects etc. But Government made an exception, because ultimately the Constitution also was going to make an exception. They had three columns for these classes. One was the Scheduled Castes column, the second was the Scheduled Tribes column and the third was with regard to certain backward classes of society, which were so recognised by the various States. On the basis of this, after the Constitution was promulgated, the President issued orders regarding the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. These orders were prepared on

the strength of the material that was given to us by the various State Governments. Unfortunately, what happened was, though the various castes were mentioned, certain common names, synonyms for example, were not mentioned at all. Therefore, instead of giving the name of a particular Scheduled Caste recognised by the order, they gave the general name. For example, in certain cases the name 'Harijan' was given. In the South sometimes they say adi karnataka, adi andhra or adi dravida; these names were given and ultimately when the question of enumeration came up, they could not take cognizance of those names, because "Harijan" or other names were not put in there. Thus, there was a certain deficiency and certain communities could not be entered in the enumeration list at all. For instance, in the State of Madhya Bharat, where I had gone only the other day, I found that before the elections were held, the members of a certain community were of the view that they should not call themselves as Scheduled Castes members. There was a particular community, a very large and well-placed community, which also refused to be called as "untouchables"; they called themselves not as a backward community. In respect of the column about backward classes also, the names of the various communities were not mentioned at all and all the persons who belonged to any one or other of backward communities were clubbed together. Similarly, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were also clubbed together.

Shri Dhusiya: I would like to point out that those people, who do not wish themselves to be called as Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes members, are induced to say like that.

Shri Datar: What happened was that in certain cases, the number fell down and the State Government also took up this question with us. The Hyderabad Government, the Saurashtra

Government, the Bihar Government and certain other Governments also took up this question. For example, there is the washermen community. This community is known by various names; in certain parts of Deccan and Bombay State, they are called *pareet*, *dhobi*, *rajak*, *agasika* and so on. Some of these names, especially multi-lingual names, were not mentioned. These difficulties had to be met. Immediately on receipt of these complaints, the Government had the whole matter examined. Now they have set right the enumerations so far as these communities are concerned, in the case of Saurashtra and Hyderabad. So far as Bihar and U. P. are concerned, we are considering the question. Especially in the case of Bihar, the problem became very difficult in the district of Darbhanga; somehow the figures are not clear as far as this District is concerned. We have asked the superintendent there to find out the reason for this smallness in the number. In this district, the number of Scheduled Castes members was also very small. Possibly some of the reasons that I have pointed out may also be there in the other districts. We are examining this question also in the case of Mysore and Madras, where the number is fairly large. Government have already taken some action and now the Delimitation Commission also have accepted our conclusions, so far as Saurashtra and Hyderabad are concerned. Ultimately, you will find that the number is not very large. I have got here the figures and they would show that this number is not so large as the hon. Member might believe. I would point out that the smallness of number is not very great. So far as the whole State of Bihar is concerned, the number fell by 3,37,000. In the case of Madras it was about 8 lakhs and in Hyderabad it was 3,73,000. So far as Mysore is concerned, the number fell by 1,30,000. All these figures are in respect of Scheduled Castes. So far as the Delhi State is concerned, there the position was a bit more awkward. What happened was this.

So far as the electoral rolls and the constituencies for the last general elections were concerned, they had to depend upon the 1941 census figures. As the 1951 census figures were not available, in the case of Delhi, they took into account the figures regarding Punjab. That list was not the correct list. The whole matter was gone into and it was found that even according to the 1951 Census, the figure would not be very great at all. Originally, it was 2 lakhs and odd. Then, it became 268,000 or 269,000. Even in this case also, the number is not much. I would not go into further details because my time is up. But, I would point out to the House that wherever there have been any legitimate grounds, Government have taken all proper steps and they have also recounted the slips in certain cases. Government are anxious that in the case of all proved deficiencies or omissions, proper amends should be made. They would be so made and at the general elections, the persons who are concerned will be duly notified either as Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes.

