

[Shri Satya Narayan Sinha]

and order of business in this House for the week commencing today, I said that I may have to add one or two Bills to the list and in that event would make a further announcement today.

With your permission, Sir, I would like to announce the addition of two Bills to the week's programme viz., the Finance Bill (No. 2) 1956 and the Finance Bill (No. 3) 1956, introduced on the 30th November. It is proposed to bring them forward for consideration and passing after the Representation of the People (Fourth Amendment) Bill. The list of business will be revised accordingly.

SEA CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

The Minister of Finance and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Sea Customs Act, 1878.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Sea Customs Act, 1878."

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I introduce the Bill.

RESOLUTION RE PRESIDENT'S
PROCLAMATION RE KERALA

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): I beg to move:

"That this House approves the Proclamation issued by the President on the 1st November, 1956, under article 356 of the Constitution, in relation to the State of Kerala."

The need for this motion has arisen from out of the re-organisation of the States in the country. The Travancore-Cochin State has now been en-

larged and we have the new State of Kerala. It is almost double the size of the Travancore-Cochin State and has a population of nearly 50 per cent more than what it had previously. There is no Rajpramukh now and a constitutional head will be in charge of the administration. For the time being, he will have to look after the administration, but as soon as the new legislature is formed, the Kerala State, which will have the status of a former Part A State, will enjoy all the powers and privileges along with other States.

As hon. Members may be remembering, I had the opportunity of moving a similar resolution in this House with regard to the Travancore-Cochin State, as it then existed, I think, on the 28th March. After that resolution had been adopted by this House, it was also placed before the Rajya Sabha on the 24th April. The Kerala State was then in the offing, but it had not come into existence. The period for which the proclamation was valid did not exceed six months. It would have come to an end on the 24th October. The new States were to be ushered into existence on the 1st November. There was thus a short gap of about a week between the 24th October and the 1st November. So, I moved a resolution again on the 31st August for the approval of this House. That resolution was also adopted by both Houses. I am making a similar request with regard to the new State of Kerala.

The House will, I hope, agree that it is absolutely necessary to have a proclamation for the administration of the affairs of Kerala. The elections are in the offing; they will be held in the course of the next three or four months and during this interval, steps will be taken to prepare the electoral roll, to place the new administration on a sound keel and basis and to adopt other preliminary measures that have in any case to be stabilised before any election can be held. In

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the circumstances, the motion that I am making is inevitable whether one likes it or not. There is no other way of handling and tackling the situation as it exists today. So, I am making this motion.

All the Members from Kerala will now be included in the consultative committee which will be formed for assisting the Government in looking after the administration of Kerala. I had the privilege of meeting most of the Members a few days ago. We discussed most of the vital problems and I am glad that except with regard to one matter over which there is difference of opinion, among the Members, there seemed to be almost unanimity or near unanimity among them. That is a good augury for the future of Kerala. It has suffered from the lack of stability for a long period and I hope that after the elections are held, a new era will dawn and Kerala will have a stable ministry which will strive and labour hard for the development of Kerala and for the uplift of the people of Kerala.

When I had occasion to move the resolution on the 31st, August, I invited the attention of the House to the various steps that had been taken by the Administrator in order to improve the efficiency of the administration in Kerala. I also then referred to other measures that had been taken for accelerating the development of Kerala. A pamphlet had then been distributed in which the various actions and achievements, if I may say so, of the then administration were given in a succinct form. A booklet has again been issued which brings that story up-to-date and imagine that it has received the attention of hon. Members. They will, I hope, agree with me in the view that the Administrator Shri P. S. Rau has devoted his talent and energy to the task that had been allotted to him with real undivided zeal. He took up all the threads and he not only looked after the details of administration, and after the introduction and maintenance of proper standards, but also he took measures of a permanent

character, which will serve not only for the day, but also conduce towards the advancement of Kerala for the future. So, I would like to express my appreciation of the labours of Shri P. S. Rau and I hope that during the few months during which the present administration under an experienced Governor will be in charge, further progress will be made. It is the duty of the present administration to do all it can for the welfare of the people of Kerala. It has to concentrate on matters which really matter and by the time it hands over the reins of administration to a democratic Government, I hope it will have laid the foundations for further progress, rapid progress and all-round progress of the new Kerala State.

There were three or four problems that had been engaging the attention of the people of Kerala and their representatives. There had been in the old Madras State a single district of Malabar which has a population of about 50 lakhs and an area of more than 6500 square miles. It is almost equal in area to the old Travancore-Cochin State. So, it has been suggested, and I think all are agreed, that this big district of Malabar should now be divided into three units so that the administration may be conducted efficiently and the questions and problems may be solved speedily. On that point, there seems to be complete agreement. There was some difference of opinion as to the capital of one of the districts, the northernmost one, as to where it should be located. But, now, it seems to be the view that while the capital may be established in Cannanore, the courts that existed in Tellichery must not be disturbed and should be allowed to function there. I hope this arrangement will be acceptable to all and it will be put into effect without delay.

There was also some dissatisfaction over the steps that had been taken over the reorganisation of the courts in the district. But, when we discussed this matter, certain suggestions were made. I have advised the Governor to reorganise the courts in a

[Pandit G. B. Pant.]

manner that would be satisfactory to all concerned and if necessary to restore the courts as they had been existing previously.

There was another problem relating to the scales of pay. The scales of pay in Madras seem to have been much higher than those in force in Travancore-Cochin. For the judicial officers, certain enhanced scales seem to have been accepted. But, as proposed, I think it would be desirable to examine the whole question and to see what the new scales should be, not only in any particular department, but in all the grades of the services. That would have to be done perhaps later and presumably finally after the Ministry has been formed. But, in the mean time, spade work can be done and necessary material can be collected.

There was also one other question relating to the revival of the Bench of the High Court that used to function formerly in Trivandrum. Opinion was divided over it. As Hon. Members are aware, under the Constitution, the Central Government has the authority to establish permanent Benches, but temporary Benches are within the jurisdiction of and can be established by the Chief Justice of the State concerned in consultation with the Governor. There was a Bench in Trivandrum. Its jurisdiction was limited to the district of Travancore or Trivandrum. The area that was served by this Bench also included the four taluks, which have now been transferred to Madras. These taluks had a population, I think, of 8½ lakhs and an area of about 800 square miles. The Bench, as I said, used to serve this district alone. Half of that, or nearly 40 per cent of the area and population of that district have been transferred to Madras now. The Bench consisted only of two judges. The original Travancore-Cochin Committee had suggested that there should be only one High Court at Ernakulam, but later as there was I think, a fierce sort of agitation in these 4 taluks that they were transferred to Madras in 1954 or 1952 and

sometime about that, this bench was formed for the service of this one district, and it was located at Trivandrum.

I wonder if it had sufficient work to do even when the whole of this area was under this Bench. Now nearly half of it has been transferred; the work that the Bench will have to do will obviously be less than what it had to do in the past unless the people of this district become more litigious, after the conversion of Travancore-Cochin into Kerala. My hope is to the contrary, that they will give up litigation and try to settle matters amicably among themselves; unless they become more litigious, the work will be still less. So, the question has to be considered whether it would be worth while having a Bench there, whether permanently or temporarily. So far as permanency goes, well, I will have to give further thought to it. The facts that have been stated by me will, it will be admitted, require careful consideration.

There is another point, which has to be considered in this connection, that while this district now will have a population of nearly 13 lakhs, I think, the new district of Malabar that lies on the other end will have a population of more than 50 lakhs and the High Court at Ernakulam will be at a much greater distance from Malabar than it will be from Trivandrum. So, in the circumstances, the people of Kerala will have to consider this question dispassionately as to what would be in the best interests of the State. The opinion of one representative of Malabar, whom we had the opportunity of consulting in the meeting which we held some days ago, was very emphatic on this point. He was of the view that there should be only one court and it was necessary for the dignity, for the efficiency and prestige of the court that it should not be cut up into parts. The Law Commission have given expression to their considered opinion in this respect and that was placed on the Table of this House. They were of the view that such benches are not desirable.

I will put it only at that and say no more, with regard to the opinion expressed by them. As a result of the Re-organization of States, hon. Members are aware, high courts even have been merged in bigger courts. Now, for example, if you take the neighbouring province of Punjab, Punjab had a high court and PEPSU had another and when Punjab and PEPSU were combined, the High Court of PEPSU was merged in the High Court of Punjab, so that there is only one High Court now, without any Bench anywhere. The other instance that comes to my mind is the one at Andhra. The Andhra State in the past had a High Court of its own and Hyderabad had another, but now the people of Andhra have of their own free will merged their High Court in the Hyderabad High Court and transferred it from their State to Telengana which has been attached to Hyderabad. So, all these questions have to be considered in a dispassionate way. So far as the setting up of a temporary Bench is concerned, to dispose of the pending cases, the local authorities have the jurisdiction to do so, and it is not unlikely that such a Bench may be set up by them or a sort of Circuit Court to serve in Trivandrum for the disposal of the pending cases may be set up before long. I do not express my own opinion about it.....

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon Cum Mavelikkara-Reserved—Sch. Castes). I would like to know if other cases which come to the same High Court during that time will be kept pending.

Pandit G. B. Pant: I do not know if the law permits that but that will be for the Chief Justice to consider, because it will be under the jurisdiction of the Chief Justice, and we the Executive have no authority in these matters. What the law is and what he will do, all these will be determined locally here. After all, every one of us have to look to the larger interests of Kerala.

Shri Kamath (Hoshangabad): Quite so.

Pandit G. B. Pant: We are not inter-

ested in doing anything that will even in the remotest degree prejudice the interests or in any way hinder the further advancement of Kerala. It have to foot its bill; it will have to meet its requirements and it will ultimately have to take full responsibility for its administration. We do not want to cause any embarrassment to anyone; our desire is to help and if necessary, even to do some unpopular acts which will ultimately prove beneficial to them. We are here, as I said, to serve them as well as we can and I for my part would like to be guided by them; even before this Committee had been formally appointed, I considered it a privilege to meet them, and I hope I will have similar opportunities in future, for which I will be thankful to the hon. Members.

There was one more point which had to be considered. Under the scheme of the States Re-organization Act, a Zonal Council had to be formed. The procedure, as prescribed there, normally requires the representation of each State by a Chief Minister and two other ministers appointed or nominated by him. I have suggested to the hon. Members from Kerala to let me know if they would suggest two names to be associated with the Administrator for their State, because, as there will be no ministry, I have considered it advisable to seek their advice in this regard. I think, I have dealt with all contentious problems. I do not consider it necessary to give a catalogue of the work that has been done by the Administrator, who has just retired from Kerala.

Shri Kamath: You have issued a good brochure.

Pandit G. B. Pant: I hope Shri Kamath has glanced through these pages and that having done so, he shares my appreciation of Shri Rau's services.

Shri Kamath: I appreciate.

Pandit G. B. Pant: That is something very rare, which I am certain Shri Rau will value much more than my own opinion. So, I am grateful to them for that. Sir, I move.

Shri Kamath: Will the hon. Minister kindly tell the House why it is not possible to associate the former M.L.As. of Kerala, or at least the party leaders among those M.L.As., with this consultative or advisory committee that is being set up?

Fandit G. B. Pant: It is a parliamentary committee and here we are responsible to Parliament, and so far all committees that were formed only consisted of Members of Parliament, but if there is any such desire, I shall be prepared to discuss it with the hon. Members from Kerala and also see how it can be put into effect. But it is difficult for me to pick and choose, and to have one and not to have another.

Shri Kamath: There are party leaders among the M.L.As.

Shri V. P. Nayyar (Chirayinkil): Who have already been chosen by the parties.

Fandit G. B. Pant: Party leaders have been changing from time to time among those who have been in the Opposition. So, how to pick and choose?

Shri Kamath: That is in the Congress. You have sent Shri A. J. John as Governor.

Fandit G. B. Pant: I am prepared to consider. My mind is always open on every question.

Shri Kamath: Keep it always open.

Fandit G. B. Pant: Yes, it will remain open and I would like to appeal to the Members of the House to enlighten me and to make me better than I am and to make me capable of serving them better than I can. On every question I would seek light from them. I am not saying these words formally, but I would certainly like to know if I can do anything better than I am myself capable of devising or thinking or placing before the House.

Shri B. Shiva Rao (South Kanara—South): Has the Home Minister received any representations from the people of Kasargode Taluk regarding

the medium of instruction in schools and the court language in that part of the Taluk where so far Kannada has been in force, and whether he has taken any action in regard to these representations?

Fandit G. B. Pant: Some representations have, I believe, been received, and not only here but also by the Administrator there, and they must be receiving attention.

Mr. Speaker: Resolution moved:

"That this House approves the Proclamation issued by the President on the 1st November, 1956, under article 356 of the Constitution, in relation to the State of Kerala."

I have received notice of amendments from Shri Velayudhan. I am afraid all of them are out of order. I shall give the reasons, and if the hon. Member has got any point to urge, I will hear him and take that into consideration. I am willing to revise my view if I feel that any one of the amendments is in order.

The first amendment states:

"...disapproves the way in which it was carried out in the former Travancore-Cochin State."

The question is that the Proclamation is approved or not approved by the House. If it is not approved by the House, the Proclamation will cease to be in operation at the end of two months. There is no such thing as disapproving the way in which the Proclamation was carried out in the former Travancore-Cochin State. We will assume that we disapprove of the way in which the Proclamation was carried out. What happens to the Proclamation itself?

Shri Velayudhan: The Proclamation is there.

Mr. Speaker: Therefore, this amendment is out of order. I shall hear him, but this is my opinion.

There is the second amendment in which he wants the exclusion of Malabar District from the purview of the

Proclamation. When there is a Proclamation, the Government of the State as a whole is taken up and the present Government is superseded with regard to all the districts or all the territories, and not one district or two districts. What happens to the others? That is also out of order on that ground. And further, there is no approval or disapproval there.

Thirdly, it is the same thing, disapproving the inclusion of the former Malabar district. Either the State as a whole is taken or not taken. Therefore, this also seems to be out of order.

The fourth amendment wants to add:

"but recommends that the resolution be withdrawn by the 31st day of December, 1956."

Normally if an approval takes place, the Proclamation continues to be in force for six months from the date of approval, but here he wants it to end by 31st December, 1956. So far as this is concerned, I am not sure and I would like to hear him. If a resolution can be moved after the Proclamation is issued in the House saying that the Proclamation may be discontinued on account of changed circumstances and recommending to the President to revoke the Proclamation, this may be added possibly, but I am not certain if this is also in order. I would like to hear if the hon. Member has anything to say.

Shri Velayudhan: I will not take much time on these amendments in view of your decision earlier than what I had to say.

Mr. Speaker: I have not decided. I have only said I am not convinced that these are in order. He may satisfy me.

Shri Velayudhan: Under article 356 of the Constitution, the President may issue a proclamation if he receives a report from the Governor of a State. This Proclamation was issued on 31st October. The House is entitled to know whether any fresh report from the Governor was received.

Mr. Speaker: If he wants to speak, he can have an opportunity, but at this stage I want to know how the amendments are in order, one after the other. The House only approves or disapproves the Proclamation. This is a substitute motion stating the House disapproves the way in which the Proclamation was carried out in the former Travancore-Cochin State. Therefore, whether the House approves or disapproves of the Proclamation, this is out of order. If the House does not approve, it falls through. Therefore, this is not in order. The hon. Member can speak, and say whatever he has to say.

Then, the second one.

Shri Velayudhan: About the second one, I was explaining that the House is entitled to know.....

Mr. Speaker: Whether there can be any portion of a State, or a district excluded from the Proclamation—that is the simple point.

Shri Velayudhan: Proclamation issued under article 356 of the Constitution, in relation to the State of Kerala—that is what is mentioned in the resolution itself. And there I say I am entitled to know whether the Government have received.....

Mr. Speaker: It is not a question of entitlement. I am asking about the amendment being in order.

Shri Velayudhan: I wish to know if the Governor had sent any information to the Home Minister whether an emergency had taken place in order to see that the Proclamation is extended to Malabar, because Malabar was not.....

Mr. Speaker: Otherwise, it will be hanging in the balance. The point is it will be like Trisanku.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The Proclamation is on 31st October.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. I have heard him about this matter. About the third amendment, it is the same thing.

Shri Velayudhan: I am not moving the other amendments, Nos. 3 and 4.

Mr. Speaker: What has the hon. Minister to say on these amendments?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Kerala State is one. Either it has to be administered by the President or some other way out has to be found, but the State cannot be divided into parts, and the Proclamation may not be accepted by the House if it thinks that the Proclamation should not apply even to a part. That is the remedy; not the division of the State into parts, but the acceptance or the rejection of the Proclamation. I do not see how we can deal with two parts of the same State in a different manner. That will be against the Constitution.

Mr. Speaker: I have held that Amendment No. 1 is out of order.

Shri Velayudhan has not been able to explain how any portion of the territory which has been included in the State under the States Reorganisation Act, with respect to which there is no legislature and the main portion of which has already been taken over under the Proclamation, can avoid the extension of the Proclamation. There is no provision in article 356 to exclude any portion from the Proclamation. Therefore, amendment No. 2 is also out of order.

As for amendments Nos. 3 and 4, Shri Velayudhan is not moving them.

Shri Kamath: On a point of clarification. I am sure you will agree, and the Minister will also agree, that the Presidential Proclamation should not be vague but should be definite in all matters comprised therein. At page 2.....

Mr. Speaker: In the course of the discussion on the President's Proclamation, hon. Members may say what all they have to say regarding the law, regarding the facts, regarding the urgency, regarding the manner and the procedure that must be adopted, and so on. I shall allow the hon. Member to say all that.

Shri Kamath: All right.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the discussion of the resolution. So far as the leaders are concerned, I shall allow them thirty to forty minutes at the most, and the others will have fifteen to twenty minutes.

Shri Kamath: What is the time allotted for the general discussion?

Mr. Speaker: Five hours have been allotted for the general discussion.

Shri Velayudhan: As for the clauses, there will not be much to speak.

Mr. Speaker: There is no question of clauses here.

Shri Velayudhan: There are no amendments to this resolution.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member also seems to have studied law.

Shri Velayudhan: I am not a lawyer.

Shri A. K. Gopalan (Cannanore): On the midnight of 26th March 1956, the President issued a Proclamation taking over the administration of the Travancore-Cochin State and dissolving the legislature there. We opposed the imposition of the President's rule on Travancore-Cochin on two grounds. The first was that it was a negation of the people's rule and the second was that if the Congress Ministry had resigned, there would have been a possibility of forming another government there, but that was not tried at all, and rather it was neglected.

12-53 hrs.

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

Then, we urged that instead of the Assembly being dissolved, it may be suspended, so that at least after 1st November, there may not be the extension of the President's rule in Travancore-Cochin or its spreading to that part of Kerala called Malabar. If the Assembly had been suspended, then the 30 M.L.A.'s representing that part would be coming away to the Travancore-Cochin Legislative Assembly after 1st November, and there might have been the possibility of

either the Congress Party or the other parties forming a government and coming to power. Moreover, we thought that it was always better, before the general elections, to try and see whether there might have been a chance to form a government there. But that was also not done.

I do not want to go into all those details now. Unfortunately, even after 1st November, we find that the President's rule has been extended not only in Travancore-Cochin but also to another part of Kerala, namely Malabar. Although that could have been avoided, yet that has not been avoided. That is what I have to say.

Then, as far as Malabar is concerned, the Home Minister just now explained that constitutional government for that part alone would not pay, because Malabar had been a part of Madras before and not a separate entity. The elected representatives of Malabar are there even now, and the Assembly to which they were elected is also there today and has not been dissolved. Simply because something happened in Travancore-Cochin on account of the sins of commission and omission of the ruling party there, now, the people of Malabar are denied any representation, and the M.L.A.'s of Malabar, whose Assembly had not been dissolved—that Assembly is still continuing—are being deprived of their representative character. I do not know whether it is a constitutional thing to deprive these people of their representative character, simply because there had been a crisis in Travancore-Cochin. If only the legislature there had been suspended and not dissolved, all these things would not have come to pass.

But I would not like to go into those details now, because there is no use protesting against those things now. After the reorganisation of States, the new State of Kerala has come into existence, and this Proclamation has been issued by the President.

I would like to point out, as has been pointed out by Shri Kamath, that besides the parliamentary committee,

there must also be another advisory committee consisting of the M.L.A.'s and the leaders of all the political parties that are there, so that they can be consulted on day-to-day problems. So many problems are cropping up every day, and the parliamentary committee may not be able to understand the problems of that area. I would, therefore, request that Government may be pleased to consider this suggestion to set up an advisory committee consisting of the M.L.A.'s there belonging to different political parties. When we made this proposal the other day, Government said that they would try. I hope they will set up this committee and see that the M.L.A.'s who are there are associated with it.

