

**LOK SABHA DEBATES**

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**LOK SABHA**

Monday, 2nd April, 1956

*The Lok Sabha met at Half Past Ten of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

(See Part I)

11-32 A.M.

**PRESIDENT'S ASSENT TO BILLS**

**Secretary:** Sir, I have to inform the House that the following Bills, which were passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current session, have been assented to by the President:

1. The Voluntary Surrender of Salaries (Exemption from Taxation) Amendment Bill, 1955,
2. The Sales-Tax Laws Validation Bill, 1956,
3. The Capital Issues (Continuance of Control) Amendment Bill, 1956,
4. The Life Insurance (Emergency Provisions) Bill, 1956, and
5. The Control of Shipping (Continuance) Bill, 1956.

**PETITION RE: PROCEEDINGS OF LEGISLATURES (PROTECTION OF PUBLICATION) BILL**

**Shri T. N. Singh** (Banaras Distt.-East): I beg to present a petition signed by 38 petitioners relating to the Proceedings of Legislatures (Protection of Publication) Bill, 1956.

**\*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS**

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now resume further discussion of the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Rehabilitation. Out of 7 hours allotted for the Demands of this Ministry, 3 hours 19 minutes have already been availed of and 3 hours and 41 minutes now remain.

Shri Ajit Singh will now continue his speech.

श्री अजित सिंह (कपूरथला-भटिंडा-रक्षित अनुसूचित जातिवां) : परसों में अपनी स्पीच में यह कह रहा था कि हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब और हमारी गवर्नमेंट की जो पालिसी (नीति) रिफ्यूजीज (शरणार्थियों) को फिर से बसाने की है वह बहुत अच्छी है मगर जब उसको इम्प्लीमेंट (लागू) करने वाले अच्छी तरह से इम्प्लीमेंट नहीं करते तो हमें इस बात को देख कर दुःख होता है। मैं आपको उनकी कुछ तस्वीर बतला रहा था कि वे किस तरह से इस काम को करते हैं। पहले हम यह पास कर चुके हैं कि जो प्रापर्टी (सम्पत्ति) दस हजार तक की होगी उसको नीलाम नहीं किया जायेगा बल्कि उसको उन्हीं लोगों को दे दिया जायेगा जो उसमें बैठे हुए हैं। उसको लेने का यह ढंग अस्तित्वार किया गया कि उस प्रापर्टी की कीमत का एक चौथाई से लेकर एक तिहाई तक पहले ले लिया जाये। यह रकम दो हजार से ढाई तीन हजार तक बनती है। अगर कोई गरीब आदमी इस रकम को नहीं दे सकता तो उसे उस मकान से निकालने की तजवीज है। सन् १९५०-५१ में गवर्नमेंट ने यह तय किया था कि जो उन मकानों की जमीन है उसकी कीमत साढ़े सात रुपया गज के हिसाब से लगायी जायेगी। कुछ आदमियों के साथ इस किस्म का एग्रीमेंट (करार) भी किया गया था कि वह जमीन उनको ६६ साल के लीज पर दी जायेगी और उसका किराया साढ़े ४७ रुपये सालाना के हिसाब से बसूल किया जायेगा।

\* Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[श्री अजित सिंह]

[PANDIT THAKURDAS BHARGAVA  
in the Chair]

अब इस पर इस तरह अमल किया जा रहा है कि उस जमीन की कीमत जो कि ढाई या तीन हजार के करीब बनती है उसको पहली कीमत से जो कि ५,००० भी मिलाकर साढ़े सात से १०,००० तक बना दिया गया है। मेरी अर्ज यह है कि यह इनजस्टिस (अन्याय) काबिले बरदाश्त नहीं है। मैं अर्ज करूंगा कि ऐसी इनजस्टीस नहीं होना चाहिये क्योंकि ऐसा करने से न नौ मन तेल होगा और न राधा नाचेगी, यानी जो गरीब आदमी इतना रुपया नहीं दे सकता वह मकान में नहीं रह सकेगा। हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब ने परसों मेरी स्पीच में इंटरवीन (अंतर्बाधा) करते हुए कहा था कि राजस्थान के रिफ्यूजीज के लिये उन्होंने १५ साल की मियाद मुकर्रर कर दी है कि इस मियाद के अन्दर वह जमीन का रुपया अदा कर दें। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या १५ साल के बाद वे उस जमीन के मालिक बन जायेंगे। अगर आपकी पालिसी के मुताबिक वे मालिक बनते हैं तो क्या बजह है कि उन लोगों के साथ यह सलूक न किया जाये जो कि लाजपत नगर में या मालवीय नगर में या कालकाजी कालोनी में रहते हैं। तो मैं यह अर्ज करूंगा कि आप उनके साथ भी वही सलूक करें जो कि आप राजस्थान वालों के साथ कर रहे हैं। इस सिलसिले में मैं आपको कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता हूं। मेरा पहला सुझाव तो यह है कि जो जमीन की कास्ट (मूल्य) लगायी गयी है उसके बजाय उन लोगों को वही जमीन ६६ साल की लीज पर साढ़े ४७ रुपये सालाना किराये पर दी जाये। तभी गवर्नमेंट की पालिसी काबिले तारीफ हो सकती है। मेरी दूसरी तजवीज यह है कि जो मकान बने हुए हैं उनकी कीमत बीस साल में बसल की जाये क्योंकि थोड़ा कमाने वाले डेढ़ सौ या २०० रुपयों की किस्त नहीं दे सकते। तीसरी चीज मैं यह चाहता हूं कि उन से लम्प सम (इकट्ठी धनराशि) के तौर पर चौथाई या तिहाई कीमत न ली जाये बल्की ज्यादा से ज्यादा दस पर सेंट (प्रतिशत) लिया जाये। चौथी बात मुझे यह अर्ज करनी है कि पहले यह तय किया गया था कि जिस फैमिली में ५ आदमी हैं उसको एक मकान मिलेगा और जिसमें इससे ज्यादा

आदमी हैं उसको दो। अब कुछ ऐसे मकान हैं जिनमें दो दो फैमिलीज बसी हुई है। अब प्रोपोजल (प्रस्ताव) यह है कि जो छोटा क्लेमेंट (दावेदार) है वह बड़े क्लेमेंट का किरायेदार बन कर रहे। मैं अर्ज करूंगा कि बजाय छोटे क्लेमेंट को इस इनफीरियर पोजीशन (हीन स्थिति) में डालने के आप उससे कीमत ले लें। उन लोगों ने अपने क्वार्टरों को अच्छा बनाने के लिये हजार से लेकर डेढ़ हजार रुपया तक खर्च किया है। अगर आप उनको जाकर देखें तो आपको मालूम होगा कि उन्होंने कितना रुपया खर्च किया है।

मेरा दूसरा प्वाइंट यह है कि डिस्प्लेस्ड परसन्स क्लेम्स ऐक्ट (विस्थापित व्यक्ति दावे अधिनियम) के मातहत डिस्प्लेस्ड कम्पनीज के क्लेम लिये गये थे, वे वेरीफाईड (जांच) हुए। वे सन् १९५१-५२ से आज तक इस इन्तिजार में हैं कि गवर्नमेंट उनको कुछ दे मगर हुआ क्या है? नये कम्पेन्सेशन ऐक्ट १९५४ की डेफीनीशन २ और क्लाज ई० २ में यह दिया गया है :

“‘Verified claim’ means any claim registered under the Displaced Persons (Claims) Act, 1950, in respect of which a final order has been passed under that Act or under the Displaced Persons (Claims) Supplementary Act, 1954, but does not include any such claim made by or on behalf of any company or association, whether incorporated or not”.

लोगों के क्लेम भी वेरीफाई हो चुके हैं मगर उनको कुछ नहीं मिलने का है। परसों मेहर चन्द खन्ना की ने बताया था कि एडवाइजरी (मंत्रणा) बोर्ड के जो भी सजेशन्स (सुझाव) हैं उन पर वह गौर करते हैं और उनको मानते हैं। मेरी इत्तला यह है कि एडवाइजरी बोर्ड ने यह सिफारिश की है कि इस कानून की अमेंड (संशोधन) किया जाये और दूसरे उन्होंने यह भी कहा है कि अगर आप क्लेम की शकल में कुछ नहीं दें तो रिहैबिलिटेशन ग्रांट (पुनर्वास अनुदान) दी जाये। तो मेरी यह बड़ी आजीजाना इत्तजा है कि आप उनके वेरीफाईड क्लेम्स को एन्टरटेन (स्वागत) करें और उनको जो भी मुनासिब हो वह दें।

मेरा तीसरा प्वाइंट यह है कि पंजाब में कुछ इक्वी (निष्क्रान्त) फैक्टरीज थी जो कि डिस्प्लेस्ड परसंस को किराए पर दे दी गई थी। कई केसिस (मामलों) में तो लीज पर भी यह दी गई थी। मैं अर्ज करता हूँ कि इन लोगों ने जितना लीज मनी दिया है वह इन फैक्टरीज का जो एक्चुअल कैपिटलाइज्ड मनी (वास्तविक पूंजीगत धन) है उससे भी ज्यादा दिया है। फरवरी १९५६ में श्री भोंसले के साथ चंडीगढ़ में कुछ रिप्रिजेंटेटिव (प्रतिनिधि) मिले थे और इन फैक्टरीज के बारे में उन्होंने उनसे कहा था। भोंसले साहब ने उनको बताया था कि १ अप्रैल १९५५ के बाद इन लोगों से कोई किराया नहीं लिया जाएगा और यह जो फैक्टरीज हैं वह इन्हीं लोगों को दे दी जाएगी अग्रेस्ट देयर वेरिफाइड क्लेम्स (उन के जांच किये गये दावों के अनुसार)। जनाबेवाला, इस एश्योरेस पर कोई अमल नहीं किया गया है। मेरे विचार में रिहैबिलिटेशन मिनिस्टरी को एक कमर्शल कंसर्न (व्यापारिक संस्था) नहीं बनाया जाना चाहिये। यह मिनिस्टरी लोगों को बसाने के लिये है न कि कमाई करने के लिए। इस वास्ते में चाहता हूँ कि यह जो एश्योरेस दी गई थी इसपर अमल किया जाय।

चौथा प्वाइंट मेरा लाहोर से जो रिफ्यूजीज आए हैं उनके बारे में है। लाहोर में एक कारपोरेशन (निगम) बनी थी जिस के अन्दर तकरीबन ८० गांव आते थे। जब लोग यहां आए तो कुछ लोगों को तो ए ग्रेड जमीन दे दी गई और दूसरों के साथ वादा किया गया कि उनको जमीन बाद में दी जायेगी क्योंकि जमीन अवेलेबल (प्राप्त) नहीं है। अब इन लोगों को जिनके साथ कि बाद में जमीन देने का वादा किया गया था कहा जा रहा है कि वे जमीन के बजाय इतना पैसा ले लें। यह पैसा उनको जमीन के एक्ज में दिया जा रहा है। मैं इसको डिसक्रिमिनेटरी ट्रीटमेंट (पक्षपात पूर्ण बर्ताव) मानता हूँ। ऐसा सलूक नहीं होना चाहिये। इन जमींदारों को जमीन के बदले जमीन ही दी जानी चाहिये। अगर आपने उनको पैसा दिया तो वह ये लोग खर्च कर जायेंगे और फिर बरबादी की हालत में पहुंच जायेंगे। इस वास्ते आप उनको जमीन ही दीजिये। अगर आप के पास ए ग्रेड जमीन नहीं है तो

आप उनको इसकी प्रोपोर्शन (अनुपात) में दूसरी जमीन दे दीजिये।

पांचवा प्वाइंट मेरा शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट (अनुसूचित जातियाँ) के जो लोग हैं उनके बारे में है। बेशक ये लोग इतने घनाडघ नहीं थे, ये लोग इतने अमीर नहीं थे मगर जो कुछ भी उनके पास था वह वे पाकिस्तान छोड़ आए हैं और उनको अपनी चीज लाने नहीं दी गई है। ये लोग गरीब हैं, अनपढ़ हैं, यह नहीं जानते हैं कि कानून क्या चीज है। इन लोगों ने कोई क्लेम्स बगैरह नहीं दिए हैं। मेरी दरखास्त यह है कि ये लोग जिन छोटे मोटे मकानों में रह रहे हैं, जिन मड हाउसिस (मिट्टी के मकान) में रह रहे हैं, उनसे इनको एक्ट (निष्क्रमण) न किया जाये। आज उनको फोर्सिब्ली (बलात्) एक्ट किया जा रहा है और इनकी जगह पर दूसरों को बसाया जा रहा है। मैं प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि इन गरीब लोगों का आप जरूर ध्यान रखें, इनके साथ कुछ प्रेपरेशल ट्रीटमेंट (और अच्छा बर्ताव) करें। ये गरीब लोग हैं, वे आपके पास नहीं पहुंच सकते, आपके दरवाजे नहीं खटखटा सकते, उनकी कोई सुनवाई नहीं होती। इनके बारे में हम ही थोड़ा बहुत कह देते हैं। इस वास्ते इनका खयाल करना भी आपका फर्ज है।

अब छठा प्वाइंट मेरा यह है कि जैसे आपने भी कहा है और सुचेता बहन ने भी कहा है कि लाजपत नगर, कालकाजी और मालवीय नगर के जो रिफ्यूजीज हैं उनका भी कुछ खयाल किया जाए। मैं मानता हूँ कि इन लोगों ने ज्यादाती की है, इलीगल पोभेशन (अवैध अधि-कार) लिया है। लेकिन फिर भी आपको इन के केसिस को सिमपेथेटिकली कंसिडर (सहानुभूति से विचार) करना चाहिए। ये लोग पिछले महीने की २२ तारीख से पंडित नेहरू की कोठी के बाहर भूख हड़ताल पर हैं...

**पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री मेहर बन्ध खन्ना) :** रोटी पकाते हैं, और खाते हैं।

**श्री अजित सिंह :** हां, वहां पर इन्होंने लंगर लगा रखा है और इस लंगर के लगाने की जिम्मेदारी आप ही पर है। आप मेहरबानी कर के इनकी तरफ भी खयाल करें। मैं उन लोगों के केस को बिल्कुल भी सपोर्ट (समर्थन) नहीं करता हूँ जिन के

## [श्री अजित सिंह]

पास पहले ही से मकान है, चाहे वह हिन्दुस्तान के किसी भी हिस्से में हो। लेकिन जो अनाथ हैं उनका आप खयाल कीजिये। साथ ही साथ मैं आपकी साक्ष इस पालिसी को सपोर्ट नहीं करता हूँ कि आप दो आने गज ज़मीन खरीदें और उसी को २६ रुपये फी गज के हिसाब से बेचें। यह कहा जाता है कि मार्किट वेल्यू (बाज़ार के भाव) बढ़ गई है। मैं पूछता हूँ कि मार्किट वेल्यू बढ़ाने वाले कौन लोग हैं। इन्हीं लोगों के वहाँ जा कर बसने से मार्किट वेल्यू बढ़ी है। इन्होंने उन जगहों को आबाद किया है जहाँ पहले गीदड़ बोला करते थे, सांप चला करते थे और बड़े बड़े बिच्छू पाये जाते थे। इस वास्ते आप यह खयाल न करें कि इन जगहों की किमत पहले से ही बढ़ी हुई थी। इन लोगों के वहाँ आबाद होने से ही मार्किट वेल्यू बढ़ी है।

अब जो स्माल क्लेमेंट्स (छोटे दावेदार) हैं उनके बारे में मैं कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। आप जो बड़े बड़े क्लेमेंट्स हैं उनमें तो काफी इंट्रेस्ट (दिलचस्पी) ले रहे हैं और आप के ऐसा करने से थोड़े आदमी ही बसाये जा सकते हैं। आप जो यह आक्शन (नीलाम) प्रापर्टीज़ की कर रहे हैं उससे छोटे क्लेमेंट्स को बहुत नुकसान हो रहा है। ७,००० रुपये की जो प्रापर्टी होती है उसकी आक्शन में १५,००० और जिस की १५,००० कीमत होती है उसकी ३५,००० कीमत पड़ती है। जनाबेवाला, यह ऐसे होता है कि जब कम्पीटीशन (दौड़) होता है, जब बोली होती है तो छोटा क्लेमेंट तो ज्यादा बोली नहीं दे सकता लेकिन जो बड़ा क्लेमेंट है वह यह समझता है कि पता नहीं कुछ मिलेगा या नहीं, इस वास्ते अगर प्रापर्टी महँगी भी मिल जाए तो अच्छा ही है। इस चीज़ को ध्यान में रखकर वह ओवरबिड करता है और जो छोटा क्लेमेंट है वह देखता ही रह जाता है। इस पालिसी से आप बहुत थोड़े आदमियों को रिहैबिलिटेड कर पायेंगे। मैं अर्ज़ करता हूँ कि अगर आप चाहते हैं कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा आदमी रिहैबिलिटेड हों, तो आपकी मिनिस्ट्री को कोई ऐसी पालिसी बनानी चाहिए कि जो बड़ा क्लेमेंट है वह एक ही प्रापर्टी खरीदे और एक से ज्यादा प्रापर्टी पर वह बिड न कर सके। आज आप की पालिसी का नतीजा यह हो रहा है कि बजाय ज्यादा आदमियों को बसाने के थोड़े आदमियों को ही आप बसा पा रहे हैं। आप की कोशिश यह होनी चाहिए कि जिस तरह से भी हो ज्यादा से ज्यादा आदमियों को बसाया जाए।

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : पंजाब से जो क्वासी परमानेंट (अर्ध स्थायी) एलाटमेंट्स थी, अब हम उन्हें मुकम्मल कर रहे हैं, उसके मुताल्लिक आपका क्या खयाल है। क्या आप यह चाहते हैं कि वहाँ जिन को २०० या ३०० या ५०० एकड़ ज़मीन दी गई है और अब उनकी एलाटमेंट को जो परमानेंट किया जा रहा है, क्या उसमें से भी मैं कुछ काट दूँ या न काटूँ ?

श्री अजित सिंह : आपके कहने का जो ढंग है वह बहुत अच्छा है। मेरा मतलब यह है कि वही काम किया जाए जिस से ज्यादा से ज्यादा रिफ्यूजीज़ को सेटल (बसाना) किया जा सके। मैं किसी को प्रॉफ़ेशनल ट्रीटमेंट देने के हक़ में नहीं हूँ, मैं तो यह चाहता हूँ कि वही काम किया जाए जिससे ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोग सेटल हो सकें।

Mr. Chairman: May I just put one question also? Is it not a fact that in the Punjab about 75 per cent. of the holdings are not economic holdings which have been given to displaced persons?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Sir, the position under the Quasi Permanent Allotment Scheme in Punjab is this that those persons who were small holders were given at least 75 per cent. If a man owned about 2 acres in Pakistan, you do not expect me to give him 10 acres here. We have given him about 75 per cent.

Mr. Chairman: In fact, there were two principles at that time.....

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I would not like to enter into a discussion with the Chair.

Mr. Chairman: There is no question of discussion. The Prime Minister was of the opinion that as far as possible land must be given for the purpose of rehabilitation and not keeping in view what he held in Pakistan. That view was not accepted by the Punjab Government and the hon. Minister was not then in the picture.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: It is within your knowledge that all land has been allotted under two schemes. Under the Quasi Permanent Scheme which has been correlated to compensation, the lands have been allotted according to a graded scheme. Where the Ministry has



allotted land for the purposes of rehabilitation, I may say that only in exceptional cases less than 10 acres have been allotted either in Rajasthan or outside.

**Mr. Chairman :** That is quite true. But this scheme was not accepted by the Punjab State Government. For the rest of India this principle was accepted; and proved to be more salutary.

**श्री अजित सिंह :** मैं यह अर्ज कर रहा था कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोगों को बसाने की हमें कोशिश करनी चाहिए ।

अब मैं कुछ इस्टेंसिस (उदाहरण) आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूँ । मैं ने पहले यह चार्ज मिनिस्ट्री के खिलाफ लगाया है कि यह अपना काम ठीक ढंग से नहीं कर रही है, इसकी जो मशीनरी है वह ठीक नहीं है । इस चीज को साबित करने के लिए कि क्या कुछ हो रहा है, मैं कुछ मिसालें आपकी खिदमत में पेश करता हूँ । एक कैप्टन तीरथ सिंह पटियाला से हैं जिन्होंने अपना क्लेम ६८,००० रुपये का दिया । क्लेम की पांच शीट्स थीं । जब वह वेरिफिकेशन आफिसर के पास गया तो उस ने कैप्टन तीरथ सिंह को बुलाया । लेकिन उस ने वेरिफिकेशन की सिर्फ एक शीट पर वेरिफाई किया । जब उन्होंने पूछा कि दूसरी शीट्स कहाँ हैं, तो जवाब दिया गया कि दिल्ली से उस के पास सिर्फ एक ही शीट भेजी गई है, बाकी की चार शीट्स नहीं भेजी गई हैं । मैं ने मिनिस्ट्री को चिट्ठी लिखी थी, उस के जवाब में मुझे बतलाया गया कि:

"The matter has been examined by the Chief Settlement Commissioner personally. It would appear that Capt. Tirath Singh himself is to blame for his claims being rejected. According to the Rules delay in belated claims could only be condoned where the claimant produced sufficient documentary evidence to establish his claim and could give satisfactory reasons for the delay in the submission of the claim. Capt. Tirath Singh did put in belated claims in respect of 5 properties and all the 5 property sheets submitted by him in connection with his claim were considered."

आप की मिनिस्ट्री यह मानती है कि पांच शीट्स आई हैं । लेकिन मेरे पास वेरिफिकेशन आफिसर का लिखित सबूत मौजूद है जिस में

उसने लिखा है कि एक ही शीट वेरिफिकेशन के लिये भेजी गई । आप खुद सोच सकते हैं कि यह कैसे ठीक हो सकता है, और कैसे कैप्टन तीरथ सिंह पूरी प्रापर्टी का सबूत देते जब कि उन के पास सिर्फ एक ही शीट थी । दूसरी बात यह है कि टाइम कंडोन (विलम्ब की क्षमा) होता है पूरे क्लेम पर, न कि अलग अलग शीट पर । मैं इस मामले को हाउस पर ही छोड़ता हूँ, वह इस पर विचार करे ।

अब मैं दरिया रावी और सतलज के बार्डर (सीमा) की बात करता हूँ । वहाँ पर लोगों की कुछ जमीन डिमाकेशन (सीमा) लाइन की परली तरफ रह गई है और पाकिस्तान में आती है । वह लोग रिफ्यूजी नहीं हैं, मगर उन की जमीनें दूसरी तरफ रह गई हैं । मैं यह दरखास्त करूँगा कि उन लोगों के लिये कुछ खयाल किया जाये ।

इस के बाद मैं बार्डर के मुसलमानों के बारे में कुछ जिक्र करना चाहता हूँ । वह जो मुसलमान हिन्दुस्तान में थे उन को चूँकि उस वक्त कम्यूनल डिस्टर्बेन्सेज (साम्प्रदायिक उपद्रव) थे इस लिये वहाँ से बाहर भेज दिया गया था । उन में से कई लोग तो पाकिस्तान चले गये हैं, लेकिन बाकी जो लोग इधर रह गये हैं उन को अब तक उन के घर वापस नहीं मिले हैं । मेरे पास इस के इस्टेंसेज भी हैं, अगर आप चाहे तो मैं दे सकता हूँ । मैं दरखास्त करूँगा कि उन मुसलमानों को फिर उन के मकान दिलाये जायें ।

अखिर मैं मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ जैसा कि यह सजेस्ट (सुझाव) किया गया था और हमारे बुजुर्ग भार्गव जी ने भी कहा था, कि भोंसले साहब को कुछ ज्यादा अख्तियार दिये जायें ताकि वह पंजाब के रिफ्यूजीज के केसेज को अच्छी तरह से डील (विचार) कर सकें । उन के पास बहुत कम अख्तियारात हैं और जब हम उन के पास कोई केस ले कर जाते हैं तो वह कहते हैं कि मैं तो कुछ कर नहीं सकता हूँ । इस लिए मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि उन को कुछ ज्यादा अख्तियारात दिये जाने चाहिये ।

**श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना :** मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप मुझे बतला दें कि कौन सा केस आप भोंसले साहब के पास ले कर गये थे जिस के लिये उन्होंने आप से कह दिया था कि मेरे पास अख्तियार नहीं

[श्री मेहरचंद खन्ना]

है। क्या आप किसी केस का हवाला दे सकते हैं? मैं चाहता हूँ कि माननीय मेम्बर को दो मिनट और दे दिये जायें ताकि मुझे मालूम हो जाये।

**Mr. Chairman :** The hon. Minister desires that the hon. Member may cite instances in support of what he says. He may utilise his time for that purpose if he so likes.

**श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना :** जो टाइम आप मुझे दे दंगे उस में से आप दो तीन मिनट उन को दे दें ताकि वह मुझे बतलायें कि वह कौन से केसेज हैं जिन को ले कर आप भोंसले साहब के पास गये और उन्होंने कह दिया कि उन में बें दखल नहीं दे सकते हैं। अगर भोंसले साहब यहां होते तो जबाब खुद दे देते।

**श्री अजित सिंह :** शायद आनरेबल मिनिस्टर का खयाल है कि मैं यों ही कह रहा हूँ। एक तो मैं लाजपत नगर का केस ले कर उन के पास गया हूँ और उन्होंने कह दिया कि मैं कुछ नहीं कर सकता, खन्ना साहब इन्चार्ज हैं।

**श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना :** लाजपत नगर के बारे में तो आप प्राइम मिनिस्टर को भी लिख चुके हैं, भोंसले साहब को ही नहीं।

**श्री अजित सिंह :** मैं ने भोंसले साहब को भी लिखा था।

**श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना :** आप ने प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब को लिखा है, उस में मैं और भोंसले साहब दोनों आ गये।

**श्री अजित सिंह :** इस के अलावा पंजाब के कुछ ऐसे केसेज हैं जिन के मुताल्लिक मैंने लिखा था कि शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के कुछ गरीब आदमी हैं, उन को एक्टिव किया जा रहा है। साथ ही कुछ आदमी ऐसे हैं जिन के लिये आप ने ३०० रुपये की किश्त मुकर्रर कर दी थी और उन को माफ़ कर दिया जायेगा, लेकिन कुछ आदमियों ने ३०० रुपये से ज्यादा ले रक्खा था। उन के मुताल्लिक मैं ने अर्ज किया था कि वह स्पेशल केसेज हैं उन को भी आप माफ़ कर दें तो अच्छा होगा। इस पर भी मुझे यही जवाब दिया गया कि मैं कुछ नहीं कर सकता।

**श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना :** मैं भी नहीं कर सकता हूँ। अगर आप यह चाहते हैं कि जो पालिसी के सवालत हैं, अगर ३०० रुपये की लिमिट (सीमा) है तो उस को ५०० रुपये कर दिया जाये

तो इस को तो मेहर चन्द खन्ना भी नहीं कर सकता। आखिर जो चीज पालिसी की है उस का फैसला करने के लिये जरूरी है कि मुझे अपने कलीगज (साथियों) से बात करनी पड़ेगी, फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर (वित्त मंत्री) के पास जाना पड़ेगा, कैबिनेट के पास जाना पड़ेगा। यह कह देना कि चूंकि सरदार अजित सिंह कह रहे हैं इस लिये कोई मिनिस्टर ३०० को ५०० कर दें या ५०० को १,००० कर दे, जो नानक्लेमेंट्स बैठे हैं उन को क्लेमेंट्स कर दे, चार या आठ साल की किश्तों को बीस या तीस साल की कर दे, तो यह कोई भी मिनिस्टर नहीं कर सकता है, न मेहर चन्द और न भोंसले।

**श्री अजित सिंह :** बात यह है .....

**Mr. Chairman :** Now the hon. Member may resume his seat as he has already exceeded his time. I now call upon Shrimati Renu Chakravartty.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat) :** The deepening rift in Indo-Pakistan relations has cast a deep shadow of uncertainty and insecurity upon the fate of millions of people residing both in Pakistan and in India. But the first and most direct victims of these happenings have been the members of the minority community, who today are fleeing across the borders and are seeking succour and help in India. It is because we are moved by the sight of these people, because we are moved by the injustice wreaked upon those who had nothing to do with the political policies of our two countries, because we see how unfortunately they suffered humiliations, that I am opposed to the suggestion which was made by my hon. friends Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani and Shri N.C. Chatterjee that we too should try to wreak vengeance upon the heads of innocent working people in the docks and jute mills for what has been done by the Pakistan ruling circles. Let us not forget that these very seamen fought heroically against the British companies, and the Pakistan Government who tried to protect them only two years ago. Let us not forget that it was they in the midst of communal tensions raised the slogan of 'Hindu-Muslim bhai bhai' at that time. I believe that it is these democratic forces who are basically our allies. Are we going to wreak vengeance on them? My answer is that we shall not. It is a long and tedious path that we shall have to follow in order to achieve the reestablishment of normal relations

between our two countries. It is a difficult task. Everyone knows the complicating factors; everyone knows the part being played by the United States. What is the use of suggesting short cuts which, instead of resolving, actually complicate the issues? What is the use of hitting out at those very democratic forces whom we must win over for a just cause? That is why solutions of these questions will have to be sought elsewhere at the highest levels, and the people of India will always be ready to foster goodwill between India and Pakistan because we are neighbours and because we want to live in peace and friendship.

I will take up the time of the House in the discussion on this Budget Demand, as to whether we have been fulfilling to the best of our ability and efficiency what has been demanded of us in this emergency, whether we have been able to give the succour and the help and the necessities which these helpless refugees have wanted from us. Have we been able to give them the protection which they needed? My plea today will be this: let us hope for the best, but let us be prepared for the worst. If that is our mental attitude we must be prepared ruthlessly to expose and end all our failures in rehabilitations. Uptill now we have been tinkering with the problem. Otherwise, how is it that out of 36.85 lakh refugees, who have come from East Pakistan the bulk still remains to be rehabilitated? It is no use always clutching at the influx to cover failures. After all, the influx has brought us 3.61 lakhs. It is a big number and I do not want to minimise the gravity of the situation, but I want it to be clear that the reason for this rehabilitation problem having become so complex is not only to be sought in this, but we have to look into deeper causes. The real reason to my mind is that neither the Central nor the State Government has been able to tackle it on a footing of national emergency although we have repeated that word over and over again. Is our Government, by the way it functions, giving proof of its awareness of this grave national emergency? I say categorically "No", and I will prove it in the details of the work of the Rehabilitation Ministry.

Especially I would like to charge the Ministry—the West Bengal Ministry—of being totally incompetent to come out of its narrow partisan groove and outlook. It looks at the problem from the

point of view of the party election campaign, of scoring points over the opposition, while the refugees, the real sufferers, suffer and die on the platforms of Sealdah or in the putrid atmosphere of the camps.

12 NOON

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** I do not want to interfere in the debate and certainly I am prepared to hear every criticism that my sister may like to level about the conduct of the Government of West Bengal. But when that Government is not represented here, I think it is not very fair. Anyhow, I leave it to the hon. lady Member.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** I tried to look at the way the Government of West Bengal had been doing things. The major portion of the money is loan from the Centre. Your agency is the Government of West Bengal and without criticising the Government of West Bengal, it is not possible for me to go into any of the proposals or the rehabilitation measures. Uptill now, many of those who have participated in the debate tackled the general policies but today we have come to a position when we are not going to talk of generalisations; we must go into details because it is the details that are going to give refugees houses, that are going to give them succour and other help. That is why, while the Central Government will come in for criticism, for its share of the responsibility, the West Bengal Government must also share the same. Rehabilitation is a complicated problem and refugees come from all the classes.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi (Pratapgarh Distt. West cum Rae Bareilly Distt.-East):** On a point of order. The hon. Minister has just now said that the Government of West Bengal cannot be brought in. I do not think it is correct because it is a concurrent subject. After all, the Government of India and the State Government are functioning together in all the States where this work is being done. How is it possible not to mention the Government of West Bengal or any other Government?