2 P.M.

There was the question about the Backward Classes Commission's report. I am not dealing with that question. But, you are aware, Sir, that we requested the Backward Classes Commission to point out whether there are any defects by way of omission of commission so far as the three President's Orders were concerned. We received from them certain lists and these lists are under examination. We are consulting the State Governments. As soon as we receive the information from the State Governments and a final decision is taken, due effect will be given to that by bringing in an amendment here so far as the President's Orders are concerned, because, ultimately it would be the pleasure only of the Parliament to

[Shri Datar]

make any amendments either about the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes.

Shri Rane (Bhusaval): When will that report be available to the public?

Shri Datar: It will take some time. We are examining it. We will have to consult the State Governments also.

I would not say further about the Anglo-Indians. That question is likely to be considered shortly. But, I would point out in all these connections that we have got before us figures that in certain cases, the number of candidates available was far less than the actual positions to be filled up. Secondly, as far as these Public Service Commissions, either the Railway Public Service Commissions or the other Commissions are concerned, they can be approached by private associations only on the question of principle. They cannot and they should not purport to nominate certain persons. If there is any individual or personal consideration, it becomes very awkward for the Commissions to deal with them. Then, you will find that just as we have in the U.P.S.C an hon. Member from the Scheduled Castes, similarly also, in one of the Railway Commissions, we have a Harijan member. If I mistake not, one of the Chairman of these Railway Commissions is an Anglo-Indian. These also will show that the Government are trying their best.

Even in respect of the complaint about reduction of grants, Government will see to it that no reductions are made. Even in the case of one Government where, on account of a misunderstanding about the provisions in the Constitution regarding the Anglo-Indians, a certain amount was not given you are aware that under Article 336 the grants are to be gradually reduced by 10 per cent. In that particular case, inasmuch as the grant given was less

in a particular year, on account of a misunderstanding on a point of law, next year, there was no reduction in the grant at all. I would submit that so far as the Anglo-Indians are concerned, Government stand by the assurances that they have given in the Constitution. There is no desire on the part of the Government to depart from or get rid of any assurances that we have given to them. They are only for 10 years. All the Ministries, the Railway Ministry has also the Central Board of Revenue, are anxious that whatever has been promised should be fully implemented in the interests of the Scheduled Castes.

Something was said about grievances by my hon. friend Shri Naval Prabhakar. I would examine all these grievances about Delhi. I would also like to point out this. On one occasion, an hon. Lady Member made certain aspersions against a public association to which a grant was being given by the Government. It is an association which is run by the Servants of the People Society. This Society was started by the late Lala Lajpat Rai. Some hon. Members like Shri Tandon, Shri B. G. Mehta, Shri Algu Rai Shastri are members of the Committee. The Vimukta Jathi Sangh has Shrimati Rameshwari Nehru as the Chairman. Whenever any irregularities take place, they are brought to their notice and steps are taken to rectify them. Unfortunately, the name of a person against whom actually a prosecution is pending was mentioned here as a great social worker. When a prosecution is pending, it would be wrong either to condemn the man or praise him also. I submit, especially in India, we have to be very particular about the reputation of private associations. These associations are doing very good work. Anything that is said on the floor of the House on the basis of materials which are likely to be at least one-sided, is likely to affect the public. Therefore, I would implore on hon. Members not to bring in any public associations. If they have any complaint that the affairs are not be-

ing carried on properly, I would assure this hon. House that we will take proper action. In this particular case, to ward off all suspicions, what we have done is we are helping this Association through the Delhi Government. The Delhi Government are exercising full supervision over whatever is being done by the Vimukta Jathi Sangh.

Shri Ramananda Das: On a point of information, may I know whether the Government will set up an enquiry committee about the conduct of Sewak Ram in exploiting these people?

Shri Datar: Whatever is necessary has been done. If the hon. Member has got any difficulties, if the hon. Member has got any complaint, he is welcome to come to me at any time and I am prepared to make full enquiries and see that no injustice is done, no wrong is done by any person or any society which is receiving help from the Government.