Now, I come to the question of the success or otherwise of the President's rule in Travancore-Cochin. We have been supplied the booklet entitled President's Rule in Travancore-Cochin—A review of the progress of execution of the Second Five Year Plan schemes. On the very first page of that booklet, we find the following statement:

"One of the declared objectives of President's Rule announced by the Adviser soon after the assumption of Office was the timely and efficient implementation of the Second Five Year Plan."

Though that was the objective that was announced, yet, as far as the actual implementation goes, I have to say that President's rule has failed. I shall presently mention the various points which will go to show that the President's rule has failed.

The first point that I would like to make is that although for the first seven months of the Second Five Year Plan, a sum of Rs. 16 crores had been allotted, yet actually only Rs. 4.76 crores have been spent. Why is it that the allotted sum has not been spent? Now, whether it is President's rule or any other, either in Kerala or in any other part of the country, there are certain basic criteria that have to

[Shri A. K. Gopalan]

be kept in view, in order to judge whether that rule has been successful or not. Those criteria are as follows: What are the necessities in that area? What are its needs? How much money has been allotted? And how much has been spent out of that?

Coming to the question of employment, I would like to point out that the Adviser, on the very first day of his arrival in that State as the representative of the President, said that his first duty would be to tackle the question of unemployment. As you know, Travancore-Cochin has the most acute unemployment problem in the whole of India. How far has the Adviser succeeded in tackling the question of unemployment?

Again, as far as the setting up of new industries is concerned, how many new industries have been established? As far as the old industries are concerned, has there been any improvement in their position, or has there been a deterioration?

Then, we have to see whether any new land reforms have been introduced and how far they have benefited the peasantry in that part of the country. It is only after finding out all these things that we can say whether there has been any improvement in the situation after the imposition of President's rule.

Firstly, we find that the sum that had been allotted has not been spent fully. Is it because there had been no necessity to spend it? Is it because the question of unemployment had been solved? The reason is that there had absolutely been no plans even before the President's rule, as to how much money should be spent. Otherwise, how could a sum of only Rs. 16 crores have been allotted in a place like Kerala where the problem of unemployment is most acute, and which is the most backward State in the whole of India in this respect? But even out of this Rs. 16 crores, we find that only Rs. 4.76 crores has been spent.

We find the same thing in regard to education also. I do not want to go into the details. But the fact remains that the sum allotted has not been fully spent.

Shri Funnoose (Alleppey): Only Rs. 1.81 crores has been spent.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: There is a supplement also to this, in which it is said that Rs. 4.76 crores has been spent up to 13th November. Only one thing was done: the major portion of the amount allotted was spent on the construction of buildings. I do not mean to say that buildings are not necessary. But they need not be given priority over other important requirements. Here we see that out of a sum of Rs. 16 crores allotted, the amount that has been actually spent is not more than Rs. 4.76 crores.

13 hrs.

The President's rule has completely failed so far as the solution of the unemployment problem is concerned. As the House is aware that is the most acute problem so far as the State of Kerala is concerned. Industrially it is a backward State; there are very few major irrigation projects; Community Development and National Extension Service blocks have not made much headway, on account of the negligible amount of money allotted. The argument that whatever has not been spent will be spent hereafter does not convince us. The progress of the Plan at least so far as these seven months are concerned has been quite unsatisfactory. There is an irrigation project which has been under contemplation for the last three or four years; but not even a beginning has been made. Why don't you spend the amount and see that the work is completed? There are several small-scale industries which can be easily established. I do not wish to go into details of this, as the time apportioned to me is brief.

I now come to the question of administrative reform. So many new officers came, but the red-tapism is still continuing. I will in this connec-

tion cite an example. There was a seminar which was held on the 28th of November. We got the letter inviting us on the 28th morning. I do not know whether the letter was sent in such a manner so that we may not attend. It had been signed on the 18th and we got it on the 28th here. If anybody says that red-tapism has disappeared, here is a glaring instance to demonstrate that it is still very much there. On the 28th morning we get a letter signed on the 18th! And we are expected to be at the seminar on the 28th after studying a sheaf of papers.

The report says:

"Following vociferous criticism in the Press regarding the widespread prevalence of corruption in the Services, a Special Inspector-General of Police has been appointed for anti-corruption work. Adequate staff has also been sanctioned to assist him in his work."

Very good. For anti-corruption work a Special Inspector-General and a big staff are there. But what has come out of their work? It is like the proverbial mountain in labour producing a mouse. There was a case of embezzlement of large sums of money in the Forest Department. This case was the subject of many articles in the papers, and many persons offered to give evidence. But nothing was done, excepting the launching of a few prosecutions. The voluntary co-operation offered by many persons was not accepted.

In the Transport Service there was a misappropriation of about Rs. 2 lakhs. That had been admitted, but there is no attempt to prosecute anybody and we do not even know what has been done. What I want to impress upon this House is that this Special Inspector-General of Police and his staff have not been able to do anything which the police officials of the State would not have been able to do, and we do not know why so much money should have been wasted on them. We would at least have

been satisfied if the beatings in lock-ups had not continued. But that is not so. Only the other day there was an instance of some people in Putta nathara being beaten in lock-up. In Mattancheri some workers were beaten. So, that also is continuing, in spite of ever so many complaints.

I now come to industrialisation. This morning even we got some papers, which contain so many promises. If at least these promises were to be fulfilled we would be glad. But during the past seven months, out of a sum of Rs. 16 crores allotted, only about Rs. 4.76 crores was spent. If the whole of this amount had been spent we would have had a number of industries which would have solved the unemployment problem to a large extent. Let alone the promises; let us see what has actually been done. In a paper supplied to us it is said that Government propose to establish 15 co-operative societies for the development of the coir industry. Coir is one of the major industries of Kerala. Not only has the condition of that industry not improved; on the other hand it has deteriorated. There are certain prerequisites for the development of the coir industry. The first one is a good market; the second one being formation of co-operative societies. I admit that there have been some co-operatives functioning. But what kind of co-operatives are they? They are co-operatives where the co-operation of the workers is not taken; in fact, it is spurned. That is the history of the co-operative movement so far as the coir industry is concerned. The Minimum Wages Act has not been implemented in this industry. The most important thing for the development of coir industry is the fixation of the price of husks. But even today the price of husks is not fixed.

The other important industry of Kerala is cashew industry. There are about 150 cashew factories in which about 55,000 workers are employed. I do not wish to go into details, but there was a dispute as to whether it should be a seasonal or non-seasonal

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industry. Government declared that it must be a non-seasonal industry and the employers wanted to defeat that. It is said that a factory of a monopolist employing about 25,000 workers would be closed.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair (Quilon cum Mavelikara): It has been closed down from the 1st of this month.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: In the Report it is said that Government would consider the taking over of the factories in the event of any large scale failure or neglect on the part of employers. Government has not done anything for this industry during the past seven months. They have been repeatedly saying that they want to encourage the formation of co-operatives, but they are not able to make the employers implement their decision that this must be considered a non-season industry. As a result of it about 25,000 workers are going to be thrown out of employment. There are about three or four persons who hold a monopoly in this industry and they can easily thwart any decision of Government. Government must, therefore take over these factories and run them, or else a situation will be created in which thousands of people will be thrown out of employment. This situation has been developing for the past five or six months, but Government has not been able to solve this problem. They did not take any measures to prevent the closure of these factories.

A crisis, if one were to develop, is not likely to affect the cashew industry alone. There are so many allied industries, like tin industry, saw-mill industry etc., and these also may be closed, and many families will be ruined.

Let me take up the question of Education. I do not wish to go into details, because there is not much time. There are what are called basic schools. I happened to visit one of these near Ernakulam. It is neither basic nor a school and I do not know why money should be spent on these. In a basic school which I visited in

Edapalli there was hardly accommodation for the 54 children to sit. There was no arrangement for the supply of drinking water to them. One of the main principles of basic education is that the students should be taken out for excursion; but there were no facilities for excursions. I do not understand the purpose of carrying on this experiment. While in other parts the salary of primary school teachers is Rs. 50 the stipend paid to them in our State is only Rs. 30.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it not also a part of basic education that we start from scratch?

Shri A. K. Gopalan: No, no. I do not say that we should start from scratch and then improve. What I say is that these things had been there before. Under President's rule, this should have been taken up and something should have been done. So my point is that no improvement has been effected as far as basic schools are concerned during President's rule. This is the position at least with regard to some of the schools which I have seen.

Then there is an Ayurveda college there. For so many years, there was agitation for such a college. Now I understand that so many students have left the college because the things that are necessary for a college are not there. There is no syllabus. The syllabus is not improved. Even now, there is confusion about syllabus. It is admitted in page 72 of the report that there is 'partial reorganisation'. It is said:

"At the end of the First Five Year Plan, there was reorganisation of the staff. Partial reorganisation was effected".

Even now, there is no syllabus. There are no teachers. And if even without staff and syllabus, they learn something, no degree will be conferred upon them. For this reason, the students have left the college. So I want to bring to the notice of Government that there is no improvement as far as this also is concerned. The position remains what it was before.

As far as health is concerned, there is something said in page 66 of the report. But in regard to two most important things, no improvement has been made. One is with respect to leprosy. There are a lakh of leprosy patients in T. C. State. Only 6 hospitals are there. The expenditure of only 15 annas per head per day on this, is very inadequate in these days.

Then there is the problem of elephantiasis. Forty lakhs of people suffer from elephantiasis, of which 20 lakhs are in T. C. State. I do not say that it is possible to eradicate this menace. But it can be controlled. In one or two centres, simple measures had been tried in 1936. But there has been no improvement of these facilities since then.

As far as local self-government is concerned, there has been no encouragement. There was not only no encouragement; there was discouragement. I will give an example. According to the rules of the Alleppey Municipality, they could collect taxes for houses of more than Rs. 60 rental value. Then this was postponed and the Government later said that the arrears must be collected. The net effect of this was that no encouragement was given to local self-government. They said that the Municipality could not make more money, when the Municipality could have made up for their losses. These things had not been done under President's rule. This happened some two or three months back.

As far as agriculture is concerned, something is said on pages 16 and 17. The Home Minister, in a message, said:

"During the period that T. C. has been under President's rule, every effort has been made to look after its varied needs and requirements. Certain land reforms have been introduced".

What are the land reforms that are introduced? There is one Bill, the Holding Stay of Eviction (Second Amendment) Bill and another—that

is a little important—the Travancore-Cochin Compensation for Tenants Improvement Bill. The first Bill is only to extend the operation of the Act for a further period of one year from 25th September. But as far as land reforms are concerned, eviction still continues.

There were two Bills which the old Assembly discussed. There was the Verumpattam Kudiyan Bill on which the Select Committee had reported. But nothing has been done about it. Then the Restriction on Possession and Ownership of Land Bill and the T. C. Verumpattamdan Bill, which were pending in the State legislature, were not proceeded with. These are the land reforms that the Home Minister has been mentioning. So to say that land reforms have been introduced is not correct when we find that even Bills which were pending and had been passed in Select Committee had not been brought into effect. This is the position under President's rule.

Then I want to point out certain other things. Take, for example, the coastal regions. This region had been neglected for years together. I refer particularly to the Ambalapuzha-Sheriwalla taluks. There are reports of acute scarcity and starvation there. People have begun to eat oilcakes because there is so much scarcity. I hope the Minister will inquire into it. This is a region where there is only one industry, namely, the coir industry. It is a sandy region where they cannot even grow tapioca which people can eat. There was a suggestion that some industries, like glass, should be established in that area. But nothing has been done. There should be a separate district officer to look after the people of this area which is always neglected and where there is acute unemployment and starvation. So something should be done to give relief to this area immediately.

Regarding planning, in the supplement some reference is made to it. I brought up the subject this morning during Question Hour before this House. It is said that the Madras

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Government has agreed to pay only Rs. 15 crores as the share of Kerala. This is neither equitable nor fair. I want that the authorities should immediately move in the matter and see that there is equitable distribution in this respect. As far as other places are concerned, the grant is on the population basis. I want that the same criterion should be adopted here.

Then, what is the position of Malabar as compared to the T. C. State? For the last one month that it has been under President's rule, what is the position of Malabar? Malabar is industrially and in all other respects more backward than the T. C. State. In the First Five Year Plan period, there had been absolutely no industry established there. In the Second Five Year Plan, we see that provision is made for the establishment of some cottage industries. But we do not know whether they will actually be established. So till today the position of Malabar has not improved.

Actually, there are possibilities for developing that area. There is China clay there. Then there is timber available. Akala is the second timber market in the world. It can very well be improved. It is said in the report:

"Preliminary negotiations have been carried on between the Government and the Nilambur Kovilagam in Malabar for taking over the Nilambur Private Forests. It is likely that the matter will be settled soon".

If this is settled immediately and action further taken, the timber industry can be developed. Not only that. In Malabar where there is no industry so far, paper mills can be established. A survey has already been made and it is found that it is the best place for a paper industry.

As far as irrigation works are concerned, there are not even minor irrigation works. I want to draw the attention of the Home Minister to the fact that even as between the two parts of Malabar, North Malabar has

been completely neglected. In the Second Five Year Plan, provision is made for such projects as the Malam-puzha project, Walayar project, Mangalam Reservoir project and others. But all these are in South Malabar. I do not say that South Malabar should not be developed. But, what I say is this. So far as North Malabar is concerned, where there are so many thousands of acres of land which can be cultivated not by big projects but by small irrigation schemes, there is no facility.

About the Varapuzha scheme, there was much discussion when Coorg and Mysore were separate and Malabar was a part of Madras. It was said by the Madras Government that the Varapuzha project was not possible because the Coorg and Mysore Governments did not agree and so the Kundah scheme was undertaken. The Madras Government took advantage of that fact and did not take up Varapuzha. Now, if it is taken up, it will benefit both North Malabar and Coorg and Mysore which are now together. There is also the possibility of having power. This should be pushed through now. I request the hon. Home Minister to see to it now because Coorg and Mysore being one now the Mysore Government may agree to it. So many thousands of acres will be irrigated and there will also be so many thousands of kwts. of power.

I want to say something about the transport in Travancore-Cochin. There was a commission of enquiry. I do not want to go into the details of it. That commission made some recommendations.

I will only take a few minutes more, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Ordinarily 20 minutes will be given to hon. Members but for leaders it may be up to 40 minutes.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: As far as this commission is concerned, they made about 80 recommendations. It is said that some recommendations have been

given effect to. As far as the good recommendations about mileage allowance, appeal board, hospitals, leave and subsistence allowance are concerned, they are not implemented. But those that are against the workers are implemented immediately. As far as overtime allowances are concerned, they are not given. The result is that they have stopped overtime working. That means a loss to themselves, to the industry and also to the Government and also a lot of inconvenience to the public.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am afraid the hon. Member sitting behind is passing all the information to Shri Gopalan. He might have very little to say when his turn comes.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: It is said that very much of convenience has been given to the passengers. There were what were called the porters to help the passengers to put their luggage. That too has been withdrawn and that is the help that is given to passengers.

As far as Malabar is concerned, my information is that there were three divisional headquarters before. There was a committee and the decision of all the members except one was that all the 3 divisions must continue. That decision should be implemented. My information is that they are likely to delay it because there is some pressure. Anyhow, I request that the decision of the members of this committee should be implemented.

About the N.G.Os. of Malabar. In August 1956, when Malabar was part of Madras, a committee was appointed to go into the question of dearness allowance etc. They went into it and recommended an enhancement in the dearness allowance. But the Finance Minister of Madras said that this will not apply to those who are coming from Travancore-Cochin because, after some time, they will have to go away. They have not got it even now. When this question of the Malabar N.G.Os. and others was taken up with the Government we requested that the basic scales of these people should be as

high as that given in all the services. In some cases the officers from the Malabar area get more and in some other cases those from the Travancore-Cochin area get more. Even though it is one month since reorganisation nothing has been done. I have got here a copy of a letter that has been sent by the N.G.Os. This is what I have to say about them.

Coming to the District Board of Malabar, there was a District Board when it was part of Madras. All the Members of the District Board have approached the Government and have requested that the question of keeping the District Board should be taken up. After the elections, if the new Assembly thinks that there must be District Boards all over Kerala, then, they can have them. As far as the employees of the District Board are concerned, they have made a representation that they should also be treated as Government employees. Their pay-scales and other things should be looked into.

[PANDIT THEAKUR DAS BHARGAVA
in the Chair.]

13.27 hrs.

Another question that has come immediately to the forefront now after November 1, is the question of the village officers. I do not know whether in other parts of the country there are people like that. But, in Malabar there are village officers who have got a pay of only Rs. 23 with no other allowance. In some places they have to go to the towns twice or thrice a month for depositing the taxes and revenue which they collect. For this they are not given any travelling allowance and so this Rs. 23 becomes in some cases even less than Rs. 15 or Rs. 20. Even before, there was a promise by the Madras Government that some consideration would be given to this because the amount of their pay is very little. There is a big agitation and the Revenue Minister of Madras had already promised to do something. I hope the hon. Home Minister will look into this question of the pay of the village officers and see that something is done to them.

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As far as other problems are concerned, I want to bring only two things as far as Malabar goes. I have said that immediately before the elections, within these 3 or 4 months there are certain things that have to be done. I will not say more.

About that part of Kasergode which is in Malabar and which has come to Kerala, I have got reports here that in the registration offices and others they want work to be done in Malayalam. As far as the linguistic minorities are concerned, we have already stated that where they are in a majority both the languages must be there. There is an agitation so far as the medium of instruction and other things are concerned. I would request the hon. Minister to see that the promises given to the linguistic minorities as far as the safeguarding of their rights are concerned are kept up.

There are not many roads in those parts which have come to Kerala. Communication is very difficult in that part of the country. Special attention must be paid to this because those areas are most backward, more backward than even other areas of South Malabar. There is no industry and even as regards agriculture, the Tenancy Act that had been passed by the Madras State and implemented in Malabar today is not implemented there. It should be done immediately. That will give great relief to them. I hope the Home Minister would see whether that Act which is already in force in Malabar, could be given effect to in other parts also.

I shall say a few words about one problem. This morning, in reply to a question, it was stated that some production cum training centre for the manufacture of fishing nets would be there. The schemes may be there. On the coast there are several lakhs of fishermen and they have no work for five or six months in a year; they could not go out into the sea. The boats and

other things are such. There are also no facilities to preserve their catch. Their condition is so bad that for nine months in a year, they starve. These programmes are here. But, immediately something may have to be done to them. Some steps have to be taken to preserve their catch and transport them. Communication facilities are not enough. The reports from many stations show that the trains do not stop even for two or three minutes and so they could not send them to other places.

I have no time and so I could not go into the details. As a result of the President's rule in that State, I do not think that there had been any improvement as far as the industries are concerned. The cashew industry, the coir industry and other industries are declining. An immediate crisis is developing about the cashew industry, affecting 25,000 people. It cannot be avoided unless the Government intervenes.

The President's rule was also not satisfactory as far as the other problems were concerned. So many crores of rupees had been allotted. There is a planning committee but there are no plans. The money was there; the necessity was there. Out of Rs. 16 crores allotted, only 4.76 crores had been spent till this day. It is very scandalous, especially in a place like Kerala. If there is no plan, some plans should have been worked out immediately, considering the necessity of the people. It has not been done and so I say there was carelessness and callousness. If this state of affairs continues for another three or four months—we do not know when the general elections will take place—it will be bad for the people there.

Shri A. M. Thomas (Ernakulam):
Mr. Chairman, although this House has got, for the first time, an opportunity to discuss the problems of Kerala as such, questions relating to Kerala have been directly or indirectly discussed on three previous occasions: firstly, when the Proclamation relating

to Travancore-Cochin was discussed; secondly, when the budget for that State came up for discussion and thirdly, when the resolution for the extension of President's rule was taken into consideration. It has been said that Kerala is a problem State. We should not be carried away by the impression that although that State is called a problem State, the problems relating to that State are problems like the location of a Bench in a particular district or the revision of salaries of some officers or the location of the capital. I submit that the problems relating to that State which has earned the name of a problem State for that particular part of the country are more deep-seated and are fundamental in nature. It is unfortunate that we are dissipating our energies on questions of the location of the capital or the location of a Bench of the High Court or the location of district courts and other allied matters.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee (Hooghly): They are not unimportant.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Yes. In their own way, they are important. When the hon. Home Minister moved the motion for consideration, he referred to one or two questions. He referred to the question of the location of a Bench at Trivandrum. It would appear from the nature of the agitation that was carried on in Trivandrum that something under hand or unholy was done after the inauguration of the new State.