**Mr. Chairman:** The point of order does not arise. He has said that the Government of West Bengal is not able to defend itself. A large part of the money goes from this Ministry and it also exercises a sort of control over the West Bengal Government. So far as the

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expenditure or money given by it to the West Bengal Government is concerned, it is certainly relevant for the hon. Members of this House to criticise at least such activities of the West Bengal Government as are relevant for the purpose of seeing whether the money given by the Centre is rightly spent or not. The point of order does not arise. But at the same time, if the West Bengal Government is criticised in great detail, I am afraid, there is nobody here to answer that part of the criticism.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi :** My point was different. The hon. Minister said that the Government of West Bengal could not be mentioned in this House. (*Interruptions*).

**Mr. Chairman :** He never said that.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi :** It cannot be discussed in this House because the Government of West Bengal is not present here; that is a very difficult situation. The subject is a concurrent subject and so, either produce the Government of West Bengal and make them sit here or do what you like.

**Mr. Chairman :** In so far as it lies in his power, the hon. Minister will definitely do what he can. Otherwise, the criticism will remain where it is.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty :** I wanted to point out that rehabilitation is a very complicated problem. We are very closely connected with it and we know what complications are facing us in this job. Refugees come from all classes, trades and professions. There are trained and untrained refugees, men, women and children to be cared for; there are the maimed and the disabled, then there are those who come from the rural areas and those from the urban areas. That is why it is a very complicated problem.

In a land hungry province like Bengal, with a high density of population, there is great need to integrate the needs of the refugees to the question of gainful occupation of the local population. That is why, again and again, we have appealed to the Government to proceed in a two-pronged manner: firstly to integrate refugee rehabilitation with the general plans of the Second Plan and secondly, to assure, as far as land is concerned, that the lands belonging to the small peasant, whether he tills it as a ryot or as a share-cropper, will not

be acquired for refugee rehabilitation. The policy of land acquisition in Bengal for refugee rehabilitation has led to a great deal of friction, rising friction between the refugees and the West Bengal people. I have voiced this feeling again and again in this House and I am glad this time, Shri N. C. Chatterjee has also brought it to the notice of this House that unless our policy is very clear and categorical on this point, the people will suffer and the most to suffer out of this friction will be the refugees themselves. There can be no rehabilitation of the refugees without local co-operation of the people.

Therefore, it is clear—I feel—that without setting up all party committees at non-official levels, at every level—at the village level, district level, provincial level and all-India level—we will not be able to tackle this complicated problem. We have asked for this again and again at every stage. It has been asked consistently and as consistently refused. The problem has become further complicated today and we urge it again but I at least fear that it will receive the same treatment that it has received in the past. There are political parties and individuals and established refugee organisations who have played very positive roles in spite of the fact that Government did not want their co-operation. They have refused to have these all party committees. If I had time, I would show one by one how the policies followed had been wrong.

Shri Jain, at one time—in this House and outside—said that refugee rehabilitation problems were almost complete and we could wind up the Ministry. It was we, who again and again said that until gainful occupation had been given to the refugees, there was no real rehabilitation.

The fact finding committees formed for East Pakistan refugees and its findings were a case to point how right we were. There is the question of colonies outside Bengal. After a good deal of humming and hawing, what we said proved more correct than what was said by the Government and later on the question of readjustment of colonies came about.

There was the question of squatters colonies. There was a feeling in the Government that it was wrong to regularise them. We urged regularisation and finally they had to do it in course

of time. Life has been the teacher of bitter lessons. If we can only learn those lessons and go forward, I am sure we would be able to do much better. I may repeat that, unless public co-operation is obtained through all party committees, the rehabilitation measures are bound to flounder and to be delayed and may even go wrong.

We have the consultative committees of the MPs. I must say this. Shri Mehr Chand Khanna himself is there and it is easier to talk and discuss with him than with his counter-part in my State. (*Interruptions*). Occasional meetings are also held; he does meet us from time to time. The peculiar thing is that the MLAs' meetings must not be attended by MPs and MPs' meetings must not be attended by MLAs; a compartment must be created. One is under the direct responsibility of Shri Khanna while the others are a sort of pet chickens; of his counter part in West Bengal. (*Interruptions*.) It is this sort of compartmentalisation which is one of the reasons why we have not been able to tackle this very important problem.

I have very little time. I have got so much matter that I do not know if I will be able to do justice to the subject fully. I feel that there is a lack of sense of the need for a national all out effort; it is to be seen in various other ways. I think comparisons about rehabilitation of refugees from the East and West Pakistan are odious. I see round me the sufferings of our West Pakistan refugees who have come here. But even then I think that it is necessary to see that even that amount that is being spent and measures which have been taken for these West Pakistan refugees—even that little has not been undertaken as far as East Pakistan refugees are concerned where daily the problem is becoming more acute. I was just looking through the book that was given to me by the Government and I find that West Pakistan refugees have a big compensation pool which we have not got. In spite of that, up-to-date, Rs. 174.14 crores minus the compensation pool has been spent for rehabilitation of the West while only Rs. 86.59 crores has been spent on these East Pakistan refugees; out of this only Rs. 30 crores has been for rehabilitation.

The question of permanent gainful occupation has been, therefore, painfully neglected.

Take the question of grants. West Pakistan has a compensation pool, yet they have paid Rs. 81.22 crores as grants as against only Rs. 36.56 crores to the East. In the allocations for 1955-56, the very period when we are supposed to be so gravely concerned about the influx from East Pakistan, we find that by way of grants West has got Rs. 16.74 crores and only Rs. 7.66 crores has been allocated to East.

Now take housing. If you go to my State you will see—I have got pictures to show—in how pitiable a condition the refugees are sitting on the platforms of Sealdah Station with their children. Some of them have been living there for two months. Housing is one of the biggest needs for those who have come earlier, so that we can put new ones in camps. In regard to housing, something like Rs. 60.45 crores has been allocated to the West whereas for East it is only 22.64 crores. Even in 1955-56, when the refugee influx from East Pakistan is supposed to be causing such grave concern Rs. 6.45 crores has been allocated for the West whereas only Rs. 5.56 crores has been given to the East. Does this show a sense of national urgency?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna :** What is the figure with regard to loans?

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty :** I am coming to that. Take the case of loans to State Governments. While the revised estimates for 1955-56 stood at Rs. 3.12 crores for East Pakistan refugees, the 1956-57 Budget makes provision for Rs. 2.67 crores. In the matter of loans in the past, if you total it up, it is just a little more. It is about Rs. 8.86 lakhs or more.

Take the question of industrial factories. We have been hearing about them for almost 14 years, ever since Shri Khanna came. It is long enough time and at least some of them should have started working.

Then I come to the question of settling refugees outside Bengal. I have been told that the land which has been forthcoming has been land of such bad quality which could not have even been given for Bhoodan. It has now been given to Shri Khanna for rehabilitating the refugees.

Take the question of reclamation of land outside Bengal. Only the other day, during Question Hour, I heard about

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the Central Tractor Organisation and the work which it was supposed to do in Cachar and Tripura. The vague answer I got makes me feel that even this was only on paper. I do not know when it will actually come into practice and when we shall actually have the land to distribute to the refugees. May be, many of the refugees will be dead by then. Inside Bengal, except Sonarpur-Arapanch and Bagjola schemes, what are the schemes of a sizeable nature that have been taken up? There has been delay, delay and delay.

It has been a long tale. The Rehabilitation Minister, especially after Shri Khanna came, because we heard such a lot about what he had done to the West Pakistan refugees, had held out for us some hopes. But, unfortunately, much of it has been belied. Much of it has not been fulfilled. Shri Mehr Chand Khanna, as I said, is no doubt amenable to discussion which others are not. But, then, the record of achievement, the rate of progress has been utterly disappointing.

I shall take up specifically item by item. I shall take up first the question of land. It is a particularly complicated problem. There is density of population. There is the question of paucity of land. There is the question of new and changing agrarian laws which have been introduced in our State. There is the pull and influence of local land owning classes, which, even today, in the country-side wield great influence not only on the villagers but also on certain sections of our officers. Further, it is complicated by the machinery of land acquisition which has acquired lands of local peasantry while often the land-owning people have gone scot free. All these things are very very complicated factors.

I remember, during the time of Shri A. P. Jain, I got a categorical answer from him that the lands of the small peasantry will not be taken away for rehabilitating the refugees. I hope his successor Shri Mehr Chand Khanna will reiterate that.

Take the question of reclaimed lands. Again, there have been only two schemes of any consequence. One is the Sonarpur-Arapanch scheme and the other is the Bagjola scheme. You know, Sonarpur was a water-logged area, but, local people held titles to that area.

When the land became reclaimed, in a land-hungry population, it was naturally necessary to go into great details as to who was really genuine and who was not. The whole thing was a complicated issue which could have been tackled at the level of popular committees with the help of refugee organisations and with the help of local representatives. That is how it should have been done. But, that was not done. There was a great deal of delay. Sir, you know, a great deal of friction and bitterness also developed out of it, which could have been avoided.

Take the question of Bagjola for instance. Some part of it was water-logged, but there were certain portions—it is a concrete example.

**Mr. Chairman :** The hon. Member must conclude now.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty :** Sir, I have only spoken for 15 minutes.

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member has already taken 20 minutes. I am not stopping her. I only wanted to point out that if she went into details she may not have time to speak on other important points. In any case she should not take more than 30 minutes.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty :** I was speaking about Bagjola. There is Kulgachir embankment in that area. The zamindar who was supposed to keep this embankment did not keep it. It came under the Government but still they did not keep it well and the embankment breached. That area is in the possession of share-croppers. For two years they were running about to get that area properly embanked and that was done finally by refugee labour. That whole area has been acquired now for refugee rehabilitation. In such a situation, naturally, there is conflict and fight between local officers and refugees.

These are the things I would like to bring before the House. I also want to show how we have been proceeding with other schemes with regard to the refugees. I am only talking about things inside Bengal. I am not talking about things outside Bengal. About them bigger people will have to discuss. As far as I am concerned, there was the question of Dhapa-Manpur. It was a history of delay. We first brought it to the notice of Shri A. P. Jain in June, 1953. We gave even the maps. He said: "We will

send it to the State Government". The State Government said: "We did not receive it". There was long delay. Again we pressed. Then Shri Mehr Chand Khanna came. In 1954, representations were made to the West Bengal Government and to local officers. Again in July, 1955 we met Shri Mehr Chand Khanna and Mrs. Renuka Ray. In August, 1955 Mrs. Renuka Ray said: "We are aware it is going to come under the Salt Lake Area Reclamation Scheme. The Dutch Engineers will come and a part of the land will be given for refugee rehabilitation". In 1955 again we got the same reply from Shri Mehr Chand Khanna. In March, 1956, again, we got the same reply from Shri Khanna. So, from 1953 to 1956 one huge area remained like that because until such time the Dutch Engineers will come this huge area cannot be reclaimed. At least we should have tried to do something.

I can tell you further instances about this sort of long delay. There is no integrated action between the Central Government and the West Bengal Government, between one Ministry and another Ministry of the Central Government. I will explain to you how this happened. The same thing happened with regard to the question of fisheries. These fisheries are those that escape land resumption under our agrarian laws. We have been showing that 3 lakhs acres of good paddy lands have been inundated under fisheries. We have been saying,—issue a special Ordinance, take emergency powers in your hands and go ahead with reclaiming it. They are not doing it because big vested interests are involved in it. Even Ministers are interested in this. These are the reasons why we are not able to go ahead with this job. Further you will be surprised to know how the refugee peasants who had been asked to go directly and try to get land were treated. I gave to the hon. Minister one thousand cases of "bainanamas" which had lapsed after having been registered for three months and after money had been paid and lost by the peasants. The local officers of our Ministers took so long to find out whether those titles were all right that the "bainanamas" lapsed, the money went and the land also went. This is the way we have been tackling this whole question.

Take the question of Assam. Even today land is refused on the plea of yearly renewals. They are robbed of the land

they had exchanged with Muslim evacuees. Loans are long delayed. That is why even today they are squatting in Dibrugarh or some other place there has been *satyagraha*. No loans have been granted to them.

I am just trying to rush through because there is no time. Otherwise I would have spoken about Tripura and other areas.

That is why I feel that unless we deal with this land question with greater co-operation, with greater intergration between local people and the Government we will not be able to tackle it.

Next I come to the question of employment, which is a very very important point. I have already stated that there should be increased opportunities, and greater integration under the Second Five Year Plan regarding the factories etc., which are going to be set up, for employment of refugees.

It has been very slow. We have not been able to set up any factories or schemes as yet. There has been long delay.

I shall say a few words about the training *cum* production centres. It is no use saying that we are giving training to the persons concerned. As far as the Five Year Plan is concerned, we are told that people must be given gainful occupation. The training that we give must therefore be such that they will be able to earn their living. I know lakhs of women are given training, but they are unable to make a livelihood by it. There are no jobs for them. They are unable to earn their way. That is why I say that when we are giving training, with it, we must set up production centres. We must have marketing centres so that the training which they get will be able to give them a livelihood and they will be able to set themselves up. This is a very, very important point which has to be gone into in all its detail and it has to be integrated with the general, broad principles of gainful occupation under the Second Five Year Plan.

Now, I think that the amount that has been given for this year as industrial loan is Rs. 3 crores. Last year it was Rs. 1.50 crores. The present amount is a little more than it was last year. But I feel it is insufficient. But then it is not only the question of money, but



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it is the way we spent it that is very important. The slow rate of progress in this regard must be accelerated. The schemes have to be attended to quickly. They have to be passed quickly. They should not depend upon the whims and fancies or the likes and favouritisms of people in the Ministries and in the higher-ups.

I shall next come to the question of squatter colonies. After a tremendous struggle, we made the Government accept the principle of regularising the squatter colonies. The West Bengal report says that altogether 171 squatter colonies exist. The first hurdle was about the date-line—whether those colonies set up after 1st January, 1951 should be regularised or not. Secondly, whether the cost of regularisation was less than Rs. 1,875 or not. I ask you, why did we amend the concerned article in the Constitution, if we are not going to utilise it in favour of the refugees? Today we hear that those colonies only which are below Rs. 1,875 are going to be regularised. Does this indicate a sense of justice or urgency? In October, 1955, the West Bengal Government says that only 12 colonies were regularised. So, the tale of delay goes on.

There is one further interesting point. It shows the lack of integration even between the Ministries of the Central Government. There are two squatter colonies—Bandhabnagar and Profullanagar in Dum Dum. Bandhabnagar is on the land which belongs to the Defence Department. You will remember and this House will also remember the attempt made to evict from this colony the people living here. Today, it has not been regularised though it is on the regularisation list for last four or five years. It is supposed to be claimed by the Defence Department. Today I have got proofs to show that it is lying on the border of the Defence Department's territory. My point is, why does not the Rehabilitation Ministry clear these things up as between the sister Ministries of the Government of India and get the land released?

Take the question of Profullanagar colony. It is on land which belongs to the Railway Ministry. That is a dilapidated land which cannot be and which can never be utilised for railway lines because it will mean opening out roads and pathways over big buildings. Yet, that land is not taken up for regularisation. So, I say that in all these things there is no integration.

I have already dealt with the question of loans. I feel that those loans should be treated as grants.

I take the question of T.B. There were 3,000 live cases of T.B. and the West Bengal Government made a recommendation for the provision of 3,000 beds. 350 beds have already been in existence. 250 are newly sanctioned. Provision for about 1,000 beds has been agreed to. But when shall we get them? Look at the camps and the medical facilities afforded to the people there. How can you expect the people to live in those conditions without giving them medical facilities. Further, when are the medical facilities going to be given? That is the big question that arises in my mind.

I shall now mention about the Muslim migrants. Here again, it is a tale of delay. We are given figures showing that more or less that question has been settled. I am giving an example of one man, Muhammad Ishaq of 24 Parganas. Though orders have been issued that he should be given back his property, although alternative accommodation has been given to the refugee forcibly occupying his house in 1953 or 1954, up-till now, that is, 1956, he has not had that property returned to him. It is a long, long and woeful tale, a tale of delay. It hurts me when I have to repeat it over again, because it also hurts those who are refugees. The delay of the administrative machinery is something that has to be ended. The loans are delayed. Even the loans that are sanctioned cannot be got. Sometimes you have to pay *salami* to the officers. Sometimes you have to go and sit there for days and days together. "Bayanamas" lapse. The T.B. applications are received but delayed. The man dies by the time he receives money; even the dole in the working camps are delayed. Schemes are sanctioned but implementation is delayed. In Madhyamgram, a scheme for Rs. 6,000 for opening up a centre for women was applied in July 1955 but it was passed only in January 1956—so late—that it was feared that by March the whole thing was going to lapse and we had to rush in order to see that that amount was used. There is—I would not say 'no' co-operation—but not the desired co-operation between the Centre and the State. That is why I say that all is not well in the State of Denmark or shall I say, Jaisalmer House and Auckland House.



Lastly, I come to the question of the West Pakistan refugees who are living in Lajpatnagar. I will not go into the details of that story, which I have heard. I would like to go and see myself the conditions in which they live. They say that they are living in mud tenements which were not utilised by the widows or by the frontier men to whom they were allotted. So, if they were unoccupied and if the present occupants are prepared to pay the money, as rent or for purchasing it I do not know why they cannot be given—I would not say concession—but their right to rehabilitation and their right to housing?

I feel that the Government have not been able to tackle this question on the level of a national emergency. I feel that unless we tackle this problem with that mental attitude and set up the rehabilitation organisation with a broader, bigger and an all-out effort, we will not be even able to touch the fringe of this big problem.

**Shri Ramananda Das (Barrackpore):** I have praise for the excellent work done by Shri Mehr Chand Khanna, the Minister of Rehabilitation, ever since he took over the portfolio from Shri A. P. Jain. I oppose some of the remarks of the lady Member, Mrs. Renu Chakravarty who preceded me, regarding the allegation of indifference of the West Bengal Government. The West Bengal Government and the Central Government did much in this direction according to their capacity. I take objection to the remarks of the hon. lady Member. West Bengal did much. Of course, this is a complicated problem. The West Bengal Government submits proposals to the Central Rehabilitation Ministry, and the Central Rehabilitation Ministry submits the proposals to the Finance Ministry and it is in the Finance Ministry where these schemes for money are delayed for months and even years together. So, the Finance Ministry is practically responsible for the abnormal delays in respect of the settlement of the claims and the rehabilitation schemes of the refugees quickly.

I think there are four persons at the head of the Finance Ministry. One is the Finance Minister. There are two Ministers of States and there is one Deputy Minister of Finance. I feel that one of these Ministers can easily shift his headquarters to Calcutta with some secretaries to look to the condition of the refugees and tackle the financial

problem of rehabilitation quickly. Unless you do so, you cannot solve the problem of refugee rehabilitation quickly. There is no justification for keeping four Ministers of Finance at the Centre. Shri Khanna has his headquarters at Calcutta, and he has been doing good work, but all the schemes are delayed due to the indifference and delay of the Finance Ministry. So, I appeal to the Government to shift one of the Ministers in the Finance Ministry to Calcutta. Then all the schemes can be expedited and there could be no delay in sanctioning the money for the proper rehabilitation of the refugees. Unless you do so, you cannot solve this problem quickly. So I appeal to the Government again and again to shift one of the Ministers in the Finance Ministry to Calcutta and sit there and expedite this work of rehabilitation.

Bengal and Punjab made great sacrifices in the freedom movement of the country, but when the country achieved Independence, Bengal and Punjab were the worst sufferers. The country was divided and the Bengalis and the Punjabis suffered most. To some extent, the Punjab people got some sort of compensation as they got sufficient land and some money also by way of evacuee property, and thus the Punjab refugees were settled to the extent of about 80 per cent. You have been able to build so many townships like Faridabad, Malviyanagar, Patelnagar and Kalkaji and others at Government cost and excellent arrangements have been made for the proper rehabilitation as well as appointment for the refugees.

But the Government have given a step-motherly treatment to the East Pakistan refugees as compared to the West Pakistan refugees. From the figures we find that more than 36 lakhs of refugees have come from East Bengal to West Bengal. But, we find that actually there are more than 40 lakhs of refugees in West Bengal. Several lakhs of people came by the land route without visas or permits. They were not taken into consideration in the statement given by the Ministry here. The Government have miserably failed to give them proper rehabilitation facilities. So many schemes there are; but even 50 per cent. of the refugees are not properly rehabilitated due to the inefficiency and dilatory tactics of the finance department of the Government of India, which I have already mentioned. I appeal to the Government to do something constructive

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to improve their lot and resettle them so that they may have a chance to live like human beings. Now, we find that more than 2,000 refugees are coming daily to West Bengal. The Sealdah station and some other stations on the border are jammed. Several thousands of refugees are living like cats and dogs in the Sealdah platform. No provision has been made by the Government for their reception, food and medical arrangement. I appeal to the Government to give proper attention to the welfare of these refugees in these platforms and camps. In the absence of this, you cannot do any humanitarian work for these refugees.

Now, all the refugees who are coming from East Pakistan are almost Scheduled Caste people. Not only that, they are all agriculturists. Most of them have never before seen a train or towns. Most of these people are rotting in the platforms. Government have refused permission to non-official organisations to give any relief to them in the platforms where they are cheated by agents. Government officials also are not doing any work there. They are also indifferent to these refugees because they come from the lower strata of society. My appeal to the Government is to be more humanitarian to these people and show greater sympathy to them so that they could live like human beings. These are the people who have sacrificed the most for the independence of the country. It is not a problem of West Bengal alone. It is a national problem, a problem for the whole country. I appeal to the Government to treat this problem on a war level as this is an emergency matter.

The Prime Minister made some remarks the other day about this. But, I am sorry that the Prime Minister did not show much sympathy to the cause of these refugees and their proper rehabilitation. He was not justified in defending Pakistan so long as the driving away of the refugees from East Pakistan is concerned under various pretext and excuse. I appeal to the Government to take drastic steps against Pakistan so that this exodus may stop. There are over 80 lakhs of these people still living in Pakistan. They are in the process of coming. They may come today or tomorrow. The economy of the whole country will be upset. Unless you make proper arrangements for their rehabilitation, it is not possible to satisfy

these hungry millions. There is no sufficient land for the settlement of the refugees. Of course, Government have sent several thousands of refugees to the Andamans. There is still sufficient scope there. I think you can settle 10 lakhs of people in Andamans, if you give them sufficient lands, loans and other facilities. I appeal to the hon. Minister to send as many of these refugees as possible to the Andamans and the other border states near the border of West Bengal. If you send these refugees to U.P. or Punjab automatically they will die like fish without water.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** They have done well in U.P.

**Shri Ramananda Das :** They have come back from Bihar. They have been living in places which are very near water. If you send them to the Punjab, or other dry areas, they will die like fish without water. These people are akin to fish so far as their habitation on marshy land is concerned. I appeal to the Government to settle these people in the border states of West Bengal and Andamans. The refugee problem is a colossal problem. It cannot be solved unless you do your best at home for proper rehabilitation and put pressure on Pakistan to stop the exodus of the minorities, as there are more than 80 lakhs of people who are still there. I am sorry that the Government has not put adequate pressure on Pakistan, with the result that Pakistan has made it its declared policy to squeeze out these people. I appeal to the Government to demand 6 border districts from East Pakistan for the settlement of these refugee people. After the Partition, more than 6 lakhs of Muslims went from West Bengal to East Pakistan. But, all these have come back to West Bengal and the Government have rehabilitated them. They have spent several lakhs to rehabilitate these Muslims. Not only that. More than one lakh of Pakistani Muslims are there now in Calcutta employed in the Calcutta Port, docks, mince boats and steamers and other places. These people are taking away crores of rupees from West Bengal. But our refugees are not getting any employment. Of course, this is a secular State. But, a secular State has to look after the interests of its own citizens also. Here are people who are Pakistanis, who are not our citizens and crores of rupees are being spent for providing jobs to them in Calcutta as mentioned before. These people are sometimes trying to paralyse the

docks and ports of Calcutta by regular strikes. Government should come to their senses and see that these East Pakistan nationals do not get any job in West Bengal. Unless you do this, you cannot solve this employment problem. If you can stop the appointment of these Pakistani people, you can appoint lakhs of our own people in these industries. I appeal to the Government to do something constructive in this national problem in this respect.

As I said, I appeal to the Government to demand the six border districts from East Pakistan to rehabilitate the 40 lakhs of refugees. On account of these refugees, we did not get any land in exchange as in West Pakistan. Pakistan should be asked to cede land for the rehabilitation of these people. I appeal to the Government to put pressure on Pakistan. If the Government do not take any steps, I am of strong opinion that the West Bengal people will rise in revolt and stop all channels of trade passing to East Pakistan through West Bengal by rail, by steamer boats, by airways forcibly. Then, Government will have to come to their senses. But, that would be too late. In the Nehru-Liaquat Agreement, it was stipulated that the minorities in Pakistan will get equal rights. That has been violated by the Pakistan Constitution recently. No member from a minority can contest in the election of the President. Moreover, the minorities have been given separate electorates against their will. So many restrictions are being put on the minorities and they are being forced to go out. As a result, the honour and prestige of the minorities are at stake. The Nehru-Liaquat pact has failed. It is the duty of the Nehru Government to see that drastic steps are taken to stop the exodus and take back some territories from East Pakistan for the rehabilitation of these refugees.

I vehemently oppose the remarks of Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani that the Congress Members from West Bengal do not do any work and it is the Members from the Opposition who do all the work. Sometimes, these opposition Members, instead of doing any good to the refugees, do more harm to them. (*An Hon Member: Question*). They exploit the situation for their own propaganda purposes and delay the schemes. I appeal to the Opposition not to mislead or misguide the refugees, and I request them to co-operate with the Government. I thank you, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to participate in this debate

and, I thank Shri Mehr Chand Khanna for doing something constructive for the speedy rehabilitation of the refugees.

**Shri S. M. Ghose (Malda):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Demands and oppose all the cut motions. I also congratulate our Rehabilitation Minister, Shri Khanna, for understanding the problem of West Bengal correctly. When Shri Chatterjee, in his speech, said that Shri Khanna was trying to take shelter under the cover of the new influx of refugees from East Pakistan, in my opinion he really did a great injustice, because in the 92 pages of the printed book which he has circulated to all the Members, Shri Khanna has laid all the cards on the table. Every information is there. He has nothing to conceal from anybody.

Before I take up this problem of rehabilitation in West Bengal, I may say a few words about the remarks of Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani accusing the West Bengal Congress Organisation. She mentioned that the West Bengal Congress was not co-operating with other organisations or other people who are working in this field. She also mentioned that she was in Noakhali and that she worked there. But I would like to remind her that when she went to Noakhali she found the President of the West Bengal Congress already there. He rendered her all sorts of help and placed at her disposal money and also Congress workers to be utilised by her for any work she wanted to do there.

Then she also mentioned about visiting other places, Assam, Tripura etc. When she had been to Assam and Tripura—you, Sir, were also one of the members of that party—you will remember that the Congress President of West Bengal was all along with her in the Assam tour, in the Tripura tour and in her tour of various camps in West Bengal. Apart from this, let me mention here that the West Bengal Congress President visited other camps. He visited one camp in Gaya, another camp in Ranchi and also took pains to find out the whereabouts of about 50 East Bengal refugees who had been sent to Madras.

When the first Ministry after independence was formed, it was the Chief Minister of West Bengal, Dr. Ghosh, who did not recognise that there was a refugee problem in West Bengal. The West Bengal Congress President had to

[Shri S. M. Ghose] approach the Centre, and you will remember that in this House, when Shri Neogy was the Minister, he had to admit, over the head of the West Bengal Government, in reply to the West Bengal Congress President's reference that there was a problem.

First of all, it took nearly a year before the West Bengal Government, when Dr. Ghosh was the Chief Minister, recognised that there was really a refugee problem in West Bengal. I would not have mentioned all these things, but there was a direct challenge and we were accused and therefore most reluctantly I am mentioning these things.

The Habra colony is one of the biggest refugee colonies in West Bengal today. During Dr. Ghosh's regime, it was the West Bengal Congress President who went into the midst of that jungle to find out the deserted camp of the Defence department and settle some of the refugees there. He opened a working centre, and continued this work for nearly about a year before Dr. Roy's Ministry came and recognised this West Bengal refugee problem and took it upon themselves.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty :** So, all the ills were due to Dr. Ghosh and all the good due to Dr. Roy.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna :** We are partial to your relations.

**Shri N. C. Chatterjee :** (Hooghly): He is resting on his own laurels.

**Shri S. M. Ghose :** I am saying this because the West Bengal Congress was attacked and accused. All along the border of Banagram, the Namasudhra refugees were rehabilitated by the West Bengal Congress without any Government help because the Government did not recognise the problem at that time. Some of them were from Noakhali. The Namasudhras were also rehabilitated on local zamindars' lands in the area between Banagram and Habra.

Then I come to another remark of my friend Shri Chatterjee. Although the Speaker at that time intervened, he maintained that the S.R.C. Bill had some connection with this rehabilitation problem. He would have been perfectly satisfied if that small territory from Bihar given by the S.R.C. to West Bengal is mentioned.

**Shri N. C. Chatterjee :** I am sorry to intervene. I never said that. I said that the despondency of the refugees has been keener because even that little territory which would have given them some hope has already been taken away in the S.R.C. Report.

**Shri S. M. Ghose :** As a matter of fact, it has not been taken away by the S.R.C. Report. But I would ask Shri Chatterjee to consider whether in place of that area which is a little over 3,000 square miles—and according to Dr. Roy's own statement, he is not going to utilise a portion of it, that is to say the Kishanganj area for refugees rehabilitation—if we get near about 67,000 square miles of Bihar along with us, that will facilitate rehabilitation more or not. That is the only question which I would ask him.

Then, he has mentioned another problem in connection with the new influx of refugees. I shall deal with it separately, but here I would only like to point to Shri Chatterjee that he has mentioned that about 60 to 70 thousand Pakistani citizens are working in Calcutta and earning their bread. Even if we take that extreme attitude that in order to provide work for the new refugees who are coming we drive these 60 to 70 thousand people from here, that would not create such a vacuum as to accommodate 92 lakhs of people who are likely to come. That would not solve the problem. I can understand these questions being raised before us. But the new influx is such a great problem that we shall have to seek its solution somewhere else, and not by trying to drive out these people from here.

Another thing that my hon. friend mentioned was in regard to the *jirathias* of Tripura I think my hon. friend knows that these *jirathias* were recognised by the Tripura Maharaja when Tripura was a State. At the time of taking over, in the first inter-Dominion conference held at Calcutta, in which our late lamented friend Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee was also present, it was admitted by both sides that these people had their lands in Tripura, and some of them had their homes also in Tripura, but in the main their homes were on the other side. Therefore, they were recognised as the *jirathias* of Tripura State, and they were given the right to take with them up to 40 maunds of paddy, I think, while they had to leave the rest of it in the

**Tripura State.** That is also a special problem of a special category. So, we should not mix up the two things. We should know the facts first, and then deal with the problem. How we want to deal with it is quite a separate matter.

Now, I come to the rehabilitation problem of Bengal, which is a problem of all problems. The Central Ministry and the State Government are in agreement over certain schemes which have been formulated. It took a long time to formulate those schemes, and to examine them. Then they were forwarded to the Rehabilitation Ministry for a decision at the State level; then, they were forwarded to the Finance Ministry for final sanctions. We are told by the West Bengal Rehabilitation Minister herself that here all these schemes and the papers and files relating to them are held up for months and months. In their eagerness to scrutinise the expenditure, and to cut down or curtail the expenditure, the Finance Ministry do not realise that they are really increasing the expenditure on rehabilitation. Every year, the Rehabilitation Minister has to come forward with Supplementary Demands for Grants before the House, in order to give relief to the refugees. What is this due to? It has been due to the fact that they have not been able to rehabilitate the people in the camps, and they have taken years and years.

My hon. friend Shri N. C. Chatterjee mentioned some cases of persons who have been in the camps for nearly two or three years. But I know of cases of persons who have been there for full five years. I am surprised that there is no one in the Finance Ministry to look into this aspect of the whole question. In their eagerness to scrutinise and curtail the expenditure, they are really increasing the expenditure under the other head, namely, that of relief. I want the Finance Minister to make a categorical statement here in this House as to what is happening there.