A number of other suggestions have been made. I would point out that we have taken steps to mitigate all hardships. As regards certificates required with an application to the Education Ministry, we have laid it down that these certificates ought to be given by officers. These certificates cannot be given, on the face of it, by non-officials, because certain enquiries have to be made. If a certain certificate has been given by a Government servant, he will be hauled up and a departmental enquiry will be started. That is not the case with non-officials. Therefore, we have to depend on the officers' report and officers' certificate, because they have got at their disposal certain materials from which they can find out whether a certain certificate should be given or should not be given. As regards delay in the payment of the grants by the Education Ministry, sometimes delays do take place. The problem, you will find, is extremely stupendous. Even so far as the examinations, matriculation or school final or corresponding examinations are concerned, the results are declared in some cases even in June, and immediately applications are received.

This year, you will find that 54,000 applications have been received. The Government are going to give scholarships to the tune of Rs. 1,30,00,000. All these applications have to be scanned. A special staff has been appointed. Sometimes, we receive requests for postponing the date for the receipt of these applications. Therefore we have issued instructions that in all cases where an application is *prima facie* tenable, that particular student should not be denied the opportunity of admission or continuance in the college on the ground of delay in the payment of money. That question is also being examined and whatever is possible will be done.

Shri Kamath: Standing instructions?

Shri Datar: Standing and sitting. Hon. Members are also represented on the Advisory Bodies. When such a large amount is being given Rs. 1,30,00,000, we desire that that amount should be utilised by or received by the person as early as possible.

Shri Kamath: I am not on the Committee.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: (Khamman): We are not on the Committee.

Shri Datar: I would not take any further time on the question of this issue. Only one point. My hon friend has suggested.....

पंडित ठाकुरदास भार्गव : मैं एक सवाल करना चाहता हूँ। पिछले साल भी और इस साल भी इस हाउस में यह बड़ी सख्त शिकायत की गई है कि जितना रुपया आप सिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स को देते हैं, उसका बड़ा हिस्सा क्रिश्चियन्ड को दिया जाता है और दूसरे लोगों को उसका उन्धे-अधीर भी नहीं मिलता है। आप इस क्वेश्चन को एग्जामिन करवाइये और अगर यह बात दुस्त है, तो इस बारे में इन्साफ करवाइये और अगर गलत है, तो फिर इसको छोड़ दीजिये।

Shri Datar: So far as this question is concerned, I have myself made the position clear in this House at one

[Shri Datar]

time. So far as the Scheduled Castes are concerned, they are to be Hindus. The moment they cease to be Hindus...

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: My question is about the Scheduled Tribes.

Shri Datar: I am explaining the position. I know your question.

So far as the Scheduled Castes are concerned, they have got to be Hindus. If, for example, they are converted to any other religion, they cease to be Scheduled Castes and therefore they cease to have any of the advantages. But so far as the Scheduled Tribes are concerned, they can belong to any religion, because no such discrimination or reservation has been made in the case of the enumeration of the Scheduled Tribes, and therefore, the question that my hon. friend has raised is a difficult one, a ticklish one. If for example, amongst the Christians among the Scheduled Tribes there are many students that apply and if those applications are fairly valid, then it would be entirely wrong on the part of the Government to deny a scholarship to a Scheduled Tribe student merely because he is a Christian. It is true....

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: This is not my complaint at all.

जो लड़के ठीक हैं, चाहे वे हिन्दू हों या ईसाई, उनको जरूर दीजिये, लेकिन शिकायत तो है यह कि जो नान-क्रिश्चियन्स हैं, उनको उनका हिस्सा तो क्या उसका उम्मेदवासी भी नहीं मिलता है। एक आनरेबल मेम्बर ने इस बारे में फिगरें दिये हैं जो कि बड़े रिबीलिंग है। आप उनकी स्पीच को पढ़िये और इस मामले को एग्जामिन करवाइये

Shri Datar: All right. I know what the hon. Member has stated. He says that non-Christian Scheduled Tribes boys do not get their full share. This is on the assumption that there is a further division between the Scheduled Tribes as such. You cannot make a distinction between the Scheduled Tribes, and therefore we treat all the

applications of boys and girls of the Scheduled Tribes.....

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: All the money cannot be given to one tribe or one caste or one section of the people.