You will recall that according to the States Reorganisation Act, Kerala was treated as a new State. According to section 51 of that Act, a new High Court came into existence on the first of November. The headquarters of that High Court had also to be determined. So, it was a well-known fact that along with the abolition of the High Court of Travancore-Cochin, the Division Bench at Trivandrum would cease to function. There was no whisper, no protest or agitation against the provisions in the S.R. Act which, this House, in its wisdom, adopted. Everybody who had knowledge about the provisions of that Act,

knew that the Bench at Trivandrum had ceased to exist.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: I am told—my hon. friend will pardon me—that an influential deputation of lawyers waited upon the hon. Home Minister and he assured that he would sympathetically consider the question of having a Bench at Trivandrum. I do not know what has been the final outcome. Besides, it is reported in one of the important papers—*The Hindustan Times*—today that the lawyers, as a body, are on strike. I do not know what is his information but I understand that they have completely paralysed the administration of the courts there. It is rather a serious matter and I hope my hon. friend will tell us something.

Shri A. M. Thomas: I do not know whether my hon. friend, Shri Chatterjee, approves of the nature of the agitation that is now being carried on. When he states that the entire team is on strike, I do not know whether he approves of it.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: It is not a question of approval. I was a few minutes back at a Circuit Court with which you, Mr. Chairman, were also associated and they are terribly upset over it because we do not know the real attitude of the Government in such matters: whether it feels that all circuit courts and Benches should be abolished.

Shri A. M. Thomas: I was only referring to the fact that this was not something which cropped up soon after the inauguration of the new State. This question was there during the last two or three months. The Report of the Joint Committee came up before this House and it was well known at that time that the High Court of Travancore-Cochin would stand abolished on 1-11-56. There were friends like Shri Punnose in the Joint Committee which did not advocate the retention of a Bench there. No amendment was moved to that effect. If there was a necessity for the location of a Bench in Trivandrum we could have very well understood it. The agitation has no legs to stand....

Shri Pannoose rose—

Shri A. M. Thomas: I do not yield. I have got many important things to say. Since this matter was referred to by the Home Minister, I just pointed out this: as some friends coming from the other side may refer to it, I thought it would be worthwhile just to refer to it at this stage.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Please read subsections 2 and 3 of section 61 of that Act.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Even when there was a Bench functioning at Trivandrum for the entire district, my information is that there was not sufficient work for that court to function there. Now, forty per cent. of the territory which was within the jurisdiction of that Bench has been added on to the Madras State. There was absolutely no justification for continuing a Bench at Trivandrum. Apart from that, for disposing of the work that was pending in the Trivandrum Bench, I think a temporary Bench has now been sanctioned. At least an assurance is forthcoming from the Governor that the question would be favourably considered. What the Governor said was:

"I may, however, assure them that if it is considered necessary that a Bench of the High Court should sit at Trivandrum for a temporary period in order to avoid immediate dislocation of the parties concerned, a request in this behalf will be considered by the Chief Justice and the Government favourably."

On this statement, I am told the strike has been called off. I do not understand how my friends still say that the strike continues.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I have received a telegram today.

Shri A. M. Thomas: What the lawyers did was to picket all District and Munsiff's Courts for the location of a Bench of the High Court at Trivandrum. They did not allow

Judges and litigants to enter court premises. This is a novel kind of agitation, and I am surprised that of all the persons the lawyers should resort to this sort of agitation. In today's *Hindustan Times* there is a note about this agitation. It quoted the Biblical saying:

"If the salt loses its savour, wherewith shall it be salted?"

This expresses how condemnable the nature of the agitation that is being carried on in Trivandrum is.

Apart from that, the question has to be decided on merits. You know, Sir, that the report of the Setalwad Commission has been placed before the House. That does not favour the location of Benches of the High Court in different places. We have also got the speech of the Chief Justice of the Andhra High Court when he inaugurated the new Andhra Pradesh High Court. The headquarters of the Andhra High Court was at Guntur and, you know, Sir, the lawyers in Guntur were mostly those who came from Madras. After a brief period they have again to go to Hyderabad. Even then they did not agitate for the location of even a Bench at Guntur, and Andhra Pradesh is a State several times the size of Kerala. As everybody knows, Kerala is the smallest of the States in the Indian Union. Without reference to these facts, to carry on an agitation like this is reprehensible, to say the least.

The Chief Justice of Andhra Pradesh High Court expressed in these words when he spoke on the question of location of Benches of High Courts. He said:

"If divisions are established in different parts of the State, the status of the High Court will be reduced to that of a District Court or a subordinate Court for there cannot be a strong and united Bar which is a necessary condition for keeping up the level of the High Court."

He went on to say:

"That apart, in an illiterate country where most of the clients are in the hands of touts, it is difficult for the High Court to function in small places without its fair name being tarnished. The argument that the High Court should be nearer to the parties has no real foundation."

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: Did the Chief Justice say all this?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Yes. He went on to say:

"If this argument be accepted, logically there should be a division of the High Court and the Supreme Court in every district. The High Court has only appellate jurisdiction and the presence of witnesses or even of the parties is not necessary at the time of argument."

This has been reported in the *Andhra Weekly Reporter* Vol. II—Part 34. The nature of the agitation carried on in Trivandrum, even in spite of the nature of the views throughout the country, will indicate that something sinister has been done by the Chief Justice or the erstwhile Travancore-Cochin Government. I only referred to this to say that the agitation that was carried on was not at all justifiable, and the nature of the agitation is something which every well-meaning men of this country should condemn in the most unequivocal terms.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Go to Trivandrum and condemn if you have got guts.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Trivandrum is only one-twelfth of the entire Kerala State.

Shri Punnoose: What does it matter?

Shri A. M. Thomas: It would appear that the entire Kerala State consists of Trivandrum and Trivandrum alone.

Shri Punnoose: Is it a fact that Congress got only one seat in Trivandrum?

Shri A. M. Thomas: I am glad that the Leader of the Communist Party when he spoke about this matter which, according to some Members of the Opposition justified the agitation, has clearly avoided any mention of it. How can you explain that? Shri A. K. Gopalan, Leader of the Communist Party, who hails, unfortunately, from Malabar if, in his speech gave an indication for the location of a Bench at Trivandrum, he would have to face unpleasant consequences in his Constituency.

Shri Punnoose: No, no. Please do not mention that.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Although he referred to the question of the late receipt of an invitation for a seminar, a simple matter, he has carefully avoided any reference to this Bench affair, and my friends Shri Punnoose and Shri V. P. Nayar appear very much agitated over this question.

Sir, I am not going to take the time of the House on these matters. I just mentioned this fact only to show the hollowness of the stand that is now being taken up by misguided people in Trivandrum.

I now pass on to other problems which are more material and fundamental in nature. Two months back there was the opening of the metre gauge railway line from Ernakulam to Kottayam, which is part of a railway line from Ernakulam to Quilon. The hon. Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri who unfortunately has resigned his seat in the Cabinet, inaugurated the opening function and travelled in the very same train till Kottayam. Everybody was struck, the hon. Minister was surprised, at the popular enthusiasm that small train created in my part of the country. After all, what was that? It was only a metre gauge line extending to about thirty miles. All the same one would have been struck with the enthusiasm of the people all along the line and at every railway station. The common people around were dancing, singing and even

[Shri A. M. Thomas]

celebrating it as if it were a marriage function or a mela. I just mention this fact to indicate that, if a good thing is being done to this so-called 'problem State', that would be appreciated by the people; there would be popular enthusiasm and the necessary popular response also would be forthcoming.

Sir, the real problem of Kerala is the problem of under-development. If that aspect is grasped, tackled and solved, I say, it would no more be a 'problem State' and it will not create any headache for the Home Ministry. What are the remedies for the ills from which Kerala State is suffering. Two things that would be necessary, as far as Kerala is concerned, are the intensive development of agriculture and the rapid industrialisation. There is the question of chronic unemployment. If these two courses are followed, the problem of unemployment would also, to a certain extent, be solved; of course, there are other special steps that have to be taken for solving that problem. Although the State of Kerala in point of literacy is the most advanced State in the entire country, and although there has been development in the matter of social services, it has to be admitted that there has been, to a certain extent, lopsided development.

Now, what is necessary for the State of Kerala is not so much development of social services—of course, social services should also be developed—as the development of agriculture, the development of industries, etc., in that part of the country. It is very well known, and it has been mentioned on the floor of this House times without number, that the density of population in Kerala is the highest. The average increase in population there is much more than the all-India average, and taking Travancore-Cochin alone out of Kerala, there are 32.5 lakh acres available for cultivation. Out of this acreage, 30.5 lakh acres are already under the plough, so that there is very little

scope for extension of the crop area. What is, therefore, necessary is, there should be more intensive use of the land.

I find from the report regarding the President's rule in Travancore-Cochin that at the end of the period of the first Plan, there were 36,000 acres under the Japanese method of cultivation. What I want to emphasise is that it is a figure with which, after all, we can not feel any elation. I would say that more and more of land now under the plough, must come under the Japanese method or any other suitable method which would yield more from the land in Kerala.

It is also necessary that there should be a comprehensive review of the schemes relating to the development of agriculture. I understand from the report that the schemes are awaiting discussion with the Planning Commission. I hope that adequate attention would be devoted, not only by the State Government but by the Home Ministry as well and also the Planning Commission, to this question.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member has taken more than 20 minutes. He has taken 22 minutes. Many Members from Kerala want to speak on this subject. In fact, all the Members from Kerala are desirous of speaking. I would, therefore, request the hon. Member to be brief.

Shri A. M. Thomas: I would sum up. When I spoke last time on the Proclamation, I referred to the fact that several industries and industrial concerns which should have been started did not find a place in the last report, but now I understand that some progress has been made, and some attention has been bestowed to this aspect of the question. I find from page (viii) of Part C of the report that:

"An agreement has been reached with the firm of Birlas regarding a scheme to set up a 100-ton-a-day Rayon Grade Pulp Plant in Kerala.

"Preliminary negotiations have been carried on between the Government and the Nilambur

Kovilagam in Malabar for taking over the Nilambur Private Forests. It is likely that the matter will be settled soon".

Afterwards, I have been able to read in the newspapers that a Development Committee has been constituted for the Nilambur valley. If that report which I read in the papers is correct, I should congratulate the present Kerala Government for the foresight with which it has constituted that Committee, soon after the inauguration of the Kerala State.

It has been said, and it is true also, that Malabar has been a neglected area. It has received less attention at the hands of the Government of Madras or of the Central Government. The development has not been adequate, and the problem of that district have yet to be solved. I hope that the terms of reference to this Committee have taken into account the industrial possibilities of that area of Kerala State.

I understand that at the Udaipur Forest Conference a survey was envisaged with regard to the possibilities of the cellulosic raw materials of the Nilambur valley. I hear that about three lakhs of tons of air-dried bamboo would be available from the Nilambur valley and that would supply the factories to the extent of a thousand tons of dried bamboos per day. So, there are possibilities of tapping and exploiting the resources of these forests in that particular region, and if the resources are properly tapped, there is not only the possibility of having a Rayon Grade Pulp Plant in Kerala but also of paper factories being started there and thus, the development of other allied industries could take place.

The main schemes by which the problems of Malabar can be tackled lay in the way of development of the forest industries in that area. If the mineral sands are developed, if the forest industries are developed, and other such schemes are formulated,—schemes which have got possibilities

of development—there would not be any question of unemployment or under-development in Kerala.

In the special edition of *Commerce and Industry*, of which my hon. friend Dr. Lanka Sundaram is the editor, a foreword has been written by the Home Minister, and in it, it has been mentioned that there has been a notable increase in the production of rice, and being endowed with such natural gifts as genetics, irrigation facilities and forests, Kerala which is culturally and intellectually one of the foremost States in the country, will,—I am certain—become self-sufficient in all other respects before long. If some sort of regional planning is resorted to as far as the special requirements of the State of Kerala are concerned, I think there would not be any difficulty in solving the problems that face the Kerala State.

Shri A. K. Gopalan referred to the inadequacy of the budget provisions as far as the Malabar district is concerned. I find from the second Five Year Plan budget estimates submitted for Kerala that for the five months of 1956-57 yet to run, there are Rs. 12,33,97,200 to be spent as far as Travancore-Cochin is concerned, and only Rs. 1,50,19,800 to be spent as far as the Malabar district is concerned.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: I did not say that. What I said was the total amount for the second Five Year Plan for that part of the State.

Shri A. M. Thomas: This figure is quite an inadequate figure. This might touch just the fringe of the problem of the district of Malabar. When I went through some of the papers which have been supplied to us, I found that the complaint of the people of Malabar district being neglected has some force. Whatever it be, what could have been done by the present Government is, just to include the schemes that have already been drawn up by the Madras Government for the district of Malabar. For, if many

[Shri A. M. Thomas]

fresh schemes are to be included, it may not be possible to get details regarding those schemes so as to get them included. The necessary amounts will have to be provided when the Government prepare the budget for 1957-58.

I would now refer to one or two questions with reference to the report on President's rule that has been supplied to us. The hon. Home Minister referred to the question of revision of salaries. Some revision of salaries has been attempted, it appears, in the matter of district judges and others. According to me, such piecemeal revision of salaries, especially as far as the high-grade officers are concerned, is quite undesirable. If the revision of salaries of school teachers had been taken up, it could have been all right. Now, I understand that the salaries of primary and secondary grade teachers in the Government schools do not compare favourably with the salaries of those employed in the private schools. That is a state of affairs which is not at all satisfactory. So, the Government ought to have taken up schemes such as the revision of salaries of low-paid staff, such as school teachers and others.

My friend Shri A. K. Gopalan referred to the condition of basic schools. I had also an occasion to visit a basic school at Mangail in my constituency. I was depressed to find that the elementary conveniences are not given to the school and the staff. The lady teachers in that school, who are expected to reside within the precincts of the school, have to reside away from the school, and such teachers are not given even the necessary rent allowance, so that the poor teachers who get Rs. 30 or Rs. 40 as stipend have to meet out of this sum the expenses for lodging and other things also. These minor things have to be attended to rather than a revision of the salaries of high grade staff and the re-organisation of District Courts etc.

14:01 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Last time I referred to the need for expansion of technical education and I am glad to find that another engineering college is contemplated to be located in Kerala. I am also glad to find that investigations are going on for the construction of another medical college for Kerala. In this connection, I would like to refer to the medical college which is now in existence at Trivandrum. It is a college with wonderful possibilities; it is located in such beautiful surroundings and there are so many beautiful buildings. The first batch of students has come out....

Shri Velayudhan: They are coming.

Shri A. M. Thomas: One batch has come out last year. I find from the Indian Medical Council Bill that among the institutions whose degrees are recognised, the Trivandrum medical college does not find a place. I should ask the reason for that. I understand that there is something wrong with the administration of that college. If such a brilliant and good institution is not being administered properly and if political cliques and intrigues are allowed to play their part even there, it would be a sad state of affairs. The Government has to enquire why the degrees of the Trivandrum medical college are not being recognised and adequate steps should be taken.

There is another thing. In the note on President's rule, it is found that the Centre's approval with regard to several schemes has not been obtained. At page 7, it is said:

"Though the final approval of the Sholayar scheme has not been received, preliminary works have been started. Work on the first stage of Pamba Power Project has also commenced with the approval of the Planning Commission. The investigation of the Idikki scheme was inaugurated in September".

I understand that sanction for that investigation or survey has not yet

been obtained from the Centre and that negotiations are going on as to who should bear the burden of the expenses for the survey. If it was to be borne by the State Government, the State Government would have long ago conducted that survey. This scheme is intended to be taken up as a central scheme. The Planning Minister, Shri Nanda, inaugurated that scheme with pomp and glory when he came to Kerala last time. If the expenses are to be met by the State and not by the Centre, it would be belying the hopes that have been engendered in the minds of the public.

It is very disappointing to know from the report that although an amount of Rs. 16 crores was set apart for development work, in one part of the report it is said that Rs. 1.81 crores have been spent, but towards the end it is said that revised figures show that Rs. 4.76 crores have been spent. I would humbly urge on the Home Ministry and the State Government to see that all the schemes that have been taken up are finished within the period and the entire amount of Rs. 16 crores exhausted before the close of the financial year. We are setting apart crores of rupees for development projects, but they are not being spent. Now an experienced administrator and statesman has been appointed as Governor there. An experienced administrator has come there as adviser and another experienced administrator with special experience in community development and national extension projects has come there as Chief Secretary. There are several special directors for industries, agriculture etc. and several engineers for public works. So, there is no reason why the planned outlay should not be exhausted. I wish that when the final report with regard to the President's rule in Travancore-Cochin is laid before the House, it would be found from that that although the President's rule could not achieve miraculous things, at least the planned amount which has been made by the previous Congress Ministry as far as Travancore-Cochin is concerned has been well spent.

With these words, I support the resolution that has been moved.

Shri Punnoose: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, when the subject was put on the agenda my idea was to confine myself purely to the industrial concerns and other connected things. In fact, I wanted to avoid speaking anything about certain agitations now going on in the State. Not that I do not feel strongly on those things; certainly I do, but I believe that in the present context, when Kerala has only born and has not yet begun functioning, it is not in the interests of the State or the people to get themselves involved in such agitations. As Mr. Thomas said, there are greater problems confronting the people and in order to concentrate our attention on those problems, I thought it would be better that we did not indulge in attacks and counter-attacks on comparatively small things. But after advising others not to dissipate their energies on such things, I believe Mr. Thomas has set a very bad example.

Mr. Thomas took up the whole case of the Division Bench at Trivandrum and began to argue against it. Fortunately or unfortunately, I am not a lawyer and I do not know the merits and demerits of this case very much. But the fact is that the Bill to set up a Division Bench for the Travancore-Cochin High Court was passed by this Parliament in 1953. Dr. Katju, the then Home Minister, moved it and spoke very vigorously for it. At that time also, I was neither for nor against it. It was a subject I did not know very much.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Towards the end you supported it.

Shri Punnoose: That was my position at that time and that was also the position of my party. The whole controversy had come to the fore, because the party then in power—I mean the Congress Party—wanted to manoeuvre things for their party advantage. At that time there were four taluks of the South Travancore also in the State. There was also what was called the Trivandrum Tamil Nad Congress and the Congress

[Shri Punnoose]

Party wanted the votes of those members who were elected as opposition to the Congress. Therefore, they were promised a Division Bench I narrated the whole story and concluded by saying, "Nevertheless, since this has become a popular issue, since the people want it and since Dr. Katju, whom I will take any day as a better authority on these matters than my friend, Mr. Thomas, also says that there is nothing derogatory to the High Court, no harm will be done to the administration of justice." That was the whole truth about it. Now, it is true that those four taluks have gone out of the State and opposition to the Division Bench has come.

Mr. Thomas suggested that when the States Re-organisation Bill was discussed here, none of us said that there should be a Division Bench for the Kerala High Court. I will request him to look into the Bill that we passed at that time. At that time we on this side were more interested in speaking about the areas that should form the Kerala State and other things. There is section 51(2) of the S.R. Act which says:

"The President may, after consultation with the Governor of a new State, and the Chief Justice of the High Court for that State, by notified order, provide for the establishment of a permanent bench or benches of that High Court at one or more places within the State other than the principal seat of the High Court and for any matters connected therewith."

And then, in sub-section (3), it is said:—

"(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1) or sub-section (2), the Judges and division courts of the High Court for a new State may also sit at such other place or places in that State as the Chief Justice may, with the approval of the Governor, appoint."

Since there were these provisions we did not want to rake up that question again. Therefore, it is not just that you should now interpret that way and let us down and forget the issue.

I may quote the words of another leader in the Congress, who is higher than any other Member from Kerala in that hierarchy, Shri Madhavan Nair. He said the other day that the Administrator Shri P. S. Rau did certain things which he ought not to have done. Certain things, he should not have touched at all. There was, in fact, no justification for him to disturb all these arrangements, whether there should be a Division Bench or whether a district court should stand or should be discontinued or whether a Revenue division should be in a particular place or not. He need not have worried about these things at all. Shri Panampalli Govinda Menon, the ex and last Chief Minister of the State has said that Shri P. S. Rau had no business to rake up all these issues. With regard to the Bench in Trivandrum, the considered opinion of the Communist Party is that it should be there until the new Assembly decides or the people have a say in the matter. All these things are happening. All of a sudden, the people wake up one fine morning to find that their district court is not there, their Division Bench is not there. One would wonder whether the people in Kerala are so parochial, so narrow-minded and so crude that even the lawyers are agitating. There is a basic reason for this. In the first place, the biggest industry in this area till very recently was Government employment. That was the biggest source of income. Even now, that is the position. Also, if you look at the budget of the previous Government, you will find that large amounts were set apart for social services and not for industrial concerns or other things. Therefore, whenever something is done which takes away some convenience or amenity to the people

at a particular place, our people get agitated and worried over that. Not because they are narrow or parochial, but because their living has gone and they are doomed. I can very well understand the anxiety of the people at Trivandrum, Mavellikkara, Paravur and other places. We request that these courts may be retained and we may consider the whole thing coolly and calmly when the learned advice of Shri A. M. Thomas and others could be heard and decided on merits. I would have refrained from making some of these remarks had not Shri A. M. Thomas taken them up.