After all, these schemes are prepared first by the West Bengal Rehabilitation Ministry; then they are sent to the Central Rehabilitation Ministry; they also scrutinise and examine the whole thing. Besides, the other persons who are involved, namely, the refugees, also take a lot of pain to go here and there in order to apprise them about the facts of their cases. When once things are finalised, and the State Rehabilitation

Ministry are in agreement with the Central Rehabilitation Ministry, I do not see why the files should again be sent from the bottom to the top to be scrutinised by every officer in the Finance Ministry, and again be sent to the other Ministries concerned for purposes of scrutiny? I really cannot understand. This is the root cause of the delay, as also disappointment and suffering of these refugees.

In regard to land acquisition, I cannot really understand why there should be so much insistence on the 1946 price for small plots of land nearabout Calcutta when the other departments of the Rehabilitation Ministry to rehabilitate those people who have already got some gainful employment roundabout Calcutta when the other departments of the Central and State Governments are paying for such small plots of land at the current market price! Thereby, Government are making difficult the problem of rehabilitation of those who have got some sort of employment in or nearabout Calcutta. This aspect of the question also should be looked into by the Rehabilitation Minister.

There is one other small matter. In Malda, quite a large number of refugees have come in, and the Malda municipality are unable to cope with the situation. They have applied to the Central Rehabilitation Ministry for a loan for expanding their water works and other amenities, but uptill now, they have not received any reply. This matter also should be looked into.

Lastly, I would like to point out that if we want maximum efficiency from this Ministry, then in my opinion, the people who are working in this Ministry should be made permanent. If their services are extended from year to year only, then we cannot expect to get that much of efficiency which we would expect from them, for they will be always thinking about their own future. I would like the Minister to consider this question also in all seriousness.

I now come to the new problem which has arisen from the influx of refugees from East Bengal. I am grateful to Dr. Gidwani for having brought to our notice the cases of another category of refugees from Kashmir also.

So far as the influx from East Bengal is concerned, I confess that I really cannot suggest any solution to my own

[Shri S. M. Ghose]

satisfaction. The problem is such that if we are to be prepared to accept the remaining 92 lakhs of Hindus from East Bengal, then in my opinion, our Second Five Year Plan will have to be dropped altogether. The choice is between dropping altogether the Second Five Year Plan and thinking of some other remedy. Then, Sir, land has been demanded. My feeling is that there is very good justification for this. The problem is such that we cannot think of any solution excepting by liquidating our own State. This is worse than a situation which could be created by a war. I think an invasion from Pakistan could not have created a worse situation than this.

1 P.M.

**Shri N. C. Chatterjee :** This is *jehad*.

**Shri S. M. Ghose :** Therefore, the demand for land which is being made is quite natural, because we cannot think of any other solution. We cannot liquidate our own State : we cannot go into liquidation. We cannot think of war. Therefore, there is very good justification for demanding land from Pakistan to rehabilitate these refugees, if we are to accept them. The other suggestion which emanated from a Conference of Members of Parliament in Calcutta and was ultimately accepted by the Ministry and forwarded to Pakistan is found in the first page of the Report. It reads as follows :

"It was agreed that the following measures would tend to check the migration :—

- (i) Easier communications between East Pakistan and the adjoining Indian States.
- (ii) Relaxation of travel restrictions.
- (iii) Facilities for remittance of money from East Pakistan to India.
- (iv) Exchange of cultural missions, including sports teams, etc.
- (v) Proper facilities for trade, employment and education for the minority community in East Pakistan, restoration of their arms licenses and derequisitioning of their houses."

Along with these five items, I would like to suggest two more : one which

was suggested by my hon. friend Lala Achint Ram that instead of allowing the refugees to come over to Indian territory, there should be camps inside East Pakistan where the migrants may be kept, say, for six months or a year and the cost may be borne by the two States half and half. The supervision of these camps should be in the hands of non-official organisations like Pakistan National Congress, Awami League or other minority organisations there.

The other suggestion is that the East Pakistan Government must find out some method by which the confidence of these minorities can be restored. As our Prime Minister pointed out the other day in his speech, it is not the people of East Pakistan, not even the top-ranking leaders who desire that these minorities should be squeezed out; it is the officers who are responsible for this. I entirely agree with that view. The officers of the East Pakistan Government are mainly responsible for creating such a situation. Therefore, the confidence of the minorities will never be restored so long as there is not a large number of officers from the minority communities, from the Secretariat down to the thana level. If they cannot find out so many officers in East Pakistan and if a request is made by them, then the West Bengal Government should be prepared to lend the services of some of their officers on deputation for a year or even more.

**Mr. Chairman :** The hon. Member's time is up.

**Shri S. M. Ghose :** One minute more and I shall conclude.

About the refugees coming from Kashmir. I can understand that we cannot deal with a situation in another sovereign State. Our difficulty lies there. But here is an instance where refugees are coming from our own territory under occupation of Pakistani army. We have tolerated this situation, in my opinion, long enough and we should not tolerate it any longer. This army in occupation of our territory should be pushed out as soon as possible and the area brought under our control.

**Shri R. P. Garg (Patiala) :** Mr. Chairman, I think the Union Rehabilitation Ministry has been handling the most difficult task that fell on the shoulders of the Government of India as a consequence of Partition. From the very beginning it was evident that the work



of providing rehabilitation to the millions of people would not only demand great financial resources, but also an efficient machinery to execute the work. I am glad to note that the Government of India has been successful in providing rehabilitation to the millions of people from West Bengal and it did not feel hesitant to spend money on it.

An interim compensation scheme was formulated in 1953. Having realised that no useful purpose would be served by prolonging negotiations with Pakistan, we formulated the final scheme and passed the Act in 1954 and framed the rules thereunder in 1955. Now the whole scheme of compensation revolves on verified claims and evacuee pool. I would in this connection like to say a few words about the valuation of property. In the case of government built houses the valuation of property is determined by the cost of land and the cost of superstructure. This is not fair. These colonies were actually developed by the refugees. They were jungles when the refugees were settled there and we should not benefit out of the efforts of the refugees. The basic idea of rehabilitation of refugees was to give them shelter and not to make any profit out of it. I am ashamed to see this *bania* mentality of Government in that they want to make profit out of it. Their approach to the whole problem is highly legalistic and actuated by motives of profiteering. Properties less than the value of Rs. 10,000 are exempt from auction, but the marginal cases should be decided in favour of the refugees. But what is happening? It is the other way about. The officers are trying to enhance the number of auction properties. Now there are a number of evacuee properties consisting of say half a dozen houses. Each house does not cost more than Rs. 5000 or Rs. 6000. But the Government is trying to make it one unit and auction it. This is not fair. When the refugees were given these units, the cost of each one was not assessed at more than Rs. 5,000. They should not therefore be auctioned together.

**The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi):** Where has it occurred?

**Shri R. P. Garg:** In Delhi—in Akhata Kidara. I can give any number of examples. There are big estates in which there are so many small houses built, each one costing not more than Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 6,000.

Then there is another aspect. Suppose there is a big building and several refugees are allotted a portion of that building. Why should that property be auctioned as a whole? At any rate, Government should not try to enhance the number of auctionable properties.

Now compensation can only be paid out of evacuee pool. What is the evacuee pool? It consists of evacuee property, Government built property, arrears of rent of loans advanced by Government. It is all right for those who have verified claims to adjust their claims by purchasing some property. The main difficulty arises when cash payment is demanded.

Cash compensation cannot be given till we sell the whole property, whether occupied by verified claimants or non-claimants, or till the whole money is realised from the non-claimants or till the arrears of rent or instalments of loan are realised from the refugees. Some instalments of loans may go up to 15 years even. Does it mean that the compensation scheme will linger on for 15 years? Does it also mean that the Ministry of Rehabilitation will linger on for 15 years? This is not the right approach. The compensation problem is a human problem and we must solve it as early as possible. I am ashamed to see that not only the Union Rehabilitation Minister but also many dignitaries connected with the Ministry have said that the speed of payment of compensation to verified claimants will depend on the speed of realisation of dues from the refugees by way of loans, arrears of rent, sale of government-built houses and sale of evacuee property. Realization from the refugees has got to be slow because their paying capacity is very low as yet and we should not be so strict in getting the money from them. We should try to give them long and easy instalment facilities. We should not link up this compensation scheme with the realisation of dues from the refugees.

I am glad that the Union Rehabilitation Minister declared the other day that the Government have decided to realise the price of the land which has been allotted to certain refugees in Rajasthan and other places in 15 equal annual instalments. But he made a distinction between land and houses, on the plea that land is for rehabilitation and houses are for property purposes. I want to ask: if a person is given a job or business in Delhi or some other place and a house

[Shri R. P. Garg]

is not given to him, do you think that he would feel rehabilitated? He will certainly not feel rehabilitated. A concession of two years is given as a tenant. But what are these two years when he does not feel rehabilitated even after eight years? This fear of eviction after two years will haunt him and will make him feel unsettled. So we must give him long and easy instalment facilities.

If he buys a house upto Rs. 10,000, the money is to be realised within three years. If he buys it in instalments spread over three years, the monthly instalment will not come to less than Rs. 250. If the hon. Minister thinks that the refugee is capable of paying Rs. 250 per month, I think his attitude towards the problem is not realistic, and we cannot solve the problem like this.

**Lala Achint Ram (Hissar):** Even the Ministers cannot pay that much.

**Shri R. P. Garg:** We have now a low-income group housing scheme under the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply. Under that scheme, a lot of funds are provided under the Second Five Year Plan. People with incomes below Rs. 6000 are advanced loans upto Rs. 8000 and the money is to be realised in 30 instalments. If a normal citizen is given that facility, why not the refugees be given the same? So far as the non-claimant refugees are concerned, they can be given these facilities and money can be transferred from the Works, Housing and Supply Ministry to the evacuee pool. The money may be realised through the same agency that realises money in the case of the low income group housing scheme. This will solve the problem of recovery from non-claimant refugees.

Now, if the payment of compensation is not to be linked with recovery of loans etc., I would suggest the following. The total compensation applications are 4,35,000 and the number of rehabilitation grant applications is 81,000. This makes a total of 5,16,000 applications. Upto the 29th February 1956, 85,803 persons have been paid Rs. 25.47 crores as compensation. Now only 4,25,000 persons are left to be paid or claims to be adjusted. I want to ask, what is the work left for the Rehabilitation Ministry. There are a few things left. One is implementation of any further agreements or further talks with the Pakistan Government. Another is recovery of loans given to displaced

persons or rent arrears. The third is recovery of sale proceeds from non-claimants. The only work left with the Rehabilitation Ministry now is regarding adjustment of the claims by way of sale of evacuee or government-built houses, because recovery of loan arrears can be entrusted to other agencies of the Government and the recovery of sale proceeds of evacuee or government-built houses can be entrusted to the agency of the low income group housing scheme. The only work of adjustment of verified claims in the sale proceeds of evacuee or government-built houses should be finished within this financial year.

**Shri Tyagi:** More refugees are coming from East Bengal.

**Shri R. P. Garg:** I will deal with it.

The Union Minister should state on the floor of the House that this work regarding compensation to verified claims would be finished within this year. Unless and until we make such a decision, we cannot increase the pace of compensation, because certain vested interests have grown in the Ministry and they do not like the work to be finished. It is wrong to say that the speed of compensation depends on the recovery of dues. Last year, Rs. 15 crores were provided in the budget for cash compensation, but only Rs. 9 crores were paid and Rs. 6 crores lapsed. What is the justification for this? The excuse given is that recoveries from the refugees are not coming, and that is why the pace of compensation has slackened. This is a wrong approach. This must be decided within a year or so. Some time back, in 1954, the hon. Minister, Shri A. P. Jain, said that the success of the Ministry should be judged by how early we were able to wind up this show.

Now, I want to draw the attention of the House to the exodus of refugees from East Bengal. What are the realities and how are we to face them? The reality is that the Hindu minority during all these eight years has been migrating from East Bengal from time to time in varied numbers, because the Pakistan rulers have created such conditions in East Bengal that it is impossible for the Hindu minority to live there. It is most unfortunate that the entire outlook of the Pakistan rulers, leaders of the Government, and the Press is communal. This exodus will continue and we have to face the problem.



Some of our friends have suggested that we should seal off the border. It is a negative approach to the problem. Sealing off of the border would create discontentment and frustration amongst the minorities. Our method is not negative; our method should be positive. Whatever be the economic or political reasons for the merger of Bengal and Bihar, at least for the sake of settling the refugees from East Bengal, Bihar and West Bengal should be merged immediately, because the East Bengal refugees do not want to settle anywhere else due to language and other difficulties. If West Bengal and Bihar were merged, this problem would be solved.

There are certain Muslims here who are Indian nationals and have not migrated to Pakistan. They had just temporarily shifted from here and their houses are occupied by the refugees here. What is the justification for not restoring to them their houses? Why cannot we get them back their houses?

In the end, I would once again draw the attention of the hon. Minister that this is a human problem and it should be treated in a human way, because ours is a Welfare State.

**Mr. Chairman :** Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury. I would request the hon. Member not to take more than ten minutes because there are a number of other hon. Members who wish to participate, and not more than 45 minutes are left now.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury (Nabadwip):** It is with a very heavy heart today that we discuss rehabilitation. Dark clouds are over Bengal and we cannot help thinking that the situation is really very ominous for the whole of India. We should take the view that war has been waged, because it is a war of misery that is raging, and all avenues must be searched to counteract that misery. I do not agree with the hon. lady Member opposite who said that everything has been put down to this exodus from East Pakistan. The exodus from East Pakistan is a terrible problem. Within this month 70,000 have come over. That is something that we have to contend against. It is not that we want to hang everything on that nail; it is a vital problem that we are facing. For this there must be high-level talks and there must be every effort made so that security might be had for the minorities in East Pakistan.

It has sometimes been said—even in Pakistan—that people are coming to India because they get some advantage here. Are they getting anything very great in India? When you look at them in Calcutta, on the streets of Calcutta, in the Sealdah station where people are scattered like cats and dogs, and yet they are writing back to their relatives to come to West Bengal, why is it so? Because, they fear to lose in Pakistan more than life itself, honour and decency. That is why the streets and foot-paths of West Bengal seem safer, although we have not been able to do as much as we would like to do for them.

Coming face to face with this question, there is one thing which I would like to bring to the notice of the Ministry. According to the figures the expenses on the East Bengal refugees is 30 per cent. of the whole expenditure whereas the refugee influx is 44 per cent. and actually 80 per cent. of the refugees are, so to speak, concentrated in West Bengal. I hope the hon. Minister will look into that and see that something is done to give more towards the East Pakistan refugees.

In Nadia, my own district, there are as many as 10 lakhs of refugees—in that small district. West Bengal is breaking under the force of the heavy influx. In India, disease is rife and T.B. in particular is creating havoc. Something must be done about T.B. beds. It has been said that we want 1,000 beds. At the moment we have 492 and a thousand is the minimum. I do not know whether we can get this number this year. The treatment of T.B. has to be quick; if it is delayed there is no hope for the patients. T. B. sanatoria, clinics and beds have to be made available in the small district towns. If it is a grant of more than 5 lakhs it has to come to the Centre for sanction. I wish the Finance Ministry and the Ministry in West Bengal could have more co-ordination so that schemes over Rs. 5 lakhs need not always be delayed. The danger of T.B. patients is that they cannot live if there is delay and anything that may be done for them will be useless and it will be money wasted. Not only that; after-care and care of their families have to be taken into consideration.

There was a Press Note to say that this was being done. But by the time the care gets to them, it is too late and

[Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury]

the patients spend their nights in sleepless agony and their days in great depression. If help to the family is sent quickly the lives of these patients may be saved.

It is surprising to note that although 6 colleges were granted for the refugees in West Bengal no college has been sanctioned for Nadia where refugee concentration is the greatest! We want to remove congestion from Calcutta but refugees from Nadia go to Calcutta to study! If you have a refugee college at Nadia I think it will solve the problem and I hope the Minister will really consider this and do this much for my district. The land was surveyed, and the West Bengal Rehabilitation Minister also looked the matter up, but nothing was done!

There are 50,000 fishermen who have come from East Pakistan and are ready to earn their living in India. They have submitted a scheme. I have no time to go into it now. It is certainly useless to put them on agricultural land because that is something different and that is something which they have never done. They should be put in such places where they can fish, say in Saurashtra or in Assam and other places wherever they may be able to rehabilitate themselves. I will send the scheme to the hon. Minister and I hope he will give it his earnest consideration and the details will be worked out.

There are also various weavers today who have come from East Pakistan. There is one silver lining in the exodus from East Pakistan. After all the wealth of a nation is not actual money, as such; it is the people that are the national wealth. We have these weavers from East Pakistan; their services can be utilised and we can cultivate their art. Let us give them the right kind of looms and yarn with which they can weave the authentic type of Dacca saris, in West Bengal. The saris that are woven today by these weavers are not really true to type. This can only be done by giving them the right kind of yarn and looms, and cloth that was the pride of India will again be produced in West Bengal.

It is heartening to note that it has now been agreed that loans under Rs. 300 will be converted into grants and that house-building loans in the urban areas will be liberalised from Rs. 500

to Rs. 1,200. That is a great relief. I hope that the aspect of grants to West Bengal will be kept more in view by the Minister when he considers this question. It is really impossible to describe the miserable conditions.

Sir, camps are the most expensive things. When you are considering the question of acquisition of land, let me earnestly say that you should pay good price for the land; pay something like Rs. 300 for a bigha and you will get land. Do not stint on the price of land because you are spending that money and more on camps which are expensive propositions. It is a temporary proposition; it does not do the refugee any good. If you can give him land for rehabilitating himself, you will have spent the money on something for which he will have permanent use. Therefore, I would say, pay more for the land and acquire the land.

I would also ask the opposition parties who have been so vociferous in saying that our Ministry has done nothing, to act in full co-operation when it comes to the question of acquisition of land, and not to go round creating disruption and local friction. Really, it is this that has been done in many parts in Bengal and if I have a little more time I will show it with figures. In Bengal actually 11,074 acres have been notified for acquisition and 2,899 acres have come into possession and acquisition proceedings are going on with regard to 9,521 acres. Out of this, only 300 acres have been able to be acquired. In the acquisition proceedings that are going on with regard to 9,521 acres, injunction after injunction has been brought in by the local people who have been incited to object to the acquisition of land saying that the land belongs to them. This is the sort of thing that is being done. You cannot go on running with the hare and hunting with the hounds. How can any scheme succeed, if this is done?

So far as the Ministry of Rehabilitation is concerned, I think, the refugees are well aware of what is being done for them. It often reminds me of a saying in Bengali, when the Ministry is being drastically criticised. I will translate it for you. There is a person who cooks the food; after cooking he dishes and serves the food; but there is one who then comes and says: Let me fan this and cool it for you, and he gets all the credit. If that is the attitude taken, I have nothing to say. It is not a race for

credit; it is a race for doing all we can. We should have every co-operation from every shade of opinion to deal with the refugees because we are dealing with people who have lost their all, people who are undernourished and in despair. Political opinion or political creed comes in nowhere. Let us do the best we can about this problem.

It is heart-rending to hear that the East Pakistan and Bengal refugees will not help themselves, that they are lazy and that they will not work. It is really very very sad. The conditions in the camps and bustees can be visualised. The conditions in the clums and bustees which our Prime Minister has been seeing in Delhi, are replicas of some camps and bustees in West Bengal. These are the conditions under which they live, ill fed, ill clothed, without amenities, herded like cattle! It is surprising that there is vice or immorality! Camp conditions must be looked into and rectified. I think the criticism that Bengal refugees will not work is unfounded, because, I am sure, they will work if given proper opportunities. They will become citizens of India who will be useful to India.

Sir, today we are facing a problem that not only belongs to West Bengal or West Bengal-Bihar merger, but also belongs to the whole of India. The whole of India must come forward to meet this situation. Let it not be said by posterity that we did not tackle this problem on a war footing and that we did not do as much as we could have done. Let us take those who have come to our hearts. Let us deal with the situation in the right way and keep the prestige of India high. It is indeed heartening to know that we have taken help from the United Kingdom and our defences are being strengthened. I hope our defences will be strengthened to combat all aggression and the refugees will be so integrated in time, that they will become citizens of India who will no longer feel like uprooted humanity but will be our brothers and feel secure in West Bengal and in the whole of India.

**श्रीमती कमलेश्वरी मति शाह** (जिला गढ़वाल-पश्चिम व जिला टिहरी गढ़वाल व जिला बिजनौर-उत्तर): मुझे पुनर्वास मंत्रालय के विषय में कुछ बातें कहनी हैं। शरणार्थियों की क्या हालत है, किस प्रकार वे बेचारे अपनी जिन्दगी बसर कर रहे हैं, यह मेरे भाई और बहन इस सदन में प्रश्नी तरह से जानते हैं। हमारे देश में बहुत विदेशी प्रतिष्ठा आए और हमने उनका बहुत आदर सत्कार किया। वे यहां

आ कर घूमे फिरे और लोगों से मिलें। हम विदेशियों के साथ मेल मिलाप करते हैं और पाकिस्तान भी उनमें से एक है। हम उसके साथ मित्रों जैसा बरताव करने की बहुत कोशिश कर रहे हैं। आज हमारी यह कोशिश सफल नहीं हो रही है और यह चीज स्वयं हमारे प्रधान मंत्री के वचनों से प्रमाणित होती है। आज पाकिस्तान में तथा पूर्वी बंगाल में हिन्दुओं के साथ कैसा बर्ताव हो रहा है और किस तरह से उनको वहां से धकेल कर बाहर किया जा रहा है यह किसी से छिपा हुआ नहीं है। यही नहीं, बल्कि मुसलमान भी बराबर पाकिस्तान से अब भी भारत आ रहे हैं। ऐसी दशा में हमें यह देखना चाहिए कि क्या पाकिस्तान का व्यवहार हमारे प्रति न्यायोचित है? हमारी यह कोशिश है कि मेल मिलाप हो, प्रेम का व्यवहार हो और शान्ति बनी रहे। परन्तु यह शान्ति कब तक बनी रहेगी यह हमें देखना है और यह सवाल वही हल कर सकेगा जिस पर कि हमारी आशाएँ लगी हुई हैं।

आज पाकिस्तान जो भी कार्य कर रहा है वह हमारे इंटरेस्ट (हित) में किसी सूरत में भी नहीं हो सकता। आप देखते ही हैं कि नेपाल में एक धरारा नामक स्थान है जहां पर हाल ही में एक मस्जिद बनाई गई है। जिस शक्ति की सहायता से पाकिस्तान नेपाल तक पहुंच रहा है यह भी मेरे विचार से आप सब को मालूम ही है। आज जो अतिथि आप के यहां आते हैं उनका आप बहुत आदर सत्कार करते हैं, लेकिन क्या आपने यह देखने की भी कोशिश की है कि उनका भारत के प्रति कैसा व्यवहार है। जो हमारा बरताव उनकी तरफ है और जो उनका व्यवहार करने का तरीका है इसमें गहरा सम्बन्ध है। वे किस प्रकार का बरताव हमारे साथ करते हैं इसके बारे में मैं आपके सामने एक छोटी सी मिसाल रखना चाहती हूँ। अभी हाल ही में रूस के उप-प्रधान मंत्री पाकिस्तान गए थे। कराची में उन्होंने पत्रकारों को साफ साफ शब्दों में तो नहीं, परन्तु गोलमोल ढंग से यह बताया कि काश्मीर हमारा नहीं है। यह चीज उन्होंने खुल्लमखुल्ला ढंग से तो नहीं कही, यही से मानती हूँ, लेकिन गोलमोल तरीके से यह उन्होंने कहा इसी तरह से अमरीका और इंग्लैंड के लोग हमारे साथी नहीं बन रहे हैं और न हमारी किसी तरह से मदद ही कर रहे हैं। इन सब को मित्र बनाने की हमारी कोशिश के बावजूद भी क्या कारण है कि हम अपनी नीति में सफल नहीं हो पा रहे हैं।

[श्रीमती कमलेंदु मति शाह]

आज बम्बों के भंडारों ने नष्ट करने की बातचीत जारी है। लेकिन मैं समझती हूँ कि इन भण्डारों को नष्ट करने से कोई फायदा नहीं होगा जब तक आप उनके विचारों को, उनके मन को नहीं बदल सकेंगे। एक भंडार को नष्ट यदि आप करवा दें तो अनेकों भंडार इन बम्बों के बन सकते हैं। इस लिए राष्ट्रों के विचारों को बदलने की तरफ हमारी कोशिश होनी चाहिए, न कि भण्डारों को नष्ट करवाने की तरफ। आज हमारी आशाएँ एक जीनियस पर, अपूर्व बुद्धि वाले आदमी पर, मेरा मतलब प्रधान मंत्री जी से है, लगी हुई है, जिन्होंने एक प्रकार से साम्यवादियों के मनो को भी बदल डाला है। इस वास्ते हमारी आशाएँ वही हैं और हम समझते हैं कि वह कुछ जादू कर दें जिस से कि हमारे शरणाधिकियों की समस्याएँ भी हल हो जाएँ और हमारे देश में शान्ति बनी रहे।

हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जो विदेशों की यात्रा करने वाले हैं, उससे भी यही आशा लगाई जा सकती है कि वह शान्ति का वातावरण पैदा करने में सफल होंगे और लड़ाई को वह टालने में सफल होंगे। परन्तु आज जो हम नरमी का परिचय दे रहे हैं और जिस तरह से सहिष्णुता दिखा रहे हैं, उससे हम को भीरुता की संज्ञा दी जा सकती है। इससे हमें चेतना चाहिये। हमारे लिए यह शरणाधिकियों का जो प्रश्न पाकिस्तान व लंका की ओर से खड़ा किया जा रहा है, इसका कोई न कोई हल ढूँढना चाहिये। मैं तो यह कहूँगी 'शटे शाटयं समाचरेत्'। जो शठ है उसके साथ शठता से ही काम हमें लेना चाहिए। महात्मा गांधी ने भी हमें यही सबक सिखाया है। उन्होंने कहा है कि जो हमारी शान्ति नीति को नहीं समझता उसके साथ हमें दूसरा बरताव भी करना चाहिए। इन सब बातों को हमारे प्रधान मंत्री सोचते हैं या नहीं, परन्तु हमारी सब आशाएँ उन्हीं पर लगी हुई हैं। हम कब तक चुप बैठे रहेंगे, कब तक हम लज्जित होते रहेंगे? हमें यहाँ तक कहा जायेगा कि हम डरपोक बने हैं, बहादुर नहीं हैं और स्थिति का सामना करने के बजाय, भाग कर अपना मुँह छिपा रहे हैं। इस वास्ते मैं समझती हूँ कि स्थिति का मुकाबला करने के लिए हमें कुछ न कुछ अवश्य करना चाहिए।

श्री नन्ब लाल शर्मा (सीकर) :

तद्विध्यमध्ययं धाम सारस्वतमुपास्पहे ।

यत्प्रसादात्प्राप्स्यन्ते मोहान्बलमसंख्यताः ॥

सभापति महोदय, जब खन्ना साहब की तरफ देखता हूँ तो ऐसा विचार मेरे मन में आता है कि स्नेह तथा प्रेम से मैं बोलूँ। लेकिन जब रिपयूजीज की तरफ देखता हूँ जिनको कि उद्धित कहा जाता है, तो मन कहता है कि सरकार को जितनी दिल खोलकर गाली दे सकते हो, दो।

बात यह है कि न मैं पूर्वी बंगाल का रहने वाला हूँ और न ही पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान का। मैं भारतीय प्रदेश का पाटिशन (विजन) से पहले। और भारतीय प्रदेश का रहने वाला अब। मैं तो यहाँ तक कहता हूँ कि पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान से आने वाले जितने भी उत्पीड़ित हैं वे सब के सब भी अगर पूर्वी बंगाल से के भाइयों की खातिर बलिदान कर दिए जाएँ तो मैं इस बात की गारंटी देने को तैयार हूँ कि उनको कोई एतराज नहीं होगा और वे अपने प्राण देने को तैयार होंगे। मुझे यह सुन कर दुख हुआ कि श्रीमान मेहर चन्द खन्ना जी मर कर जीये और जी कर के पूर्वी बंगाल चले गए और अब बंगाल में बैठे हुए हैं और हम को उनके लाभ से वंचित होना पड़ा है। परन्तु मैं समझता हूँ कि उनका भी यदि बलिदान हुआ और उन्हीं के साथ साथ हमारा भी बलिदान हुआ, अपने पूर्वी बंगाल के भाइयों की रक्षा की खातिर, तो इसमें हमें कोई कष्ट नहीं होगा। स्वर्गीय आत्मा सरदार पटेल जब जीवित थे तो उन्होंने एक बार अल्टी-मेटम (चुनौती) दिया था कि अगर कोई भी आज के बाद रिपयूजी भारत आया तो हम समझ लेंगे। कारण यह है कि भारत के पाटिशन की एक मात्र कंडिशन (शर्त) यह थी कि माइनोरिटीज (अल्प संख्यकों) की रक्षा की जायेगी यह कहा गया था कि किसी भी देश से माइनोरिटीज का एक्सोडस (निष्क्रमण) नहीं होगा। लेकिन पाकिस्तान ने इस एडयोरेंस (आश्वासन) को निभाया नहीं है। आप यह भी जानते हैं कि जो नेहरू-लियाकत पैकट (संधि) हुआ था, जिस के कि दिल्ली पैकट का नाम दिया गया, उसकी क्या दुर्दशा हुई है। इसके बारे में प्रधान मंत्री कई बार कह चुके हैं और हम देख रहे हैं। यह जो रिपोर्ट भेजी गई है इस में भी हमारे खन्ना साहब ने साफ साफ कहा है कि अपनी नेगोशियेशन (वार्ता) में वह निरंतर परिश्रम करने पर भी अन्त में उनको कोई सफलता प्राप्त नहीं हुई है। मेरे पास समय नहीं है कि गम्भीरता से इस विषय में और ज्यादा जा सकूँ। लेकिन यह शुद्ध रूप से स्पष्ट कर दिया गया है कि:

The Pakistan Minister for Minority Affairs and the Indian Deputy Minister of External Affairs, deputising for the Indian Minister for Minority Affairs, conducted a joint tour.

उन्होंने ज्वायंट टूर किया

Unfortunately our hopes were belied and there was no substantial decrease in the flow of migrants.