Shri Datar: We cannot make a distinction *inter se* so far as the Scheduled Tribes are concerned, and therefore all that we can do is that we can encourage the other members of the Scheduled Tribes by asking the State Governments to give them grants, if, for example, the disparity between the two is very great. But it has to be clearly understood that so far as this post-matriculate scholarships are concerned, they have to be strictly on merit, within the purview of the merit that has been laid down, and there it would be very difficult for the Education Ministry to make a distinction between a Christian Scheduled Tribe and non-Christian Scheduled Tribe.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I do not want discrimination. The interests of non-Christian members of Scheduled Tribes also should equally be taken into consideration.

Shri Datar: That question also will be considered subject to this general observation.

Shri Balmiki: I want to put one question.

Shri Datar: An hon. friend wants to know what steps Government are taking regarding the All-India services. So far as the all-India services and the Central Secretariat services of the higher classes are concerned, what we do desire is this. It is true that the intake is very small, in some cases it is very low also. That is on account of the fact which was mentioned by my hon. friend Shri Kureel himself. These unfortunate people have to pass through very great difficulties and their environments are highly discouraging to educational attainments,

and therefore it is that a very large number of these people fail in the personality test. Whenever a boy or a girl passes the written test as also the personality test among these Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, then so far as those persons who are qualified are concerned, we are taking them whatever the order of their merit may be. We have done it as a special case. Otherwise, we take candidates in the order of merit, but so far as the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are concerned, we go further down within the list of qualified persons, and therefore what my hon. friend stated is not correct at all.

With respect to the personality test, that is an absolutely essential test. You cannot trifle with that test.

Shri Velayudhan: Why?

Shri Datar: I am explaining. These candidates are going to be placed in charge of districts and therefore we have to be very careful that these officers are properly trained, and therefore what we are now considering is this. Before actually they appear either for the written test or for the personality test, we should see to it that they pass through a coaching class where they would receive proper coaching or tuition. If that is done, then naturally it is quite likely that more candidates would pass through both of these tests. Government have certain schemes before them, and Government would be very glad to help such students because we do desire that their number should be as large as possible. Therefore, a pre-examination coaching or training is now under contemplation.

Shri Ramananda Das: Adequate power should be given to the Commissioner.

Shri Datar: That is for the hon. sovereign Parliament to consider. I have explained the position. According to article 338, the Commissioner has merely to investigate and report.

He has no executive power at all, nor has the Central Government any executive power in this respect. We have to depend upon the State Governments, and I am happy to state that the State Governments are carrying on their work in a fairly satisfactory manner.

Shri Deogam (Chaibassa—Reserved Scheduled Tribes): What about tribal welfare?

Shri Datar: So far as tribal welfare is concerned, Government are giving special attention to it, and I would invite the hon. Member's attention to a leaderette in the *Indian Express* of today. Therein it has pointed out to the Government and the public that while it is necessary that these people have to be brought up according to our standards, we have to preserve their culture, and it has counselled patience. It has stated that any fast rate of progress is likely to dislocate the whole condition.

Shri Balmiki: The other day the hon. Home Minister stated that as a result of the enquiry conducted by the Backward Classes Commission, the lists of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes are to be revised and greater representation is contemplated by the Government. May I know if the Government have directed Election Commission to carve out more constituencies for them?

Shri Datar: The work is now at a preliminary stage. We have to receive the opinions of the State Governments in respect of the recommendations made by the Backward Classes Commission, and after Government have taken a decision regarding either keeping a particular caste or tribe or taking it away, or adding to it. Government will certainly make a reference to the Delimitation Commission and take all other steps.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Do all want to put questions simultaneously?

Sardar A. S. Saigal: I want one clarification.

Shri Kamath: On a point of order.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the point of order?

Shri Kamath: Is it in order for the hon. Minister to quote whatever the *Indian Express* or any other news paper has said in a leader or leaderette as the authority for something that he says?

Shri Datar: It has quoted the opinion of Dr. Elwin who is a great authority on Scheduled Tribes. I am merely pointing out. It is for him to accept.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no harm. Already we have exceeded the time by half an hour. The other Ministry is waiting there.