We have received a telegram from Trivandrum to the effect that the Governor had promised the continuance of the Division Bench and on his advice the agitation was withdrawn. But, today, the telegram says, the Governor says that he cannot do so because the Chief Justice is not inclined that way. Here is a case where the Governor promises it, the papers report it and one of the biggest agitations in the State is withdrawn. If the agitation was very big, it was conducted peace fully and I congratulate the leaders of the agitation for having been able to withdraw such an agitation, at short notice, on an assurance from the Governor. Now, I am told that that assurance itself has become shaky. The whole situation will become too hot. Therefore, I want the Central Government and the Ministry to intervene immediately and see that the Governor's promise is implemented. Else, our people and our State will have to suffer. All our biggest issues will, for the time being go to the background and it will do us immense harm. I request that this Division Bench and the district courts may be maintained. Long term decisions can be taken when they come up afterwards.

When the President's rule was declared certain benefits were promised. When the Administrator went to Travancore-Cochin, he said, I cannot

do much, but I will do certain things. First of all, respite from active politics, there will be an administration which will not be immersed in active politics. Secondly, he said, I will implement the Second Plan and see that the State gets its fair quota in the general plan. Thirdly, he promised that the administration will be corrected and that he will take a firm stand against corruption, etc. I see the Home Minister's statement in the journal edited by Dr. Lanka Sundaram and he feels that the President's rule has done these things. I am so sorry, in my view and in the view of the majority of the people, the President's rule has been an utter, colossal failure.

Shri Matthen: (Thiruvellah): I protest.

Shri Punnoose: Even Shri Matthen who was, at that time, very enthusiastic and said that it is 100 per cent. democracy, is today significantly silent.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He is not silent; he has risen and interrupted.

Shri Punnoose: But, he has been let down by his own leaders Shri Madhavan Nair and P. Govinda Menon. None has a good word for the President's rule. Today we are asked to extend it to the rest of Kerala, to Malabar also. It may be inevitable: But, I cannot be a party to it. I cannot agree to it because, the President's rule can do us no good; it can bring us only difficulties.

With regard to industries in the State, I think mention has been made by Shri A. K. Gopalan and Shri A. M. Thomas also. Our conditions have deteriorated during these months. Not only have no new industries been established, but the old industries are also tottering and they are going to ruin. Take, for example, the coir industry. Whenever we speak about the coir industry, immediately, the list of co-operatives is thrown at our face. That

[Shri Punnoose]

deals only with the primary work. That is only the raw material side of our industry. What happens is,—and that was happening for a long time—I want the Home Minister to take urgent note of it—the raw coir and coir yarn are being exported out of our State, with the result that the industry is suffering, and it is about to collapse. Really, it is collapsing. An industry which was engaging 30,000 workers, is now employing 5,000 or 6,000 workers and that too 2 or 3 days a week. We have to take immediately certain steps to stop this. These coir co-operatives were organised with the object of giving the workers a place. It was to avoid middlemen that coir co-operatives were asked to be organised by the Government of India.

What happened is that the very people whom we wanted to keep aloof are inside it; not only inside, but on the top of it. Government has made a mess of the whole thing, particularly Shri Karunakara Panikkar who is the officer who is handling it. I have not gone into all the facts, but I have no doubt in my mind that he has not behaved himself properly in this. I would request the Home Minister to order an immediate enquiry into the coir co-operative. I am told that they are managed by middlemen, coir dealers and other people, and that workers are not even admitted into the co-operatives. Taking advantage of certain rules of co-operative societies they close the door against workers, genuine workers who want to be in it.

On the industrial side, coir yarn and raw coir are taken out of the State with the result that there is terrible unemployment and the industry is collapsing. I know that we cannot ban the export of coir yarn at the moment, because the market is not so good for us: it is not a seller's market. But we can do certain things: we can discourage the export

of yarn and encourage the export of mats and mattings. What happens is that the freight for coir and coir yarn is computed by space. Coir yarn and coir can be pressed, so that the space occupied by it may be small and the charge may be low. For mats and mattings freight is according to weight. If Government could arrange that for mats and mattings we get a concession in freight our export of mats and mattings can be encouraged. Unless this is done, the whole industry which supports more than ten lakhs of people will be completely ruined and no amount of other things done will help our people in Kerala.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has only three minutes more. If hon. Members take more time than is allotted to them, some Members who are anxious to speak may be pushed out.

Shri Punnoose: In the few minutes left, I will not be able to deal at length with the problem, but the position in the coastal area of our State is very disconcerting. Even today I have received reports that famine conditions are existing in the Shertalai taluk and the whole of Ambalapuzha. Unemployment is the most acute problem of those areas, but nothing has been done to relieve it. There is a proposal to start a sands tile factory. The raw material for this factory is in Shertalai taluk, but I am told that the factory itself is going to be located in Kottayam. It may look a minor matter for people at a distance, but for the people of this area it is a very serious matter. I would like the Home Minister to do what he can to see that the sands tile factory starts in Shertalai itself.

In the same way the whole of Ambalapuzha and Shertalai and the coastal area is doomed unless we do

certain things immediately. One is the rehabilitation of the Alleppey port. A lakh of rupees has been set apart for this, but that is too small for it. The harbour can be made safe for the small craft and a lot of things can be done, if it is taken up seriously. The matter has to be taken up seriously and the port put on its feet; or else, the whole area will go to rack and ruin.

The question of railway was raised. Mr. George Thomas when he spoke last supported the idea of a coastal railway. We are happy that we are having a new railway link, but this has upset the whole equilibrium, because the whole produce of the area used to come to the Alleppey port for sale. What happens now is that the new railway link now stops with Kottayam with the result that Alleppey is starved. Unless we have got a rail link connecting Alleppey with Cochin Port, the future of this area is dismal. For all these reasons there is a genuine demand and a strong agitation going on.

A reference was made to the re-organisation of districts. Now we have in Malabar district 50 lakhs of people; in Travancore-Cochin we have got four districts, Trivandrum, Quilon, Kottayam and Trichur. Out of these Quilon district has got 31 lakhs of people, while the others have, 14 lakhs, 13 lakhs and 15 lakhs respectively. These 32 lakhs of people stretch from the sea to the Western Ghats and it is too unwieldy and everybody agrees that it has to be broken up and made into two districts. Our demand is that one district with headquarters at Quilon and trict with headquarters at Alleppey may be formed, so that attention may be focussed on the problems of this area and they may be properly tackled.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member must conclude now.

Shri Punnoose: We are fully conscious that the President's Rule was a dismal failure in the past; we do not expect much in the future either. So, doing my duty, I oppose this Resolution.

Shri C. E. Iyyunni (Trichur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is known by one and all that Kerala is the smallest of the States; it is often called a problem State. There is no doubt about the fact that it is a problem State. Though opinion about it may be divided, the matter is very simple.

Kerala is one of the most densely populated areas in the whole of India. Besides, the problem of unemployment among the educated is so acute that whenever an advertisement appears in the papers thousands and thousands of educated youths apply in response to that. The only way by which any relief can be given to this small State is by developing as many industries as possible. I do not say it would be possible either for the Centre or the State to develop big industries, because whenever we speak of a big industry at once the question arises as to whether we have got raw materials for running such an industry. Up-till now no regular investigation or survey has been conducted to see whether there are enough mineral resources in that part of the country.

When the question of a survey or investigation is raised immediately the reply that the authorities will give is that the preliminary expenses will come to such a big amount that the Centre cannot undertake it. Unless the Government are sure that they will be able to get enough return, the Central Government also say that they cannot undertake the preliminary expenditure which would be a huge amount. So the position is that at least for the time being it is dropped.

[Shri Iyyunni]

Then what is it that you are trying to develop in our part of the country? Small-scale, medium-size and cottage industries. There is plenty of scope for it. As a matter of fact, our forests are abundant in bamboo. There is plenty of valuable timber. There is ample scope for the establishment of a newsprint factory. But the trouble is that whenever a licence is given for the establishment of such a factory, it goes to some place other than Kerala. That is what is being done.

The forests of Malabar are very dense. The quantity of bamboo that is available is so much that every summer season people set fire to it. In the interest of agriculture, they simply set fire to the forest area where there are no big trees but only small shrubs and so on. The result is that the bamboos are all destroyed. I would like to make this suggestion. It is absolutely necessary that there should be a newsprint factory established as early as possible in that area.

That will provide employment and at the same time, the material will not be wasted or destroyed.

I have another suggestion to make. In the area from where I come, there are about 60 to 70 tile factories. Now, there was a time when tiles were being exported to Australia and other places. But unfortunately what happened was that tiles from other places were also sent over to Australia and when the tiles reached Australia, more than 50 per cent. of the quantity that was sent from our factories was broken, whereas the tiles sent from other places like Mangalore and Calicut were destroyed only to the extent of 25 per cent. The result is that there is no market for our tiles today. There is not much difference in the mud that is being used for the manufacture of tiles in the different places. But there is no proper grinding.

As I said, there are about 60 or 70 tile factories in the Trichur area. If assistance could be given by way of a loan or grant, they will be prepared to start a factory to grind earth, so that the mud could be ground there and distributed to all the factories for the further stages of production. In that case, those tiles will compare favourably with the tiles produced in the other areas, and there will be a splendid market for them. So if it is possible for Government to give some loan, a factory for grinding the mud can be started so that the ground earth could be distributed to the 60 or 70 factories in that area.

Then there are other things that can be done. There is a trade or polytechnic school in Trichur. There is an idea to start an engineering college. I do not think there is any other place, except probably Kalamacheri, where we have a polytechnic. There are plenty of buildings available. The committee that is appointed to decide on the location of the engineering college may also be requested to seriously consider the question of developing the polytechnic.

With regard to the agitation that is going on in Trivandrum, I will simply say that it is, to speak in the mildest language possible, not discreet. Even the passing of the Bill for a Division Bench at Trivandrum was ill conceived. It should not have been passed. If principles are to be given up in favour of expediency, these things will happen. I do not know what exactly was the reason behind the passing of that Bill. When the Bill was taken up here, the only Member who supported it was Kumari Annie Mascarene who hails from Trivandrum; all the others were against it. That clearly shows that there is very little substance and merit in the Bill. Now, it is recoll-

ing upon the House. A thing which ought not to have been done was done with the result that now we find that an agitation is going on. I do not mean to say that it merited an agitation. If people like the Advocate-General and others are to get themselves involved in this matter, I do not know whether they are in their proper mood. That is all I can say.

The States Reorganisation Act is there. There is no difficulty about Author it. It says that if the Chief Justice of the High Court, with the approval of the Governor thinks that a temporary Bench ought to be had there, it can very well be had. But, on the other hand, if you want to have a permanent Division Bench there, it does not like with them to do it. It is only the President who can do it, and it cannot be done unless the President is moved in the matter. Both the Governor and the Chief Justice are helpless with regard to the establishment of a permanent Division Bench. That is how the matter stands.

The President's rule, I would say, was almost a success. I have no doubt that there are causes for it. In the case of a Ministry which has not got a comfortable majority, it is always difficult for it to do anything, because, in the first place, if one or two or three members leave the party, then the Ministry ceases to exist. That was the condition in which the Ministry was functioning. Naturally, one could not expect it to function effectively. No strong measures could be taken.

There was another difficulty also. In the Ministry itself, unless all the members act as a team, it is not possible to function satisfactorily. There was that difficulty also in this case. I say this not to find fault with the Ministry as such, but the structure of the Ministry was such that it was not possible for it to do anything effective or satisfactory.

Now in the case of the Adviser, the position is different. He is practically all in all. He can do things as he likes. He merely consults a few people who is near him, and nothing more.

The result is that there was a large arrears of work, accumulated for years and that has been cleared. That is a very good thing. When a new Ministry comes into power things would be easy for them. One of the reasons for the accumulation of work was that all the powers were concentrated in the hands of the Secretariat.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Why not have this President's rule as a perpetual arrangement?

Shri Iyyanni: One of the remedies suggested by the Adviser was decentralisation. Persons were given different portfolios and they were asked to do things. There was no shirking of work. A certain man has to do a certain thing and if he does not do it he gets himself exposed. In the other case it was so very difficult because files have to go about from table to table and nobody was responsible and nothing serious could be done. The Adviser has done a great thing. There is reason why the Ministry could not do it. What is really needed for Kerala now is—if it is to have prosperity—a strong Ministry. We must not mind about industry or any other thing; we must more and more pay attention to the formation of a strong Ministry. Unless there is a strong Ministry, there is hardly any chance for this small State of Kerala to prosper. That is the present position of Kerala.

Recently, I understand that a very large number of people from Ceylon have come back because they could not get the right of citizenship there. Is it their lot in life? After the partition of India, when the Hindus in Pakistan knew that they won't be getting a fair deal, they had to come back. So

[Shri Iyyunni]

also, the people of Kerala who had gone to Ceylon and had been earning some livelihood there for some years are now being turned out. That problem must also be leniently dealt with and sympathetically considered by Government. It must be considered by Government. It must be considered as a refugee problem in the South. Just as the refugee problem in the North was taken up by the Centre, this also must be taken up by the Centre and dealt with satisfactorily. Otherwise, the position of Kerala will certainly be very bad.

I do not want to take up the time of the House unnecessarily and will leave other people to have their say.

Shri Kelappan (Ponnanai): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am not very much enamoured of linguistic States. I am hoping for the day when people will be fed up with this craze they have and a large southern State will be formed just as Bombay or Uttar Pradesh.

An Hon. Member: How?

Shri Kelappan: There is a famous dictum of a Prime Minister of England that 'good government is no substitute for self-government'. Even granting that the administration of the Travancore-Cochin State by the President of the Indian Union was better than the government by the elected representatives of the people, one would prefer a government by the elected representatives of the people through the Legislative Assembly with all its faults.

The President suspended the Constitution when it was reported to him that no stable Ministry could be formed. I do not know if he has considered whether the changed circumstances of Malabar and Kasargode, an area of about 3/5ths of Travancore-Cochin State coming in, do not warrant a restoration of the Constitution and whether a stable government cannot be formed. Suspending the Constitution and the

President undertaking the Administration is an abnormal procedure even though it is perfectly constitutional. Is it not therefore worth while to see if the assembly of the Travancore-Cochin State augmented by the addition of the Members from Malabar and Kasargode may not be able to form a stable government out of the elected representatives of the people? I believe it is not yet too late to try it. It is no answer to say that the elections are coming and that in the short interval the present state of things may continue.

The happenings in Travancore must have opened the eyes of the Government. The unseemly agitation for the retention of a Bench of the High Court in Trivandrum and the volume of support it gathered are facts known to us. Many people may not have complaints against the Adviser regime and the abolition of the Divisional Bench functioning in Trivandrum. But the chief argument against the Adviser was that he was undoing what the representatives of the people had done. Every time the Governor does something not liked by a section of the people, however small that section might be an agitation might be set up and the argument trotted out that the decision must be left to the representatives of the people. It is an argument that carries some weight. The people want to decide everything themselves. They do not want any decision to be imposed on them. I am not convinced that no stable government is possible in the changed circumstances and that any emergency which warrants the continuance of the President's rule still exists.

That question apart, I wish to point out that the position of Malabar and Kasargode which have now been added on to the truncated Travancore-Cochin State is most unenviable. They are like orphans. There is nobody to take care of their interests. Their accredited representatives are not there to advocate their cause.

The people of the erstwhile Travancore-Cochin State do not feel that a new territory, more than half the size of their State—about three-fourths of their size—has been added to that State and that certain adjustments are necessary to accommodate them. The different parts of the new State have to come closer together and have to feel that their interests are identical and that they are one. May not one be excused if one feels that in a narrow strip of territory extending from Trivandrum to very near Mangalore, a distance of 400 miles the capital and the High Court should not be at one extremity but should be in a central place which is easily accessible to all parts of the State. I feel that there must be a little more give and take for harmonious relations to exist. An attitude which seems to say, 'you may come and you may go, but the *status quo* will continue', appears to me to be unsympathetic. I feel that the President, if he cannot revive the Assembly will.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member unfortunately gives the impression that he is consulting his notes much too frequently.

Shri Kelappan:.....at least give the Governor an advisory body consisting of the elected members of the Assembly from T. C. State and also from Malabar and Kasargode, so that they may sit together and discuss matters in a friendly spirit when there is so much constructive work to be done as part of the Second Plan and so many vital decisions to be taken.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I advise the hon. Member to look up more often.

Shri Kelappan: Sir, I do not want to take more time and I want to be as precise as I can.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is a good temptation for me also. But, written speeches are not allowed to be read.

Shri Kelappan: I can envisage very many problems concerning the integration of the services, the starting of new industries and development

works and the advancement of education wherein conflicting interests will have to be weighed and correct decisions arrived at. All this can be done only if the representatives of the people are allowed to function through the legislature.

This House will remember that Kerala is the smallest State with the highest density of population and the highest percentage of unemployment. This Government will realise before long that they have committed the blunder of their life in dividing the country as they had done on the basis of language with States unequal in area, unequal in population and unequal in resources. The result is bound to be unequal development if the different parts of the country which will result in lack of unity and cohesion.

Let me point out one glaring disparity before I conclude. I find that the allotment of funds for the T. C. State in the Second Plan is Rs. 71.95 crores. At that rate Malabar and Kasargod must have an allotment of over Rs. 40 crores. I find that the amount that has been allotted is something like Rs. 15 crores. If this state of affairs continues unemployment in Kerala will mount up and Kerala will become a hot-bed of discontent. The Government will mourn the day when they made the decision to create linguistic provinces with unequal resources and unequal representation and influence in the Central Parliament.

Shri Velayudhan: I have given some amendments which were not acceptable and were ruled out by the Chair itself. But, it is my humble contention that the basic fact contained in those amendments or substitute resolutions remained. It is true not only in my view but in the view of the majority of the people of that State. The people of Kerala were expecting the birth of the new Kerala State for the last fifty years. Shri Kelappan had championed the cause of such a

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State. When it came into being, we thought, from the very inception we would be having a responsible Government—a Government of the people and by the people. But, it never happened like that.

The hon. Home Minister was sitting very silently and calmly and he spoke as if he was an innocent partner in this great tragedy in our State and that he was not responsible for it and that the blame was on the other leg or the people of the State. He had not even the courage to say that the responsibility for the President's rule should be laid upon the misrule of his flock there. I mean the Congress people, the Congress Party and their followers. This fact cannot in any way be covered or forgotten. What happened or what is happening in that State during the last ten years after Independence? It is a lesson not only to the people there but to the people outside also. No Government had been so callous to public opinion, so corrupt, so communal, so clannish as the former Government of the Travancore-Cochin State. The results you see today are the fruits of the people who ruled early.

I had some opportunity to see the administrators of the T.C. State recently, having some touch with the Secretariat in connection with some of the committees. I was surprised and astonished to find how communal the administration has become in that State. We have got more than a dozen IAS officers in our State to administer the Secretariat and I can tell you that without an exception, every single person has come to that position by clinging to one communal interest or another. Not a single paper used to move in the Secretariat without a Congress MLA having tampered with it or recommended it.

That was the state of affairs before the President's rule came there. The Administrator, Shri Rau, did something when he came to the State. He thought he could change the whole State. But, there was no Aladdin's wonderful lamp and he could not change or succeed in his efforts. I

was vehement when I spoke about his administration last time. Now, he has left after seven months of his rule there. I am not questioning his motive or bringing his name in this House because he is absent. He himself was not realising that it was the Congressmen who were hampering the good work he wanted to do in that State. They never wanted any administration to be carried on without their interference. Now, they have brought a Governor who belongs to their own party and they think that they can carry on as they like and have their misrule, directly or indirectly, through the Congress Party organisation, either here or there. I may tell you that the present administration of the State of Kerala comes to be done from the Home Ministry, or the President or even the Governor there and the State has suffered for the last so many years because of the Congress leadership there.

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Then I come to the subject of High Courts. This has drawn the attention of all of us in this House as well as people from outside. I am surprised to find that even though the Governor had given his word about the re-opening of the High Court there, the Chief Justice does not agree to the proposal of having a division bench there which was there before the formation of the Kerala State.....

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know where the hon. Member got this information?

Shri Velayudhan: There was a telegram. Then the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court came there and he interviewed all the judges and all kinds of enquiries were made in the State regarding the future of the judges there. I am not bringing anybody's name here, but I must state there was great resentment among the advocates regarding the re-appointment of the judges including the Chief Justice, who took active part in party politics or personal politics in the State.....

Shri A. M. Thomas: On a point of order, Sir, May I inform the House that neither the Chief Justice nor other judges of the High Court can defend these accusations of my hon. friend? Would the hon. Member be in order when he makes such personal attacks on high dignitaries, who have no opportunity to defend their case before this House?