यह परिस्थिति है आपके नेगोशियेशंस की और यह दशा हुई है आपके पैकट की।

इस वक्त भी अगर हम आखें खोल कर नहीं देखते और पाकिस्तान को जता नहीं देते तो मैं समझता हूँ कि हम को सावरेन स्टेट (सम्पूर्ण प्रभुत्व सम्पन्न राज्य) रहने का कोई अधिकार है ही नहीं। अगर आज एक भी नेशनल के जीवन को खतरा होता है, जिस प्वाइंट पर कि भारत का डिविजन (विभाजन) हुआ था, और इसको ऐंडमिट (स्वीकार) किया जा चुका है कि उनकी इज्जत पर, उनके जीवन की रक्षा पर, सब प्रकार का खतरा आया हुआ है और इसी वजह से वह लोग यहां चले आ रहे हैं, इसके सिवा कोई और कारण नहीं है कि उन की प्रापर्टी को रिविजिशन (अधिग्रहण) किया जा रहा है, सब प्रकार से उन के अधिकारों को छीना जा रहा है, उनको किसी प्रकार की सुविधा नहीं दी जा रही है, तो इस को हम चुपके देख नहीं सकते हैं। हम कहते हैं कि बी हब टु फाइंड सम प्लेस फार देम (हमें उनके लिये स्थान ढूँढना है)। आज कहा जाता है कि उनके रिहैबिलिटेशन की प्राबलेंस (समस्या) है। मैं कहता हूँ कि सिर्फ रिहैबिलिटेशन की ही प्राबलेंस नहीं है, आपको खुल्लम खुल्ला पाकिस्तान से पृथ्वी मांगनी चाहिये, इसके अतिरिक्त कोई दूसरा मार्ग नहीं है। सब से बड़ी बात यह है कि अगर एग्जोडस बढ़ता है, तो एक दिन ऐसा आना चाहिये कि हमारे खन्ना साहब, हमारे डिफेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब और हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब यह अल्टिमेटम दे दें, चाहे वह किसी भी प्रकार से हो, कि अगर एक भी रिफ्यूजी वहां से चल कर इधर आता है तो अगर मिलिटरी ऐंड पुलिस विल बी देअर टु प्रोटेक्ट देम (हमारी पुलिस और फौज उनकी रक्षा के लिये वहां जायेगी)। अगर आप यह नहीं कर सकते और अपनी मिलिटरी और पुलिस को अपने आदमियों की रक्षा के लिये नहीं

भेज सकते हैं तो मैं समझता हूँ आप बहुत दिन जी नहीं सकते, आप अपने घर को बहुत दिन तक बचा कर नहीं रख सकते। लेकिन असली प्रश्न तो यह है कि बिल्ली के गले में घंटी कैसे बांधी जाये। घंटी बांधने का कोई न कोई उपाय सोचें। आपने पेज १० और ११ पर जो रेमेडीज सजेस्ट (उपाय सुझाये) की ह दे और आल बीटिंग रेबाउट दि बुश वह सब केवल शब्दों का ढेर फेर है। वह ऐसी ऐमेडीज नहीं हैं जो कुछ फल दिखला सकें। मैं तो कहता हूँ कि अगर तकड़ी का एक पल्ला भारी हो जाये तो यू मस्ट पुट बेट ग्रान दि अदर साइड (आप को दूसरी ओर वजन डालना चाहिये)। अगर आप दूसरी ओर बेट नहीं डालेंगे तो आप का काम नहीं चल सकता। पाकिस्तान आप के वीक प्वाइंट्स (कमजोरियाँ) जानता है, अपने वीक प्वाइंट भी जानता है और यह भी जानता है कि आप उसके वीक प्वाइंट पर स्ट्राइक नहीं कर सकते। हमारे रजमी साहब ने जो कि भोपाल के मेम्बर हैं, कहा था कि बी और आल विथ यू (हम सब आपके साथ हैं) अगर आप किसी प्रकार से भी कोई कदम उठाने के लिये तैयार हैं। लेकिन उन्होंने भी कहा था कि मैं जानता हूँ कि आप कुछ करने वाले नहीं हैं। इस लिये मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि अगर हमको पाकिस्तान में रहने वाले हिन्दुओं की रक्षा करनी है तो यह आवश्यक है कि हम इस को ध्यान में रखें कि पार्टिशन के समय उन्होंने वचन दिया था कि माइनारिटीज की रक्षा होगी, जिस को कि वह बिलकुल वायोलेट (उल्लंघन) कर चुके। पाकिस्तान कान्स्टिट्यूशन (संविधान) बन, जाने, पाकिस्तानी स्टेट बन जाने के बाद हिन्दुओं के राइट्स (अधिकारों) को खत्म किया गया। इसी से स्पष्ट है कि उन्होंने अपने उस वचन को वायोलेट कर डाला। अगर इसके बाद वहां से कोई एग्जोडस होता है तो हमारी गवर्नमेंट को उचित कदम उठाना चाहिये और मेरा विश्वास है कि कोई विरोधी पक्ष का व्यक्ति ऐसा न होगा जो सरकार के साथ पूरी तरह सहमत न होगा और अपना सहयोग और सहायता न देगा।

पूर्वी बंगाल के लोगों के पुनर्वास के सम्बन्ध में कई प्रकार की बातें कही जा चुकी हैं और जैसा कि हमारे पश्चिम बंगाल के

[श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा]

बन्धुओं ने कहा, मैं भी समझता हूँ कि उनके लिये अधिक से अधिक जितना भी किया जाये वह कम है।

मैं ने कई बार भारत सरकार से कहा है कि जो नीति उसने पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान से आये हुए उत्पीड़ितों के सम्बन्ध में अपनाई, अपनाई ही नहीं डबलैग्रर (घोषणा) भी की, नो प्राफिट नो लास बेसिस (न हानी न लाभ आधार) पर लोगों को प्रापर्टी देने की, वह गलत है। इस मंत्रालय का नाम पुनर्वास मंत्रालय नहीं है, उस का नाम रिलीफ ऐंड रिहैबिलिटेशन है। उस को अपने आप को कपट में डाल कर, अपने ऊपर बोझ डाल कर, स्वयम् छोटा मोटा टैक्स लगा कर भी अपने वाले उत्पीड़ितों को सुख सुविधा पहुंचानी चाहिये, यह उसका कर्तव्य है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : ऐसे हम इस दुनिया में नहीं रह सकते।

श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा : मैं श्री खन्ना जी के सम्बन्ध में और कुछ नहीं कहूंगा। मैं जानता हूँ कि उन का मन शरणाधियों के लिये खिन्न है, स्वयम् जिस को दर्द होता है वह दूसरे के दर्द को जानता है, लेकिन उनके इस खेद के बावजूद भी मरज बढ़ता गया ज्यों ज्यों दवा की। मैं अपने कट मोशन (कटौती प्रस्ताव) के सम्बन्ध में शीघ्र आता हूँ, स्माल क्लेम्स और नानक्लेमेंट्स के सम्बन्ध में। उन के पुनर्वास के सम्बन्ध में जो कहा गया था कि पांच हजार के मकान हैं, उन मकानों के लिये अब दस हजार लिये जा रहे हैं। जिन मकानों को निलास न करने के लिये कहा गया था और जिन के लिये यह कहा गया था जो जहाँ बैठे हुए हैं वहाँ से उनको न उठाया जायेगा, श्री जैन साहब ने कहा था या स्वयं श्री खन्ना साहब ने कहा था, वहाँ अब ऐसी परिस्थिति हो रही है कि ६० प्रति शत लोग उन में से उखड़ जायेंगे। स्वयम् हमारे सभापति जी ने भी इस ओर ध्यान आकृष्ट किया था, दूसरे हमारे बन्धुओं ने भी कहा, मैं भी कहता हूँ कि जो आदमी पांच हजार रुपये की प्रापर्टी की मार्केट वैल्यू (बाजार क भाव) का तिहाई देने के लिये अपनी स्त्री का जेवर बेच कर इन्वेस्ट (व्यय) करना चाहता था, आज उसकी ताकत नहीं है कि १५० और २०० ६० की मासिक किस्त अदा कर

सके। जो खुद ५०, ६० या १०० रुपये नहीं कमाता है वह किस तरह से १५० ६० की मासिक किस्त अदा कर सकेगा। फल यह होगा कि तीन साल के बाद उसे एजेक्ट कर देंगे। उस बेचारे का घर भी गया और स्त्री का जेवर भी गया, साथ ही साथ वह पहले की तरह से रिफ्यूजी का रिफ्यूजी रह गया। इस लिये मेरा निवेदन है कि खन्ना साहब ने पंद्रह साल के इन्स्टालमेंट (किस्त) की बात दूसरे के पक्ष में कही, उस का फायदा जो बेचारे यहाँ से दस मील की दूरी पर मालवीय नगर में बैठे हुए हैं, और जो कोई धनवान व्यक्ति नहीं हैं, जो ज्यादा कुछ कमा नहीं रहे हैं, उनको भी होना चाहिये।

अब प्रापर्टीज के आक्शन (नीलाम) का सवाल आता है। जिस व्यक्ति का दो, चार या छः लाख रुपये का क्लेम है और आप ने आठ हजार से पचास हजार तक की उस की छूट दे दी वह दे भी सकता है। फल क्या होगा कि धनवान के पास बहुत सम्पत्ति चली जायेगी और गरीब फिर भी वैसे का वैसे रह जायेगा। इस लिये अगर आप इस ६६ परसेन्ट (प्रतिशत) को रिहैबिलिटेट करना चाहते हैं तो आपको इस ओर ध्यान देना चाहिये।

अब मैं एक चीज की ओर ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ, और प्वाइंट छोड़ता चला जा रहा हूँ क्योंकि पहले तो समय आध घंटा से बीस मिनट किया गया और अब बीस मिनट से दस मिनट रह गया है, बाद में शायद इस को गिलोटिन (बन्द) ही कर दिया जाये।

Mr. Chairman : You have taken more than ten minutes.

Shri Nand Lal Sharma : So many points are left out; I am not covering them.

Mr. Chairman : I will request you to kindly finish as soon as possible.

श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा : ऐसे ही कुछ एक जगहों पर प्रापर्टी के साथ पृथ्वी की वैल्यू भी लगा दी गई है। जैसे अगर पांच हजार रुपये की प्रापर्टी है तो आज हमारी इस मिनिस्ट्री ने क्या किया कि पृथ्वी की कीमत को भी साथ में मिला लिया।

मेरे पास जंगपुरा से कई लोग आते हैं और कहते हैं कि वहां पर २५ और २६ रु० पर स्क्वेयर यार्ड (वर्ग गज) जमीन है। २५ रु० पर स्क्वेयर यार्ड के हिसाब से पांच हजार की प्रापर्टी की कीमत दस हजार रुपये हो गयी। अब जो रिफ्यूजी यह आशा करता था कि मैं पांच हजार का तिहाई पे कर दूंगा और उसके ऊपर जो लीज मनी होगा उस को वर्ष के वर्ष पे करता रहूंगा, उसके बाद में वह प्रापर्टी मेरी हो जायेगी, आज उसके लिये न मार्केट वैल्यू का तिहाई देना सम्भव है और न इन्स्टालमेंट देना, एक चीज। दूसरी चीज यह है कि सन् १९५० में जिस वक्त उस को किसी प्रापर्टी में डाला गया था उस वक्त की कीमत प्रापर्टी की लगाई जानी चाहिये थी। लेकिन अगर आप सन् १९५५-५६ की उस की मार्केट वैल्यू लगायेंगे और पांच हजार से दस हजार तक की कीमत लगायेंगे और वह भी तीन वर्षों तक, तो बेचारा रिफ्यूजी उस में कभी नहीं रह पायेगा। इसलिये नो प्राफिट नो लास बेसिस पर कीमत लगाने से ही काम चल सकता है। बल्कि वालेन्टरी लोन बेसिस स्वयम् अपनी तरफ से कंट्रिब्यूट कर के उसको रिहैबिलिटेड करने की अवश्यकता है।

इस के साथ साथ मैं और प्वाइंट्स को छोड़ कर मालविया नगर के स्क्वैटर्स की बात कहना चाहता हूँ। उन के लिये कहा जाता है कि वे अनआयराइज्ड आकुपेन्ट्स (अनधिकृत अधिकारी) हैं। मैं पूछता हूँ कि अनआयराइज्ड आकुपेन्ट्स वह हैं या आप हैं जिन्होंने हाउस पर जा कर कब्जा कर लिया। आज पार्लियामेंट में बैठे हुए हैं उन लोगों को कभी कत्ल करवाया गया था, अगर जो आज तक कत्ल हो रहे हैं और अपने घरों को छोड़ रहे हैं अगर वह अपने लड़कों बच्चों को धूप और बारिश से बचाने के लिये वहां जा छिपे जहां कोई रहता नहीं था, उन को आप कहते हैं कि अनआयराइज्ड आकुपेन्ट्स हैं। मैं तो अपने फाइनैन्स मिनिस्टर शाह साहब से निवेदन करूंगा जो कि यहां बैठे हुए हैं, मैं दोनों मंत्रियों से निवेदन करूंगा कि उन पर ध्यान देना चाहिये जो आकुपेन्ट्स हैं जिन्होंने आप के ५०० या ७०० रुपयों के मूल्य के मकानों पर कब्जा किया है उन की ओर ध्यान दें। दूसरी कालोनीज में, तिहार में, शाहदरा में, गांधीनगर में और कुण्जनगर में तो आप ने

एक प्रस नोट निकाल कर कह दिया कि जो लोग यहां १९५० से १९५४ तक आये उन का राशन कार्ड देस कर ही उन को फ्री कर दिया जायगा। मैं पूछता हूँ कि आज राशनकार्ड भी उनके पास नहीं है, उनके पास और कोई चीज नहीं है, अगर वह बोनाफाइड रेफ्यूजी सर्टिफिकेट आपके सामने दे सकता है, प्रुफ दे सकता है तो कोई कारण नहीं है कि वहां से उसको क्यों हटाया जाये और उसके रहने का उपाय क्यों न किया जाये? इसलिये मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि आज मालवीय नगर के मकानों की कीमत भले ही काफी दिखाई देती हो लेकिन जिस समय शरणार्थी लोग उन मकानों में गये थे तो उन मकानों की यह कीमत नहीं थी, इसलिये मैं खज्राजी से निवेदन करूंगा कि वह मालवीय नगर के स्क्वाटर्स की ओर ध्यान दें और यह देखें कि उनके साथ ऐसा कोई कठोर व्यवहार न होने पाये। और भी इसी तरह के केसेज हुए हैं और एक मेरे मित्र ने बतलाया कि सुप्रोमोटो कितने ही क्लेम्स का रिवाइजन किया जा रहा है। जिस शरणार्थी का क्लेम है, उसको पता नहीं होता और उसके क्लेम को रिवाइज कर दिया जाता है। अगर उस बेचारे का रूल (ग्रामीण) क्लेम है और वह २० हजार से १९ हजार कर दिया गया तो बेचारा कम्पेंसेशन से वंचित हो जाता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि हर परिस्थिति में जब तक कि सम्बन्धित व्यक्ति को अपनी बात कहने का मौका न दिया जाये तब तक उसके क्लेम को रिवाइज न किया जाये और स्वयं अपनी ओर से उसका क्लेम घटाया न जाये।

इसी प्रकार से इवैकुई प्रापरटी (निष्क्रान्त सम्पत्ति) के बारे में मैं यह निवेदन करूंगा कि यह जो प्रापर्टी के रेस्टोरेशन की हमारी सरकार में बीमारी है, उसकी वजह से हम यहां हिन्दुस्तान में आने वाले मुस्लिम व्यक्तियों को पूनः उन मकानों में बसा रहे हैं, यह प्रापर्टीज के रेस्टोरेशन की बीमारी हमारी सरकार में बहुत है और उनके वास्ते हमारी सरकार के दिल में बहुत दर्द है और हम देख रहे हैं कि इवैकुई प्रापरटीज एक एक करके कम होती जा रही है और आपके इवैकुई डिपार्टमेंट में जो अफसरान लोग काम कर रहे हैं उनको एक ही चिन्ता है कि किसी तरह से इवैकुई प्रापरटीज को कम करके दिखायें। इस तरह का एक कैस मुजफ्फरनगर का हमारे सामने आया



[श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा]

और वह इस प्रकार है कि वहां पर एक स्वामी काशी आश्रम के मंदिर की प्रापरटी के बारे में कुछ लोगों ने शिकायत कर दी और कह दिया कि यह तो मियां लियाक़त अली की प्रापरटी है और उस पर झगड़ा उठ खड़ा हुआ और उसको नोटिस दिया गया। उसने अपने कागजात दिखाये और उसने कहा कि यह प्रापरटी मेरी है, मेरी भी नहीं यह मंदिर की प्रापरटी है और इस प्रापरटी का मिया लियाक़त अली के साथ कुछ भी सम्बन्ध नहीं है। उससे कहा गया कि खाली तुम इस कागज पर दस्तखत कर दो और आगे कोई झगड़ा नहीं होगा। उस बेचारे ने दस्तखत कर दिये, अंग्रेजी वह पढ़ा लिखा था नहीं। थोड़े दिनों के बाद उसको नोटिस आया कि तुम इस का किराया देना शुरू करो नहीं तो तुम्हारे बरखिलाफ़ ऐक्शन (कार्यवाही) लिया जायेगा। अब वह परेशान होकर इधर से उधर दौड़ा दौड़ा फिरता है और उसकी कोई सुनवाई नहीं होती। मैंने उस सम्बन्ध में मुजफ्फर-नगर के अपने प्रतिनिधि श्री त्रिपाठी जी से कहा जिन्होंने यह कहा कि सम्बन्धित अफसर वे अपनी कारस्तानी दिखाई है। मैं ऐसे और भी अनेकों केस आपके सामने रख सकता हूं।

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : आप मुझे कैसे ज्ञ दे दीजिये, मैं हर एक केस को एग्जामिन करूंगा।

श्री नंद लाल शर्मा : आपका बहुत धन्यवाद और साथ ही सभापति महोदय को भी बहुत धन्यवाद जिन्होंने मुझे इतना समय बोलने के लिये दिया।

श्री पी० एल० बालूपाल (गंगानगर-क्षुब्ध-रक्षित-अनुसूचित जातियां) : सभापति महोदय, मैं आरम्भ में अपने पुनर्वास मंत्री श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना को उनकी उस महत्वपूर्ण घोषणा के लिये बधाई देता हूं जिसके फल-स्वरूप हजारों निर्धन हरिजनों को जिनके पास कोई जमीन नहीं थी, उनको अस्थाई रूप से जो भूमि दी गई थी, इस घोषणा से वे उस भूमि के मालिक बन जायेंगे और वह सहज ही में भूमि की लागत की जो रकम है कितनों से उनको १५ साल में सरकार को अदा कर देंगे और इस प्रकार से वह सुखमय जीवन व्यतीत कर सकेंगे और वे

भूमि के मालिक बन जायेंगे। परन्तु मैं खन्ना साहब से यह प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूं कि इतने ही से उनको संतुष्ट नहीं हो जाना चाहिये क्योंकि अब भी हमारे राजस्थान के गंगानगर इलाके में करीबन ८ हजार भूमिहीन रेफ्यूजीज ऐसे हैं जो कि पाकिस्तान से खुश्की के रास्ते से आये हैं और अभी तक उनका कोई इन्तजाम नहीं हुआ है। मैंने इस तरह के ५५०० भूमिहीन परिवारों की सची पुनर्वास मंत्रालय के जमी देने के लिए सूचनार्थ भेज चुका हूं और २,५०० भूमिहीन रेफ्यूजीज की लिस्ट में अभी तैयार कर दूंगा। मेरी मंत्री महोदय से प्रार्थना है और मैं बार बार इस सम्बन्ध में प्रार्थना करता रहा हूं कि वे ऐसे रेफ्यूजीज हैं जो कि नानक्लेमेंट्स हैं, उनके पास मैं कोई साधन नहीं है सरकार ने कुछ दिया नहीं है और हमारी राजस्थान सरकार ने भालड़ा कैनल (नहर) के क्षेत्र में किसानों को जमीनें देने का जो नियम बनाया है और दूसरी जगह पर भी जो किसानों को जमीन बांटने का नियम है, वह नियम ऐसा है और बनाया है कि उसके अन्तर्गत सन् १९४७ से पहले जिस किसान का नाम वोटर्स लिस्ट (मतदाताओं की सूची) में शामिल है अथवा मालसुमारी गिरदावरी जिसके नाम है उसी किसान को जमीन दी जायेगी। मैं आपसे अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि वे हजारों अभाग्य लोग इस नियम के कारण भूमि पाने से वंचित रह जाते हैं। क्योंकि वे पाकिस्तान से आये हैं। अब आप ही बतलाइये कि यदि राजस्थान सरकार उनको भूमि देने के लिये इन्कार करती है और राजस्थान सरकार नहीं मानती है और उधर हमारी भारत सरकार और हमारा पुनर्वास मंत्रालय भी यदि उनको भूमि देने वालों की सूचि में शामिल करने के लिये कोई मार्ग नहीं बनाते हैं और शरणार्थी नहीं मानते हैं तो उन गरीबों का क्या हाल होगा? मैं आपसे प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूं कि किसी भी तरह से जैसे भी हो इन लोगों को आप जमीनें दें और अगर आप ऐसा करते तो उन पर बड़ी कृपा होगी।

जहां तक जमीन निकालने का सवाल है, मैं उसके सम्बन्ध में विशेष कुछ कहना उचित नहीं समझता लेकिन इतना मैं अवश्य जानता हूं कि अगर आप चाहें तो जो गंगानगर में आपकी काफी जमीन इस काम के लिये मिल सकती है। इस बात को दुहराते हुए आज लगभग



संसद में चार वर्ष हो गये लेकिन उसका कोई विशेष नतीजा नहीं निकला है। इसके अतिरिक्त जो जमीनें उनमें से काफी लोगों को पहले एलाट हुई थीं, उन जमीनों को छीनने का एक तरीका वहां पर बनाया गया और वह तरीका यह था कि जिन लोगों को जमीनें एलाट हुई थी, वहां पर २, २ वर्ष तक अकाल पड़ा और उनको बीज तथा लोन (ऋण) की सहायता किसी प्रकार की नहीं मिली और वह उस जमीन पर खेती नहीं कर पाये। उधर जो धनी लोग थे उनको मालूम था कि भाखड़ा नहर इधर आने वाली है और थोड़े दिन में यह इलाका सरसब्ज बनने वाला है। इस लिये वे लोग जो साधन सम्पन्न थे और जिनमें सरकारी अधिकारियों तक पहुंचने की हिम्मत थी और जिनके पास पैसा था उन लोगों ने उनकी वह जमीनें कैसिल (रह) करा दीं और वह जमीनें उन लोगों से छीन कर उन धनी लोगों को दे दी गई। मैं इस विषय में और विशेष नहीं कहूंगा लेकिन इतना जरूर कहूंगा कि इस प्रकार के लोग जैसलमेर बाड़मेर में मिलेंगे, दिल्ली में मिलेंगे, जोधपुर में मिलेंगे और बीकानेर में भी आपको मिलेंगे और इस सम्बन्ध में मैंने आपकी सेवा में ५५०० भूमिहीन रेफ्यूजीज की सूची भेजी है और २५०० की सूची में तैयार कर रहा हूं जिनको कि अभी तक सरकार की तरफ से कोई सहायता नहीं दी गई है। इसी प्रकार से कुछ शरणार्थी जो हरिजन नहीं हैं और दूसरे जो गरीब लोग हैं वे बीकानेर में अभी भी सड़कों पर पड़े हैं और उनके लिये दुकानों या रहने के लिये मकानों का कोई इन्तजाम नहीं हुआ है। मैं आपसे प्रार्थना करूंगा कि उन लोगों की ओर भी विशेष ध्यान दिया जाये और यह रोज रोज शरणार्थी शब्द सुनना बुरा सा लगता है और आखिर हम कब तक इस शरणार्थी समस्या को इस तरह चलाते रहेंगे और मैं आपसे प्रार्थना करता हूं कि आप इस ओर पूरा ध्यान दें।

मैं एक बार पुनः यह जो आपने हरिजनों के लिये १५ वर्ष में अपनी जमीनों की किस्त अदा करने की घोषणा की है इसके लिये आपको बधाई देता हूं और इस घोषणा से हमारे वह हरिजन भाई बस जायेंगे।

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** Sir, I have listened to the speeches of the hon. Members with rapt attention. A number

of speeches have been made on Saturday and today. We have been paid compliments—I and the officers in my Ministry—for which I am exceedingly grateful. There has also been a fair amount of criticism. Let me, at the very outset, say that I welcome criticism. Criticism acts as a corrective; it makes us see things in true perspectives and gives us an opportunity to remedy all our defects. Not even that. I seek the co-operation of all parties, whatever political opinion they may hold, in helping us in solving this very difficult problem. It is a human problem: a problem which deals with the misery and affliction of lakhs of people. Their number today is nearly 9 million. They have been uprooted from their hearths and homes only for one fault and that fault was the love for their motherland. They sacrificed themselves for the emancipation of the country. I can assure you, and through you the hon. Members of this House, that as long as I hold office, it shall be my bounden duty to see that every refugee gets a fair deal and that he is properly rehabilitated.

2 P.M.

I will deal first with the East. Comparison has been drawn between the East and the West. I feel this is not a very fair approach to the problem. It is not a realistic way of looking at the rehabilitation problem. The problem of the East is so vitally different from that of the West. Let us take certain basic facts. The first fact is that where in the West the problem was of a definite nature, the problem in the East is of a fluid nature. Men came from West Pakistan practically once for all in the early stages and their number was known. In the East, the problem, as I have just said, is of a fluid nature. Lakhs came in the first spurt. Then, in about 1950, another trouble started which led to the Nehru-Liaquat pact. Lakhs came in the second spurt. Then, in the recent spurt which started about a year ago, thousands are coming each month. We have no idea when the end is going to come. I have done my best. I went to Pakistan last year. I met my friends. I had great hopes in them. We entered into pacts and agreements. India, I am proud to say, is abiding by each letter and syllable of the pacts relating to the sealing of the border at Khokhrapara. As far as the Pakistan Government is concerned, I see hardly any results. I went last year, and, today, instead of the migration figures going down, they are going up.

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I again went to Karachi with great hopes only a few days ago. Naturally, the powers that be in Pakistan were busy with the celebration of the Republic, but I had an opportunity of talking to some of them. Though an assurance has been given that we will discuss the matter further and at length and they were sympathetic and they did not want any national of their country to leave Pakistan. I am not prepared to raise any high hopes either inside the House or outside the country. The conditions in Pakistan which I found this time as compared to my visit last April were so vitally different. I found the atmosphere practically cold and uninviting. Placed as we are, I can only assure the House that whatever is humanly possible for this Government to do, we shall not fail in that direction. But the fact remains that the problem remains a fluid one.

Another basic difference between the problem in the East and that in the West is the potent fact, which we cannot deny, and that potent fact is that on the West there was a two-way traffic. In the East, there has been only one-way traffic. Even some Muslims—their number is only a few lakhs—who went to Pakistan in 1950 came back under the Nehru-Liaquat pact. I am proud of the fact and the Government of India is proud of the fact and every national of this country is proud of the fact that the conditions in India are so stable today, economically and politically, that instead of an Indian citizen thinking of going to Pakistan, the Pakistanis today are leaving their country and coming to India.

While, about 37 lakhs of Hindus have come from East Pakistan, there is no vacuum, there was a vacuum in Punjab and PEPSU. My hon. friend sitting there knows that we had about 60 lakhs of acres of land in Punjab and PEPSU—evacuee lands. We settled about four and a half lakhs to five lakhs of families on that land. There were several lakhs of houses. Shelter was readily available. We put them in those houses. Today, I see my friends, Shri Nand Lal Sharma and many others, raising one thing before the Government and that is this: make them the owners of their property. Three States—Bengal, Assam and Tripura—are facing the brunt of this problem. There are no houses; there are no lands.

Thirdly, my own feeling, as one who has been connected with the Rehabilitation Ministry right from its very beginning, is that the problem in the East is

far more difficult and far more complex than the problem in the West as there is no knowing as to the number of persons that we have to cater to and we are not having any lands and houses to rehabilitate them. Take, for example, Tripura. My hon. friend from that place is sitting there. More than 50 per cent. of the population in Tripura today is refugee population. Possibly the highest concentration of refugee population that you can have in any State is in Tripura. If you go to Tripura, I believe you have been there, what do you find? There are no lands. The people in Tripura themselves are in a bad state of affairs. Where there are no lands available, where there are no openings of employment, it becomes exceedingly difficult. The same applies to Assam where you have got the tribal problems, the local problems and the refugee problem. West Bengal is equally bad if not worse. I have lived in Bengal for the last 15 months. I have visited a large number of colonies, camps and centres. The density of population is the highest in West Bengal. The unemployment problem there is very acute and serious. Therefore, the problem of rehabilitation of the displaced persons who are coming from East Pakistan is to be judged in this context. You cannot judge it in the context of the West, because they are entirely two different problems to be tackled entirely in two different ways.

The question can very naturally be asked, what do you propose to do in the matter, how are you tackling it. The picture may be a very gloomy one. But, if you accept the responsibility as a Rehabilitation Minister, which you did so with open eyes, it is your duty to solve the problem. What is the remedy? What is the recipe that you wish to offer us in solving this difficult, complex, human problem.

The first thing that I wish to tell the House is this, that we are working according to a plan. We have a blue print Shri N. C. Chatterjee is not here. I wanted to tell him and you that we are working according to a plan. Before preparing a plan and a blue print, I did a certain amount of spade work. What was the spade work? I started with the Members of Parliament first. I invited them to a conference in Calcutta, not once, but a number of times. We did not take any politics or political affiliations into consideration. We discussed the problem of the rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan for a

number of days and in all the different aspects. They gave me their suggestions. They also gave me some idea about the problem. My second step was to have discussions with the States concerned and their Ministers. I held a number of meetings with them as well. Then, I appointed a number of committees. I told you I was new to the problem and I repeat that the problems in the west and in the east are quite different. If any man sitting in Delhi can claim to know the problems in the east, I shall have to join issue with him. It is only when you go and sit amongst them that you begin to know the problem. Having some idea of the problem, I appointed a number of committees. My first committee was a Development Committee comprising of experts. The idea was to go to the various colonies and townships, see things for themselves and prepare a plan as to what are the essential basic human amenities that are required for any human being, for a colony or a home in which he or she has to pass the rest of his or her life. Another committee that I set up was a Technical training committee to look into the problem of the training of displaced persons, see what are the local resources available, to see the marketing potential, and the aptitude and background of the displaced persons who have come. If they are weavers, we formulate a scheme where the weavers could be absorbed and likewise. That committee also gave me a detailed report. I did not stop there. Another committee that was set up was the Industries Committee. Leaving aside the Technical training, production centres and cottage industries, the idea was to attack the problem from various fronts and so I set up an Industries Committee. That Industries Committee formulated a number of schemes for us, whether we should have a spinning mill here, whether we should have a wagon workshop here, and so on. The report of the Industries Committee has also been received.

Another committee that was set up was to go into the question of the Homes and Infirmarys. There are a number of such unfortunate persons who have lost their husbands or their parents, who are minors, etc. It is only if you go and sit amongst them and live amongst them that you can fully realise the conditions in which they live and what is passing in their minds. I know it because I am a displaced person. I sometimes listen to the speeches of my hon. friends. It is a pity that Shri N.C. Chatterjee is not here. It is all right for him to speak in an

oratorical manner and talk about the refugees. But, he does not know what the feeling, what the pains of a refugee are. I know it. I had to leave my hearth and home, like the 90 lakhs of refugees. I know the sufferings, pains and misery to which a refugee is subjected to. This Advisory Committee consists of reputed social workers who have devoted all their lives to the cause of the afflicted and the down-trodden. So, with a view to knowing what the nature of the problem is, I spent a number of months, I appointed a number of committees and I can claim to say now that I know what the nature of the problem is.

Then came the second stage. Having known the nature of the problem, what is the size of the problem? In the west, as I have said, the size was known. We appointed a committee in 1952, called the Fact Finding Committee. They prepared a beautiful report. But, by the time the report was examined in the Ministry of Rehabilitation and in the Ministry of Finance, the report was out of date, because the flow from Pakistan was continuing. I thought to myself that we should know the size of the problem. With a view to know the size of the problem, the first essential was to have a survey. Before you have a survey, there was the very difficult question, who is a displaced person. One definition was being followed in Assam, another in Tripura. In West Bengal itself, there was an entirely different definition. So, we decided to know who is a displaced person. Having defined a displaced person, I requested the Governments of West Bengal and Assam and Tripura to undertake the survey. The reports are coming in. So, shortly, at least fairly soon, we will know what the size of the problem is.

Now, the third stage was having known the nature of the problem and the size of the problem, what do you propose to do next? So, we prepared a blue print in consultation with the State Governments. I went to the Planning Commission, and the Planning Commission has given me funds under the Second Five Year Plan for the rehabilitation of displaced persons. They have given me Rs. 90 crores under the Second Five Year Plan. In addition, we have to take into account our relief expenditure which today is at the rate of about Rs. 7 crores a year. For the next five years it will be Rs. 35 crores. So, I have been given an allocation of Rs. 125 crores for the rehabilitation of displaced persons. This

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amount does not include any allocation on account of compensation which we are paying to the displaced persons from West Pakistan. It is a fairly substantial and big sum of money, and if my Ministry and the States concerned can spend it in a rational and scientific manner, I am sure we would have done a very good job of it. Though I was saying that it will neither be fair nor realistic to draw comparisons between the East and West, I make bold to say that in the West the relief and rehabilitation problem having been resolved to a substantial degree, the bulk of the money, i.e., Rs. 125 crores, will be spent on the rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan.

The matter does not end there. I have been given a further assurance—and I am sure you will be glad to know and so will be the House—by the Planning Commission that if during the third year you find yourself up with difficulties, you can come to us, and we shall be willing to review the situation. So, the plans are there, the blue print is there, and I have also got the money.

**Shri R. P. Garg :** May I know if the hon. Member would be pleased to place on the Table of the House that blue print of a plan?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna :** I have given hon. Members my six-monthly reviews and also reports. I will now take the next opportunity of discussing these documents with him.