श्री बाल्मीकि : मैं एक दूसरा सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have allowed sufficient number of questions. Now, I will take up the motions. Hon. Members who want their motions to be put will kindly say so.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal): I want to press my substitute motion No. 13.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted;

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, regrets that due steps have not been taken to safeguard their interests"

The motion was negatived.

Shri Kamath: I want to press my substitute motion No. 1^a.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is: That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1954, regrets that the measures taken by Government for the advancement of Scheduled Castes, and particularly Scheduled Tribes, have been inadequate and unsatisfactory."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are some substitute motions in the name of Shri Naval Prabhakar. Does the hon. Member want to press any of them?

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : मैं २ और ३ को प्रेस करना चाहता हूँ । गृह मंत्री जी ने इन सुझावों को मान लिया है और हरिजनों के लिये बैलफेयर बोर्ड बनाने का प्रावधान दे दिया है ।

Shri Datar: The matter is under consideration. After consideration, the board will be set up.

Shri Naval Prabhakar: I am not pressing the motions.

Shri K. K. Basu: We want that substitute motion No. 25 may be put to vote

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is: That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1954, recommends that the State Governments shall ensure that before 1960—

- (a) every Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes family at least 5 cents of house-site in rural areas and hundred square yards in urban areas;
- (b) a sum not less than Rs. 200/- is provided for each such of those families who do not own a house costing more than 500 rupees; and

- (c) every Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes family who is engaged in agriculture, is provided with at least four acres of land."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I take it that the other motions are not pressed. They are deemed to be negatived. No amendments to the original motions have been carried.

MOTION RE: WHITE PAPER ON GATT

The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Iron and Steel (Shri F. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to move:

"That the White Paper on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade be taken into consideration."

In asking the House to consider the White Paper on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade or the GATT as it is popularly known, I feel I should give the House the historical background of the General Agreement without which it is perhaps somewhat difficult for many of the hon. Members to consider it in its proper perspective.

Before the war, there was no international agreement governing international trade. The grant of most favoured nation treatment in the matter of tariffs was a matter of bilateral negotiation and agreements. Every country was free to give preferences or to follow discriminatory policies in regard to tariffs and quotas. There were no checks on dumping or subsidised exports either.

After the war, an attempt was made through the Charter of the United Nations and its subsidiary bodies to promote international understanding not merely in political but also in economic and social matters as well. Seventeen countries, including our own country, were invited to be members of the preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment, which was set up to frame a charter for an International

Trade Organisation. This committee held its first session in London towards the close of 1946. It came to the conclusion that it would be desirable to have negotiations to lower tariff and other trade barriers, and to eliminate preferences even before the coming into being of the International Trade Organisation. Accordingly, in 1947, 23 countries took part in tariff negotiations at Geneva, as a result of which import duties on several thousands of items were lowered or bound against future increase by the countries that participated in the conference.

Although the tariff negotiations were conducted bilaterally between countries which wanted concessions from each other, the benefits of the concessions were, on the principle of the most favoured nation treatment between member countries, applicable equally to all the signatories. As a result of these negotiations, India received certain tariff concessions, either directly or indirectly, on most of her important export commodities, e.g. on jute yarn and manufactures from the USA, Canada, New Zealand, Australia etc., on cotton textiles from Australia, New Zealand, Canada etc., on coir yarn and manufactures from the USA, Australia, the Benelux countries etc., on tea from USA, Canada, France etc., on woollen carpets and rugs from USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, etc., on pepper, ginger and other spices from Australia, USA, the Benelux countries etc.

I shall not try to enumerate here all the details of the concessions given to India's export trade, which were negotiated at Geneva and also at subsequent conferences organised by the GATT in Annecy and Torquay. An up to date analysis of these concessions has been recently published and made available to this House. All that I want to emphasise now is that the basic objective of the conference in Geneva was a reduction in tariffs. Nevertheless it was felt that if these concessions were to be of real value, there must be some trade rules to ensure that by quota restrictions and other similar devices their benefits were not nullified. It was also neces-