Shri Nambiar: There was news about this.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The difficulty is this. I was certainly attending to the observations made by the hon. Member and I was waiting to see how he proceeded with it. He had not mentioned and persons so far and only general observations were being made. They themselves are also objectionable, so far as the judges of the High Court, as a class, are concerned, I will ask him not to do that.

Shri Velayudhan: I was not casting any reflection on any individual or a person holding an honoured place. I also honour such persons as my hon. friend, Shri Thomas. My contention is that not only the people from Trivandrum, but also from the adjacent district i.e., Quilon have also demanded a High Court at Trivandrum and we were very happy indeed to hear that the Governor was pleased to order for the re-institution of a bench there, but the news came as a shock when we heard that the Chief Justice was against it.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: May I advise the hon. Member that he happens to be proceeding with his speech at an exceedingly slow pace and he might find himself in difficulty at the end; he has already taken more than half of his time and I think he should take care of it.

Shri Velayudhan: I will have to speak something about the industrial development of the State about which mention was made in the report. We had an opportunity to discuss this matter in the Planning Committee also in Trivandrum, but I should tell you that the progress made in that direction is not only very slow but also

very meagre. People from outside are telling what happened in Travancore and Cochin for the last ten years. I must inform the House that no industries were started; no significant or important industries were started. This is the only contribution that the rulers of the State had made and for whom Shri Thomas comes forward to help. Take, for example, the rubber industry. There is a rubber factory in Trivandrum. It should have normally brought tremendous profit for the State, but on a perusal of the last year's report, I find that there was only a profit of Rs. 89/-, for such a big factory. I do not know whether there is such a big factory in the whole of India having such big machinery; it was lying idle. As I said, the token profit that factory got for the last year was Rs. 87 or 89. It is a shameful thing to say that these industries were kept in such a bad condition and there was no attempt to develop them, when we have got the intelligentsia, entrepreneur as well as the men to handle them properly and secure a decent profit. I should tell you that it is a bad history, a sad history we have got about the Kundara Clay Industry. Rs. 17 lakhs were lost in that factory itself, whereas we could have got double the profit if arrangements were made to work it on a satisfactory basis.

Then I come to the subject of small-scale and cottage industries. I consider that the solution of the problem of unemployment in the Travancore-Cochin State does not lie in the small-scale and cottage industries but in developing smaller engineering industries, with the help of electricity. Now the Government of India have started these small-scale institutions or corporations for helping the people in the State. I must admit that nothing has happened in the State even though these organizations have been functioning for the last one year. What I want to say is that no industry in the small scale line has been started. For example, there was a scheme for large industrial estates at Quilon. Here again only small technical units have been built up in the various

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places in order to satisfy the various communal, clannish or other interests concerned.

I wish to say a word about education. We have a University in Trivandrum. That is the only university in that part of the State. I should like to tell you that this university has got a Vice-Chancellor who is a Tamilian; he does not stay in Trivandrum or in Tamilnad. Usually, he stays the best part of his time in Calcutta like a Managing Director or the Chairman of a company. The Pro-Chancellor is himself a Tamilian. Then the Director of Education in our State is also a Tamilian. I am very sorry to inform the House that this is a matter of great significance and this was all done during the Administrator's regime. I do not know why foreigners are appointed as the head of our university. I am very sorry for having used that word. I only meant "people from outside". I am as much a Tamilian living in India.

Then I come to the subject of the development of backward classes about which there was a hue and cry in the State in recent times. There was a Backward Classes Commissioner's department there and recently one of the new changes that was envisaged by the Adviser's regime was to abolish that department and amalgamate it with some other development department. It was contemplated to abolish it. There is only one post for the Scheduled Castes in the Travancore-Cochin State as a departmental head. The people in the State agitated against this step and they succeeded in retaining that post....

Then I wish to say something about the condition of the untouchables in the Travancore-Cochin State. Their condition continues to be backward and the money that was allotted in the previous years has not been spent for them. Lakhs and lakhs of rupees were not expended. Even the amount allotted for medical expenditure on Harijan uplift was not spent. Take for example the Malabar District. It

is the poorest in the country. The untouchables of Malabar are the most backward people in the country. Their social status is very poor. Even the Madras Government had completely neglected that district and that district has become practically a 'chronic district'. Mostly that has affected the untouchables there.

Therefore, when I am opposing the Adviser's regime there, I would say, even though only six or seven months are there they can do very well. I have no hope that the Adviser's regime or a Governor's regime will do anything.

With these words, Sir, I oppose the Resolution.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Kottukappally.

Shri I. Eacharan (Ponnani-Reserved-Sch. Castes): I request that Members from Malabar may also be given a chance.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think I have given some chance to Malabar Members.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Mysore): There are others also, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have got about one hour and twenty minutes more. There is a very big number of hon. Members who want to speak. Could I have the permission of the House to see that the time is restricted to ten minutes for each Member?

Shri Kottukappally (Meenachil): In the beginning I was told that twenty minutes would be allowed. Therefore, I request that I may at least be given fifteen minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not grudge giving even a longer period. But it is for the Members of the State to divide among themselves and try to accommodate as many Members as possible. Therefore, I expect the hon. Members from that State to co-operate in that respect.

Shri Nettur P. Damodaran (Telli-cherry): I have come to this State

only now. I never got a chance before.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member shall have a chance.

Shri Achuthan (Crangannur): We who sit in the back should not also be neglected.

Shri Kottakappally: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this is the first time that this Parliament has a chance to debate on the problems of Kerala after the new State came into being on the 1st November, 1956. It had been the longings, the aspirations of the people of Kerala for the last, I must put it, 2000 years that their territory, their region, the land of the Malayalee-speaking people should be under one administration. Our forefathers waited and waited through centuries and it has been given to us by the mercy of Providence to see the day of Kerala people becoming one, becoming united, getting an opportunity to order their own future, to shape their own destiny. I congratulate ourselves for having had this happiness in our lifetime. I thank the Members of this Parliament for the help they have rendered in our having a united Kerala.

Sir, we have so many problems. Speaker after speaker here said that Kerala is a 'problem State'. We have many vexatious problems, very harassing problems, very many problems that bring headache, blood-pressure to statesmen. If you go to Trivandrum you would see that the entire town is up in arms. If you go to Quilon you will see the cashew-nut industry entirely in ruins. 45000—Shri A. K. Gopalan put the figure as 55000, another friend put it as 35000 and I put it around 45000—labourers are out of work in Quilon. If you go to Parur, there the people are discontent because their law courts have been taken away from their place. Same is the case in Mavelikkara and Alleppey, on account of this question of dismemberment of their courts. It is difficult to bring home in the precise form and shape the difficulties to which our people are put.

Therefore, I have one request to make the hon. Home Minister, Pandit Pant, through you Mr. Deputy-Speaker, that he should fly down to my State of Kerala. He had never been to the south. I always love to call Kerala the land of perpetual spring. But this season, the months of November-December-January, is the best so far as climate in Kerala is concerned. I would therefore, request the hon. Minister to give us the honour of a visit by him. Then he can go to Trivandrum, meet the people there and ask what their difficulties are. I have no doubt that it would be possible for him in a few hours to settle some of the vexatious problems in my State. He must go to Ernakulam. He must also go to Kasargod in the North.

Shri A. K. Gopalan said that Kasargod is that part of Kerala which had been neglected, which had been abandoned for a long time. I endorse every word of what he has said about Kasargod. I have toured through that part of the country. There are no roads, no bridges and no railway lines there. There is only one railway line. There are no schools. That part of Kerala, Kasargod which has come into the new State, is the most abandoned area. I wish that the Government of Kerala pays much more attention in developing that part of the State.

I must congratulate the President and the Prime Minister of India for the appointment of Shri A. J. John, a Malayalee, as the Governor of Madras. We, the people of Kerala, take it as a tribute, take it as an honour done by the Republic to us. It has been pictured by all the newspapers without any difference of shades of opinion, of community, of caste or class, that this appointment is the reward for a man who has been reputed to be of an upright character, who has been absolutely loyal to the country's interests, and who had been devoted to his duties. I felicitate Shri John, and I thank the Government of India for their wise choice. I am sure the people of Kerala in one voice will

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agree with me that Shri John's appointment as the Governor of Madras is an honour done to them.

I mentioned about the cashew industry and about the unemployment that is there just now. In that line it is the world's largest industry. There is no other industry like that elsewhere. Some 25 or 30 years back, a few merchants started this industry. It has grown from measure to measure. Due to their ability in business, their sobriety of judgment and the way they had been dealing with their employees, they built up an industry which has been the pride of India. It has been often emphasised in this House that so far as earning of dollar is concerned cashew industry stands among the foremost of the industries in India.

This cashew-nut processing industry has been built up slowly over a period of two, three decades, and now,—I do not want to be uncharitable, to be ungenerous to any people or section of the people—there has been some meddling here and there; there had been some jealousies here and there—what we find is that this industry is more or less ruined, and unless something is done and done immediately—say, in thirty days' time—I do not know whether anybody under the sun would be able to revive this industry. If this industry goes, if it is ruined, some other country, say, East Africa, may start this industry and India could have no further chance of getting it back here. I request the Home Minister himself—I have already extended to him my humble invitation—to go down to Kerala to study this question and solve this problem. This is a vital, very serious problem, a problem that concerns the lives of 45,000 families—men, women and children—who are working in this industry and of those who have put money in this industry.

My friend Shri A. M. Thomas was mentioning about some difficulty that is being experienced in finding funds for the investigation of the Idikki scheme. It would be letting down the

people of Kerala in a very—I do not want to mention the word—if this scheme is not taken up. The Minister of Planning Mr. Nanda was there to inaugurate it; thousands of people gathered on that occasion. Shri A. J. John, the present Governor of Madras, was there, Shri A. M. Thomas was there and there was great enthusiasm witnessed. We know that even little things done to the people of Kerala go far, as they are a grateful people. I have seen their enthusiasm; the pandals, the garlands, the cheers, when Shri Nanda was there at Thoshpuzhar, all of which go to show that high hopes were engendered.

Shri Punnoose: It should go back now.

Shri Kottukappally: If there is no progress in this scheme, I think there would be sore, dismal disappointment among the people of Kerala.

Shri Punnoose pointed out the need for a railway connection from Cochin to Quilon via Alleppey. I wish to endorse it. We have mentioned these things here several times, but the Railway Minister does not seem to pay as much attention to these things as he ought to.

I would suggest another railway line in that part of the country. It is a railway link between Madura, in the centre of Tamil Nad, to Cochin on the west coast. It is a vital line. It will open up the Tamil country and will enable the produce of the highlands of Kerala to be brought easily to the Cochin Harbour. Then, there are also the products of Tamil Nad which can be brought easily on to the west coast. Otherwise, these products will have to be carried round Ceylon to the West which is a round-about way. So, this linking of Madura with Cochin is a very vital thing. I hope the Railway Ministry would seriously consider this matter.

Then, Shri Velayudhan—no man's honour is safe with him, whether he is Chief Justice of Kerala or the President of the Republic. We have seen

it oftentimes. He goes on casting aspersions against some of the highest people in this land. I take serious objection to that. About Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, I ask Shri Velayudhan: How many people are there in this land who are taller than Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar?

Shri Velayudhan: The hon. Member knows that there are some men of status who.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Everybody is entitled to have his say.

Shri Kottukappally: I take exception to what Shri Velayudhan said.

Shri Velayudhan: He is communal.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. No further speech on what the hon. Member, Shri Kottukappally, is saying. The hon. Members obviously differ in their opinions. There is no harm.

Shri Kottukappally: I have something to do with the management of a college, and in fact, I have had something more to do with the starting of it.

Shri Velayudhan: Communal college.

Shri Kottukappally: Some of your own people are studying there free of fees. Altogether the strength of the college is 1200. But for Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar who rendered help the promotion of education there would have gone something on sectional lines. I am sure the difficulties some sections of the people in that State experience in the matter of the spread of education could never be realised by the hon. Members of this House. The feelings of certain sections of the people under the present Travancore University administration would not have been allayed but for what Shri Ramaswami Mudaliar is doing at the Travancore University.

Shri I. Eacharan: I support the resolution moved by the hon. Home Minister approving the proclamation issued by the President on the 1st November, 1956, under article 356 of

the Constitution, in relation to the State of Kerala. The President took over the administration of Kerala in the absence of a Legislative Assembly in the former Travancore-Cochin State. From 1st November, Malabar also became part of the Kerala State without any popular government. The M.L.As. of the Malabar district have ceased to be members from that district from 1st November. I am sorry for that, but it is not on account of any fault of their own.

The Kerala State, though small in size, is great in problems. As some hon. Members have said, the problems which are facing the administration of that State are unemployment and under-development. The Malabar district, especially, is very backward when compared to other units of the new Kerala State. For this, effective remedies are necessary. As already stated by the Home Minister, this is a very big district with a population of 50 lakhs to 52 lakhs. There is no other district in the whole country which has as much population as Malabar has. So, the Government have decided to divide this district into three parts. But unfortunately, it has not been brought into effect so far. I do not know whether the delay is perhaps due to the clamour for a location of the capital of North Malabar. But I can say that only after bifurcation of this district, the problems of Malabar can be met effectively and the difficulties and the backwardness of the district be solved by suitable schemes being started.

In Malabar, as already stated by some Members, only one part of the district, namely, South Malabar, has got some schemes. The other part has not got so much, but even in South Malabar is much scope for some other schemes which are as big as the ones now formulated or constructed. One such scheme is the Kanchirapuzha scheme. This was investigated even during the time of drawing the first Five Year Plan, but it has not been included even in the second Five Year Plan period. This is a very useful scheme for the district and it will benefit not only one

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taluk but the other neighbouring taluks, such as Ponnani, in the Malabar district. So, I request the Government to see that when they finalise their plans, this important scheme should also be included.

Another important scheme is one relating to the extension of electricity around the Palghat taluk. The main difficulty was that, when the State was reorganised, the previous Government was not paying much attention to this scheme, and the extension of electricity was delayed. But electric power is available in abundance near Malabar district, in the former Travancore-Cochin State. That can, be extended without any delay. So, I request that electricity should be extended to the areas that need it, without any further delay.

Another thing that is much in demand in the Palghat taluk is the construction of a road from Anakkapara to Madappalur. This has already been investigated by the P.W.D., and they had recommended that it should be taken up in the first year of second Five Year Plan itself. I request the Planning Commission to consider this matter and take up the scheme in the first year itself.

Now I come to the service conditions of the officers transferred from the Madras State. Some of the officers in the Malabar District feel that their seniority may be overlooked for want of settlement of problems arising out of the transfer and some others from the T.-C. State may be placed above them. That apprehension should not be there. Every step should be taken to remove this apprehension.

There is another difficulty. I am not making a complaint of it, but all the heads of Departments in the present Kerala State are former T.-C. officials. They may not be knowing much about Malabar and its problems. Therefore, some of the officers transferred from Madras could have been placed as heads of some departments.

Another problem is about the dearness allowance of employees in the Malabar, district. They have been agitating for increment of pay and allowances even while they were in the Madras Government. The Madras Government appointed a committee to go into the matter and that committee has recommended an increase in the D.A. The Madras Government has given effect to this increase in the case of the present Madras Government servants, but not in the case of those who were transferred from Madras to Kerala. This also requires immediate consideration.

As stated already, the conditions of the Scheduled Castes in Malabar are very deplorable and very different from those in other parts of the country. This requires immediate consideration. At the time of the President's rule it can be done easily without delay and without the interference of the State Government. I can point out one or two instances. The first is the housing problem. The Harijans in Malabar are not being housed properly. The house sites possessed by them are their own but there is no record to show that the sites belong to them. Due to this, some are facing evictions and some are not benefited by Government aids for housing. To solve this, the Madras Government sanctioned a scheme to acquire 15 cents of land to be given to the Harijans in Malabar. It was sanctioned in 1949, but so far it has not been implemented. I think very few people—only 20 or 25—have benefited so far. If it is difficult to acquire the land and give it, at least the Government should undertake legislation for giving permanency to the Harijans so far as the house sites are concerned. That might not cause much difficulty. I would repeat that the Malabar Tenancy Act has not given the protection to the Harijans which they deserve. This requires immediate attention.

Another difficulty is about the education of the Scheduled Castes in

Malabar. The educational facilities available to them when compared with other Harijans in other parts are very meagre and the grants also are very little. There are some students studying in the fifth class, but when they come to the middle standard, many of them will be facing difficulties so far as books and other things are concerned. They have applied for scholarships, but only very few scholarships have been allowed by the Government. A large number of scholarships for students studying up to matriculation should be given. They must also be given all other amenities. There are some institutions run for them which have been recognised by the Government, but those institutions have not been given grants. The Madras Government was saying, "We have applied for grants from the Centre. We have not received the allotment yet and so it will be delayed to give grants to these institutions." The present Government should see that all the facilities are given to the Scheduled Castes in Malabar.

Another point I would like to mention is this. There are some industrial schools for giving training in small-scale industries and cottage industries. Harijan youths should be given preference in these schools. They should be given all the facilities for receiving training and afterwards they should be given employment. There is educated unemployment among the Harijans now. It is not due to the fact that the percentage of educated Harijans has gone up. It is due to the fact that they are not given the quota allotted to them in full. That problem can be solved by giving additional technical training to them.

I now come to the conditions of agricultural labourers. As others, agricultural labourers are not getting the facilities of minimum wages, time limit for their work, housing facilities etc. which are given to industrial workers. The Government say that it is difficult to pass legislation and implement it because they are not organised. It is true that they are not organised, but still legislation for

giving minimum wages can be passed. The agricultural labourers are conscious of their rights and privileges and they will try to organise themselves.

Another difficulty is this. As you know, Malabar is deficit in food and it entirely depends upon imports from outside. Now the prices of foodgrains have gone up. Of course in some places, the Government has opened fair price shops, but it is not adequate. A larger number of fair price shops should be opened and foodgrains should be made available cheaply to all the villagers and other people. Some of these shops should be given to Harijans also. Due to various difficulties, they are not able to get licence etc. from the authorities to run the shops. That difficulty should be removed and they should be given a fair chance.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, some of my colleagues here are whispering as to how I fit into this picture.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have got a list of Members of Kerala State and the name of Mr. Gurupadaswamy is put here. Now that I have called him and I have revealed how the mistake has happened, if it is a mistake hon. Members should allow him to speak.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: I fit into this picture.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He need not give any explanation of his fitting in; he can deal with the subject.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: I am of opinion that the President's rule in Kerala is a projection of central despotism. I beg to disagree with my hon. friends that this rule is also democratic. They feel that the Kerala State is under the direct control and jurisdiction of Parliament which is an elected body. Many arguments have been advanced to contradict this statement. I feel that the Centre's rule over a State is not the direct rule of democracy. It is not popular rule. It is no substitute at all to the rule of the representatives of Kerala.

[Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy]

The Home Minister said in his preliminary remarks that he has no other alternative today except to have President's rule in the Kerala State. I want to ask my hon. friends whether it is so, whether there is no alternative in the present circumstances except to extend President's rule in Kerala. I am afraid the Home Minister wants to deny himself an alternative and also he wants to deny the people of Kerala and the people outside of an alternative. It is, I feel, a deliberate act. I beg of you to consider whether it would not have been possible on the 1st of November to usher in a democratic set up in the Kerala State. According to the Home Minister, nearly half of the State of new Kerala is coming from outside Travancore-Cochin. The circumstances which drove him previously to impose the President's rule were different. According to him, the constitutional machinery broke down at that time. I do not agree with him on this point.

Kumari Annie Mascarene (Trivandrum): You are not from that State.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Even if I agree with him on this point. I may point out that the present circumstances in which the Kerala State was brought into being are different from the circumstances which forced the Home Minister to impose the President's rule or the rule of the Adviser on Kerala. On the 1st of November, the legislators of Malabar came into Kerala. If there had not been the President's Proclamation, they would have existed as legislators. The President could have amended or revised his earlier Proclamation which was permissible under the Constitution. Article 356 permits revision or modification of the President's Proclamation and nothing prevented him from modifying it. If the desire of the President or the Government of India had been there to bring back democratic set up in the State, nothing would have prevented the Government of India or the President to do so. I am amazed why this was not considered and this alternative was

not adopted. If the Congressmen want no other non-Congress Government in any State, it must frankly say so if that is the intention. If they want their own Government everywhere, if they want no other non-Congress Government anywhere, if to them democracy means only Congress Government and Congress rule,.....