I do not say that the rehabilitation of displaced persons in East Pakistan is complete, and that we have done magnificently well, but I also assert, and assert boldly, that we have not done badly either. We have achieved very substantial results. Uptill now we have been able to settle about 2½ lakhs families on land. We have been able to provide about 160,000 families in ancillary rural occupations. We have been able to construct ourselves and through the loans advanced to the displaced persons about 3½ lakh houses, and employment has also been found for another 2 lakh families. It is not a mean record. It is a very good record. But when you see that on the one hand we go on rehabilitating and on the other, Pakistan goes on pushing out its own nationals, the problem becomes a very serious and a difficult one.

I concede that in some cases we have not been able to give an economic holding. That is a fact. I wish to make a categorical statement that in those cases where we have not been able to give economic holdings, if any land is available we are prepared to reconsider their cases. We want rehabilitation to be complete. It is no use tinkering with the problem as someone remarked the day before yesterday. I do not want to tinker with the problem. The idea of the Government of India is to rehabilitate people. If they could give about Rs. 285 crores for purposes of rehabilitation uptill now and can give me another Rs. 125 crores under the Second Five Year Plan and also give me an assurance that the problem of rehabilitation can be reviewed in the third year of the Plan, there can be no question of tinkering with the problem. So, if land is available, we are prepared to consider the question of the allotment of economic holdings.

Likewise, we are giving a second set of loans that we have not done in the West. But where we find that a displaced person is doing his best but on account of factors beyond his control he has not been able to achieve the desired results, we are also giving him a second set of loans.

There was a complaint that loans were frittered away. Why? Because loans were given in more than one instalment. That I have to concede and I have to accept. Now, we have decided that loans, as far as possible, after the verification of the title of the land and other preliminaries, will be given in one instalment so that the refugee can make full use of it.

**Shri Biren Dutt (Tripura West):** Is it not a fact that even as late as 31st March, they were given in instalments in Tripura?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** The trouble is you know so much about Tripura, and you go on asking from me, I don't know why. When I come to Tripura, you meet me on the last day. When I want to discuss with you, you are either not well, or your friend is either too ill or too sick. I can only assure you that if I say that we have not made mistakes, it will be a tall claim on our part. We have made mistakes. We are human beings. But judge me by my intentions. I make a categorical statement in this House that I and the officers of my

Ministry are on trial. We want to come up to your expectations and the expectations of the refugees.

The trouble arises about the grant of loans. My friend opposite put a question under rule 216 the other day asking me to make a categorical statement that whatever the position may be in Tripura as compared to West Bengal, loans will be given to everybody in Tripura irrespective of any consideration up to a particular ceiling. I said then "No", and I repeat it again today. My policy or the policy of my Ministry is to co-relate loans with rehabilitation. If land is available, if employment can be found, if there are certain factors which convince me that this refugee is doing his level best, I am even prepared to go beyond the ceiling.

**Shri Biren Dutt :** May I put one question?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna :** You can in the end.

**Shri Biren Dutt :** May I know.....

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna :** I am not giving in.

**Mr. Chairman :** Order, order. The hon. Member may put the question after he has finished.

**Shri Biren Dutt :** For information.

**Mr. Chairman :** For information also, at that time. He is not giving way. The hon. Member goes on putting the question. He is not listening. He should behave better. The Chair is also saying something.

**Shri Biren Dutt :** One question.

**Mr. Chairman :** One question I know but the question can be put subsequently. He ought to just behave rightly.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna :** What I was trying to place before the House was this, that we do give loans and we shall go on giving loans, but loans shall only be given for purposes of rehabilitation. I have taken up the same position with the R. F. A. The R. F. A. has so far advanced loans in West Bengal or the eastern region to the extent of Rs. 4 crores. My information is that 50 per cent of the loans are bad debts, 30 per cent are tottering. And only in the remaining 20 per

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cent, there is an off chance or a likelihood of the man rehabilitating himself. I do not want loans to be advanced under those conditions. I want that loans, when given, should be given with a view to correlate it to rehabilitation, that loans should be given in the colonies which we have set up, that loans should be given in the places where there is heavy concentration of displaced persons, so that the refugee there can seek a certain amount of gainful employment. Loans should not be advanced because a man has merely the label of a displaced person.

It will not be possible for me to deal with all the suggestions that have been made, or the queries raised but I can tell the House that every single suggestion that has come from any quarter shall be duly examined and I shall be willing to take appropriate action on each of the suggestions, that has been made in the House.

Now, there are two or three things which are of vital importance to the problem of rehabilitation in the eastern region. One is the question of land. It is all right if you refer to certain reports. But the reports are out of date. I know it is a fact that with the co-operation and support that I am getting both from the Chief Minister of West Bengal and from my honoured colleague the Rehabilitation Minister of West Bengal, if any lands were available, they shall be placed at the disposal of the displaced persons. They are working under very difficult circumstances.

My hon. friend the lady Member who spoke this morning has her own experience to tell us. My experience says that they are shouldering a very heavy burden, and they are working in the most difficult circumstances. Any government, any State, any Minister should be proud of the support and the co-operation that it or he is receiving from the State Governments concerned.

Difficulties arise. Let me tell you, difficulties arise in Tripura, difficulties arise in Assam. I go to Assam. I spent four or five days in the Surma Valley. There, I am sorry to say, that though Surma Valley is a part of Assam—without naming the displaced persons or their leaders,—everyone looks more to Dr. Roy in Bengal than to Shri Bishnu Ram Medhi or Shri Moti Lal Bora, in

[Shri Mehr Chand Khanna]

Assam. That will not help the rehabilitation cause. You cannot infuse or introduce politics into rehabilitation. I am not interested whether A's portion goes to B, or B's portion goes to C. Is there a vacuum? Is there a piece of land? If it is a desirable piece of land, you can go and rehabilitate thousands and lakhs of displaced persons. I am prepared to take it up. But if we have to fight the battle of S.R.C., this is not the forum.

There is one basic difference between the refugee in the west and the refugee in the east. The refugee in the west had only one politics, and that was rehabilitation. As regards the refugee in the east, I am sorry to say, that rehabilitation possibly is something secondary for him. . . .

**Shri N. C. Chatterjee :** Question.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna :** You may question me, but the only trouble is this that I live in Calcutta and you live in Delhi. I cannot help it. I even put my office in front of his house. But he has left Calcutta, and lives in Delhi. But I live in Calcutta.

**Shri N. C. Chatterjee :** It is not fair to the refugees.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna :** Certainly, it is not fair to the refugees. I was saying that they should not be exploited, because my view point is that the refugee is the nearest and dearest to me, I am one with him, but the refugees should not be exploited; he should not be made a pawn in the game of politics. It will not help him. Tell him to think of his rehabilitation. Tell him to fight for the land. Tell him to fight for the loan. Tell him to fight for his gainful employment. I am there to hold his hand. I am there to help him. But you should not exploit a refugee for certain geographical limits or boundaries, their changing here or their changing there; you have got your normal population there.

I was talking about the lands. The position about the lands is not so gloomy, the picture is not so bad, as it has been depicted. For about six months, we have been at it. About three lakhs acres of lands have been promised to us. But I must admit that this is a long-term process. You know perfectly well that all the good lands that were available are under plough; they are

under cultivation. Somebody is living on those lands. I agree with Shrimati Renu Chakravarty when she says that we should not create a new refugee population by throwing out small peasants and rehabilitating the displaced persons. I feel very strongly on this subject that if a refugee has to be absorbed in the economy of the country, he must be integrated in that particular locality or in that particular colony.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

You cannot create a different sort of colony for refugees, and treat them as something different from the local population. They have to be absorbed in the economy of that place. But what I was saying was that I do not wish that a new problem should be created by throwing out people; that is not our intention.

But after all, lands have to be found. I was saying that lands are not available in West Bengal. The same is the difficulty in Tripura; the same is the difficulty in Assam. So, we have gone to a number of States outside. A very high-powered team was set up comprising of the Secretary to my Ministry, one of the advisers of the Planning Commission, and the Secretary to the West Bengal Government; they have done really a good job of work. They have been from place to place, and from State to State. We have been able to locate good chunks of land. But if you ask me whether I could take the displaced persons there tomorrow, my reply shall have to be in the negative, because these lands have to be reclaimed; I have to see that there are proper irrigational facilities. We must see that we have proper bunds. People have deserted from Bihar and Orissa because these things were not there, and the Rehabilitation Ministry have been accused of that. If we were at fault, I do not want to commit another mistake. So, I want to be cautious.

I entirely agree to what Shri N. C. Chatterjee said yesterday, that when these persons are taken there we should have a proper follow-up organisation, and we have also to see that social workers are put there to see that all their difficulties are removed and they are interpreted both to the State Governments as well as to the Government of India. I shall see to that.



I have to go to the west too, because yesterday Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava and some other friends have been rather unkind about it, that I have been devoting more of my time to the east than to the west. So, I shall just make one or two more observations.

So far as industries are concerned, I am as anxious as any hon. Member in this House that the industries should be set up as quickly as possible. I am working to that end. But before an industry like a spinning mill with 12,000 or 15,000 spindles, or a few thousand looms, or a wagon workshop which will have a capital outlay of about Rs. 1 crore can be set up, the machinery has to be imported.

And two essential requisites for any industry are water and electricity. These colonies in Calcutta are not like your Delhi colonies, I can assure you. The Delhi colonies today are at a very high premium, and if they were not at a very high premium, my refugee friends will not be going at all to Shri Nand Lal Sharma or to Shri Ajit Singh; nobody comes to them for Rewari and Palwal. Everybody comes to them for Delhi.

**Shri Nand Lal Sharma :** Because they are at Delhi.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna :** There I am faced with the difficulty of water and electricity. But I am trying to come to grips with them and I can assure you that we are doing our level best to set up industries so that employment can be found for the displaced persons from East Pakistan.

Now, I will divert to the west—I have got only 20 or 25 minutes left.

**श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना :** जहाँ तक मगिरबी पाकिस्तान के भाइयों का ताल्लुक है और उनके रिलीफ एंड रिहैबिलिटेशन का जो सवाल है, उसके मुताल्लिक कुछ आज कहने की खास जरूरत तो, महसूस नहीं होती क्योंकि रिलीफ का सवाल तो, साहबों सदा, काफी अर्सा हुआ, तकरीबन खत्म हो चुका। अलबत्ता हमारे जो २५, ३० हजार भाई बहन हाउसेज एण्ड इनफ़रमरीज के हैं, उनका जो सवाल है वह तो जारी रहेगा।

रिहैबिलिटेशन (पुनर्वास) का सवाल भी आज उतनी अहमियत नहीं रखता जितना कि आज से २, ४ वर्ष पेशतर रखता था

क्योंकि हमारे रिहैबिलिटेशन का भी जो दायरा है सिवाय, इसके कि कुछ तालीम का काम जारी रखना पड़ेगा, डाक्टरी इमदाद देनी पड़ेगी और ट्रेनिंग सेंटर्स जारी रखने पड़ेंगे, इन के अलावा, जो हमारा असली प्रोग्राम था कुछ मकानों के बनाने का और दुकानों के बनाने का और दूसरी इसी किस्म की चीजों का, वह तकरीबन ख़ात्मे पर ही है और ख़त्म हो रहा है।

पाकिस्तान से जिस मसले पर हमारी बातचीत चल रही है वह मुआविजे का सवाल है और दूसरा सवाल जिसके कि बारे में हमारी पाकिस्तान से बातचीत चल रही है वह उस जायदाद की कीमत लेने के बारे में है जो कि हमारे लोग वहाँ छोड़ कर आये हैं और जिसका कि रुपया हमने उनसे लेना है। यह आपके दो सवाल हैं। पहले तो मैं कुछ एवज़ाने के मुताल्लिक कहना चाहता हूँ। सितम्बर के महीने में आपने रूल (नियम) बनाये। हमने उन रूल्स को शायी किया और उनके मुताबिक हमने कार्रवाई शुरू कर दी। इस सिलसिले में मेरे सामने एक एंटीसोशल चीज़ आयी जिसको कि मैं आपके सामने रखूँगा। बेचारे रेफ़्यूजीज सात आठ बरस से इन्तिज़ार कर रहे थे, उनको मिला कुछ नहीं था। जब उनको कुछ मिलने का वक़्त आया तो हमारे रिफ़्यूजी भाइयों ने, जिनकी आप बहुत तारीफ़ करते हैं, क्लेमों का बूलैक मार्केटिंग शुरू कर दिया और दुखी भाइयों के क्लेम उन्होंने खरीदने शुरू कर दिये। मुझे लज़्ज़ा आती है कि हम कितने गिर गये। एक वह भाई है कि जिसने अपना सब कुछ बरबाद कर दिया है, सब कुछ दिये। कर दिया है, और आज जब उसे कुछ मिलने की बारी आई है तो लोगों ने कुर्बा मार्केटिंग करना शुरू कर दिया। उसका कुछ हमने इन्तज़ाम किया। अभी हमने वहाँ से सिर उठाया ही था कि एक और चीज़ हमारे सामने आ गयी। वह यह है कि लोगों ने जाली क्लेम बनाने शुरू कर दिये। कुछ लोग पकड़े गये हैं और उनके खिलाफ़ कार्यवाही हो रही है। लेकिन मैं हाउस को एक चीज़ कहना चाहता हूँ और वह यह है कि जिसने जाली क्लेम खरीदा है, नुकसान उसी का है, न मेरा है न पूल का है। उसकी वजह यह है कि हमने शुरू में जो क्लेम बनाये हैं उनकी हमने दो कापीज़ रखी। एक कापी तो हमारी

[श्री मेहर चंद खन्ना]

मिनिस्ट्री में है। पांच लाख कापीज है। अगर आप देखेंगे तो मेरी मिनिस्ट्री आपको एक किला मालूम होगी। रात को उस पर पुलिस का बड़ा सख्त पहरा होता है इसलिये कि कहीं कोई उन क्लेम्स को उड़ा न ले जाये या कोई उनको जला न दे क्योंकि अगर एक दफा यह चीज हो जाये तो आप जानते हैं कि क्या हालत होगी। हमारे पास जो क्लेम आता है उसको हम अपनी कापी से मिलाते हैं। अगर वह मिलता है तो सही है। अगर नहीं मिलता है तो झूठा है, आप जानिये और आपका काम जाने। मैंने इसलिये इसका जिक्र किया कि मैं चाहता हूँ कि मेरी भ्रावजा बाहर पहुँच जाये और लोगों को मालूम हो जाये कि जो शस्स जाली क्लेम खरीदेगा उसी का नुकसान होगा, न कम्पेन्सेशन पूल का नुकसान होगा, न गवर्नमेंट का नुकसान होगा और न मिनिस्ट्री का नुकसान होगा।

हमने २६ फरवरी तक करीब एक लाख आदमियों को क्लेम दिये हैं, कुछ नकद, कुछ जायदाद, कुछ जमीन और कुछ एडजस्टमेंट। वह कोई तीस करोड़ रुपया बन जाता है जिसमें नकद १७ या १८ करोड़ है और बाकी जायदाद और एडजस्टमेंट है। जो हमारे पास दरखास्तें आयी हैं वे करीब चार लाख हैं। एक लाख को तो क्लेम मिल चुका। अब बाकी रह गये तीन लाख। काफी जोर डाला गया है नान क्लेमेंट्स की तरफ से और मैंने परसों कहा भी था कि मैं इस पर कुछ रोशनी डालूंगा। मुझे उनके साथ हमदर्दी है।

हमारे पास ढाई लाख के करीब तो इवेक्वी मकान हैं जिनकी कीमत दस हजार से नीचे की है। आप जानते हैं कि जो मकान दस हजार से ऊपर की कीमत के हैं उनको तो हम नीलाम करेंगे। जो मकान दस हजार से नीचे के हैं, चाहे वे इवेक्वी हों या गवर्नमेंट के बनाये हुए हो अगर कोई रिफ्यूजी भाई उनमें बैठा है, वह चाहे क्लेमेंट हो या नान क्लेमेंट उसको वह एलाट होना है तो ढाई लाख हमारे पास मकान ह जो निकासी के हैं और डेढ़ लाख खुद गवर्नमेंट ने तामीर किये हैं। तो इस तरह से चार लाख मकान हमारे पास हैं। जो निकासी के ढाई लाख मकान हैं उन में से तकरीबन २५ फीसदी गैर शरणार्थियों के पास हैं, वह चाहे मुसलमान हों या दूसरे लोग हों। इन में से अगर आप साठ हजार मकान निकाल दें तो एक लाख ६० हजार मकान ऐसे रह

जायेंगे जो कि रिफ्यूजी भाइयों के पास हैं और उनकी कीमत दस हजार से नीचे है, और डेढ़ लाख मकान गवर्नमेंट के बनाये हुए हैं। इस तरह से आपके पास ३,४०,००० मकान हैं जो कि आज क्लेमेंट्स और नान क्लेमेंट्स को एलाट हुए हैं। अगर इन में से निस्फ आप क्लेमेंट लें और निस्फ नान क्लेमेंट लें तो एक लाख ७० हजार मकान क्लेमेंट्स के पास होंगे और १,७०,००० नान क्लेमेंट्स के पास होंगे। जो कि हमने हिसाब के मुताबिक तो सिर्फ एक लाख आदमियों को मुआवजा दिया है, लेकिन १,७०,००० आपके क्लेमेंट्स और हैं जिनको कि मेरे ख्याल से कम्पेन्सेशन मिल चुका है। सिर्फ हिसाब करने कि बात है और अगर आप गुस्ताखी न समझें तो शायद मैं कह सकता हूँ कि इनमें से बहुत से भाई ऐसे होंगे जिनसे कि हमको कुछ लेना है, जिनको हमें कुछ देना नहीं पड़ेगा अगर आप दस हजार तक के मकान की औसत कीमत चार हजार लगायें और इसको १,७०,००० से जरब करें तो ६८ करोड़ रुपया बनता है। तो इस तरह से १,७०,००० को मकानों के जरिये से क्लेम दिया जा चुका है। तो इस तरह से कुल तादाद उन लोगों की जिनको मुआवजा दिया जा चुका है २,७०,००० बन जाती है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि उन सब का हिसाब हो जाये लेकिन उनमें से बाज मेरे नजदीक आते ही नहीं।

इसके अलावा हम ३५ करोड़ रुपया बतौर कर्ज के दे चुके हैं जिसमें से ८ करोड़ तो आर० एफ० ए० का लोन है और १४ करोड़ का अरबन का लोन (ऋण) है। यह भी रिफ्यूजीज को मिलना या जो मिल चुका। अब इनमें से जिनको आर० एफ० ए० का लोन मिला है उनकी तादाद है दस हजार। जिन के पास १४ करोड़ रुपये हैं उनकी तादाद १५,०००, या २०,००० समझ लें। अगर उनमें से आप आधे ले लें तो कम से कम १५-२० हजार भाई बहन ऐसे हुए, जिन को भी कम्पेन्सेशन मिल चुका और मैं यह जानता हूँ कि उनमें से बहुत से ऐसे हैं, जिनके जिम्मे मेरा कर्जा होगा उनका मेरे जिम्मे कोई कर्जा नहीं होगा। अब तक हिसाब के मुताबिक ढाई लाख समझ लीजिये, २ लाख ७६ हजार समझ लीजिये २ लाख ८० हजार समझ लीजिये आदमी है जिन को आज तक कम्पेन्सेशन मिल चुका है। एक लाख लोगों का हिसाब हो चुका और एक लाख ८०,००० का हिसाब हम आजकल में करने वाले हैं।



अब बाकी रह जाते हैं एक लाख या सवा लाख। अगर चार लाख ल तो कम से कम एक लाख ३० हजार या एक लाख ४० हजार या डेढ़ लाख के करीब वह बहन भाई है न जिनके पास कोई मकान है, न जिन के पास कोई दुकान है और न किसी को कर्जा मिला है यह वह भाई है जो कि आठ बरस से इतिज्जार कर रह ह कि हमें कम्पेंसेशन कब मलेगा। मैं पहले कह चुका हूं कि एक लाख लोगों का हिसाब खत्म हो चुका है। जिस के पास १०,००० की मलकियत का मकान है या ५,००० की मलकियत का मकान है, और जो उसमें बैठा हुआ है वह उसका मालिक बन जायेगा। २२ करोड़ रुपये उन्हें हम दे चुक है। यह रकम उनके घर में पहुंच चुकी है। १ लाख ४० हजार या १ लाख ५० हजार आदमी ऐसे है जिन को कम्पेंसेशन लेनी है। मैं जब उनकी तरफ देखता हूं तो मुझे दुख होता है। अब मैं उनका क्या करूँ। अगर डेढ़ लाख में लोग हों और ४००० की एवरेज औसत लगाई जाये तो ६० करोड़ रुपया उन्हें लेना है। और वह रुपया जो है वह उन एक लाख ७० हजार भाइयों और बहनों के पास हैं जिन के न कोई मकान थे, जिन के न कोई दुकानें थीं और जिन को हमने यह कहा कि अगर तुम मालिक बनना चाहते हो तो मैं उनको जा कि आठ बरस से इतिज्जार कर रहे है, दो चार बरस और इतिज्जार करने को कह सकता हूं और आहिस्ता आहिस्ता तुम से पांच बरस में बसूल करके उनको दिलवा सकता हूं। लेकिन आज मुझ से यह कहा जाता है कि तुम ऐसा करो कि जहाँ तुमने आठ बरस पहले इतिज्जार करवाया है वहाँ १५ बरस और इतिज्जार उन लोगों से करवा दो। मैं तो इसको कोई इन्साफ नहीं समझता हूं।

**श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा :** अगर उनकी ताकत से यह बाहर हो तो वह क्या करें ?

**श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना :** अगर यह उनकी ताकत से बाहर हो तो वह किरायादार बन कर रहें। अगर हर आदमी मालिक ही बन कर रहना चाहता है और मालिक भी इस तरह कि वह कीमत नहीं देना चाहता तो मकान किसी और का और मुझ से यह कहा जाये कि मैं उनसे कहूँ कि बें १५ बरस तक इतिज्जार करें, यह लाजिक (तर्क) मेरी समझ में नहीं आता।

**पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव (गुडगांव) :** वो इनकम ग्रुप स्कीम जो है उसको वापस ले लो।

**श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना :** सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह बैठ हुए है, उन से आप मिल लें, वहाँ भी मिनिस्टर हैं, अगर वह मान जाते है, तो मुझे क्या इन्कार हो सकता है।

**Shri Nand Lal Sharma :** But you are Rehabilitation Minister.

**श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना :** जी हां, मैं जानता हूं पंडित जी, जो आप मुझ से रिहैबिलिटेशन की तारीफ करवाना चाहते हैं वह यह है कि रिहैबिलिटेशन का मतलब शेल्टर नहीं है, मलकियत है।

मैं तो आप से यह अपील करने वाला था, मैं अश्विनी राम जी से; टंडन जी से, भार्गव साहब से यह अपील करने वाला था कि आप मेरा हाथ बटाये, आप मुझे उन से रुपया बसूल करने में मदद दें ताकि वे भाई जोकि आठ बरस से बैठे हुए हैं, मैं उनका कर्जा चुका सकूँ।

सरदार अजित सिंहजी कहते हैं कि १५ बरस बें यह रुपया उन लोगों से बसूल किया जाना चाहिये। यह बात मेरे दिमाग में तो नहीं बैठी और मैं इसको मानने के लिये तैयार नहीं हूं।

अब दो एक चीज और हैं जिनके बारे में बड़े जोर शोर में कहा गया है और वह लाजपतनगर कालकाजी, और मालवीयनगर कं बारे से है। मैं अर्ज कर दूँ कि इन की पोखीशन क्या है। पोखीशन यह है कि दिल्ली में दो त्रोनिक बीमारियां हैं, एक तो नाजायज कब्जा करने की और दूसरी किराया न देने की। किराये की हालत तो यह है कि जो हमारे रिफ्यूजी भाई है उन्होंने हमें तीन करोड़ रुपया बतौर किराया बाकी अश करना है। यह कोई छोटी मोटी रकम नहीं है। यह किराया उन लोगों ने देना है जो पटेन नगर, राजेन्द्र नगर, खान माफिट वगैरह में बैठे हुए हैं। अब अगर यह कहा जाये कि भोसले साहब को अश्रितयार दे दिया जाए कि वह यह तीन करोड़ रुपया माफ कर दें तो मुझे इसमें क्या एतराज हो सकता है, बशर्ते कि शाह साहिब उनको इस रकम को माफ करने की इजाजत दे दें। लेकिन मैं खुद भी इस चीज को नहीं कर सकता।

अब दूसरी बात नाजायज कब्जे की है। नाजायज कब्जा चाहे इवैक्वी प्रापर्टी हो चाहे गवर्नमेंट प्रापर्टी हो, दोनों पर किया जाता है। सन् १९४७ में नाजायज कब्जे

## [श्री मेहर चंद खन्ना]

हुए। हम से कहा गया कि जाने दो, मैंने कहा बहुत अच्छा। १९४९ में यहीं चीज हुई, फिर हमसे कहा गया छोड़ दो, मैंने कहा बहुत अच्छा। फिर १९५० में यही बात हुई और फिर छोड़ दिया गया। उन दिनों में फिरोजशाह रोड पर रहता था। अर्चित राम जी मेरे पास ही रहा करते थे और हर रोज डंडा ले कर मेरे पास आ जाया करते थे। खैर, उस वक्त भी नाजायज कब्जा करने वालों को छोड़ दिया गया। आखिर यह बीमारी कब तक चलेगी। कहीं इसे बन्द तो होना ही पड़ेगा। ये मकान मेरे अपने तो हैं नहीं, किसी रिफ्यूजी के हैं, जिसको कि कम्पेंसेशन मिलना है और ये डेढ़ या दो लाख हैं और इन को अभी तक कुछ भी नहीं मिला है। सुभद्रा जोशी जो कि दिल्ली काँग्रेस की प्रधान हैं, मेरे पास आई, सुचेता कृपालानी, मीर मुशताक अहमद को ले कर मेरे पास आई, श्री हिफजुर रहमान आए अहमद सय्यद को साथ लेकर। सब ने आकर यह कहा कि केस को खत्म कर दो। मैंने कहा कि हिसाब लगाओ। हिसाब लगाया। हिसाब लगाने पर मालूम हुआ कि चार हजार या साढ़े चार हजार ऐसे केसेज थे जोकि अन-आथोराइज्ड पोजेशन (अनाधिकृत कब्जा) के थे। यह साल डेढ़ साल की बात है। मुझे यह कहा गया कि १९५२ तक के लिए मान जाओ। आज तक जो अनआथोराइज्ड आक्युपेशन है तकरीबन ४,००० फैमिलीज (परिवारों) का उसे एकसेप्ट कर लो और आगे से हम तुम्हारे पास नहीं आयेंगे और न कभी कहेंगे। मैंने कहा इक़रार हो गया, उन्होंने ने कहा, हां इक़रार हो गया। मैंने कहा कि मैं १, अप्रैल १९५४ तक जाता हूँ, यानी दो बरस बाद तक। मैंने कहा कि १, अप्रैल १९५४ तक जिस आदमी का भी अनआथोराइज्ड आक्युपेशन होगा उसको सै रेगुलराइज कर दूंगा लेकिन आगे के लिए मैं इस चीज को नहीं मानूंगा और आप मेरे पास इस काम के लिए नहीं आयेंगे। उन्होंने कहा कि नहीं, हम नहीं आयेंगे। अब यह जो आदमी हैं जिन्होंने कालकाजी, मालवीयनगर, लाजपतनगर वगैरह में अनआथोराइज्ड कब्जा कर रखा है, इसकी तादाद कोई ढाई हजार है। ये वह आदमी हैं जिन्होंने १, अप्रैल, १९५४ के बाद कब्जे किये हैं। अब मैं पछता हूँ कि यह गाड़ी, कब तक इस तरह से चलेगी। या तो मुझे यह कह दीजिये कि जो कम्पेंसेशन स्कीम है, इसको आज ही से खत्म कर दो या यह कह दो कि आज के बाद कम्पेंसेशन

किसी को आप न दें। साथ में यह कह दो कि तुम किसी को मत पूछो, जिस की मर्जी आए, मकान में जा कर बैठ जाए और उसका मालिक बन जाए। आप सावरेन हैं, यह हाउस सावरेन है, आप मुझे मैनडेट दे दीजिये, मुझे मंजूर है। मैं यह कैसे बरदास्त कर सकता हूँ कि हर रोज यह चीज होती जाए।

3 P.M.

कहा जाता है कि साहब तुम इतने इमानदार हो कि कीमतें बढ़ा रहे हो। साहब सदर, मैं आप से एक चीज कहना चाहता हूँ और वह यह है कि पहले यह फैसला था कि जो पांच हजार की लिमिट (सीमा) है उस के मकान ऐलाटेबल होंगे। तो जो पांच हजार के मकान थे हम ने उन की कीमत लगाई फिर यह हुक्म हुआ कि लिमिट पांच के बजाये दस होगी।

**श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा :** आप ने पांच से दस कर दिया।

**श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना :** आप जरा ठहरिये आप क्यों नाराज होते हैं, हम दोनों ही पठान हैं एक दूसरे की आवाज जानते हैं, दिल जानते हैं, दिल दोनों के एक हैं। आप क्यों घबराते हैं? अभी मुझे इन लोगों से निपटने दीजिये हमारी आप की तो घर की बात है।

तो दस हजार की हम ने लिमिट कर दी, हो गई। अब हम ने यह किया कि अपने अमले से कहा कि जो पांच और दस हजार के मकान हैं उन की कीमत लगा दो। शायद मुझ से गलतियां हुई एक दो केसेज में। कर्नाल का एक केस है जो कि बड़ा सैड (दुःखद) है। मैंने वहां एन्क्वायरी कराई है और मैं हाउस से माफी मांगना चाहता हूँ कि मेरे किसी अफसर ने इतनी भारी गलती की और वहां कीमतें बढ़ा दीं, और नाजायज तौर पर बढ़ा दीं। मैं आप से इस के लिये क्षमा चाहता हूँ। लेकिन मैं ने एक चीज की है और वह यह है कि मैं ने अपने अफसरों को हुक्म दिया है कि अगर जायदाद साढ़े दस हजार की हो तो उस को दस कर दो, जो मार्जिनल डिफरेंस हो वह रिफ्यूजी के हक में होना चाहिये। मैं नाजायज कीमत नहीं लेना चाहता। लेकिन अगर किसी केस से आप को यह नजर आता है कि जायदाद की कीमत बजाय ९ के ११ कर दी गई है तो हमें बताइये, हम उस का आक्शन (नीलामी) सस्पेंड कर देंगे और अफसर के खिलाफ कार्रवाई करेंगे। मैं नहीं चाहता कि छोटी छोटी चिजों से पिन प्रिक्स से किसी को नुकसान पहुंचाया जाये। अगर मैं भूखा हूँ और मुझे रुपये की जरूरत है

तो मैं जवाहरलाल जी के पास जा सकता हूँ, मैं देशमुख भाई के पास जा सकता हूँ, उन्होंने आज तक मुझे इन्कार नहीं किया और हमेशा मेरा हाथ पकड़ा है। तो मैं यकीन दिलाना चाहता हूँ, तसल्ली दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि न मेरा और न मेरी मिनिस्ट्री का यह खयाल है कि हम रिफ्यूजीज को नाजायज तौर पर तकलीफ दे कर कीमतें बढ़ाये। अगर कोई केस ऐसा है जो कि आप की नोटिस में आया है, तो मैं एक जिम्मेदार मिनिस्टर की हैसियत से यह कंटेगारिकल ऐश्योरेन्स देता हूँ कि मेरा इरादा ६ से ११ करने का नहीं है बल्कि मेरा इरादा साढ़े दस से साढ़े नौ करने का है।

एक बहुत इम्पार्टेंट सवाल है अगर वह है नेगोशिएशन्स विद (के साथ) पाकिस्तान।

How much time have I got left, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: Fifteen minutes more.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I will not take all the fifteen minutes; I will take only five minutes more.

When the House considered the draft Compensation Rules in September last, some hon. Members expressed the feeling that the compensation was meagre when compared to the value of the immovable property left by displaced persons in West Pakistan. I then stated that it will be possible to pay more only when Pakistan pays the difference between the value of the immovable property in the two countries. I had assured the House that I would take up the matter with the Pakistan Government.

I would like to take this opportunity to recapitulate briefly the history of our negotiations with Pakistan in regard to the long-standing problem of immovable property of evacuees. From the very outset, we have been of the view that a Government to Government settlement would be the only feasible and satisfactory solution. Indeed, the Joint Official Committee recommended as early as in March 1948, that each Government should acquire the agricultural property, the difference between value of such property in the two countries being paid by the debtor country to the other. In spite of the fact that the Committee had been set up by the Governments of India and Pakistan jointly, and its recommendations were unanimous, under one pretext or the other, Pakistan has avoided acceptance of the same.

The Indo-Pakistan agreement of January 1949 provided for private sales and exchanges of urban immovable property. This agreement did not come up to India's expectations, but we entered into it, as it represented the greatest common measure of agreement at that time. The Pakistan Government, however, immediately started placing obstacles, and on the 26th July, 1949, promulgated an ordinance banning sale and exchange of evacuee property. We were, in the circumstances, compelled to take similar action on the 30th July, 1949. Actually, the agreement was still born as will be evidenced by the fact that during the seven months from January to July, 1949, according to our information, only 33 properties out of several lakhs changed hands. The deadlock following the breakdown of the 1949 Agreement continued till 1953, when Khwaja Nazimuddin, the then Prime Minister of Pakistan, suggested settlement of all outstanding issues between India and Pakistan by personal discussions. Soon after, the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan had a general discussion, which was followed by a meeting of the representatives of the two Governments at Karachi in July-August 1953. They reached agreement on certain items of immovable property, but could not come to a settlement on the question of immovable property. It was decided that the discussions should be resumed within a month. As, however, the meeting did not take place, our Prime Minister wrote a letter to the Pakistan Prime Minister in October 1953. This letter was replied to only in February, 1954. In his reply the Pakistan Prime Minister, instead of agreeing to resume the discussions or making any concrete suggestions, raised an objection against our Interim Compensation Scheme. He alleged that the quasi-permanent allotment of urban evacuee property contemplated under the Interim Scheme had created a new situation prejudicial to further discussions. We repudiated this and explained the correct implications of the Interim Compensation Scheme.

The displaced persons who had waited patiently for seven years for the payment of compensation were, in the meantime getting understandably restive. Government, therefore, decided not to delay matters any longer and proceeded to enact the necessary legislation enabling the payment of compensation to displaced persons. Simultaneously, Government decided to abrogate the

[Shri Mehr Chand Khanna]

Evacuee Property Law. Bills in respect of both these matters were introduced in this House in May 1954. At the same time, our Prime Minister intimated to the Pakistan Prime Minister the circumstances which had impelled Government to take action to acquire the rights and titles of evacuee owners in the evacuee properties and utilise them for giving part compensation to displaced persons. His letter further stated that the final settlement of this problem, including compensation, must await ultimate settlement between the two countries. It also pointed out that this course of action was in the interest of the evacuee owners themselves because it would prevent further deterioration of the property and that evacuee owners would be given credit for the value of these properties. An invitation to resume negotiations was once again extended.

As in the past, Pakistan remained unresponsive. In a reply received four months later in September, 1954, Pakistan confined itself to the repetition of the earlier allegation of the breach by India of the 1949 Agreement. Again the long-awaited communication was found to be devoid of a single helpful suggestion. Our Prime Minister again pointed out that given goodwill on both sides, it should be possible to find a solution and suggested that representatives of the two Governments should meet and discuss the matter. To this there was no reply.

After assuming office I started negotiations with Pakistan afresh in early 1955. For that purpose I also went to Karachi in April last. I was able to resolve all outstanding matters relating to the movable property of evacuees. It was also agreed that travel between the two countries should be facilitated by the provision of less cumbersome system of visas and establishment of additional check posts and authorised routes between the two countries. The question of the exodus of members of the minority community from East Pakistan was also discussed and the Pakistan Ministers agreed that confidence should be restored as rapidly as possible among the minority community in East Pakistan. The discussions on immovable property, however, were left over for a later date.

In October 1955, I wrote to the Pakistan Rehabilitation Minister stating that as all the outstanding matters relating to

the movable evacuee property had been settled, discussions should now be held in order to find a solution in respect of immovable evacuee property, as the happiness of lakhs of people depended largely on the solution of this problem. According to his reply dated the 4th November 1955, the Pakistan Government were of the opinion that there was no common basis between the two countries for resumption of the negotiations, India having decided to acquire the right, title and interests of evacuees in their properties in India. Sir, in short, this is the history of our negotiations with Pakistan regarding immovable property. We have been accused of unilateral action and of expropriating the property of evacuees, and we have been further told that the Government of Pakistan was averse to a Government to Government settlement. I do not wish to say anything about the allegations because these have been repeatedly repudiated not only by me and my predecessor but also by our Prime Minister. I would, however, like to point out that the principle of Government to Government settlement was accepted in the matter of agricultural lands as far back as 1948. Lands were allotted by us and Pakistan on 'quasi' and 'provisional' permanent basis. There the experiment of private sales and exchanges was neither tried nor pressed.

Again, in the matter of movable property, the agreements have been arrived at on Government to Government basis. Two important personages in Pakistan today, the President and the Prime Minister were parties to that agreement. I fail to see, Sir, why in the case of urban evacuee property only the same principle cannot be adopted.

Settlement on Government to Government basis is the most practical and equitable procedure. A complex problem of this colossal magnitude involving lakhs of owners and diverse kinds of properties can be solved only at Government level. Other countries faced with a similar situation, found it necessary to have a settlement on Government level. Both the countries have been and are utilising evacuee immovable properties for the rehabilitation of displaced persons. Pakistan Government has settled Muslim refugees in evacuee properties there. The Pakistan Government has also invited claims from the refugees with a view to permanently settling them on such property on the

basis of their claims for property left in India. Thus, Pakistan is following the same policy and procedure as we are. To accuse us of unilateral action and expropriation, in the circumstances, is not only untenable but also fantastic.

The reason for feeling shy of a Government to Government settlement is fairly obvious. As the claims in respect of evacuee property left in West Pakistan have been invited and verified, it is known that the value of the urban immovable properties left by Hindus and Sikhs in Pakistan amounts to over Rs. 500 crores, whilst the value of such property left by Muslims in India is barely Rs. 100 crores. The difference is very large. We suggested to the Government of Pakistan, as far back as 1952, that if necessary, the question of the method of valuation may be referred for arbitration to an international tribunal agreed upon between the two Governments. If so desired, the matter may be referred to an international court or an *ad hoc* court consisting of the nominees of the two Governments. On the question of the payment of difference between the value of the properties on the two sides, we also pointed out that it should be possible to arrive at a workable agreement after taking into account the paying capacity of the debtor country. I have no hesitation in repeating these offers even today.

During the discussions of the two Prime Ministers at Karachi in 1953, the Pakistan Prime Minister himself expressed a desire to suspend the operation of the evacuee property laws. In spite of adverse criticism we relaxed several provisions of the evacuees laws in May, 1954. Thereafter the law was abrogated by the enactment of the necessary legislation in October 1954. In India, therefore, no person can be declared as evacuee for any action of his after the abrogation of the law. We did not wait for Pakistan to take similar action. We did not also wait for Pakistan to come to an agreement on the question of immovable property before we decided to do away with this abnormal law. We, however, expected that Pakistan who originated the idea would at least follow suit. This, however, has not happened, although two years have passed since the provisions of the law were relaxed in India. Punjab, NWFP, Baluchistan and Bahawalpur have been practically denuded of Hindus and Sikhs and their properties have already been

taken over as evacuee. Abrogation of the evacuee law in those areas would, therefore, hardly make any material difference. In Sind, however, some Hindus are still left, but they are not in large numbers. The potential evacuee problem, so far as West Pakistan is concerned, is thus relatively a small one. It is, therefore, surprising that Pakistan should find it necessary to continue to operate the evacuee law even now, unless it intends to squeeze out even the few remaining Hindus in Sind and to expropriate their properties.

**Shri Gidwani (Thana) :** That is being done. Only recently, somebody's cinema was seized.

**Mr. Speaker :** I will now put the cut motions to the vote of the House.

*All the cut motions were negatived.*

**Mr. Speaker :** The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of the March 1957, in respect of the following heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof:

Demands Nos. 92, 93, 94 and 139."

*The motion was adopted.*

[The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.]

#### DEMAND NO. 92—MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 30,03,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of 'Ministry of Rehabilitation'."

#### DEMAND NO. 93—EXPENDITURE ON DISPLACED PERSONS

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 19,63,53,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which

[Mr. Speaker]

will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957 in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons'."

**DEMAND No. 94—MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Rehabilitation'."

**DEMAND No. 139—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 29,28,75,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Rehabilitation'."

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now take up discussion of the Demands for Grants Nos. 67, 68, 69, 134 and 135 relating to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power. As the House is aware seven hours have been allotted for the Demands of this Ministry.

There are a number of cut motions to these various Demands. Hon. Members may hand over the number chits indicating the cut motions which they propose to move. I shall treat them as moved.

The time limit is, as usual, fifteen minutes for Members including movers of cut motions and twenty minutes if necessary for leaders of groups.

**DEMAND No. 67—MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER**

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion moved.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 13,90,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957 in respect of 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

**DEMAND No. 68—MULTIPURPOSE RIVER SCHEMES**

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion moved.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 98,49,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957 in respect of 'Multipurpose River Schemes'."

**DEMAND No. 69—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER**

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion moved.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 79,59,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

**DEMAND No. 134—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON MULTIPURPOSE RIVER SCHEMES**

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion moved.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,19,18,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957 in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Multipurpose River Schemes'."

**DEMAND No. 135—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER**

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion moved.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,82,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

**The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda):** Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity you have given me to give some

basic information to the House to enable the Members to view the progress in the field of irrigation and power in a clear perspective. I have tried to compile the latest information on the subject on the basis of reports from various sources and consultation with those who are in charge of the various projects. These consultations have been held on the eve of this discussion. I intend to give a brief survey of the year under review and to give some idea of what has been achieved in respect of flood protection or our flood-control programme. I shall say something about the various projects. I shall give a very brief assessment of each project and, if time permits, I would like to give the Members some appreciation of what has been done in the previous five years and what we propose to do in the next five years. This is a very opportune moment for that, because the First Five Year Plan has just come to a close and we have launched our Second Five Year Plan. I seek the indulgence of hon. Members for placing before them a string of figures. I cannot help that because the subject is of such a nature.

Taking first the year 1955-56, the benefits that have been derived during this period, 33 lakhs acres is the total increase in irrigated area, and it has accrued to the following areas. More than 5 lakh acres in Punjab, between 4 lakh and 5 lakhs acres in West Bengal and Bihar, between 3 lakh and 4 lakh acres in Uttar Pradesh, between 2 lakh and 3 lakh acres in Orissa, between 1 lakh and 2 lakh acres in Assam, Bombay, Hyderabad and Rajasthan, and there are other 7 or 8 States which have got smaller quantities of new irrigation.

So far as power is concerned 2.3 lakhs Kw. is the new installed capacity and another 2 lakhs Kw. of installed capacity is expected to arise during the next 4 to 7 months. Works have been practically completed and operation will commence shortly. Here the States that are benefited are: Uttar Pradesh 48,000 Kw., Andhra 34,000 Kw., Hyderabad 15,000 Kw., Madras 15,000 Kw., Travancore-Cochin 12,000 Kw., Madhya Pradesh 7,750 Kw., Bombay 7,500 Kw., Jammu-Kashmir 6,00 Kw., and Madhya Bharat 5,000 Kw. Then there are smaller quantities also.

Then I come to the budgetary position of 1955, what we have spent on the works which were being carried on

in the course of the year. The revised estimates are for centrally financed projects—multi-purpose projects Rs. 49.55 crores and for State projects Rs. 100 crores. For new multi-purpose projects which were intended to be taken up towards the close of the first five year period, the figure is Rs. 13.91 crores. The total amount for State and multi-purpose projects for which the responsibility is with the Centre is about Rs. 149.55 crores. If you add the amount for new projects the total comes to Rs. 163.46 crores. There has been some shortfall in the matter of expenditure as compared to the budget provision. I shall explain how this has occurred. The figures are: Hirakud Rs. 2.91 crores, Bhakra Rs. 3.81 crores and D.V.C. Rs. 3.69 crores. But, the position is that most of these shortfalls, a larger part of it, have occurred not because the programme had been held up or physical progress did not occur but because certain payments were deferred. That has been the case. For example, in respect of Hirakud Rs. 1.7 crores, non-payment in respect of land already acquired, should have been paid. Due to various formal difficulties the payment was not made. Then there are some debits to the tune of Rs. 0.9 crore and Rs. 0.2 crore due to non-settlement of old claims. Therefore, the entire expenditure that is shown as shortfall in respect of Hirakud has nothing to do with the physical performance.

Regarding D.V.C., here I am not able to make entirely the same statement. There was some delay in acquisition of land. That is about Rs. 0.9 crore. Non-finalisation of purchases and non-receipt of equipment account for Rs. 0.8 crore. But, one crore of rupees could not be spent because of delay in the execution of work.

With respect to Bhakra the position is very nearly as I have stated regarding Hirakud. In this case there was an amount of money towards interest charges. There was some question of adjustment. That accounts for about Rs. 1 crore. Then, credits for surplus machinery etc. account for about Rs. 15 lakhs. But, there was some delay in the import of special steel and equipment which accounts for Rs. 41 lakhs. Some delay really occurred in the execution of works. That was due to the floods during which time the work was dislocated and that accounts for about Rs. 67 lakhs.



[Shri Nanda]

So, as I said, by and large, the physical progress during this year has been, I should say, on the whole satisfactory and the shortfalls, to which the attention of Members may be drawn when they refer to the documents, have a proper and adequate explanation.

I shall now deal with the flood control works. This aspect of our work is very much in the minds of hon. Members, judging by the number of cut motions. The position was, during this period an expenditure of Rs. 8 crores was incurred as compared to Rs. 2.2 crores in the previous year. Some of the work which was planned in respect of flood protection programme was a little handicapped because of the flood conditions which diverted attention to the work of repairs, etc.

The damage arising out of the floods—it is now possible to sum up the position for the whole year regarding the situation created due to floods during this period—during 1955 was of a very very exceptional order of Rs. 102 crores, as against Rs. 35 crores average annual flood damage for the previous 4 or 5 years, and 913 lives were lost. So, this was really a very serious situation, which we faced last year.

So far as the progress of the work is concerned, we find that whatever was attempted has met with a very gratifying measure of success. The Dibrugarh protection works, as stated in the document, stands out as a landmark in our efforts to combat floods. Members who are in some kind of touch with that area know that whereas in the earlier years the river was swallowing up the lands bit by bit and houses were being dismantled, now the position is that the lands which were lost through the swelling river are being recovered. Again, bit by bit, houses are being rebuilt on those portions which had been swept before. The town protection schemes in West Bengal were very effective. Kosi and other embankments schemes in North Bihar protected large areas from inundation. The Chaituni Bund in Uttar Pradesh protected nearly 2 lakhs of acres. The raising of the level of the sites of low-lying villages in Uttar Pradesh was improved. With greater popular support, flood protection works in Jammu and Kashmir made satisfactory progress. In Punjab and

Orissa, they are drawing up plans for the solution of the flood problem in those States.

Now, there is particularly an important feature of the work in connection with the floods, and that is, the preparatory work of surveys, etc., owing to the absence of which or, owing to the inadequacy of which our flood protection programmes did not make much headway in the earlier years.

In this connection, I am glad to be able to report to the House that very considerable progress has been made in respect of those surveys and investigations. In respect of aerial photography, 98 per cent. has been done compared with a far less percentage for the previous year. I need not burden the House with all those figures of mileage, etc. But I can give the House the general impression that good work is being done in this direction.

Regarding the setting up of rain-gauges and wireless stations also, much work has been done, with regard to their establishment. With a view to establishing an efficient system of flood warning, a few experimental radio-operated river and rain-gauges are being obtained. The Government of China also rendered assistance by communicating by wireless advance information about hydrological observations on the Brahmaputra.

I may give a few figures about the achievements. The area from which inundation has been prevented during 1955-56 is 3,000 sq. miles. The major towns protected from erosion are ten; villages raised, 1,300; embankments constructed, 500 miles.

I shall give a brief assessment of the position regarding each of our major projects, because that must be the deep concern of all our Members, who want to know what happened on those projects on which such large amounts of money are being expended. I take first the Hirakud project. At Hirakud, the progress has been phenomenal during the past two seasons, exceeding targets in most of the items. The progress achieved so far during the current season, that is, up to the end of February, 1956, is well ahead of the schedule. I may give some figures about the percentage of work done. Concreting and masonry, 98.4 per cent. This is the percentage of cumulative progress in relation to the total programme. Earthwork on earth dam, 91 per cent; earthwork on dykes 98.5 per cent., earthwork on canals and branches, 84 per cent.

There has been no change in the estimate of Rs. 70.78 crores sanctioned for Stages I of the project. As a matter of fact, the actual rates are, according to the latest reports, well within the sanctioned estimate. The revised estimate during 1955-56 is about Rs. 14 crores against the budget provision of Rs. 17.38 crores. I have explained the difference.

About the future programme, the dam will be substantially completed by August, 1956, and water for irrigation for about one lakh acres and 24,000 K.W. of power from the first unit will be made available. This will be just in next August. It is something joyous which certainly I share with the Members. It is with feelings of exhilaration that we learn that a project which had been so much under discussion has at last materialised. There were doubts being expressed in Orissa whether there will be a Hirakud dam at all. In the next season the remaining three generating sets will be commissioned when we will have in total, 1,23,000 K.W. of power. With the progress of excavation of field channels, more and more acres of land will receive irrigation supply, reaching a total of 4.54 lakh acres in 1958-59.

Work has been started by the Government of Orissa on the Delta Irrigation Scheme which has been sanctioned as an adjunct of Stage I of the Hirakud project. On completion, it will provide irrigation to 18.7 lakh acres in the Puri and Cuttack districts.

I come now to an interesting aspect of the work on the Hirakud project and I seek the attention of the hon. Members and request them to just give some thought to what I am saying about the Hirakud project. Having regard to the demand on Hirakud power in respect of which commitments have been made and further, load anticipations on account of industrial development in the region, Government have approved the scheme for the second stage power development at an estimated cost of Rs. 114 crores. By the utilisation of the tail-race waters from the main power house, power to the extent of 72,000 KW. will be generated. Arrangements are under way for commencing work on this scheme through the existing construction organisation. The significance is this. It will be recalled that when Government, in consultation with the Planning Commission, decided to suspend work on the subsidiary dam and power development therefrom there were criti-

cisms to the effect that the expenditure incurred thereon, about Rs. 192 lakhs, was altogether infructuous. The major criticism levelled at the project was that we have wasted so much money—99 per cent or 95 per cent—on this scheme. So much money was alleged to have been wasted, but that money is now coming back to us. Notice may be taken of this fact. Then it was thought that all those channels which had been dug and all that money which had been spent would be coming to naught. Even then we felt—the Ministry particularly, at any rate—that resumption of work would be necessary and we were convinced that the work could be commissioned soon, because we felt that the need for power was there and it was going to develop quickly. Somehow, that view-point was not accepted then. I wish it had been accepted and we should have done this work then and not stopped it. We are now making use of that money that has been spent. Nothing has been infructuous except a small amount. It was our view that the progress of development of load would sooner or later necessitate resumption of work on the second power house. These anticipations have been fulfilled, except for a small expenditure of Rs. 3 lakhs on compensation to contractors, etc. The entire expenditure incurred will be a direct charge on the second stage of the scheme. This is a bit of information which I thought I could share with the House.

Then there is another important point in the operation and working of the financial scheme of this project. It is about the question of subsidy for the flood control portion of the project. The forecast was that irrigation project alone will not be able to sustain that project. In other words, it was thought that the return will not be sufficient to meet the cost etc. Therefore, provision was made for some subsidy from the Centre for the flood control portion of the project. That would be a contribution from the Centre. Now, the position which emerges is this; whilst the initial financial picture of this project was based on the assumption that there would be a subsidy to meet the expenditure which was allocable to flood control, the subsequent stages of the project have made the financial picture sufficiently attractive and the indications are that there would be no need for the grant of a subsidy. The position, however, will be examined in detail as provided for in the financial arrangements made with the Orissa Government.

[Shri Nanda]

The financial committee of Parliament had occasion to complain against the large-scale financial, accounting and other procedural irregularities on this project. Admittedly, there were irregularities in the very early stages. In accordance with the assurance given to the House, stringent measures were taken in this regard. The position has been rectified almost completely. According to the latest report from the Chief Engineer, the ledger posting in respect of stock items are up-to-date. Lists of surplus stores have been circulated to other projects. Surpluses not required by projects are being disposed of by the D.G.S. & D. Adequate arrangements have been made for stocking the stores received. According to the Chief Engineer's latest report, there is no work completed without sanctioned estimate. The special division created for clearance of arrears in accounts has been closed. I would request hon. Members to take an early opportunity of paying a visit to Hirakud. It is now a fine piece of workmanship, a fine achievement of our country in which I should like to stress one special feature. There are no foreign experts. It is all done by Indians, a very good project of course.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh** (Gorakhpur Distt.—South): You please issue an invitation. We will visit.

**Shri Nanda**: We shall settle the details.

**Mr. Speaker**: Not during the session.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh**: We can go and come back.

**Shri Nanda**: On the Bhakra-Nangal project, all the works except the main Bhakra dam and its two power houses, the power house at Kotla and the transmission system, have been completed. Work commenced in November on the concreting of the dam. Special arrangements have been made for carrying aggregate over a distance of four miles. Work is being done in three shifts. Satisfactory progress is being maintained.

As regards percentage of progress, I won't tire the House by figures in cubic feet, etc. The cumulative percentage of progress is 100 per cent so far as the coffer dam is concerned and 90 per cent in regard to excavation. So far as concreting is concerned, the programme initially was 295,000. Later on, certain changes have been made in the quantity

on the advice of the Board of Consultants. Therefore, a portion of it could not be done. Taking the original estimate, the progress is 27.7 per cent.

The revised estimate for 1955-56 is Rs. 18.47 crores as against a Budget provision of Rs. 22.28 crores. I have already explained why there has been a reduced expenditure. Except for the floods which affected the work for a month or so, the rest is all important adjustments.

As regards the future programme, the Ganguwal power house which was commissioned in January 1955, with an installed capacity of 48,000 K.W. has been supplying power to Punjab, P.E.P.S.U. and Delhi and for construction purposes. The second power house at Kotla is expected to be completed by June 1956 with an installed capacity of 48,000 K.W. The load demand on Bhakra power had considerable increase since the 1953 estimate was framed which provided for one unit of 90,000 K.W. at the Bhakra power house in addition to the four units of 24,000 K.W. each at Nangal power houses. This was mainly due to the requirements of the fertilizer-cum-heavy water factory at Nangal. The committee that was set up by the Control Board to examine the matter, recommended that along with the two additional units, one each at the two Nangal Power houses, five units, each of 90,000 K.W. should be initially set up at the Bhakra dam, total 495,000 K.W. installed capacity, to be followed up later with the installation of another four units as the demand developed. These recommendations have been accepted. The installation of these units is expected to be completed by 1959-60. In view of the increase in the scope of the electrical portion of the project, the estimate has been revised further. According to the revised estimate, which is under scrutiny, the project will cost Rs. 173.54 crores.

Then I come to an aspect which is now occupying the minds of several people inside and outside the House: irregularities, corruption cases in Bhakra; malpractices about which we had some discussion here at the time of this debate last year.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi**: Also last Friday.

**Shri Nanda**: As regards the corruption cases, I have received this latest position. There is, of course, a great deal of information in detail about it. There

will be occasion to discuss it further to-day and tomorrow. I shall now give a very brief summary of the position. Irregularities and corruption cases are confined to the work carried out in the Bhakra canals. This is the distinction. It is not the dam or some part of the major work, but something for which the responsibility was of a more limited character. These cases came to light as a result of the investigations conducted by the agencies set up by the Bhakra Control Board and the anti-corruption department of the Government of the Punjab in 1952. This is their feeling. They have been telling me, you want us to do this and that; we will do that; but, please take note of the fact that all this has arisen as a result of the initiative taken by us, by the posting of the anti-corruption squad and enquiries made by them. The Punjab Government have taken strong action against the persons in respect of whom there was *prima facie* evidence of corruption. Sixty-nine cases have been worked out, of which 64 are ripe for being put into court. This is in addition to the departmental enquiry to be instituted against 7 officers including a Chief Engineer. Fifty-one officers and staff have already been placed under suspension in connection with cases relating to the project. As it was difficult to give an idea of the full extent of corruption I promised the House last year that I would have a proper enquiry made into the Bhakra canal administration. This was taken up with the State Government from time to time. Because of certain changes there, action had been delayed a bit. I believe hon. Members know that an enquiry is going to be instituted and the Punjab Government have agreed to appoint a committee with a High Court Judge as Chairman and two Engineers, unconnected with Punjab as members.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi :** This only concerns the Bhakra canal and not the whole of Bhakra?

**Shri Nanda :** There is nothing at all about the Bhakra dam. This is a small part of the work.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh :** May I know whether this high-power committee will go into the further enquiry that is, even in those which have been made by the Anti-Corruption department or other departments?

**Shri Nanda :** Work will proceed simultaneously on both the fronts. That is not going to be suspended because of this enquiry. I discussed this with the

Punjab Government. The idea is, it may be that having discovered the entire area of corruption and pinned down wherever any wrong has occurred, still the people may be suspecting that there may be very much more, and therefore it is better to have the whole thing properly examined not only with a view of locating the mischief but, also with a view to finding out ways and means of checking such things here or elsewhere. The idea is that a technical examination will be made as to how much should have been normally spent, on a work of this kind, how much more has been spent irrespective of accounts, etc. It is going to be a useful enquiry.

**Shri Nanda :** I am explaining. Not that

As regards the D.V.C., I am not able to present the same optimistic picture of the work, fortunately.

**An Hon. Member :** Why?

**Shri Nanda :** I am explaining. Not that there is nothing good. There is a good deal of work done. I went there very recently. I saw the works for myself. Very good, technically sound work, under very good supervision is proceeding. But, there were delays. Last year, I hoped that the delay that had occurred in the previous year could be made up, and possibly we could come back to the schedule. I am sorry to say that it has not been done. There are some special factors to which I shall refer later. The Durgapur barrage work was completed in April, two months ahead of schedule and within the sanctioned estimates. In regard to rehabilitation of families affected in the Manbhum and Santhal Parganas districts, it was decided after several meetings between the Corporation, Government of Bihar and the Central Government that this work should be done by the Government of Bihar, the Corporation meeting the cost. Work is proceeding on this basis. As regards progress of work, the percentage of work done is 97.9—two works are in progress—in the case of earth work and 93.4 in respect of concreting in Maithon. This Maithon work is nearly over. Very shortly, you will have both water and power. That is also a feature which should cause us a sensation of achievement, that is, that another dam is going to come into operation. But this should have been earlier. My point is it should have been many months by now. It should have been there seven or eight months earlier. This is the delay and that delay has had its repercussions, that is, the work on Panchet Hill is being delayed because the intention was to remove

[Shri Nanda]

the surplus machinery from Maithon and utilise it at Panchet Hill. That is what causes the delay.

The major portion of the transmission line and sub-station under the original programme has been completed last year. Now, utilisation of benefits. That was another matter which has cropped up again and again, that we are not using the power etc., of the D.V.C. Although there was initially a certain amount of delay in supply of power to the various consumers on account of non-delivery of equipment in time, the load on the D.V.C. system is rapidly growing. The aggregate demand has risen from about 22,280 K.W. in 1953 to 41,260 K.W. in 1954 and has reached 74,330 K.W. by now. After providing for stand by, the maximum load that the D.V.C. can carry is 104,000 K.W., i.e., 100,000 in Kokaro and 4,000 in Tilaiya. The peak load of over 82,000 K.W. must be considered very satisfactory. But the position is further altering. It is being found that what we have now is going to be wholly inadequate in view of the demands that are developing. I shall give the programme for that.

The industries in the valley have gone in for considerable expansion, e.g. The Tata Iron and Steel Company at Jamshedpur and the Indian Iron and Steel Company at Burnpur. There will be a new steel factory at Durgapur. The Chemical Industries at Dalmianagar are being expanded. It is expected that during 1958 we have got to find no less than 1,50,000 K.W. of additional power to enable the industrial projects already taken on hand to go into production. Proposals are under way to augment the generating capacity of the D.V.C. by the installation of the fourth unit at Bokaro, a hydro-station at Konar and a second thermal station at Durgapur. This is the programme for that and so far as future targets are concerned, as I said, there is a delay of a year which applies to Panchet Hill also.

About personnel there are some cut motions and a good deal in the press. I shall make a very brief statement about personnel in the D.V.C. During the next six months about 3,000 work-charged and 3,000 muster-roll employees of the D.V.C. will become surplus. But the position of regular employees is not likely to be a problem in the near future. Every endeavour is being made and will continue to be made to find alternative employment for the surplus staff and I

can assure the House that Government will not fail to do all that is possible in the matter. But it will be appreciated that "no retrenchment without alternative employment" is not a position which it is possible to accept. The D.V.C. authorities are in close touch with all the project authorities. The Government of India have also approached all concerned in the matter of finding alternative employment. The question of setting up an employment exchange for each of the major river valley projects is under consideration in consultation with the Ministries concerned. Both the Government of Bihar and West Bengal will try to absorb as much surplus personnel as possible. The West Bengal Government say that they may be able to absorb as much as 50 per cent. I met the workers recently at Maithon and I explained to them that a certain amount of retrenchment was inevitable in spite of all that was being done to find alternative employment for the surplus staff, because when a house has been completed the workers cannot sit in the house and say: "We will not leave the house." That is a kind of position which can certainly not be accepted. But we do not take the view of our responsibilities in the same way as any private capitalist employer will do, and therefore I have assured them that we will go to the farthest limit and the uttermost length to help them in every possible way to find alternative employment, for example by re-training them for other kind of work which is available in the country. Every consideration will be shown to them, short of this that when the work is completed they will still sit on the site.

These are the major projects. Regarding the new projects viz., Kosi, Koyna, Rihand, Chambal and Nagarjunasagar, these are now in preliminary stages. The work is going ahead. Expenditure was not incurred fully in some cases as provided, but I do not take any serious view of that. It is good that in the earlier stages the planning is done properly, designs are made properly. Initial delay is not so bad, because if later on defects arise, they will certainly cause us very much more. For example, in Koyna, the task of preparing the designs and reference to various experts has taken some more time. I shall not take more time on this particular aspect.

Then, regarding the utilisation of benefits, this question has come up very, very frequently. So far as water from the Bhakra is concerned, it is being utilised.

Tungabhadra has been a sore point with us all, but I need not give all the figures about it. The situation is improving considerably and irrigation on both sides is now being developed and I hope that satisfactory progress will be made shortly. Regarding Hirakud.....

**Shri Raghavachari (Penukonda):** What is the position of the high level canal at Tungabhadra?

**Shri Nanda :** I shall give definite information. The position in regard to the development of ayacut under irrigation by the waters of the Tungabhadra reservoir has improved on account of the vigorous steps taken by the State Government in this regard. On the Mysore—Andhra side, the area commanded is thinly populated and poor in cattle wealth. Irrigation of dry crops is a novel idea to the ryot who has been used to the raising of irrigated perennial crops under rain-fed conditions. Loans amounting to Rs. 25 lakhs, Rs. 27 lakhs and Rs. 50 lakhs have been sanctioned to the Governments of Mysore, Hyderabad and Andhra respectively, to meet the expenditure on making the lands fit for cultivation. Eight thousand and three hundred acres in Mysore, 16,000 acres in Hyderabad are under irrigation. in Hyderabad are under irrigation. Water from the reservoir is being let down temporarily for raising second crop in the Krishna delta. I did not want to take up the time of the House by giving all these details, but since the hon. Member was interested, I have given this information.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh :** What about the Rihand dam in U.P.?