Kumari Annie Mascarene: Do you know why the P.S.P. Government failed? You are not in the State.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: They must say so.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Lady Member, if she wants a chance to speak, she must not interfere.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: I come from the Capital of the State. I want a chance.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: She must not give up all her arguments by these interruptions.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Kerala occupies a very peculiar position in the political map of India. In that State peoples are educated. I think they show the highest average in education. That is a State wherein the people are politically articulate and alert. Such a thing is not found in any other State in India. In spite of their high education, political consciousness and alertness, an undemocratic rule has been imposed upon them and a case has been made out that they are politically unfit to rule themselves. They have been told that self-rule is not at all possible in the State. That is the unfortunate position which our Kerala friends are passing through. Therefore, I feel that we must consider whether the situation in the Kerala State does not permit of a democratic set up. I am of opinion even today that the Proclamation may be changed and the old legislature may be brought back and life may be given to the Legislators. There is nothing in the Constitution which prevents the President from bringing back the legislature and to

make room for a democratic Government. I feel that merely the administration has been taken up by the President. That does not mean and should not mean that the legislature goes away once for all from the picture. That does not mean that the legislature cannot be brought back. So, I feel that this matter may be looked into, and a democratic set up established as early as possible.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I make a request, Sir? There are only a very few Members. I request that all of them may be given time. Half an hour's extension may be granted. This is the only opportunity when they can speak for 10 minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the House is prepared to sit,.....

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: and if it is not brought to my notice that there is no quorum, I can agree to it.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: I do not know why only today there should be the question of quorum. For the last few days there has not been quorum.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is not my concern. If it is not brought to my notice that there is no quorum, I can continue; I have no objection. I hope the hon. Minister has no objection.

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): No.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will give an opportunity to the Members coming from that State.

Shri Mathew (Kottayam): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I was here when the Leader of the Communist Party opened his speech. If I understood him aright, he rightly said that it was not worthwhile to discuss the theoretical question of the justifiability of the President's rule having been introduced or of its extension now. That is not a worthwhile theme for discussion. However, one of the later

speakers went on to blame the Congress Party for the circumstances which made it necessary to introduce the President's rule, and said that the Congress Ministry proved utterly unequal to the occasion, that it had not the necessary strength to carry on and therefore the Ministry failed. I can understand the friends of the Congress Party deploring that. But, I cannot quite understand why the opponents should be disappointed at that. If it was the fault of the Congress Party, that it was not strong enough, I ask the simple question: why is it that no Opposition party was strong enough to form a new Ministry? Do you blame a party for not being strong, numerically or otherwise? There was no party strong enough to form a Ministry. That might be deplorable, but in the given circumstances, there was no live alternative, so to say to the President's rule. If I am asked, 'Did I welcome President's rule, and do I welcome the extension of that?', I would say both 'no' and 'yes'. Suppose I am asked: 'Would you like to be an in-patient in a hospital?' Of course, I do not like to fall ill; I would not like to be an in-patient in a hospital. But if I fall seriously ill, certainly I would like to go as an in-patient into a good hospital. Therefore, the circumstances are, in a way, deplorable, you may say, but in the given circumstances, this was the best solution. Anyhow, I do not want to spend more time over these practically fruitless questions.

Now, the general question was again raised: has there been progress during the President's rule? Especially those of us who are very impatient of the progress that has been made, who would like very much to accelerate the pace of the progress, may exaggerate things by saying that there has been hardly any progress. But still it would not be correct. In some lines, there has been progress; in some other lines, there was no progress or not enough progress in every respect. At any rate, with regard to the future, we would like to have greater progress in all lines.

[Shri Mathew]

I do not propose to go into questions of detail as to where there has been any progress or in what lines there has been little progress. But any one who has been in the State recently could honestly feel that there was improvement in certain respects, not in other respects perhaps. A shake-up was given to the government officers almost from top to bottom. There was a slowness in the dealings of Government, in disposal of papers and so on. Some kind of shake-up was administered lately. In fact, criticism was made in the House that files were being disposed of with unnecessary speed, as it were, and not sufficient consideration was bestowed always on the matter of the files. That might be a legitimate criticism, but it is an implicit admission that there was a quickness of despatch.

Again, there were several other things which were welcome. But from the practical point of view, I do not think it necessary to evaluate the precise degree of improvement where there was improvement and to discuss where exactly improvement was not satisfactory and so on. We are all agreed that there ought to be greater progress in those lines, in new lines and in every direction, as it were.

There are a few other points which I would have liked to touch on. But I feel I should imperatively refer to one question that was touched on by a Member of the Opposition who represents no party, who is an independent unit by himself. I refer to the question of the University of Travancore, which is neither the Trivandrum University nor the Kerala University. It is called the University of Travancore. That, however, does not matter. I was closely associated with the University for a long time. It was my privilege to serve on the Syndicate with the Vice-Chancellors. I do not want to compare one with the other. All of them are my personal friends and I should be fair to all.

Now, rather casually, rather by a slip, that hon. Member referred to

Dr. Ramaswami Mudaliar as a 'foreigner'. But immediately he corrected himself. Modern psychologists say that verbal slips are indicative of some kind of complex; they are very significant. Therefore, the idea that in Kerala we should think of people in the neighbouring States of Kannada or Tamil as 'foreigners', though not genuine foreigners, a type of semi-foreigners, is a rather ominous feature.

It has been said on the floor of the House and, I believe, agreed to by all people, that while there are linguistic States, whether they are to be welcomed or not, it ought to be recognised and we ought always to bear in mind that the barriers between States ought not to be conceived of as watertight barriers, as it were.

Shri Punnoose: May I know whether the hon. Member is aware that one of the objects of the Travancore University.....

Shri Mathew: I am not yielding.

Again, may I say that if there is any sphere in which these barriers between States ought not to be conceived of as watertight, it is the sphere of higher University education. May I remind my friends from the Kerala State that a distinguished Malayali, Dr. John Matthai, is the Vice-Chancellor of Bombay University? Bombay has been the sphere of the scene of many ugly linguistic self-expressions and yet, as far as I know, not one word has been uttered against Dr. John Matthai occupying the position of the Vice-Chancellor of Bombay University. If a Malayali can be the Vice-Chancellor of Bombay University, is it any good that we should object to the member of the neighbouring State of Madras being the Vice-Chancellor of Travancore University?

I need not go into the question of personal merits, as I said. I know that he has done good service. I do not want to compare and contrast him

with the previous Vice-Chancellors. He has done good service, and he is doing good service.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri Mathew: I thought the time had been extended and I would consequently get more time.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has taken seven minutes. He might take two minutes more.

Shri Mathew: Again, reference was made to the Pro-Vice-Chancellor. He is necessary because the Vice-Chancellor cannot be in Trivandrum always. It has been said that that the Pro-Vice-Chancellor is a foreigner, he is a Tamilian and so on. I won't go into details. Most of our Kerala friends would know that the present Pro-Vice-Chancellor's father was in the service of the then Travancore State for a long time, long before the hon. Member was born and long before I was born. I do not know when their family came and settled down in Travancore, but it might be a century ago. So, to refer to him as a foreigner is something which I cannot understand.

The only other point I want to refer to is about the opening of new railway lines. The opening of a part of the Ernakulam-Quilon line, the part which is between Ernakulam and Kottayam, was marked by great rejoicing. Unfortunately, I was then here for a Select Committee, but those friends who were there, including the hon. Railway Minister, told us what great scenes of rejoicing there were. That does not, however, mean that we were rejoicing over some great boon, as it were. It is only a small fraction of what we could rightly claim.

My hon. friend, Shri Punnoose, was rightly referring to the necessity of a part of the coast being opened for railway traffic. There are ever so many new lines to be opened. I want to refer to just one line which has to be opened. It is a line which would connect Thiruvellah with Punalur. That would be a connection between

the two existing lines. That would be opening up some of the most progressive and advanced parts of the former State of Travancore which, to some extent, were neglected for long. Those taluks did not get that recognition to which they were entitled. Therefore, I would press for the opening of this line which would connect Thiruvellah with Punalur, while I do not minimise the importance of several other lines referred to by other Members. I waive all other points, Sir, in deference to your wish.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Sir, as you know, and as the House knows, I do not approve of the imposition of President's rule in T.C. State. I also do not agree that there has been any additional efficiency shown by the administration in the recent past. Anyhow, our State has been promoted to an 'A' class State, of course with consequent changes in the salaries and standards of officers. We have got High Court Judges drawing Rs. 3,500, and we have more officers than before. Where we had one, we have now got two or three officers, in almost all important jobs, drawing Rs. 3,000 or Rs. 4,000. This has been a very costly promotion for us.

When we consider the past mistakes of this regime, I have to admit one thing. Shri P. S. Rau was not personally corrupt. But I do not mean to say that the administration was free from corruption. As a matter of fact, the old corrupt hands continue. The old corrupt leaders of the Congress continued to exert pressure on Shri P. S. Rau. Everything is being done for them as it used to be done by any other Congress Ministry, so much so there is no difference at all in the approach and in the management of affairs.

16 hrs.

There was a very funny incident. The order appointing a female District Judge got entangled and enmeshed in the papers of a Congress leader, so much so, she was not able to take charge for three days. That is, in fact, the real state of affairs in our State.

[Shri N. Sreekantan Nair]

I have also to bring a very serious charge against the Home Ministry of the Government of India. Some reference was made to the Kerala Chief Justice here; and it was objected to. Where are we to say all these things? I am very reliably informed that the Chief Justice of India recommended against the appointment of Mr. Koshy saying that he was inefficient and, as a matter of fact, recommended the name of some Malayalee now employed outside, to be the Chief Justice. That recommendation was, we find, discarded by the Home Ministry because there was pressure from interested quarters to appoint this man. What is the result? He has advised Government to bring in all sorts of reforms; District reforms and the abolition of the then existing Division Bench of the High Court in Trivandrum. What has this led to? It has led to all sorts of agitation. My own home town is far away from Trivandrum and I have been elected from the Quilon district. I say that when the High Court existed in Trivandrum it was part and parcel of the life of the city. When the headquarters of the Government is there, there should be a Division Bench of the High Court there, because there are so many matters on which the Government has to be checked immediately.

Very recently I had to file a writ petition to control Government because Government was not implementing the statutory provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act and the Payment of Wages Act and the Mines Act. I put in a petition and I had to move another petition. Then I happened to meet the Chief Secretary. He is a nice, impressive person and he said that he would handle it, and I need not worry. It was left to his handling. I have not till received even a reply. This is the efficiency to which my friends have referred. I do not think we have progressed much in the matter of efficiency.

As regards the agitation there, I would bring to the attention of the

Home Minister that 3 ex-Chief Ministers of the State are involved in it. The Convener of the Action Committee and the Secretary is none other than Shri T. K. Narayana Pillai, an ex-Chief Minister, of the Congress Party; and of no other party, let Shri Thomas bear that in mind. Hundreds are going to be arrested, including ex-Chief Ministers and ex-Ministers of the Congress Party because the Congress Party has always been changing their Ministers.

When discussion was taken up in this House last time, three months ago, the hon. Home Minister made a very resounding point to his credit that a non-seasonal declaration regarding the cashew nut industry and factories had been made and it would really benefit the workers, because they are going to get something. The Government, after making that declaration, have not moved to see that it is implemented, so much so, for the last 3½ months, 45,000 workers have been unemployed. Who are they? They are the lowest rung of the ladder of society.

Shri Matthen: I think my hon. friend asked for it.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Yes, we asked for that. We also wanted the implementation or enforcement of that order. The workers have to be paid lay-off compensation but that has not been done. On the other hand, a member of the Cabinet, Shri Nanda, came there and advised both the Government and the Trade Union leaders to accept the withdrawal of the notification so that we may surrender three months' pay and they may reopen the factories. Now the factories have been closed down by Shri Ihangal Kunju Musaliar who owns 26 cashew factories and some saw-mills and Tin factories. He refuses to reopen them. He has not paid. He says that he need not pay because the High Court and the Supreme Court have ruled that he need not pay any compensation. He says, 'I need not pay compensation either lay-off compensation or retrenchment

compensation' because the Government is not strong enough to enforce it.

A conference was convened by the Ministry of Labour and a scheme was adopted to run the factories, as workers' co-operative societies. A board was constituted and 4 important members, Secretaries to Government, were nominated. It was only an advisory body. What happened? The life and soul of the board was Shri Subramaniam belonging to the Labour Ministry and who was sent as Joint Adviser to the Rajapramukh there. When the post of Joint Adviser was abolished, he had to take leave for 3 months. Out of the 4 members one has been sent out of the State, another has been taken as Secretary to the Governor. The other two members, the Labour Commissioner and the Registrar of co-operatives have their own work. So the co-operative board does not function and 20,000 workers have been permanently thrown out into the streets and another 25,000 of them remain unemployed without knowing what their fate would be in the near future. This is the approach which the State Government and the President's rule has taken on the most crucial question concerning the life of 45,000 families. Do you call this effective administration? Do you call this efficiency? Do you call this efficient administration? I say, there is no government in the State. I have myself settled two strikes for implementation of statutory rights and I have given notice of another strike which is going to take place next week in the mineral factories because the State Government, after taking over the factory in 1949, on the basis of an award which was given by a District Judge, has to pay 3 months' wages as compensation to the workers for mechanisation. The Government took over, mechanised the factory, threw away 220 workers and each worker has to get Rs. 156/- as compensation for being thrown out. The Government wants more profit. The Government is earning Rs. 70 lakhs from this industry and this is

the only industry which gives that profit. They want to increase this profit. These unemployed workers have not till now, for the past 7 years, been paid this compensation of Rs. 156/- each.

In 1952 this House passed the Mines Act where there was a provision for leave with wages for 7 days for workers. This Government under the so-called President's rule have not paid the workers. Not only have they not paid the arrears but even this year's leave with pay has not been given.

In 1953, this House passed the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act and provision was definitely made that there must be paid lay-off compensation to the workers who have worked for 240 days. This has not been implemented for the last 3 years in the mineral industry wherefrom they get a profit of Rs. 70 lakhs. This is the policy of the Government.

Then, there is the ceramic Industry. Rs. 45 lakhs have been spent by Government for its development. Workers have been agitated over the question of rationalisation. When they went to the Chief Secretary, he said he was helpless. When they approached the old Governor, he said that he was helpless because he was going away. When they approached the new Governor, he says that he is new and that he can do nothing about it. The rights of the workers have been denied by Government and that too, unfortunately by the Central Government. This House passed the legislative enactments and this House controls the Ministry, but cannot enforce these legal rights. This is the state of affairs in that part of the country?

In order to save the cashew situation I would suggest 3 or 4 remedies. I suggest that it should be brought under the purview of the Industrial Development and Control Act. My hon. friend the Deputy Minister may just.....

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): He has been promoted as Minister.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Secondly, a Cashew Corporation should be formed with necessary legislative sanctions to take over the import and export of cashew and to work such factories as are closed down by the recalcitrant employers. Thirdly, the factories lying idle be taken over as early as possible and worked. Fourthly, immediate relief should be rushed to these workers who have been for the last 3½ months unemployed and who may continue to be unemployed in the future.

If these steps are not taken immediately, as had been pointed out by Shri Kottukappally, within thirty days the industry is gone for ever. If the factories are closed down, perhaps they may be shifted elsewhere but they can never be successfully established. What is the wage for the worker in that industry? Do they consider it to be so exorbitant? The minimum fixed is never received by the workers. The minimum wage fixed is Rs. 1-4-0. But the average wage is only ten annas. The poor scheduled caste, pariah women do this most dirty work, which gives them all sorts of skin diseases because the oil of the cashew nut is very acidic; it is a burning material. For this work, they get ten annas. If even that is lost, all these families will starve.

The new reforms introduced by the President's rule bring in two departmental heads in every department. In addition to the I.G. of Police, there is an additional I.G. of Police, now. There are a host of Chief Engineers. I do not say anything about them but that they are surplus in our poor State. They are not wanted there. They are dignified persons, good to look at but they do not serve the country. Then, there is a transport department where a pensioner has been brought in as Additional Director. He introduced certain reforms with the result that the work has slowed down. During these days of festivals or celebrations, the workers refuse to do overtime work because they are not paid overtime wages and the work is suspended. Such double

and triple departmental heads, each one trying to defeat the other, leads to internecine quarrels. Every department is fighting the other departments. My friends there are misled because they do not go into the day-to-day problems of the State. If this sort of misrule continues, it will finish the Congress organisation there, for good.

Shri Nettu P. Damodaran: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, in rising to support this Resolution, I shall make a few points. I shall make myself as brief as possible.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That would be very good of the hon. Member.

Shri Nettu P. Damodaran: I come from the district of Malabar which was a part of Madras State for about a century and a half in the past, before 31st October 1956. My district, as had been pointed out by the Home Minister and other friends, is the largest district in India with a population of about fifty lakhs of people. Many of my friends have already stated that it has been very much neglected in the past. I am happy that a former Collector of Malabar, who knows the conditions of the people in Malabar, happens to be the Chief Secretary of the Kerala State. The southern taluks of Travancore-Cochin have now been detached from there and attached to the Madras State and the remainder of the State has now a population of eighty lakhs. It has four districts: Trivandrum, Quilon, Kottayam and Trichur. Malabar which is almost three-fifths of the size of the T.C. State is even now considered a single district. It is only just and reasonable that the Malabar District, along with the Kasargod taluk which has been added on to the Kerala State now, should at least be divided into three. The Home Minister, I am happy to know, has conceded the demand of the people of Malabar to divide the district into three. He held a meeting of the Members of Parliament from Kerala and it was the unanimous opinion of all the Members convey-

ed to him at that meeting that this big district should be divided into three.

There has been some quarrel about the location of the headquarters of one of the districts. That was the only matter under dispute about the division of the Malabar District into three. I am glad that the Home Minister has announced his decision to make Cannanore the headquarters of the North Malabar District. A number of unnecessary and silly agitations are now going on and are agitating the minds of the people in Kerala. From Tellicherry to Trivandrum, the State is in a state of ferment due to all these unnecessary and undesirable agitations.

In Tellicherry, there is an agitation for getting the headquarters of the district; in Trivandrum, for the establishment of the Bench of the High Court. In Tellicherry, a section of the people are opposed to the idea of making Cannanore the headquarters of North Malabar. I would like to inform the House that, only one single Member of Parliament who happens to be the only Muslim League Member of this House, returned from a distant constituency called Malappuram, alone wanted it to be divided into two districts with headquarters at Calicut and Tellicherry. All the others were of a different view. So, it is now evident what interests are now working for the location of the capital of the North Malabar District at Tellicherry. It is the Muslim League which is now unfortunately still existing in Kerala, and more prominently in the District of Malabar.

In these agitations, we are simply fighting for the shadow and forgetting the substance. Unfortunately, a public meeting held in my home town which happens to be Tellicherry one of the two contestants for the location of the headquarters has recently passed a resolution which was attended by non-Congress elements—the Muslim League, Praja Socialist Party, Communist Party etc. They have met

in public and passed a resolution calling me an enemy of Tellicherry Town because I have kept my head cool in these agitations. Though I represent Tellicherry, I cannot but take note of the better claims of another sister town, which is only 12 miles away from my place. Both these towns are important towns in North Malabar and the economic life of North Malabar depends mostly on these two towns. Unfortunately, the controversy engineered by some interested parties took an ugly shape at Tellicherry. One cinema house, the proprietor of which refused to close down his cinema house to observe a hartal was stoned. The police was called and a lathi charge had to be made. The agitation is now taking a very ugly shape. Some representatives came to Delhi to seek support for the cause of making Tellicherry the capital. I honestly feel sorry that these small and unnecessary controversies are now agitating the minds of the people.

Coming to the High Court Bench in Trivandrum, I know that there is a fairly strong agitation going on there. I do not either decry the agitation or support it. I am only sorry to find that the lawyers who are the custodians of law have taken the role of law-breakers in the State of Kerala. Anyhow, the matter is under the consideration of the Government of India. In case Trivandrum is allowed to have a Bench of the Kerala High Court, I would bring home to the House that there are better claims for my home town of Tellicherry for locating another Bench there.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is whether it should be taken away from the place where it already exists and not of taking it to another place or town.

Shri Nettur P. Damodaran: The area that has come to the new Kerala State, viz. Malabar and Kasargod together, has a right to have a Bench of the Kerala High Court in Malabar. That claim is much more than the claim of Trivandrum to have the

[Shri Nettur P. Damodaran]

Bench of the High Court in the same old State where the headquarters of the High Court itself is situated. At one time, during the East India Company days, Tellicherry had a High Court of its own. It was called a Provincial High Court for the Western Division. If the districts in Kerala State are going to be readjusted for judicial purposes, I would suggest that Trivandrum and Quilon should be tagged on to the Trivandrum High Court Bench. Then, Ernakulam, the seat of the High Court, should have under its jurisdiction Trichur, South Malabar and Kottayam districts of Kerala State. The Bench at Tellicherry can function very effectively for North Malabar and Central Malabar districts. That is the most centrally situated place for North Malabar and Central Malabar, from Manjeri to Manjeswaram, from one end of Central Malabar to the other end of North Malabar.