**Shri Nanda :** If the hon. Member is keen, to have the details about the Rihand Dam, I shall give them. The contract for the Rihand Dam was let out in March, 1955 and the contractors started work at site in May, 1955. Work on excavation, river diversion, construction of bridge across the river, opening of quarry, camp colony etc., is in progress. Orders for construction machinery have been placed by the contractors. The 50 mile access road from the railhead to the dam site is nearing completion. Arrangements for stores and erection of the departmental camp colony have also been made. I need not give information about others. I have got about all the projects.

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**Dr. S. N. Sinha (Saran East):** Perhaps the contract for the Rihand Dam has been given to the Hindustan Building Corporation. May I know who this company is?

**Shri Nanda:** I think it is not that company. Hindustan Construction is for Koyana, but for Rihand I will find out and let the hon. Member know.

I had offered to tell the House something about the plan—the First Five Year Plan and the Second Five Year Plan—in the context of the long-term development of the country in this matter. I wonder whether I should tax the time of the House in giving that information at this stage.

**Some Hon. Members :** Tomorrow.

**Shri Nanda :** I shall give that further information about the plan at the time of my reply. Therefore, I will leave the matters at this stage, and so the hon. Members will proceed with the discussion.

**Shri L. N. Mishra (Darbhanga cum Bhagalpur):** I rise to support the Demands of the Irrigation and Power Ministry.

The House would agree with me when I say that this Demands of this Ministry is only hard earned one. Just now the Minister explained the progress made by some of our major river valley projects. The First Five Year Plan put a great deal of reliance on irrigation and power development in our country. Almost 32.5 per cent of the total outlay of the entire size of the Plan was set apart for the Irrigation and Power Ministry, and it is a matter of pleasure to see today that almost about 90 per cent. of the target is going to be achieved by this Ministry. We all remember how only a few years back some of the multipurpose projects were the subject of criticism in this House. All sorts of criticisms were hurled at this Ministry. We know the story of the D.V.C., the Hirakud and so on. But things have improved in the course of the last four years. The Ministry has tried to set its house in order. Various committees were appointed, enquiries were made and drastic action was taken against the offenders. Today, I feel that these river valley projects are a standing monument of our achievements, efficiency and good administration, barring a few exceptions here and there.



[Shri L. N. Mishra]

4 P.M.

As you know, it is these river valley projects that have solved our chronic food deficit. They are also helping us in our industrial development. Above all, they are going to end some of the worst floods in the country. I would like to congratulate the Minister especially on some of the major anti-flood measures that his Ministry has taken. For the first time, a co-ordinated effort has been made in this direction, by having a separate wing of organisation like the Central Flood Control Board and the State Flood Control Boards numbering about eleven.

After 1954, some genuine efforts have been made to control the floods. I belong to one of the flooded areas in the country, and I can say that it is a fact that there has not been much material achievement so far. But the greatest achievement of the anti-flood measures is the morale of the people. It has given confidence to the people to fight the floods. We know the story of Dibrugarh, and how people fought with the Brahmaputra. We know also the story of the Kosi. People have gained confidence now. In those places where people were leaving their homes, and in those cities which were being evacuated, today new townships are springing up, and there is life all round in those areas. That is the greatest victory, so far as the anti-flood measures are concerned.

I would like to draw the attention of the House to some special problems. First, I shall take up the question of technical personnel. To my mind, the question of technical personnel is very important. We know that under our Second Five Year Plan we are going to have so many development projects, and I fear that if we do not pay due attention to this problem our progress might suffer. Last time also, I had referred to this question.

Recently, we had reports from the Sukhthankar Committee on engineering personnel. That committee has said something in regard to the situation. It has said:

"There is likely to be a shortage of engineering personnel in almost all the categories, even taking into account the additional training facilities provided under the Second Five Year Plan."

It goes further and says:

"It is impossible to meet the entire requirements, visualised."

So, the situation is alarming and disturbing. I feel that we should do something in this regard immediately.

That committee has suggested some very wholesome measures to meet the situation. I would like to urge upon the Government to implement some of the suggestions which are to my mind very urgent.

According to me, the first thing that is necessary is to stop the flight of personnel from one place to another. What is the position today? There is no stability so far as the engineers are concerned. This is mainly because there is no uniformity in the conditions of service and the scales of salaries. One engineer is tempted to leave one project for another; another engineer is tempted to leave one State for another, because there is difference in the scales of salaries and the conditions of service. Further, if one State is anxious to absorb people from other States or to employ people from other States, it cannot do so because of want of uniformity in the scales and the conditions of service. I therefore feel that attempts should be made to achieve uniformity.

Last time, I had suggested the need of setting up a Central pool of engineers wherein all the people belonging to the profession of engineering, and engaged in irrigation and power projects in the country should find a place. As a rule, there should be a certain number of engineers in that pool, and any State Government that is in need of these engineers could get people from this central pool.

A few months back, we heard something in regard to the creation of an all-India cadre of engineers. The Srinagar seminar of engineers also had suggested it. And I am told that the co-ordination board of the Ministers has also approved this suggestion, and they have decided to have an all-India service of engineers. I do not know what has happened to that suggestion. The SRC report is very much explicit about it. It has said that there should be an all-India service of engineers, an all-India service of medicines and some other. But I do not know what has happened to the suggestion of the Srinagar seminar. I am told that



some of the Chief Ministers are opposed to that kind of an idea. I just do not understand why they are not in favour of it. There is no question of any rights or powers here. It is a national problem that we have to face, and therefore, there should be a broader outlook, and the issue should be decided from that point of view. If that is not possible I would request the Minister to adopt such measures as are necessary for the purpose, and if necessary, he can have help from this House also in this matter.

This brings me on to the question of having a uniform machinery for the execution of the river valley projects in the country. Today we have no uniform machinery for the execution of the different projects; not only is there difference between control board and the corporation but there is also difference between one control board and another. The character of the control boards differ from one another. I would like to suggest in all seriousness that there should be a uniform machinery for the execution of all the river valley projects. This question too was discussed by the engineering seminar. I would like to know what the present position is.

We also heard something in regard to the suggestion for having a National Construction Corporation to be put in charge of the execution of the river valley projects. The setting up of this national construction corporation was suggested by the engineering seminar, and it was also supported by the co-ordination board of Ministers. I am told that this corporation idea is not being very much liked by some of the States. But I would like to suggest that all possible efforts should be made to set up this National Construction Corporation because we find in it so many attractive things. It will not only eliminate the traditional contract system but will also do away with the weaknesses of normal departmental work. I also feel that it will ensure better remuneration to the labourers; it will abolish middlemen's profit; it will not have the rigidity and conservatism of a normal departmental work. It would also be free from the other vices from which departmental work has been suffering for so long. I, therefore, feel that it is high time that we have this national construction corporation for the execution of the various river valley projects.

I now come to one question in which I am a bit more interested, and that is in regard to the evolving of some method by which we can secure improved remuneration to the labourers. You, Sir, when you were the chairman of the Estimates Committee, had recommended in the 5th report, that all possible efforts should be made to improve the remuneration payable to the labourers engaged in the river valley projects. I want to know what the reaction of Government has been to this suggestion. I do not know what measures Government have taken to implement this recommendation. Here, I would like to put forth one other suggestion, and that is that the system of contracts should be abolished in a progressive manner. All possible efforts should be made to abolish this system. And efforts should be made to get the works executed through labour co-operatives and village panchayats. That will help us not only to improve the remuneration of labourers, but also help us in other matters. It will ensure expeditious execution of work. It would help us in bringing the people and Government into closer contact with each other. The people will find themselves in the position of joint proprietors or joint partners. The State will also feel that it is having the participation of the people in the national venture and in the national programme of development. We should not doubt the working capacity of our people. I have some experience of working on these lines in one of the projects of our country. I can say that our people have great vitality. If there is any chance of failure, it is on our part, that is, of the Government and of the people incharge of the organisation. Our experience has been that people are ahead of both the public organisations and the Government. For the last one year work through public co-operation has been done in the river valley scheme of Kosi. Last year, on the advice of our Minister, Shri Nandajee, work on Kosi was taken through the agency of labour co-operatives and gram panchayats, under the auspices of Bharat Sewak Samaj. Last year, it was a success. But this time, the work is progressing in a manner which looks something like a legendry. Last time, it was not possible to engage more than 12,000 people a day. But this year, the average attendance has been a minimum of 30,000, and it has gone up to 40,000. This time, the target of work is 50 per cent more than that of last year. We hope to complete the work within the expected time. This

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year too, it was doubted whether public co-operation would be forthcoming, whether people would come forward. It was a doubtful thing whether labour co-operatives would work. We know about the report of the co-operative movement in our country. It is discouraging. We had fears, and the Government officials too had fears, about the organisation of public co-operation. But I can say that it has worked wonderfully well. Under this system we can not only ensure the expeditious execution of the project, not only ensure the direct participation of the people in national development work, but also make a successful experiment in the abstract idea of a socialist pattern of society, to which our State is wedded.

**Shri Amjad Ali** (Goalpara-Garo Hills): Abstract idea?

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury** (Nabadwip): Constructive idea.

**Shri L. N. Mishra**: I say that that abstract idea is now taking a concrete shape.

**Shri Amjad Ali**: I am glad he realises that it is an abstract idea.

**Shri L. N. Mishra**: That has now taken concrete shape in Kosi.

You will be delighted to know that out of Rs. 100 paid by the Government, Rs. 96 go straightway to the pockets of the labourers. I want to know in which of the Socialist countries does 96 per cent. of the total bill go to the daily workers. Leave aside Soviet Russia. Take Yugoslavia even. What is the rate of payment there? Not to this proportion, I think.

Therefore, this is an idea which works very well and the Government should come forward and say that, as a rule, there will be no contract system in the country. So far as possible, work will be given to labour co-operatives and village panchayats. In Kosi, we have seen that our people can develop village leadership. Last year, we had great difficulties from one side. But in Kosi this year, an atmosphere of goodwill and co-operation has been built up. I say in this House that we are thankful not only to the people but also the Government machinery in the State. They have been co-operating. This is a fact, there were last year some difficulties and Shri Nandajee had to work hard. Now, we have been successful. This year the co-operation that has been forthcoming

both from the people and the Government machinery is commendable. There has been triumph of the truth in Kosi.

Lastly, I come to the question of rural electrification. In spite of all the achievements of the Ministry, I am constrained to complain about one thing. That is, the pace of rural electrification has not been very fast. We made the initial mistake of not giving due importance to this problem in the First Five Year Plan. It is a fact that the *per capita* consumption in this respect has been increased from 15 units to 25 units, and the number of villages and towns electrified has risen from 3700 to about 6500. During the Second Five Year Plan, we hear, that the *per capita* consumption of electricity is to be raised to 50 units and 7500 additional villages are to be covered. But how does that compare with the number of villages, almost half a million, that we have? So, I would urge upon the Government that greater attention should be given to the question of rural electrification.

In this respect, I would like to say something about the attitude of the State Governments. I would like to know which of the State Governments have set up Electricity Boards in their States. They are not coming forward and State Electricity Boards are not being set up. I do not know why. Perhaps they are too conscious of their powers and they feel that it will be better if this remains in their hands. I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to see that all possible efforts are made to have Electricity Boards in the different States.

Electricity is a thing which is no longer an article of luxury. It is an article on which our economic development depends. Today it has become a yardstick for the economic and industrial development of any country. It will be one of the yardsticks for measuring the industrial and economic progress of the country. If someone thinks that supply of electricity can be given only when there is demand for electricity, I will say he is very much mistaken. Electricity is a thing which creates its own demand. Experience all the world over has been that the consumption of electricity in the rural areas has been more successful. We have the proceedings of the Vienna World Power Conference. There it was expected that the electricity programme in the rural areas had been largely successful.

In India too—in South India—we have the same experience. I would say that all possible efforts should be made to popularise and provide, rural electricity programmes. The First Five Year Plan visualised setting up Rural electricity Administration scheme somewhat on the lines of the USA. I want to know what has happened to that,—whether long-term loans were made available to the village co-operatives on the lines suggested in the Plan. At least, in my State it has not been done.

So far as rural electricity is concerned, I would also like to say that State Governments can do a lot to develop it. They have to advance liberal loans. They should give apparatus and machinery on a hire purchase system to consumers. They should adopt load development policy. Then alone rural electrification can develop in our country. I also feel—and perhaps it was accepted by the Engineering Seminar also—that for the development of rural electricity, there is nothing like a technical problem. The main problem is that of finance. To my mind, it is not very difficult to have finance, for this is a work which is designed only to produce wealth, national wealth. Therefore, the question of finance has to be overcome and all possible efforts should be made to encourage the rural electricity system.

**Shri T. Subrahmanyam (Bellary):** We have arrived at a stage when a convenient stock-taking of our achievements in the field of irrigation and power and flood control could be made and we could usefully envisage the future progress to be achieved.

Shri Nanda was just now recounting the facts and figures regarding progress of the various projects under the First Five Year Plan. He was stating that initially, many difficulties had to be faced, there was a lot of wastage, there was difficulty in the use of machines, in the pooling of machines in the training of technical personnel and also in estimates being drawn up. There was also some corruption here and there. All these difficulties had to be faced and there was a lot of delay. But now he has given a very heartening and optimistic picture with regard to the progress achieved. He was just now referring to the Hirakud Project. It is a project which has now progressed very well; even the target date is likely to be shortened.

In the First Five Year Plan, irrigation and power accounted for an expenditure of 28 per cent., that is, nearly Rs. 661 crores. Shri Nanda was just now saying that 33 lakh acres had been brought under irrigation and so far 2.3 lakh kilowatts of electricity had been generated and put to use, and shortly, another 2.3 lakh kilowatts of electricity would be generated. The progress achieved is, therefore, heartening.

My hon. friend, Shri L. N. Mishra, was just now referring to public co-operation in the Kosi project. We had gone there last year with some friends. Under the auspices of the Bharat Sevak Samaj, public co-operation was organised, *shramdan* was being given and people from distant villages had been organised through village panchayats. They were also participating. Lands were surrendered without recourse being had to legal technicalities. The public co-operation there was really heartening. Then they showed what could be done with respect to the completion or the construction of the projects in other areas. We went the whole length from Kanauli to Nirmali and saw there students, villagers and Cadet Corps and young men and *shramdanis* all participating in the work. It was a sight which could never be forgotten.

Just now I also learnt that an assessment of our irrigation potential is being made. India is divided into 5 zones. The hydro-electric survey of the west-flowing rivers of the western ghats has been completed, I learn. The survey of the east-flowing rivers in Southern India seems also to have been completed. I suggest that a preliminary load survey should also be completed as early as possible so that the load requirements in the various places can be assessed. Particularly, in Southern India, for one reason or another, the load production has not been keeping pace with the demand. That should be taken up for a period of 15 years and an estimate drawn up. I suggest that a co-ordinated plan or programme of power development should be drawn up.

It is heartening that in the First Five Year Plan in 1950, the *per capita* consumption of kwt. hours was 10 and in 1955 it did increase to 19. A word about rural electrification. By the end of the First Five Year Plan 6,600 small towns and villages have been provided with electricity and they now contemplate by the end of the Second Five Year

[Shri Subrahmanyam]

Plan to provide 10,000 more villages and about 500 small towns with electricity at a cost of 90 crores. I feel that this is not an adequate thing. We have got lakhs of villages. I know the difficulties in the way of solving this problem. Lack of finance is there; lack of material is there; poles have to be taken up; wires have to be taken up and insulators and all these things have to be got. But, if we want to make the village life happier and brighter we have to take in larger numbers and provide them with electricity.

One word about navigation. This is also under the water wing of the Central Water and Power Commission. It is a good thing. But, for some reason or the other, I feel that it has not been adequately tackled. As I said on a previous occasion, there was one British engineer, Sir Arthur Cotton. At about 1885, he had drawn up an irrigation-navigation map of the whole of India. He had connected all the river systems of Ganga, Brahmaputra, Mahanadi, Godavari and Krishna and then Tungabhadra and Kaveri and he had connected them. He was not a visionary or a doctrinaire engineer. He was a practical engineer. He had produced results. He was responsible for the Godavari anicut and the Krishna anicut and the Kaveri-Cole-roon works. He had even envisaged the Tungabhadra project being taken up. He had described it as the central reservoir. I would suggest to the Ministry that as we are on the eve of the Second Five Year Plan, along with irrigation, the navigation needs of the country should also be considered seriously.

I must say, a word about the Tungabhadra project with which I am intimately connected. The Board was re-constituted in 1955 March and vested with statutory powers and it has been functioning satisfactorily. The dam is expected to be completed in all respects by December, 1956. And, the Power House at the dam is also expected to be completed by December 1956. The Power House at Hampi is expected to be completed in April 1957. The low-level canal including the power canal has been completed up to mile 210. The work of distributaries is also complete. Mysore would benefit by 91,589 acres being irrigated; Andhra would benefit by 156,913 acres being irrigated and in Hyderabad, 5,80,000 acres would be irrigated. Just now, Shri Nandaji, the Planning Minister, has been giving us

the figures with regard to the actual acreage that has been brought under cultivation. It is not a satisfactory thing. I am not going into the reasons therefor. But, I suggest that adequate progress should be made and the ryots should be given liberal loans. He has also given the figures of the loans to Andhra, Mysore and Hyderabad, about Rs. 2 lakhs, Rs. 50 lakhs and Rs. 27 lakhs. I suggest that larger amounts should be provided. It is very difficult to bring land under irrigation. It has to be levelled up and then, sometimes, the help of machinery is needed; bulldozers may have to be used or it can be done by manual labour, wherever it is so possible. For all these reasons, the agriculturists and the ryots need liberal loans. I suggest that the Central Government should keep a close watch over this and see that progress is achieved as early as possible. I am not disclaiming the responsibility of the local leaders and the State Governments; they should also put in their best.

At Tungabhadra there is a workshop and there is proposal of the Central Government to take over the workshop and develop it into a medium-sized structural workshop, especially for the manufacture of wagons, transmission towers and other structurals in addition to gates, gearings for River Valley Projects etc. It is a good workshop which has been producing very good flood-gates and other things and structurals. I suggest it should not be removed from that place. It has been developed excellently and it should be put to some good use as has been suggested.

One word about the National Construction Corporation. It was considered at the seminar recently held in Srinagar and the Co-ordination Board of Ministers have accepted this in principle. The idea is to constitute a corporation and then vest it with some government funds. There are some legal difficulties and they have to be met and, probably, the Constitution has also to be amended and the State Governments should be brought into the picture so that all the machinery that we have, all the technical personnel that we have, and all the experience that our people gather may be kept in a process of continual progress and be switched over from one project to another when it is completed.

One word more and that is about the Second Five Year Plan. Other projects have to be taken up in South India and

in all other parts also. There is one small project with respect to which I would like to make a reference just now and that is the Malvi-Hagaribomman Halli project. This is expected to irrigate 7,000 to 7,500 acres. Though it is a small project, it would help those who have been displaced by the Tungabhadra reservoir which covers about 140 sq. miles. They have been accustomed to a certain mode of irrigation and they would be benefited. Other areas not irrigable by the Tungabhadra project, the upper regions, would also be benefited by this. I would have referred to other projects also but still I would suggest to the hon. Minister that this one should be taken up positively before the end of the Second Five Year Plan.

**Shri Bogawat (Ahmednagar South):** Sir, I am glad this Ministry has achieved much and we are making good progress under the first Five Year Plan. There were about 661 crores assigned for Irrigation and Power. Now, when our second Five Year Plan is very big, a plan of Rs. 4,800 crores, only Rs. 900 crores are assigned for Irrigation and Power.

I should like to bring to your notice that in the Second Five Year Plan, we have to develop our industrial production and many of our industries are dependent upon power, and electricity is the main thing which is required for industrial production. So, in the Second Five Year Plan, I think some more amount ought to have been there for Power, that is electricity. But, that is not done and I humbly bring to your notice that a very important project, the Koyna project in Maharashtra, which is most useful for Maharashtra as well as all the industries in Bombay city is neglected.

Sir, if you read the report you will find that no amount is assigned. There has been a claim for this project since the beginning of the First Five Year Plan and only some buildings and roads and some arrangements are made. Just now the Planning Minister said that even the designs etc., have taken more time. I think this is a very important project. Very great engineers ought to have been employed on this project which will produce 2,40,000 K. W. at the first stage, and much more electricity at the second stage. Even the first stage has not yet begun. The first stage will have to be completed in 1961-62.

Then there will be the second stage and I do not know when it will be finished. What is the help given for Koyna? We find from the report that the International Bank has offered a dollar loan to the extent of Rs. 1125 crores. Rs. 33 crores are to be spent on this project. Since 1951-52 and coming up to 1961-62, these Rs. 33 crores are to be spent on this project and then it will be ready for giving power. Please realise that this power project is most essential for all the districts in Bombay and Maharashtra and many other centres. Why should this project not be hurried up? I say that much attention is not given and more amounts are not sanctioned. There are allegations and counter-allegations that the schemes in Maharashtra are not helped while more money is spent for Gujarat.

**Sardar A. S. Saigal (Bilaspur):** No, no.

**Shri Bogawat:** There are allegations and pamphlets are distributed. If this is so, I would humbly request the Ministry that they should give more attention so that there may be no such allegations. Apart from these allegations, it is very heavy and important project, and it is quite necessary that more attention ought to be given to it. It ought to have been sanctioned apart from the dollar aid or other aid that is sought from foreign countries.

Even the other project in my district, Randra cum Bandardhara project, which will require about Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 crores, has not been sanctioned for the last five or seven years. I may tell you that my district is the worst district, being affected by scarcity like the Rayalseema but fortunately for the Rayalseema District, there are certain projects undertaken. Even though Rs. 40 crores are sanctioned for scarcity areas, Rs. 8 crores were not spent—and there was a demand for the Kukadi project in my area or constituency. Even though the Ramamurthi Committee had recommended that Rs. 12 crores should be spent, it is not done. Even including the 1956-57 amount, Rs. 4 crores are dropped. I find on page 46 of the draft of the Second Five Year Plan the following statement about scarcity areas:

"It has been decided not to include this project, (the scarcity project) as a separate item in the Second Five Year Plan."

[Shri Bogawat]

Rs. 8 crores were not spent. Again, Rs. 4 crores are not spent though there was a provision for Rs. 40 crores even when there was a recommendation by a very important committee such as the Ramamurthi Committee, and when there was agitation or clamour for taking the Kukadi Project which goes through the scarcity area of Poona, Ahmednagar and Sholapur districts, yet a small amount is sanctioned for Ghod project. The Bhima river goes nearby and there is some water in the wells in some villages there. But the very important project of Kukadi is neglected.

In the other part of the scarcity area, the Mula project was sanctioned and it was estimated to cost Rs. 8,39,00,000. Though the Central Government wanted Rs. 6 crores only Rs. 3 crores were allotted by the State Government because the State Government are in need of other projects. We cannot therefore blame the State Government. The Centre ought to have taken more interest and sanctioned more amount for these scarcity areas. In all these scarcity areas people are worst affected and they become poorer and poorer. During the last four years there was scarcity in some taluk or other. Very recently scarcity was declared in Parnar taluk and some villages in Sangamner taluk. In Srikonda, there was scarcity for three years out of four years. When such is the position, is it not the duty of our Government to give more attention and take special care and also sanction amounts for the projects which were recommended by very important Committees?

I am very glad to see that the flood project area is given good attention and much is achieved; people are saved from calamity, from danger and from all the horrors of flood. Is it not in the same way the duty of the Government to give more attention to scarcity areas and save the people of those areas who are affected every now and then?

I request the Government to see that whatever amount can be spared should be sanctioned for these two very important projects—Kukadi project and Mula project—so that the people of the three districts may be saved from scarcity.

With regard to the Randra cum Bandardhara project, I may say that there is a dam, there is a tank also and there is a natural waterfall. In addition

to these, there is heavy rainfall at Harishchandragarh, about 200 inches a year, and there is never any scarcity of water in the tank. The tank is always full of water. When these are the important conditions there, when only two power houses are to be built and transmission lines are to be put, I do not know why this project is not taken up. There are several sugar factories in my district. We are developing co-operative sugar factories; people are asking for power; all the towns and cities are in need of power and it is being demanded from time to time. Several representations are made. In spite of all these things, not much attention is given. May I request the Ministry to see that alternative schemes at least be provided? If Randra is not taken, give us at least Koyna, complete the work of Koyna as early as possible, because the power of Koyna will be sufficient for seven or eight districts like Stara, Poona, Ahmednagar, Colaba and Bombay. All these districts are kept without power because the scheme is not hurried up. I submit that more attention should be given and sums should be sanctioned for the scheme in the scarcity area—Randra cum Bandardhara—and more attention should also be given to the Koyna project.

After saying all this, I want to say something about the work that is being carried on. As suggested by my friend, Shri Mishra, the labour co-operatives movement has done a lot in his area. There are several labour co-operatives working in the Ghod project. Many contractors are persons who are in collusion with the persons who supervise. The persons who supervise find fault with the poor labourers who do not get any relief. There is trouble every now and then, and so, many co-operatives, labour co-operatives, are coming to an end and only two are remaining there. On this point it is quite necessary that Government should give more attention—and also the State Government—and encourage the co-operative societies there so that money will be obtained by the persons who put in their labour.

It was said that 96 per cent. of the money was obtained by the labour. If we try these things and give protection, I think our people and labourers will get much relief. Ghod project is going on and about ten thousand people are working in this area. It is a scarcity



area but there is no need now for starting scarcity work because works are already started in other taluks.

If the Government is going to spare enough money for the scarcity areas, I request them to do this. There are many tanks which can be taken up. In my district, there are about 30—40 tanks which are situated in such places that in every taluk two or three would be there. Much of the scarcity area could be covered by these tanks. Even if there is scarcity these agriculturists will get relief; they will otherwise suffer from the horrors of scarcity.

Something was said about rural electrification. We must give more attention to this. I request that more attention should be given to the Ranara cum Bandardhara project where the hilly tribes are living. There are certain industries there. There are twelve sugar mills and bagasse and other products are there. There is a possibility of some industries and development. It is quite essential that there must be some project of electricity giving power for these industries. If these things are done, I am quite sure that the question of unemployment will be solved. In order to solve the problem of unemployment, relieve scarcity and develop the industries and help the present industries, some alternative scheme of electric power should be opened in that project. Then, the agriculturists and others will get relief and they will not be in difficulty.

**श्री बंजमिन हंसबा** (पूनिया व संचाल, परगना रक्षित-अनुसूचित आदिमजातियाँ) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपको बार-बार धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस सदन में इस विषय पर कुछ कहने का मौका दिया। साथ ही साथ मैं मंत्री महोदय को धन्यवाद देता हूँ क्योंकि उन्होंने जो इस साल की रिपोर्ट बनायी है उसको देखने से पता चलता है कि सिंचाई के विषय में काफी डेवलपमेंट (विकास) हुआ है। मैं उनको इसलिये भी धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि हमारे यहां बिहार में जो बड़ी-बड़ी योजनाएँ बनी हैं और उनके कारण जो लोग डिस्प्लेस (विस्थापित) हुये हैं, उनकी समस्या को भी अच्छी तरह से हल किया जा चुका है। इसके साथ ही साथ, मैं कुछ विषयों पर दुःख भी प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ। गत वर्ष जो यहां पालियामेंट भवन में बिहार क सदस्यों की बैठक हुई थी, उसमें

हम लोगों ने इस सम्बन्ध में अपनी बहुत कुछ राय प्रकट की थी। मैं विशेष कर माइथान प्राजेक्ट के विषय में जादा जोर दूंगा, क्योंकि इससे आदिवासियों का विशेष सम्बन्ध है। इस प्रोजेक्ट के सिलसिले में जिन लोगों के मकान और जमीनें ले ली गयीं थीं उनको मकान और जमीनें बदले में दी गयी हैं, परन्तु वे उनको लेने से इन्कार करते हैं। मंत्री जी को अच्छी तरह से इस बात की जांच करनी चाहिये कि वे लोग क्यों ऐसा करते हैं। इसका कारण यह है कि जो जमीन उनके लिये रिक्लेम (कृषि योग्य) की गयी है वह उतनी अच्छी नहीं है जैसी कि उनकी जमीन थी। उनके पास फर्स्ट क्लास (प्रथम श्रेणी की) इरीगेटेड (सिंचाई की) जमीन थी जोकि ले ली गयी है, और जो जमीन उनको दी जा रही है उसमें सिंचाई का कोई बन्दोबस्त नहीं है और वह जमीन भी कंकरीली है। जिस जमीन को उन लोगों ने चुना था उसको रिक्लेम नहीं किया गया। सरकार की तरफ से कहा गया है कि हम पैचेज (टुकड़ों) में उसको ट्रैक्टर से रिक्लेम नहीं कर सकते। लेकिन अगर वास्तव में देखा जाये तो उसको ट्रैक्टर से रिक्लेम किया जा सकता है।

**Mr. Speaker :** About which project is this?

**श्री बंजमिन हंसबा :** This is about the Maithon Project in Bihar.

इस जमीन को सरकार अच्छी तरह से रिक्लेम कर सकती थी। सरकार से कहते हैं तो कहा जाता है कि डी० वी० सी० कारपोरेशन से कहो, उनसे कहते हैं तो वे कहते हैं कि बिहार सरकार से कहो, उनसे कहते हैं तो कहा जाता है कि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट से कहो। यह नहीं मालूम होता कि किसके जरिये इन गरीबों की समस्या को हल किया जा सकेगा। आप जानते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान में बहुत सी बड़ी बड़ी योजनाएँ चलायी जा रही हैं। उनमें से पंजाब में भाखड़ा नंगल एक है। वैसे ही बिहार में माइथान, पंचट हिल और मयूराक्षी योजनाएँ हैं। अभी हमारे एक मित्र ने कोसी योजना के सम्बन्ध में कहा था। सरकार का पूरा ध्यान कोसी योजना की ओर जा रहा है, फ्लड कंट्रोल (बाढ़ नियंत्रण) के लिये और सिंचाई के लिये भी। लेकिन मैं जिस क्षेत्र से आया हूँ वहां अर्थात् संचाल परगना में, सबसे ज्यादा इरीगेशन हो सकता है। यहां पर छोटी



### [श्री बैजमिन हंसदा]

और बड़ी योजनायें चलायी जा सकती हैं। इस लिये मैं मंत्री महोदय से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि वे स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को हिदायत दें कि संथाल परगना की नदियों पर बांध बना कर वहां सिंचाई की जाये। अभी हाल की बात है कि हमारे बिहार के मुख्य मंत्री महोदय के सामने वहां की २० या २५ हजार जनता ने डिमांडेशन (प्रदर्शन) किया था। हमारे यहां एक सुन्दर योजना कुसुम घाटी के नाम से चलायी जाने वाली थी जिस पर ७३ लाख रुपया खर्च होता। लेकिन एक कांग्रेस पार्टी के मेम्बर ने इसको राजनीतिक प्रश्न बना कर उसका नाम बदल दिया और उस योजना को १६ लाख का बना दिया गया। अगर यह योजना ७३ लाख रुपये की बनायी जाती तो बहुत बड़े क्षेत्र में सिंचाई कर सकती थी। लेकिन, इसको १६ लाख का बना दिया गया है। अब इससे केवल आठ दस बस्तियों में सिंचाई हो सकेगी मेरा कहना यह है कि इस तरह की स्कीम बना कर क्यों नहीं संथाल परगना की ओर ज्यादा से ज्यादा ध्यान दिया जाता। मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाना चाहता हूं कि यहां पर छोटी छोटी योजनायें बनाकर सिंचाई का अच्छा प्रबंध किया जा सकता है, जिससे हम अपनी उपज को बहुत बढ़ा सकेंगे और इससे जनता को बहुत लाभ होगा और उसकी उन्नति होगी।