There are one or two other small points that I want to mention. My friend Shri Kottukappally has demanded the construction of a railway line from Cochin to Bodinaikkanur. I am sorry to find that he has forgotten to mention the line which is already in the limelight, the Tellicherry-Mysore railway line. My friends from Travancore-Cochin, when it comes to the question of some development project for Malabar, they conveniently forget them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order, The hon. Member should conclude now.

Shri Nettur P. Damodaran: I am very sorry that the Railway Minister, who toured the area recently and ordered a survey of the railway line, is quitting office. He inspected the area there and was good enough to order a survey of the line connecting Tellicherry to Mysore via Coorg. I am thankful to him for that.

Shri A. K. Gopalan spoke about the Barapole or Varapuzhai scheme. That also is in the interest of the underdeveloped Malabar and Kasargod

areas. That should be urgently taken up both by the Centre and by the State Governments of Mysore and Kerala. The two Governments concerned in the Varapuzhai hydro-electric project are the Mysore and Kerala Governments. That should be taken up jointly by them.

Then, Malabar requires a medical college and an engineering college. The progress and advancement in the Kerala State is like this. Trivandrum is the most developed. Cochin is equally developed. As my friend Shri Gopalan said, the area represented by my friend Shri Eacharan, viz. South Malabar, has got all the irrigation projects. North Malabar is very backward. Kasargod is the worst neglected area. If you go from south to north from Trivandrum to Kasargod, you will see that the progress progressively deteriorates. I feel that the new Government of Kerala and the Government of India should bestow better thought on Malabar and Kasargod areas in preference to other areas.

On the whole Kerala has many problems and I have brought out only a few due to want of time.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, after much labour the Central Government brought forth an absolutely ugly deformed child called Kerala. Whether it resembles the father or the mother I do not know. Sir, much has been said on the administration of this State before it assumed the shape of Kerala. I, one in the Opposition, who wants to stand for truth and moral principles, must admit that the President's rule during the last few months gave to the people of the old Travancore-Cochin State better justice and better opportunities to live. I had done a thorough research work of the Congress Government there. I had now and again a peep into the P.S.P. Government there. I am a democrat to the core. But my democracy is not the Government of the people but Government of the people

and for the people. That term has to be emphasised. And I must tell the Home Minister that, with all justice to truth, I appreciate the few months of administration of Shri P. S. Rau. He had no axes to grind in Travancore-Cochin State much less in Kerala. Whenever I had a peep into his Government, and whenever I pointed out any mistake, he was willing to correct it. Once he almost pointed out to me my speech in Parliament where I had referred to favouritism in appointments. He told me that he was not responsible for it. I was not very much convinced, but I feel that he must have been in the right.

Sir, we have been longing for a Kerala State, a dream in the wilderness. When it reached we can hardly bear it. It is so expensive. We have to maintain an A Class Governor, Rs. 32,000 for two months. He is not a Keralite, I have no quarrel with that. Any Indian is fit enough to be a Governor under the present regime. What I say is, with him comes an expensive, top-heavy administration which we cannot afford. Therefore, whatever they have done in the past under the President's rule will not have the same gleaming colour hereafter. I wish to request the Home Minister to balance the administration and the expenditure on administration, so that the people, rather a crowded population with very little employment opportunities, are able to bear it.

My next point is about the judiciary. I should have spoken about labour earlier than that, but this is a pending question. The administration of justice is really the rule of God on earth. Will the Central Government remember that there is a moral work behind the administration of justice which cannot be faced unless the hand that falls on it will be cut off? Administration of justice means bringing justice within the reach of every man in the shortest possible time and at the least expense. The present agitation in Trivandrum

for a Bench in Trivandrum is highly justifiable, necessary and, if you stand for justice, kindly grant it, because by denying justice to the people of that State you deny justice to you ultimately.

The Central Government was willing to give us a Bench at Trivandrum when there was agitation in the Tamilnad State. When the problem came before this House, in spite of protest by the Congress Members the Opposition Members supported it and the Bench came into existence. We congratulate the Government for that. During the discussion on the S.R.C. Report I most humbly recommended to this Government that a Bench should also be given to Malabar so that the administration of justice may be decentralised and made within the reach of everybody. Centralisation of justice is autocracy. Decentralisation of justice is democracy and gives divine dispensation. Therefore, I beg of you, Members of the Central Government in the Home Ministry, that you should realise this, and if you realise the difficulty, you will do a great benefit and give a boon to the people of Kerala State by allowing them a Bench in Trivandrum and another in Malabar, so that the people at least, starving as they are, unemployed as they are, and who are unable to carry on their case in distant courts, might get justice rendered to them within their reach.

I now come to labour.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I thought that after her stirring appeal, the hon. Member was going to stop.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: How could I stop when the burning question of unemployment faces me, and you and everyone in the State? I would say just a few words about it. With regard to the question of unemployment, I do not blame the Central Government. They are not responsible. Those people who sponsor the rights of labour, paralyse the circulation of capital, suspend it, and create problems, and make impossible

[Kumari Annie Mascarene]

the production of goods and paralyse the factories too. I can, with great detail, explain and point out to you how the Ceramic Factory in the Travancore-Cochin State was paralysed due to some of my dear friends here. I do not endorse the view of Shri Kottukappally nor do I endorse the view of my friend Shri Sreekantan Nair. He was at the bottom of the democratic working of labour and bring out the need for justice to the people, while the other one has come just when democracy came into power, to enjoy it. But I must blame my friend for paralysing industries in the name of labour. We are now going through a transitional stage, from capitalism to mixed economy, and as such, we have to put up with a little inconvenience in order to stabilise the machinery of production, capital, labour and organisation. At the present time, I make a humble request to the Home Minister, the Prime Minister and the Cabinet—take the statistics of the trade union troubles that had arisen in this country from 1947 up to date, and tell me how much of capital has been paralysed. I have gone through it sometimes, and I have noticed that the paralysing of industries has cost so much that it should be enough to remedy the poverty in India.

I should like to say a few words regarding the Scheduled Castes. We have in the Travancore-Cochin State—now Kerala—a large population of Scheduled Castes including Christians and non-Christians. Both of them suffer. The non-Christian Scheduled Caste people are given concessions but the economic conditions of both the classes are equally poor. I request you not to penalise poor people on account of their faith in any religion,—no matter to which religion they belong, Muhammadanism, Christianity or any other religion. We have 14 lakhs of Scheduled Caste Christians in Kerala State, and they find it very difficult to pull on in life, to exist, to keep body and soul to-

gether. What justice you give to the Scheduled Castes and backward classes, must be given to them without looking into their faith. It is the same sun that shines through all the colours of the rain-bow. You cannot distinguish one from the other. I request the Home Minister to look into the memorandum which those people have submitted to him through me and through other Members of Parliament and to give them justice. To deny justice to a set of people on account of their faith is injustice before God, for, the same God who has created the universe has created humanity and He makes no difference in giving the soul to man. Therefore, I request this Government to give equal justice to all the backward class people, and give them all opportunities to go forward. It is a great pity that this question is cut down to so many minutes. But I hope the Central Government will maintain the present strength of the administration, for, we have a bitter experience of democracy from the Congress Government and from the P. S. P. Government. We had better days under Mr. P. S. Rau, and because he was not a corrupt man—may I think—that he was called off. Anyway, I hope that his substitute will be just as just as his predecessor.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I am sorry that I cannot agree with the points raised by the last Member, nor do I agree with Shri A. M. Thomas who was the chief spokesman of the Congress today, that the agitation in Trivandrum was misconceived. After hearing him, I was inclined to think that he has really become a doubting Thomas. I would ask him to go to Trivandrum and see from his own eyes what is happening there, so that he may later on believe—I do not want to—

Shri A. M. Thomas: Trivandrum is not Kerala.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: It is the capital of Kerala.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I do not want to go into the details. I submit at the outset that the agitation for the Bench in Trivandrum is not merely a very pressing demand but a very justifiable demand from all facts and circumstances and from all angles.

I was interested to know from the report which the hon. Home Minister has given us—it does not have any endorsement either of the State Government or of the Home Ministry, and it is just a printed document which seems to have been printed in the Trivandrum Press—certain things. I wanted to find out what this catalogue of record really meant. I could not find any expression of commitment by the Home Minister or by the Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs or by the Home Secretary, about the report.

But in another connection, the Home Minister has clinched the issue for this Government, and I want to pin him down to the statement which runs as follows:

“During the period Travancore-Cochin has been under the President's rule, every effort has been made to look after its varied needs and requirements. 11 land reforms have been introduced and attempts have also been made to implement/develop and labour welfare schemes for industries like plantations, coir, and cashew-nut.”

I would submit with all great respect which I have for the person of the Home Minister that nothing is farther from the truth than this statement. I was trying to understand the situation, notwithstanding what I gathered from my tours in the State in recent days, notwithstanding my discussion with several officers including the Chief Secretary, the Governor and others. I was trying to read in between the lines and find out what was there by way of land reform which we have given to the people, what was there in the recent past—in the last six months—by

which the Government could claim that the position of workers has been bettered and what was there by which the Government could come before this House with this catalogue of record and convince us that the administration under the President's rule has been beneficial to the State.

I am sorry to say, looking at the various enactments which we have passed with the help of the Consultative Committee about which the Home Minister today expressed his high appreciation, that there have been three or four enactments only, out of the 10 pieces of legislation that we have passed, which relate to any land problem. You must understand that Travancore-Cochin and Malabar—Kerala—has been the only State which did not have any sort of land reform in the first Five Year Plan period. What is it that they have given us? You will be surprised, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, when you go through the laws. For example, there is the Irrigation Cess Bill which is one of the laws which we have passed. That Irrigation Cess Bill, which is now an Act, lays down that irrigation cess shall be collected under the Revenue Recovery Act with retrospective effect for a period of ten years. There is another Act, the Compensation for Improvements Act. What is there new in it? There was already a provision in the Cochin part of the Travancore-Cochin State, and this Act seeks to extend those provisions to the Travancore area. Where is the question of land legislation at all? Not merely has there been no land legislation but there is a further point. That is not our complaint. I would not personally complain that during the short span of six months the President's rule did not give us any land reform worth the name. On the other hand, I accuse the Home Ministry not for not introducing a law but for deliberately launching a concerted attack on the entire front of the peasantry in our State. Take, for instance, the Kuthagapattom tenants. There are tens of thousands

[Shri V. P. Nayar]

of them. The other day I was discussing this matter with the various Kuthagapattom lease-holders. It is a peculiar thing in the T. C. State. A Kuthagapattom lessee has to pay tax for every tree which he grows by himself. He has to pay the basic tax and every other sort of tax.

The Home Minister says that certain land reforms have been introduced. When I ask the number of Kuthagapattom tenants, and the areas covered, the Government does not know. When I ask, "What is the number of Jenmikaram tenants?", the answer comes, "the information is being collected". After all, the T. C. State Government has a statistical wing which, according to the answer given by my hon. friend, Mr. Datar, has 103 people. I have got the question and answer before me, but I do not have the time to read them. I can understand this, if the Government did not really understand the position. In the "Reasons for enactment" of the Travancore-Cochin Indebted Agriculturists Relief Act, 1956, as the President has passed, it is very clearly stated that the peasants "are hard hit by the general fall in prices of agricultural commodities. It has been represented that agricultural debtors are not in a position to clear their debts and that they are often put to the trouble and expense of defending repeated court actions". As I said, my complaint is not that the Government has not brought forward any legislation. My complaint, my charge—I accuse the Government of it—is that in this short period, they have not merely not brought any amelioration, but added distress to the people who are already very miserable. The Government is acting as the agent of the landlord, who is an absentee landlord. They say they are bound by a provision of 1108, according to the Malabar era. It is open to the landlord to come and say to the tahsildar or the proverticar "Collect the dues from the peasants" and the Government is bound to act as an agent getting a commission of

.2½ per cent., which, as my hon. friend, Shri Datar, has admitted recently in answering a question, hardly meets 50 per cent. of the collection expenses. Then, there is the Jenmikarom, which is an abnoxious tax. They have also to pay the basic tax. When I go to my place I find that there are definite orders given to the subordinates in the revenue department that on the point of losing even their jobs, they should collect the quota and send it to the treasury within a target date. If you cannot do anything more, let the question be decided by a Government which represents the people. This has been there for 8 or 10 years, but this has been postponed, because no Government thought it worthwhile to tackle it. The agitation was of such proportions. After all, it is not going to yield more than a lakh or two of rupees. As Shri Sreekantan Nair has pointed out, there is colossal waste in other spheres, but when it comes to a question of collecting Rs. 5 or Rs. 10, even on the admission of the Government that the peasants cannot pay it, this is the attitude which has been taken during the President's rule.

The Home Minister says that they have solved our problems. A person sitting at Delhi can never find out the problems of Kerala. We have definite problems and I concede that it is not possible for any one to solve the problems of Kerala overnight. There must be a genuine attempt to solve the problem of unemployment and under-employment in the State which, in their magnitude, are unparalleled in any other State in India.

Finding out new avenues of employment is a very pressing issue. As far as reaching land reforms being introduced, not only have they not been introduced, but there has been a very consistent and concerted attack on the front of the peasants. We have not given them even a living wage and they, work under most miserable conditions. Coming to the lower cadres of the Government ser-

vants, they are called contingent employees. There are several thousands of them still without any security of employment. The Home Minister says that such employees with over 5 years service number about 4000. This is the situation and the answer given by the Government is, "We are considering it". How long are they considering it? In six months, they could not decide the future of 4000 contingent employees who have put in continuous service of not less than five years.

We have to arrest the periodic crises which upset our industries and prostrate our industries. The coir, cashew and handloom industries have periodical crises and an attempt to tackle them has not been made. What are the effective steps that have been taken? I want to ask whether the Home Minister has at all taken into consideration the extreme necessity and urgency of taking effective steps to prevent the price falls in most of our agricultural commodities. We have got a peculiar economy. We have the monopoly, over several exportable commodities, the price of which has gone down by one-third or one-fourth. At the same time, the Government does not find it convenient to take even the preliminary steps which would ensure a fair price for agricultural commodities, on which the life of thousands and thousands of people depends. The peasants are not able to pay their debts because of one circumstance, namely, price fall in the case of agricultural commodities.

I do not want to say anything in detail for lack of time. Tens of thousands of our peasants are now being harassed without a heart. I would request the hon. Home Minister kindly to issue orders immediately staying the proceedings against them for the collection of arrears, both in the case of *Kuthagapattom* and *Jenmikarom* tenants. I would also request him to abolish the tree tax, which is an obnoxious tax. These are issues affecting several thousands of people.

Then, there is the growing unemployment in the cashew industry, to which several hon. Members have referred. We hear distressing reports that while the State is not committed to a policy of introducing compulsory prohibition, it has been decided to close down 15 per cent. of the toddy shops. If he does not take toddy here, he goes to a place half a mile away and takes toddy. So, this closing down of 15 per cent. of the toddy shops will only throw out of employment not less than 2500 families, which we cannot afford in the context of the growing unemployment in the country. Then there are many other vital questions like setting up a district headquarters at Alleppey. We know the place; it has so many problems, as the Minister himself knows. Government must consider with all the sympathy that they have or that they try to show they have this matter and try to solve it. When a neighbouring district has a population of 30 lakhs, it may not at all be difficult to reduce the population of that district and give that population to Alleppey, in case it is to be made into a district.

I would only urge the hon. Minister to consider all these matters sympathetically. I am getting so many reminders from behind...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: My reminder is also there. There are other speakers also.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I would urge with all the earnestness at my command that Government must give up their attitude that the President's rule has done anything good. It has worsened the situation; it has aggravated the distress of the people. But we have to accept it out of necessity, because we have no alternative. If you cannot give anything more, please at least ensure that our people enjoy all the benefits which they enjoyed even under the most discredited rule.

Shri Achuthan: In moving the Resolution, the Home Minister has well explained the circumstances in

[Shri Achuthan]

which the President's rule came to be introduced in Travancore-Cochin. He has also explained the circumstances which have necessitated this extension. We have also explained our difficulties. There is no ground now to re-open the question. Necessarily we have to go on with the President's rule. In four months, elections are coming on.

When the President's rule was introduced, none expected that the Administrator will work wonders. When the Adviser landed in Travancore, he said that the most important matter was the execution of the Second Plan—the Prime Minister has also repeated this—and that he will try his best to execute the Plan. He has done his best. Our thanks are due to Shri P. S. Rau and Shri Subramanian who have left the State for the work that they have done. We welcome the new Governor, the new Adviser and the new Chief Secretary. They are experienced people. They are prepared to assess the relative importance of the various problems and do whatever is possible.

The more important thing for me is about the future. After the general elections, we want to have a stable Government. All political parties must rise to the occasion. We have seen many political party affiliations. A few days ago, in Bangalore, Shri Kamath said, the enemy of our enemy is our friend.

Shri Kamath: That is an old formula.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Kamath shall have no chance to reply. Therefore, he must not interrupt.

Shri Kamath: I only said that that was an old formula.

Shri Achuthan: I am appealing to all democratic parties to ally themselves. This is an occasion of test. All democratic parties must unite and see that a stable Government is established in Kerala. Even the Communists in India are getting

their independence and they are being corrected and guided. And before they will take a path not far away from the Congress. I hope that all the parties will join in the Congress. The only communal party is the Muslim League. I would request the Muslim League to copy the action of the Akali Dal in which you, Sir, are a great leader. One should appreciate the way in which the Akali Party gave up the communal aspect of their work and confined themselves to the social aspects only, and joined the Congress. I would appeal to the Muslim League to understand what has been well done and join in bringing about a stable Government.

There are a number of problems in Kerala. The question of integration of services and settlement of pay scales has to be tackled. It must be settled satisfactorily so that no officer could have a feeling that the general grievances have not been remedied. Let us have an outsider as provided in the States Reorganisation Act. The questions of categorisation, standardisation, etc., must be examined and the question settled satisfactorily. Things must not only be well done, but they must also seem to be well done. Shri P. S. Rau introduced decentralisation of administration. Good. Let the administration be not top heavy. We have a number of officers in the districts. Good. Let us see that work is done well. If work is to be done well, more officers are necessary. Let there be officers; let them be contented. They must be able to deliver the goods. That is more important. Specific officers are appointed for specific purposes. I agree with this. In fact, Shri A. K. Gopalan said, that out of the sum of Rs. 16½ crores which was allotted, only Rs. 4½ crores have been spent till now. In the remaining 5 months, the balance of Rs. 12 crores have to be spent. It is hoped confidently, it is stated in the booklet on President's rule, that at the present rate of expenditure, the budget pro-

vision for development will be utilised. I have firm faith in this sentence in the report. The President's rule is continuing and the old officers are there. We are sure that by the end of March, the whole of the amount would be well utilised. People must be able to say that even though we are ruling from here, from Parliament, the officers have done their best.

As stated in page 90 of the report, Malabar has come to Kerala. It is a backward area. It is now an important portion of Kerala. Specific provision should be made by the Planning Commission, by the State Government and the Central Government in the near future, to see that Malabar also comes up. We do not grudge the inclusion of Malabar in Kerala. Shri Kottukappally said that all Malayalees should join and form a State. I am not of that view. Suppose it is said that people of one religion should come together and form a State or that people of one creed should come together, that would be difficult. I would not subscribe to that proposition. My point is that we must help the administration of the small State in all possible ways.

The problem of food and agriculture have been mentioned. A number of fair price shops have been opened. Government must see that more such shops are opened and rice is made available at minimum prices. Even Government godowns or wholesale depots must be opened in order that rice may be made available in all nooks and corners, in Crangannur, etc. As regards agriculture, even during the war period, in Cochin area poromboke areas were allowed, under the grow more food campaign, to be cultivated by small landless people on payment of a small rent. They are now made to pay a penal rent of Rs. 300 or Rs. 400. Government must see that they are charged only regular assessment. Steps must be taken to see that these lands are given to these small people. I request the Government not to have

recourse to penal assessments. Only a nominal rent should be levied.

Next, I would refer to the problem of red-tapism. In Manikkamangalam in Alwaye taluk, 1,000 acres have been taken over for cashew plantation. That was grazing ground. I approached the authorities months ago for a passage to the Reserve Forests through this cashew area. The Forest Department have not till now granted a small passage for grazing purposes for the large number of cattle. I talked to the people and I wrote to the Collector and met the authorities many times. Even now, nothing has been done. If we Members of Parliament cannot do even these small things, what are we going to do in India? I say that the officers must expedite disposal of matters. We do not stand on formalities. Things must be done. That is the most important thing. Shri A. K. Gopalan said that land reforms have not been introduced in the State. How can this be done under President's rule? If land reforms are introduced, it will be said that this is not a representative Government and so it is wrong. Because it is President's rule, no new reform is being introduced and *status quo* is being maintained. There has been decentralisation of administration. They have been attending to the execution of the Second Plan. These important questions will have to be taken up by the new representative Government in four months. When emergency measures are to be taken, they must be taken. There is nothing wrong in that. We have seen that a number of laws have been passed by the President. Even now, we appeal to the Government to give some more loans to the State Government, in consultation with the Planning Commission. Shri Velayudhan said that the Congress Government has stood in the way of the development of the Kerala State. People who have head and eyes can see what the Congress has done.