जब हम आकड़ों को देखते हैं तो मालूम होता है कि पहली पंचवर्षीय योजना की बाकी दो वर्षों में उत्तर बिहार में २०० ट्यूब वेल बनाये जायेंगे। ये केवल उत्तर बिहार में ही बनाये जाते हैं। साउथ (दक्षिण) बिहार के प्लेस (मैदानों) में, जहां संथाल परगना, मुंगेर और भागलपुर पड़ते हैं, बहुत कम ध्यान दिया जा रहा है। संथाल परगना के पश्चिम में भागलपुर, मुंगेर आदि सेंतो ट्यूब वेल लगाये जा रहे हैं, और नहरें खोदने की योजनायें हैं लेकिन संथाल परगना की तरफ न प्रान्तीय सरकार ध्यान देती है, और न सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ध्यान देती है। अगर आप देखें तो आपको पता चलेगा कि वहां भी बड़ी-बड़ी नहरें बनाई जा सकती हैं। मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूं कि पकूर सब-डिविजन में तोरे नदी पर डैम (बांध) बनाया जा सकता है और राजमहल सब-डिविजन को फुलड (बाढ़) से बचाया जा सकता है। इसके बाद, गोमानी नदी पर अगर डैम बना दिया जाये, जो कि पहाड़ों से होती हुई बहती है तो उससे इरीगेशन-कम-पावर (सिंचाई व विद्युत) की सहूलियतें प्राप्त की जा सकती हैं।

मयुराक्षी नदी पर जो बांध बनाया जा रहा है उससे बंगाल को ही फायदा होने वाला है। संथाल फायदा परगना में कुछ हजार एकड़ जमीन उससे अवश्य सिंची जा सकेगी, लेकिन और कोई फायदा उस इलाके को होना वाला नहीं है। बारामाशिया प्राजैक्ट को अगर हाथ में लिया जाये तो काफी जमीन की सिंचाई हो सकती है और बहुत फायदा उस क्षेत्र को पहुंच सकता है। अगर सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट इस चीज को अपने हाथ में ले तो उस इलाके की बहुत ज्यादा तरक्की हो सकती है और पावर भी इस प्राजैक्ट से जेनरेट की जा सकती है। यह दुख की बात है कि माइथन और डी० बी० सी० से दुमका को तो इलेक्ट्रीसिटी मिलेगी, लेकिन जो डिस्ट्रिक्ट हैडक्वार्टर्स हैं उसको कोई बिजली नहीं मिलेगी। यह हैडक्वार्टर मयुराक्षी प्राजैक्ट से केवल १२ मील की दूरी पर है। मयुराक्षी प्राजैक्ट से जो इलेक्ट्रीसिटी पैदा होगी उसका कुछ भाग अगर संथाल परगना को भी दे दिया जाये तो उस इलाके की काफी उन्नति हो सकती है।

इस के साथ ही साथ इलेक्ट्रीसिटी के सम्बन्ध में मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूं कि डी० बी० सी० से द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना काल में आपका विचार यह है कि गया होते हुए पटना नवाडा और मुजफ्फरपुर तक बिजली दी जाये। यह तो दूर के इलाके हैं, लेकिन जो नजदीक के इलाके हैं, क्या कारण है कि उनको पहले बिजली नहीं दी जा रही है। संथाल परगना से शार्टर रूट (छोटा मार्ग) पड़ता है, क्या कारण है कि इस शार्टर रूट को नहीं अपनाया गया है। इस बास्ते मेरी दरखवास्त है कि जो इलाके नजदीक हैं उनको पहले बिजली दी जाये और दूर के इलाकों को बिजली पहुंचाने के लिये छोटे रूट का इस्तेमाल किया जाये।

आखिर में मैं मंत्री महोदय से एक अर्ज और करना चाहता हूं। जितनी भी बिहार स्टेट की स्कीम होती है और जिन पर ५ लाख से ज्यादा खर्चा होता हो, उनको सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट मंजूर किया करे जिससे किसी राजनीतिक दृष्टि से वे न बनाई जायें बल्कि इस दृष्टि से बनाई जायें कि जनता की ज्यादा से ज्यादा भलाई हो सके।

मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह भी अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि संथाल परगना और छोटा नागपुर के इलाके को सर्वे (सर्वेक्षण) करने के लिये और उस

इलाके के लिये स्कीम बनाने के लिये जिन को कि दूसरी योजना में शामिल किया जा सके, एक सेंट्रल कमेटी बनाई जानी चाहिये, जिस में इंजीनियर और एक्सपर्ट्स (वशेषज्ञ) हों। यह कमेटी उस इलाके के लिये बड़ी तथा मध्यम श्रेणी की योजनाएँ बनाये जिनको कि आप मंजूरी दें। ये लोग उस इलाके में जायें और उसका दौरा करके अपनी सिफारिशें आपको दें। वहाँ के लोगों को जो ग्रीवियेंसिस (शिकायतें) हैं, वे उन्हीं इस कमेटी के सामने पेश करेंगे और सब बातों पर विचार करने के बाद यह कमेटी उस इलाके को, जो कि बैकवर्ड है, जो कि पिछड़ा हुआ है, जिस की कोई मदद न आपकी तरफ से और न प्रान्तीय सरकार की तरफ से की जा रही है, ऊँचा उठाने के लिये, उसका डिबेलेपमेंट करने के लिये, उसको इरीगेशन और पावर के बेनिफिट (लाभ) पहुँचाने के लिये, आप को अपनी सिफारिशें पेश करें। इतनी मेरी प्रार्थना है।

**Dr. S. N. Sinha :** (Saran East) : I am glad that you have done some justice to the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, because it is I who always ventilate the grievances of his constituency. You have also given me a chance to speak which hon. Members do not get very often.

**Mr. Speaker :** I have called three Members from Bihar. There are other States also; they must have their share.

**Dr. S. N. Sinha :** Nothing has changed the basic face of our country so much as the taming of the turbulent rivers like the Sutlej, Kosi, Mahanadi, etc. But, I am sorry that the hon. Minister has not given me the chance to say the same thing and thank him also as regards Samastipur, which is the constituency of our Minister for Parliamentary Affairs. Everybody knows in this House that last year, if any part of India suffered most, it was the constituency of the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs. Here are given the figures for the whole of Bihar and from the figures you will find that this is the worst flood affected area. About 24.98 lakh acres were inundated and the damage done to the crops was Rs. 20.3 crores. I will not be exaggerating if I say that out of this, more than one-third occurred in the constituency of the hon. Minister of

Parliamentary Affairs. That is besides the damage to houses and property. I ventilated our grievances on this question even last year. It happened like this. The experts of the Central Government have visited the site. They have seen that if these embankments are not built in one season, Samastipur will be affected by floods as it was affected last year. This is the month of April already and the embankments are not yet ready. Everybody knows that the same thing is going to be repeated as it happened last year. This misery which came to the constituency of the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs was a man-made flood. I spoke on this point elaborately last year. This year also I will not take the time of the House on that. But, I press it once more so that the Government may realise the urgency of the situation in that part of the country, where recently also they have celebrated the birthday of Kalidasa. That is one of the advanced areas culturally. But, cultured people suffer more. They never fight for small things. They never beg for small things. Although it is a small thing for the Central Government, it is a big thing for his constituency. With all the force at my command. I will request you to direct the Minister for Irrigation and Power to send more and more engineers to that place and see to it that before the floods start, that embankment is built, so that Samastipur may be saved from the calamities from which it has been suffering since the last 2 years.

Coming to some other part of the country,—I have to speak on a number of points and cover the whole country—I find that the general picture is very good. Today, if I were in the position of my hon. friend Shri Bogawat, I would have thanked the hon. Minister. Because, I see in this report, about the Koyna hydro-electric project, they have already spent about Rs. 114.8 lakhs and they are going to spend another Rs. 201 lakhs this year. Still, he is complaining. But, what about us? I take the Gandak project. Gandak is the river on the banks of which lies my constituency. It is adjacent to the constituency of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. That also is neglected because my name is the same as the hon. Minister. It may be for that reason. All Sinhas are neglected people. I find that the Gandak project has not been taken in hand with all the seriousness with which it should have been done. But I will return to

[Dr. S. N. Sinha]

this also after a moment. My time is rushing and I also must rush through the many things that I have to say.

5 P.M.

**Mr. Speaker :** The rivers are also rushing.

**Dr. S. N. Sinha :** Yes, Sir, and we must tame them as you are taming me, and I am glad that there will be many more places like Bhakra Nangal or Hirakud. They have become places of pilgrimage in the real sense of the term because there it is that we see the achievement of man for the betterment of his hard luck.

Firstly we find that the river valley projects have been a fight against the forces of Nature, and to the extent we have achieved success against the forces of Nature, we have the right to call ourselves wise men. Secondly, no other project has helped the betterment of the people or the happiness of the people as the river valley projects have done. Thirdly, we could not have made a better investment for the welfare of our people and for the glory of our country than by putting the money into these river valley projects. While entertaining a similar project in Russia, Lenin said once that electricity plus Communism would conquer the whole world. With equal right and perhaps with equal justification, we can today, we are in a position today, to say that the tamed rivers and socialist pattern would wipe out poverty and make a first class people of our people and very happy country of our country. The tremendous amount of patience, perseverance and other things which are necessary to build a dam cannot be imagined unless one goes to the site itself and sees it with one's own eyes. In the early days, of course, there were many complaints, and I have also about a thousand complaints to make against the Ministry, but my experience has shown that I also should have some patience, and one by one I put these complaints.

So, here, although some improvement has been made, there is still scope and a good deal of scope for improvements. I have an impression and also some experience because I was very intimately connected with the Damodar Valley project once. That is why I say that I have this impression and also the experience that the leadership of this Irrigation and Power Ministry does not see fully

the scope of the benefit that can be brought to our people. Perhaps, it will be better if I give an example.

When the D. V. C. project was taken up, some experts suggested that it would be a good idea if we simultaneously start a dyes and drugs project also there. Some experts were called. Lakhs of rupees were spent on that investigation. Some Germans were also called from Germany whom I brought with great risk from Germany during those years about 1948 when the Americans and British were not allowing them. When they came, investigations were made. They said: "Yes, it is ideally situated and there is a very good chance of bringing out and working a chemical firm like Imperial Chemicals or I.G. Farben of Germany." And they said the by-products alone would be so much of D.D.T. and other things that we could wipe out malaria from the whole country. They were ready to give these by-products free of charge. Can you imagine the joy of the people, when 50 per cent. of the lives is just wasted due to malaria, when we wipe out this curse from the country? This was a great project, no doubt about it. They sent me again to Germany to bring some more experts, and while I waited in Germany I received one day a letter from India that the matter had been taken up at a very high level. I replied to that: "Please do not take it up at such a high level that everything will evaporate." Actually it happened like that, everything evaporated. When I returned to India I found that the whole plan had been shelved. Why was it shelved? When I investigated the matter, I found that it was a little bit, although I may use a strong word, scandalous, because some private individuals, some private enterprises were interested in having the benefit of the chemical industry of our country, to continue their monopoly of drugs where they could have a thousand per cent. of profit also if they so wished. And actually it happened that after a few months another firm was started in another place, with the co-operation of some American firm. They are getting also enough money from our Government, call it loan or what you will. Although it may not be this Ministry's job to find out the real position, yet I would say that they should not stop merely with saying, well, we have given you power, and it is now your duty to find out what should be there and what should not be there, and how

you are going to exercise that power. Things should not be left like that. We must have a correct idea of where we are going, and what we are going to achieve. Simply generating power is not enough. We have also got to plan what benefits we are going to give to our people.

From that point of view, I would suggest that even today the Ministry can take up this matter. I have a right to demand that they should make an investigation into the matter and find out why a few lakhs of rupees were spent upon this dyes and drugs project connected with the DVC and why it was totally dropped later on.

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi) :** By whom?

**Dr. S. N. Sinha :** By the DVC. It was taken by the DVC. The German engineers came, and they prepared the plan; the plan was ready, but afterwards it was totally forgotten. Even the Deputy Minister does not remember to have seen it anywhere in the files. At least, it seems so.

If the Ministry can take up this matter even today, I think that our country will become self-sufficient very soon in the matter of drugs and in the matter of various chemicals.

As a representative from the flood-affected areas, I have now to say a few words. My hon. friend Shri L. N. Mishra has laid enough emphasis on the Kosi project. Of course, I do not say that no money should be spent on the Kosi project. But there is another project which I would like to place emphasis upon, and that is the Gandak project.

**Shri L. N. Mishra :** We want Gandak project also.

**Dr. S. N. Sinha :** I lay emphasis on this because there will be greater gain in this project; a greater dividend cannot be had in any other project than in this Gandak project. The Gandak has never been a river of sorrow, just as I have never been a man of trouble to you, for whenever you ring the bell, I sit down. The constituency from which I come also has never been a source of trouble. But when I visited my constituency last time, the people there told me that Government have said that we

should collect about Rs. 5 crores of money ourselves, we are ready to do so. But we find that there is no initiative from Government at all. There is no talk about it. I do not know why it is so, because if our fate could be bettered by the Kosi project, it can also be bettered by the Gandak project. It will be something of the nature of an allied project. I would therefore strongly urge the Minister to see that this project is also taken up simultaneously with the Kosi project.

I was very sorry, in fact, I was not even in a mood to speak, when I heard the names of the works likely to be taken up during 1956-57; it was said that in Bihar, the Kosi project would be intensified and that in North Bihar, the Kamla and Balini projects costing approximately Rs. 4 crores and some work on the Bagmati also would be taken up. These were the only things that were mentioned, and there was nothing at all about the Gandak project. That depressed me, and that is why I am pressing my point still further.

I would like to say that there is no need for depression at all. Public co-operation will be forthcoming, and if Rs. 5 crores are necessary, I think we can bring forward this money from my constituency and the neighbouring constituencies. There is no dearth of money at all. But the leadership must be given, and the Ministry must realise the extent to which the public are prepared to go forward; at least, they should keep pace with the public. That is what I would like to emphasise.

Another point that I would like to emphasise in regard to the flood-affected areas is this. So far as Samastipur is concerned, I have already spoken about it, and if I emphasise it once more, I shall be going only into the details. I would like to say that if there are any projects economically sound, wherever they may be, which are going to bring benefit to the people, they should be taken on hand immediately.

Casting an overall glance at the country as a whole, we find that we are doing very well. But there is much to be done, and there is so much to be done that whatever we have done looks insignificant in the face of it. Precisely because we have so much ahead to do, I would say that we have just begun.

[Dr. S. N. Sinha]

When the Minister said that there is a surplus of technicians, in the D.V.C. it was really a surprise to me. I would say that there is no surplus at all; you can put them in the Gandak valley; you can put them in a thousand other projects. It is only a beginning that we have made. We want more and more of technicians in our country today. Therefore there should remain no dearth at all. We must utilise their talents more and more.

It is true in some cases the projects are still lagging. They look much more impressive on paper than they actually are. That is because they are prepared by clever people, and the clerks and others keep the accounts correctly, whether the output of work is enough or not, let the people decide for themselves.

I am not criticising the work of the Ministry, but I would like to say one thing about the National Construction Corporation. It should not be entirely a body of government officers. I do not mean to say that every officer is a bureaucrat, but one thing I will say, that every bureaucrat is a high officer in the secretariat. Therefore, if this Corporation is managed, and the whole show is, by the officers only, the public will not co-operate to that extent. They think that perhaps they do not stand any chance of being able to collaborate or to co-operate in these huge changes which are being brought about in our country. They get disheartened by the awe which the officers inspire since the British days. The public wants to co-operate, but that co-operation is not being utilised due to these officers, due to these bureaucrats, who sit there. I do not mean to say that in every area, they are all bureaucrats. No, Sir. I appreciate the work of some officers who have done very good work, but there are also such officers who are greater bureaucrats than officers, and they know about bureaucracy much more than about any other work.

As my time is up, I will just say one thing, that public co-operation should be intensified once more and public men—everybody—should be given more chance to collaborate in these projects. So when you are forming this National Construction Corporation, take the help of public men much more; take the help of men like Shri L. N. Mishra much more than of anybody else, of any Secretary or others.

Another point is about mastering the technique. More attention should be paid to that.

Lastly I will say: Forward, more forward, always forward, we must march in building up our river valley projects.

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्रालय ने २ करोड़ ३६ लाख ११ हजार रुपये की तजवीज विभिन्न नदियों की योजना के लिये तथा सिंचाई व विद्युत के लिये ६ लाख ६२ हजार रुपये रखा है। नहर के पानी के बारे में जो झगड़ा पाकिस्तान से चल रहा है और जिसे वर्ल्ड बैंक के सामने रखा गया था और जिसकी बैठक सन् १९५२ में हुई या जून में वाशिंगटन में हुई थी। और उसके बाद .....

Mr. Speaker : I am giving opportunity to Members from various States so that they may first state what they want in their States and then go into general matters.

Sardar A. S. Salgal : Yes.

उसके बाद आखिरी बैठक सितम्बर सन १९५३ में फिर वाशिंगटन में हुई और आखिर जब कोई खास नतीजा नहीं निकला तो फिर ५ फरवरी, १९५४ को उसने अपनी बैठक में यह तसफिया (निश्चय) किया और उन्होंने अपनी यह फाईडिंग (उपपत्ति) दी :-

"The Bank, finding that further discussions were not likely to prove fruitful, presented a proposal to the Working Party which, in its view, would produce a fair and economic result for both the countries. The salient features of the Bank Plan are as follows" :

इसके बाद अध्यक्ष महोदय उन्होंने यह लिखा :

"While the Government of India generally accepted the Bank proposal, it was not accepted by Pakistan. The talks, therefore, ended in a breakdown".

मैं आपसे अर्ज करूंगा कि वर्ल्ड बैंक ने जो अपनी राय दी और अपनी सिफारिश पेश की, उसको हिन्दुस्तान ने मान्यता दो मगर पाकिस्तान ने उस चीज को मानने से इंकार कर दिया और उसका नतीजा आप देख रहे हैं कि आज पाकिस्तान के साथ हमारा पानी के बारे में झगड़ा चल रहा है वह

उसी तरह से उलझा हुआ पड़ा है और उसका कोई हल नहीं हो पाया है। उन्होंने साफ़ यह कहा था कि :—

"The entire flow of the western rivers, the Indus, the Jhelum and the Chenab would be available for the exclusive use and the benefit of Pakistan."

और उसके अलावा

"The entire flow of the eastern rivers, the Ravi, Beas and Sutlej would be available for the exclusive use and benefit of India."

यह जो दी चीजें थीं, यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आया कि पाकिस्तान के लोग क्यों इनसे मुकर गये और वर्ल्ड बैंक ने जो तजवीज रखी थी उसको मंजूर क्यों नहीं किया ?

टेकनिकल डाइरेक्टरेट (शिल्पिक निदेशालय) ने २३ प्राजेक्ट्स (पाटयोजना) की छानबीन पहली पंचवर्षीय योजना में शामिल की तथा १६ प्राजेक्ट्स द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में शामिल करने की बात है। इसमें मध्य प्रदेश के बिलासपुर जिले में हसदी नदी के बारे में कहीं भी जिक्र नहीं आता है। मुझे अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि जो प्रोग्राम आगे लिया जायेगा उसमें यह आ रहा है और उस सम्बन्ध में सफ़ा १४ पर जी आगे का प्रोग्राम दिया गया है, उसे देख कर मुझे खुशी हुई कि जो प्रोग्राम एहेड होगा उसमें उन्होंने मध्य प्रदेश में हसदी रिवर प्राजेक्ट को लिया है लेकिन यह आगे चल कर काम हाथ में कब लिया जायेगा, अभी तो उस पर कोई कार्यवाही नहीं हो रही है। मुझे अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि इस प्राजेक्ट का कार्य सन् १९४८ मे २० दिसम्बर को जांच पड़ताल के बाद शुरू किया गया था और उसके बाद जब सबडिवीजन बंद हुआ तो उसका काम बंद कर दिया गया। अभी सन् १९५४ में मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार ने फिर से इस में काम शुरू किया है, अगर जैसी खबर है गवर्नमेंट ने इसे बंद करने के लिये प्रान्तीय सरकार के पास आदेश भेजा और जो सर्वे (सर्वेक्षण) का काम शुरू हुआ था उसे फिर बंद कर दिया गया है। सन १९५५ में सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने उसे बंद किया। अब क्यों बंद किया और क्या कारण बंद करने का था, सो मैं नहीं कह सकता लेकिन वाक्या यह है

कि जो सर्वे का काम शुरू हुआ था वह फिर बंद होगया। मैं समझता हूँ कि ऐसा करना उचित नहीं था और मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आखिरकार वहाँ के गरीब लोगों ने कौन सा अपराध किया है जिसके कारण सर्वे का काम बंद कर दिया गया है। मैं उस वक्त वहाँ पर मौजूद था जब कि वहाँ पर सर्वे का काम हो रहा था और मुझे उस काम को चलता देख कर निहायत खुशी हुई लेकिन जब मैं लौट रहा था तो रास्ते में इंजीनियर साहब ने मुझ को बतलाया कि यह टेलीग्राम मिला है जिसके ऊपर हम यह काम बंद करने जा रहे हैं और मुझे उस को सुन कर बहुत अफसोस हुआ और मैं मंत्री महोदय से इस बात के लिये विशेष तौर पर अनुरोध करूंगा कि उन चीजों को आप देखिये और सर्वे का काम शुरू कराइये। मेरी जो खबर है उसके मुताबिक "बांगों" पर पिलिथ मिला था और यह हसदी प्राजेक्ट मल्टीपरपज प्राजेक्ट (बहुप्रयोजनीय आयोजना) होगा; १० लाख एकड़ भूमि की सिंचाई की व्यवस्था करेगा और द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना की रिपोर्ट के पेज १०२ पर यह दिया गया है कि :

"The first is that areas which derived facilities for irrigation, especially canal and tubewell irrigation, should pay betterment contributions towards the capital cost of the project."

मैं इस चीज को मानने को तैयार हूँ लेकिन इस के साथ साथ मैं आपसे कहूंगा कि वहाँ पर जो आप सहूलियत देना चाहते हैं, वह पहले उनको दे दीजिये और उसके लिए बेशक आप बंटरमेंट टैक्स (सुधारकर) लगाइये, हमें कोई ऐतराज नहीं होगा। मैं तो यहाँ तक आगे जाने को तैयार हूँ कि आप इस काम को वहाँ पर शुरू करें और वहाँ पर लोगों पर यह टैक्स लगायें और वहाँ की जनता बराबर आपको यह टैक्स देगी।

इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह भी कहूंगा कि वहाँ पर जो आपका मल्टीपरपज प्राजेक्ट होगा उससे ६० लाख किलोवाट बिजली आपको सुलभ होगी और इस पावर के बारे में सेकंड फाइव डायर प्लान की रिपोर्ट के पेज १०३ के पेज ८ और १३ में इस तरह लिखा है :

"Until a few years ago, in spite of her resources in water and coal India's power development proceeded very slowly."

## [सरदार ए० एस० सहगल]

इस धीमी गति से काम शुरू होने का मुख्य कारण यह था कि उन चीजों पर गौर नहीं किया गया और उन के सम्बन्ध में काम नहीं किया गया जिनका कि मैं पहले जिक्र कर चुका हूँ और अगर उन पर कार्य किया गया होता तो यह पावर की तकलीफ आपको कदापि नहीं होती।

इसके साथ ही साथ उसमें यह भी लिखा है कि :

"For the development of industry on a decentralised basis and for the progressive use of underground water resources for agriculture, electrification in small towns is extremely important."

यह जो रूरल एरिया में दिक्कतें हो रही हैं, अगर हम इन प्राजेक्ट्स को हाथ में ले लिये होते तो कोई दिक्कत इस एरिया में नहीं होती। इसलिये मैं आपसे कहूंगा कि आपकी जो दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना है, इसमें आप कृपा करके हसदो को जरूर ही शामिल कर लें। लेकिन यदि जो चीजें मैं कह रहा हूँ वे अच्छी हैं तो आप इनको द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में शामिल कर लें। इस इलाके के लोग पिछड़े हुए हैं और शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट के हैं। ये लोग आप तक अपनी आवाज नहीं पहुंचा सकते इसलिये मैं आपसे अर्ज करूंगा कि आप इस पर गौर करें और अगर आप ऐसा करेंगे तो इन लोगों का बहुत भारी उपकार होगा। शायद आप समझते हैं कि यहां के लोग वालंटरी लेबर (अपनी इच्छा से परीश्रम) नहीं करेंगे। लेकिन ऐसा नहीं है। यदि आप यहां काम शुरू करें तो मैं आपको इन लोगों की वालंटरी लेबर का एक नजारा दिखाना चाहता हूँ। हमने कोसी योजना पर लोगों को काम करते देखा है। उससे हमारी आंखें खुल गयी हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इसी तरह वालंटरी लेबर के जरिये हिन्दुस्तान में हर जगह काम हो।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** धीरे धीरे।

I am appealing to the hon. Member not to get excited.

**सरदार ए० एस० सहगल :** मैं एक्साइट (उत्तेजित) नहीं हो रहा हूँ। आप माफ करेंगे, मैं तो एक्साइट होना ही नहीं जानता। १५ अगस्त १९४७ के पहले मैं बहुत एक्साइट होता था। लेकिन अब मैं एक्साइट नहीं होता।

जो आपकी क्विनक्वेनियल (पंचसाला) रिपोर्ट सन १९४५ से १९५० तक की है उससे मालूम होगा कि उसमें मध्य प्रदेश के बारे में

काफी दियाहुआ है और उससे मालूम होता है कि मध्य प्रदेश कितनी चीजों को दे सकता है और वह कितना आगे बढ़ाया जा सकता है। वस्तर के बारे में भी सफा ६० पर देखें तो आपको मालूम होगा कि वस्तर कितनी अच्छी जगह है और वहां आप किस तरह से पावर को बढ़ा सकते हैं। अगर आप इन्द्रावती नदी पर बांध बनायें तो वस्तर में बहुत बिजली पैदा हो सकती है। तीन लाख १४ हजार किलोवाट बिजली आप वहां पैदा कर सकते हैं। और इस बांध से सात लाख एकड़ भूमि में सिंचाई कर सकते हैं। अगर आप इस तरफ ध्यान दें तो देश की हालत बहुत सुधर सकती है और ये भूमि जन अपनी हालत को बहुत कुछ सुधार सकते हैं। यहां पर खनिज पदार्थ बहुत ज्यादा हैं। अगर आप इस इलाके में प्रोजेक्ट बना कर उससे बिजली पैदा करें तो उससे वहां के लोगों को फायदा हो सकता है और उससे बहुत सी बिजली भिलाई के करखाने को भी मिल सकती है। मान लीजिये कि रेल मंत्री जी बिजली से रेल चलाना चाहें तो उसके जरिये से आप वहां का कौयला बाहर भेज सकते हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार के पास इंजिनियर्स की, सर्वेअर्स (सर्वे करने वालों) की और डिजाइनर्स की यदि कमी है तो इस विषय में उस सरकार की मांग पूरी की जानी चाहिये। मुझे मालूम हुआ है कि मध्य प्रदेश सरकार इस विषय में सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट से लिखा पढ़ी कर रही है।

क्विनक्वेनियल रिपोर्ट के सफा १६३ पर लिखा है कि सेंट्रल इरीगेशन और पावर (सिंचाई और बिजली) बोर्ड का क्या कर्तव्य है :

"Control of water for irrigation purposes; Control of water for power purposes; Utilisation of cheap power provision of subsoil water for irrigation; . . . . ."

इन चीजों को देखते हुए मैं सरकार से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि अरपा नदी योजना तो सर्वे हो चुकी है, उस पर काम जल्द शुरू करने के लिये मध्य प्रदेश सरकार को हिदायत की जाये। हो सकता है कि आप उसे दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में शामिल कर लें लेकिन अभी तक तो मालूम नहीं हुआ है कि कोई ऐसी तजवीज है। मैं समझता हूँ कि मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार ने कहा है कि इस योजना को दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में शामिल कर लिया जाये।



मुंगेली तहसील बिलासपुर की है। जब वहां माननीय श्री बलवंत नागेश दातार साहब गये थे तो वहां के लोगों ने उन के सामने अपनी यह मांग रखी थी कि आगर हाफ नदी पर बांध बनाया जाये। इस एरिया के पिछड़े लोगों की अवस्था सुधारना हमारा कर्तव्य है। आप उनको रोशनी देने का इतिजाम कर रहे हैं यह बहुत अच्छी चीज है। अगर उन को अपनी फसल के लिये पानी न मिला तो केवल रोशनी से क्या फायदा हो सकता है। इसलिये अगर आप आगर हाफ बांध को बना दें तो उससे शायद बिजली भी पैदा हो सकती है और पानी भी मिल सकता है। अभी जो उनको रायपुर से थोड़ी बिजली मिलती है उससे उनका काम चलने वाला नहीं है। कोरबा के थर्मल कारखाने से भी थोड़ी बिजली मिल जायेगी। लेकिन मेरी रायमें जिन बांधों का मैंने जिक्र किया है उनको बनाया जाये तो बहुत लाभ हो सकता है। मैं समझता हूं कि मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने भी इनके बारे में लिखा पढ़ी की है। अगर बिलासपुर जिले में हसदो, मल्टी परपज प्राजेक्ट, भरपा प्राजेक्ट तथा मुंगेली में आगर हाफ पर गौर करेंगे तो बड़ा उपकार करेंगे।

सिंचाई व विद्युत मंत्रालय के कर्मचारी गण बहुत परिश्रम से काम कर रहे हैं और इसके लिये वे बधाई के पात्र हैं। इस विभाग के अफसर विभिन्न जगहों पर लगन के साथ कार्य कर रहे हैं उसकी मैं सराहना करता हूं तथा जो डिमांड (मांग) रखी गयी है उसका मैं समर्थन करता हूं।

इसके साथ साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूं कि सिंचाई के मुहकमे को विद्युत के मुहकमे से अलग रखना चाहिये। हम विद्युत के मुहकमे पर काफी खर्च कर रहे हैं। लेकिन इस विभाग में जो सेक्रेटरी काम कर रहे हैं वे टेक्नीशियन नहीं हैं। इस विभाग में आप टेक्नीशियन लोगों को ला कर सेक्रेटरी के पद पर रखें। जो ज्वाइंट सेक्रेटरी (संयुक्त सचिव) हैं उनको आप आई० ए० एस० और आई० सी० एस० वालों में से रख सकते हैं। इसके अलावा यह भी ध्यान रखें कि जैसा अभी मेरे एक मित्र ने कहा, इस विभाग में ऐसे लोगों को न रखा जाये जो कि पुराने ब्यूरोक्रेटिक (नौकरशाही) आधार पर चलते हैं। इसमें ऐसे अफसरों को रखा जाये जो जनता का हित चाहते हों।

मैं एक बार फिर कहना चाहता हूं कि आप विद्युत के मुहकमे को सिंचाई के मुहकमे से अलग रखें और विद्युत के मुहकमे में ऐसे लोगों को रखें जो कि इस काम में एक्सपर्ट हों, जो कि आपको ज्यादा मदद कर सकें।

मैं इस डिमांड का समर्थन करता हूं।

**Shri N. R. Muniswamy (Wandiwash) :** Today the discussion was initiated by the Minister himself who has given us an explicit analysis of all the implications—financial and otherwise—of all the projects and dams. He assured us also that the Hirakud dam is likely to go into operation in the course of the end of this year or at the beginning of next year. It is really heartening to know the achievements made by this Ministry are really admirable.

**Mr. Speaker :** Other hon. Members will certainly have some opportunity tomorrow. At the rate at which we are going, I think a number of other hon. Members can also be provided. Therefore, I want the House to be full each Member expecting to be called and never go away from the seats. I have noted down the names and whoever goes away would not be called tomorrow.

**Dr. S. N. Sinha :** I am not going away, Sir. I have today spoken as Satynarayan Sinha and tomorrow I want to speak as Dr. S. N. Sinha.

**Mr. Speaker :** Shri Muniswamy may continue tomorrow. I want to make an announcement.

The following are the selected cut motions relating to various Demands under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power which have been indicated by the Members to be moved:

Demand No.	No. of cut motions
67	53, 54.

*Need for constructing Dambroo Hydro-Electric Project in Tripura*

**Shri Biren Dutt :** I beg to move :

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

*Need for speeding up flood control  
measures and Irrigation work in  
Tripura*

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

5-30 P.M.

**Shri Biren Dutt :** I beg to move :

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

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*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Half  
Past Ten of the Clock on Tuesday the  
3rd April, 1956*