Shri Velayudhan: Not in Kerala.

Shri Achuthan: In Kerala also.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair was speaking about the judiciary. His was not the right type of criticism. He said that the Home Ministry interfered with the recommendations of the Supreme Court. To what extent can we go in complaining against the judiciary? We want justice to be done by the judiciary. It is not proper to say that there was executive interference. Let us keep ourselves aloof from such criticism. Let us not talk too much. It is not a question of X, Y or Z. We must see that justice is done to all, down to the last man. Shri N. Sreekantan Nair is not right in blaming like this. He must have more restraint in this matter.

So there should be some restraint exercised in this matter.

17 hours.

Now, a number of other matters....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now there should be a stop.

Shri Achuthan: Let me finish this sentence. We are now dealing with President's rule. Today is the President's birthday. Because the President represents the very quintessence of Indian culture, let him live long to guide us also in the future. We must have the best leaders for our country.

Shri Matthen: I am genuinely grateful to you for this opportunity, lest my hon. friend, Shri Punnoose, should accuse me again of fighting shy of speaking after hearing some people speak against me.

I was very happy to listen to the hon. Home Minister giving warm compliments to Shri P. S. Rau, the Adviser, for the stability he has brought in, for the talent and experience he has brought in, to stabilise the problem State of Travancore-Cochin—I am not reproducing his exact words. I also associate myself with him when he says that the new Governor is a tried, responsible, sound statesman, a man with a reputation for integrity, and the new Adviser is

a tried civilian of long experience, and more, a Malayali too, to continue the sound plans that Shri P. S. Rau and the administration has been laying and follow up the administration into a stable one till the more responsible government—I would rather not use the word used by the hon. Minister, namely, the democratic government—comes to take up the administration. I am not one of those who believe and who consider that the President's rule is not democratic. But I am prepared to concede that Ministers rule is more democratic. So I would rather modify the hon. Minister's statement by saying that when the more democratic Government takes up the administration, they may have a more stable government.

I also associate myself with the compliment that the hon. Minister gave to the members of the Opposition when he said that they had been helpful in the Consultative Committee. In fairness to myself and to my friends, I must state that ever since we came to Parliament, in regard to matters of economic development of the T.C. State or the Kerala State, we have co-operated and co-operated wholeheartedly. I am sure that this co-operation will continue for the development of the Kerala State, which it needs very badly.

When I spoke last time at the time the Travancore-Cochin Proclamation came up for extension, I said that the problems of Travancore-Cochin were now brought home to the Treasury Benches. Up to the Prime Minister, every Minister knows what is the great unemployment problem in Travancore-Cochin or Kerala, and what it is capable of. The Ministers know it and, to preserve the unity and integrity of India, they have tried to solve this great problem which has given a sort of frustration. I mentioned last time that in my informal talks with Ministers—I may say, Lobby talks—they have been very very helpful. I have had talks with businessmen also. I have been told that the lack of helpfulness on the part of the

labour leaders—I do not say 'labour'— is standing in the way of more investments and more development schemes. It is not fair to disclose names, but very good people, in whom I have great faith, have told me this. I appeal to my hon. friends of the Opposition; why not let us call a holiday or armistice for the next five years, so that these people who have expressed a willingness to invest are given an opportunity to do so?

Shri A. K. Gopalan: We accept it and ask Shri Matthen to see that initiative is taken on the part of the employers so that development can proceed.

Shri Matthen: I was going to refer to that. I was going to express my appreciation of the talk my hon. friend, Shri A. K. Gopalan, had with me. He said that he was prepared to call a labour truce or armistice—I do not know what is the proper term—so that development could proceed...

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Industrial truce.

Shri Matthen: ...so that there are no strikes or go-slow methods adopted during the period of the Second Five Year Plan. I am very grateful to Shri Gopalan and I thought I owe it to this House and to the Treasury Benches to say that this is the position. Therefore, we are going forward with the economic problems of Kerala with hope.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may go on; it is time to conclude.

Shri Matthen: These people interrupted me.

An Hon. Member: The cashew-nut industry!

Shri A. K. Gopalan: In respect of Dakshina Pradesh, how can that come?

Shri Matthen: I agree, though not entirely, with my friend Shri Sree-kantan Nair that the situation of the cashew industry is critical and it is almost dying. I do not say who is

responsible for it. It is a controversial matter and I do not say who is responsible. But I agree that it is in a very critical position. I know much about the cashew-nut industry. This gives employment to hundreds and thousands of people who would otherwise be unemployed. Otherwise, there would be absolute poverty and these women and children cannot be employed elsewhere. I do not say it has become entirely hopeless. I associate myself with my friend Shri Kottukappally in inviting the hon. Minister to come to Travancore-Cochin (*An Hon. Member: Kerala*) and see if anything can be done. It is a very serious matter and I want to bring home the seriousness of it as one who claims to know something about it.

I was glad something of my constituency was mentioned by my hon. friend Shri Mathew—about the railway line from Tiruvellah to Punalur. That area is a pretty neglected area. Though it may be educationally strong, it is neglected. There are different things like rubber, tea plantation and all that but no communication. The line between Tiruvellah and Punalur connecting the Madras Trivandrum line with the Quilon Ernakulam line will be very helpful in developing that underdeveloped area. That is part of my constituency and I must support that.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Present or future?

Shri Matthen: I hope in future as well, with your good wishes.

There is another matter, a very small matter. It is not a matter for the Kerala Government but it is for the Finance Department here. I saw the hon. Finance Minister a little while ago. I have made representations more than once about the Anchal employees of Travancore-Cochin. We had a postal service known as the Anchal Service which was taken over at the time of Integration. The hon. Home Minister said that he will persuade the Finance Ministry to see that they will get the same salaries as other integrated employees and security conditions etc. It is more than a year.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): It has come.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Nothing.

Shri Matthen: It was said that everything helpful to the poor people would be done. After the financial integration it was said that they would be entitled to the Central scales of pay from 1950. According to the Director-General's orders their bills were prepared and pre-audited and some people got their payment of the old arrears. I want the hon. Minister to listen to me. This is a very important matter. Just like other services in old Travancore-Cochin, which have come into the Central service, they should get the salary from 1950. They got an order from the Director-General and they were getting it; at least some people got it. All of a sudden, comes an order from the Finance Ministry that for one year, 1950-51, the Travancore-Cochin Government was doing the work on an agency basis on behalf of the Central Government and so they are not entitled to that year's increased pay. I cannot understand this. It was on the Central Government accounts. They have drawn the arrears of pay. Now, they are asked to refund it. They are poor people—class III and IV servants—whose salary is not very much. They have drawn it and spent it. It is a very important matter and I am speaking for 2,500 people—all poor people. Under some technical objection, that order is cancelled. It is too small of the Finance Ministry to resort to this objection. I want the hon. Minister to take it seriously and prevail upon the Finance Minister to cancel that order. I know the hon. Finance Minister has got a large heart and when it is brought to him—this ingenuous order of some Under Secretary—he will cancel it.

Shri Datar: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, we have had a four hour debate on the administration in Kerala, former T.C. State. The new State has started only a month ago and so, principally, the criticism was against the administration in the T.C. State. A number of

suggestions were made. Though the general criticism was directed against the President's administration and in respect of the acts and omissions, some hon. friends again raised the inevitable question as to whether President's rule was advisable at all. I would not like to go into that question at this stage. It has already been pointed out that there was no other course for the President to take in respect of the new State of Kerala.

Another point was that the legislature should be revived. That was what, I understood, Shri Gurupadaswamy has said. Will he kindly understand that, when once the legislature has been dissolved, the only way of restoring the legislature is for the electorate to have a general election? Then the legislature would come to function and then there would be popular cabinet. Until that is done, it is not possible, by executive action on the part of the President, to revive the legislature....

Shri Velayudhan: According to the Constitution, the proclamation can be revoked.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. That point had been discussed.

Shri Datar: The proclamation may be revoked but it will not have the effect of restoring the legislature; let the hon. Member understand it correctly. It can be only by a general election. So, it is no longer possible to revive the dissolved legislature; a new legislature would come into being after the general elections. This is so far as the constitutional point is concerned.

Then, another question was raised, namely, that the Governor should have an advisory body to help him in an advisory capacity in respect of the Governor's functions. To this my answer is that it is not the Governor's rule but the President's rule and the President carries on administration with the advice of the Consultative Committee of the Members of Parliament. Therefore, it is quite likely that, if an advisory body were to be associated with the Governor, a conflict

might arise between the advice tendered by the advisory body to the Governor and the advice tendered by the Consultative Committee of the Members of Parliament to the President. That is the reason why such a course might not be practicable at this stage.

Shri Kamath: Not convincing.

Shri Datar: Other questions also have been raised. My friend Shri V. P. Nayar went to the extent of saying, or accusing the Government that not only no good has been done so far as the President's rule is concerned but that the position has been worsened. I am quite sure that all these expressions are only from a party alignment and not from conviction.

Shri V. P. Nayar: No, no.

Shri Datar: I am not prepared to make very large claims so far as the achievements of the President's rule are concerned, but I would state here with all the emphasis that I have that the administration has improved to a very considerable extent and, as some hon. Members have stated, the efficiency is now to a larger extent than what it was formerly. There were certain inherent difficulties so far as the administration in Travancore-Cochin was concerned. The administration had naturally developed a very large extent of centralisation, and at the district level powers had not been delegated by the Secretariat. Most of the powers were in the Secretariat itself. All these questions had to be solved. The House will surely understand that if the present Government wants not merely a law and order Government or a police State but a welfare State for which we have to undertake various schemes for bringing about welfare so far as the public are concerned, then our administrative machinery should be of such a nature that it could bear the strain of carrying out numerous schemes for the welfare of the public. That is the reason why under the present system a larger measure of efficiency is absolutely essential and, naturally,

that efficiency must be at all levels, at the Secretariat level as also the district level. That is why when the Adviser took over as an agent of the President he met with all these difficulties and he had to give a very great measure of attention to the whole question of re-organisation and also the question of decentralisation. That is the reason why a considerable time had to be taken in respect of these problems. Now we are coming to a time when the administrative machinery has been fully geared up, and I am quite confident that during the next four or five months of the current year all the money that has been budgeted will have been fully spent.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Somehow.

Shri Datar: My friend Shri A. K. Gopalan pointed out that a sum of Rs. 16 crores had been budgeted for the current year while only Rs. 4 crores had been spent. I am quite confident that, if he took into account the various factors that worked for some delay in this respect, he will understand that Government are not responsible for it. In fact, we are anxious to spend as much as possible, and I would assure my friend Shri Gopalan that before this year is out we shall have spent the whole amount of Rs. 16 crores.

It will be found that towards the end of March this year the President took over the administration. Then about two months elapsed before the budget could be placed before the Parliament and the budget could be passed.

Then, the peculiar conditions of the coastal area have also to be taken into account. There are two monsoons, and during this period, it is very difficult to spend money or to carry out or implement projects. My hon. friend is surely aware of all these natural difficulties or impediments, but for reasons which are his own, he did not consider this question at all.

Shri Velayudhan rose.

Shri Datar: Let the hon. Member sit down. He has had his say.

Shri Velayudhan: The hon. Minister cannot ask me to sit down. Sir, on a point of order.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Whether there is a point of order or not should be decided by the Chair. Whether the hon. Minister had the right to say that another hon. Member should sit down is also a question for my decision. But the hon. Member himself provoked the hon. Minister. He first committed the mistake. Why did he get up and put the question before I had permitted him?

Shri Velayudhan: The Home Minister is not a police officer.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member himself was responsible for it.

Shri Datar: When I am developing a certain point, if unnecessarily some interruptions are there, then the chain is broken. Let not the hon. Member interrupt me.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But, if interruption alone is the objective,—?

Shri Datar: I was submitting that it was not possible for the Government or for the President to spend more money than what could be done. It will be found that by the end of September, about Rs. 2 crores had been spent. Between June and September, roughly about Rs. 2 crores had been spent. In the course of one month, namely, October, 1956, about Rs. 2 crores have been spent. Therefore, I would submit to my hon. friend that there has been no slowing down of the process of implementation of the various schemes, and the Government are anxious to spend all the money that they have, because they are aware that this money has got to be spent.

In this connection, I would invite the hon. Members' attention to page 25 of the brochure, *President's Rule in Travancore-Cochin*. There, it would be found that so far as the Five Year Plan is concerned, certain amounts have been allocated to different sub-

jects. For the first year, that is, 1956-57, we have taken a larger amount than one-fifth of the total amount, because a larger amount has got to be spent. Therefore, out of Rs. 71 crores, we have Rs. 16.17 crores, and I assure my hon. friends that all this amount will have to be spent. Perhaps, if it becomes necessary, and if there has been a proper re-adjustment so far as the programme of the Five Year Plan in respect of Malabar is concerned, we shall have to spend more. So much for the question of non-spending of money, as contended by some hon. friends.

Then, a number of hon. Members contended that the interests of Malabar were not properly looked after. So far as Malabar is concerned, it is a fairly large area, and it has now come under the State of Kerala. It came under the State of Kerala only on 1st November 1956, and until now, we had to gather information from the Madras Government. That has been done, and Rs. 15 crores is the amount that, according to the Madras Government, represents the amount for Malabar. As some hon. Members said, the amount ought to be larger, as large as Rs. 45 crores. But that is a question which the Government of India or the President would consider in consultation with the Planning Commission, and naturally, with the Madras Government also. The interests of Malabar are quite safe in the hands of the President so far as the present administration is concerned; and so far as the long-term programmes are concerned, to the extent that they are not attended to by the President, I am confident that the popular rule would give very great attention to the claims of Malabar, because Malabar is not a small area. It has a population of 50 lakhs. Therefore, Malabar's interest would be fully looked after by the President so long as his rule is there over Kerala, and thereafter by the popular Government. An hon. friend made a distinction between North Malabar and South Malabar. So far as South Malabar is concerned, there are certain natural difficulties which are such that major irrigation schemes

cannot be taken up for North Malabar. All the same, it is absolutely essential that other minor irrigation works will have to be taken into account. Already, there are a number of schemes for South Malabar which will be taken into account. One particular scheme was referred to by one hon. Member. I want to point out that that question has got to be examined in consultation with the Government of Mysore. That also, I am confident, will be done in due course.

Then, the question was raised regarding pay scales. So far as the pay scales of N.G.Os. are concerned—my hon. friends from the North may not understand this term; it means non-gazetted officers—that matter also will be considered. But I may point out that the pay scales of N.G.Os. in the lower grades in the T.C. State are better when compared with the Malabar area. The rates of D.A. are also higher. The question of bringing about uniformity in this matter is under consideration.

Another question was raised regarding the pay scales of village officers at the lowest level. They are the same as in the Malabar District or in the west of Madras State. On the question of revision of pay scales in general, I should like to point that some committee was appointed a few years ago. In certain parts of Kerala State, there are higher pay scales in some respects and lower scales in others. Uniformity of pay scales will have to be the objective of the Kerala Government. The question will surely be tackled, if not by the President, at least by the popular Government. Therefore, let not the hon. Members have any misgivings about this question.

A very great controversy has been raised regarding the abolition of the Bench of the High Court at Trivandrum. Let us consider the whole position very calmly and dispassionately. After the integration of the two States to form the Union of Travancore-Cochin, we had the T.C. High Court. On account of the agreements between those two States, the capital of the

State was at Trivandrum and the High Court was located at Ernakulam. Subsequently it was found that there was considerable work and in 1953-54 a special Act of Parliament was passed according to which there was a permanent Bench located at Trivandrum. This is the history. This Bench was meant for the benefit of the Trivandrum district. This southern district of the T.C. State had a population of about 21 lakhs before re-organisation. After reorganisation, four taluks from this district, having a population of 8 lakhs have been transferred to Madras. Thus, you will find that if a permanent Bench is to be kept up at Trivandrum, then the area for which this High Court will serve will have a population of only 13 lakhs. The total population of the Kerala State is 1,35,00,000.

An Hon. Member: It is 1,36,00,000.

Shri Datar: For a small area with a small population of 13 lakhs, if a separate Bench is to be maintained, what would be the repercussions, so far as Malabar is concerned? That is why, on merits, it is very difficult to agree that there ought to be a permanent Bench at the southern-most district in the Kerala State, namely, Trivandrum. Therefore, I submit that, unfortunately, there was a lot of agitation. Under the States Reorganisation Act, the Travancore-Cochin High Court was abolished. If the High Court is abolished, naturally, the Bench or Benches also go. Therefore it is that this Bench had to disappear on the 1st of November. It is only for this reason that the Bench had to be abolished because it had to be done under the States Reorganisation Act.

Apart from this question, let us consider whether on merits we can maintain a permanent Bench at Trivandrum. That is a question which I should leave to the hon. Members to consider absolutely dispassionately. The next question is whether there ought to be a temporary Bench. The agitating classes would not be satisfied with a temporary Bench though that question will be considered by the

Chief Justice and the Governor together. If I mistake not, in section 51 of the States Reorganisation Act, we have provision in sub-section (3) that, when there are arrears of work, it would be open to the Chief Justice with the approval of the Governor to establish a Circuit Court or a temporary Bench of the High Court at any place that he likes. This is a question to which reference has been made by the Governor in his interview and that question is being pursued quite independently.

Shri Nettur P. Damodaran: Will the claims of Malabar be considered in this connection?

Shri Datar: That is what I am pointing out. That is the natural repercussion. The larger question whether there ought to be a Bench for the Malabar area is a question which can be considered in due course, either by the President or by the future Government. Ultimately, the President has to take action. At this stage, I am not prepared to say anything on that. Now, I am merely requesting the House to consider on merits whether there is a strong case for the establishment of a permanent Bench at Trivandrum, which is the southernmost district and the jurisdiction of which is confined to only 13 lakhs of people. Assuming for the sake of argument—I am not accepting this position—that it is necessary, the case for Malabar becomes irresistible. In these circumstances, the question of the permanent Bench of the Kerala High Court, will be considered in due course. In view of what the Governor has said, the question that is being pursued is whether there ought to be a temporary Bench or a Circuit Court at Trivandrum for the time being. The number of cases is not also many. After the transfer of the four taluks, the cases pending on 31st October 1956, before the abolition of the Trivandrum Bench, were 375. This number includes all the cases, including matters which could be disposed of very soon. In these circumstances, I was very unhappy at the manner in which the various

classes of people including lawyers carried on the agitation, not necessarily in a dignified way.

Shri V. P. Nayar: We invite you to speak to the people.

Shri Datar: I am sure if the correct side is placed before the people, they will appreciate the position. For example, there is the case that the question can be considered on merits. After all, we must understand what has happened correctly. Public leaders, in particular, must take courage in both hands and point out the unpalatable fact to the public and the agitators as well. Merely because there is an agitation, merely because some classes of people or certain vested interests are carrying on some agitation, it would be entirely wrong to submit to every cry of the agitator. After the Governor's intervention, to the extent that he did, agitation has ceased. I am quite confident, in view of the very large literacy in Travancore-Cochin or Kerala, that along with literacy, there will be a greater degree of a sense of responsibility so far as such public questions are concerned.

So so far as this question is concerned, let us leave it at that.

Something was stated about industrialisation. Government are trying their best to see to it that proper industrialisation takes place and becomes one of the important factors in the life of Kerala. This question has got to be attended to, and I am quite confident that it will be duly attended to.

In this respect, some steps have already been taken so far as the Government of India are concerned. They have approved the starting of two major workshops in Kerala during the current year, mainly intended to provide employment to educated unemployed. The two major workshops would be at Thiruvellah and Ettumanur. One of these workshops is for the manufacture of electric motors and the other, for the manufacture of hand tools and small machine tools. Then there are four small workshops

at four other places. The first stage in respect of each of them will have been completed during the current year.

Shri Matthen: What has been done so far about the workshops?

Shri Datar: All these schemes have been approved of, and the first stage will be completed before the end of this year.

Shri Matthen: Something concrete.

Shri Datar: This is more than concrete. There will be about three stages, and the first stage will have been completed during the current year. The total expenditure may run into a number of lakhs—it might be more than Rs. 25 or 30 lakhs so far as the first stage in all these projects is concerned. This is in addition to what has been mentioned in the brochure. Therefore, I emphasise that we are doing all that is possible.

Lastly, we should also understand one point. President's rule has naturally certain limitations. The object of President's rule is to maintain stability or to maintain conditions that would work for stability. Secondly, the administrative machinery has to be strengthened. Then we hope to hand over to the popular Government which will work very well so far as further work is concerned.

I think two hon. Members—Shri A. K. Gopalan and Shri V. P. Nayar—referred to land reforms. They are a fairly controversial matter. I should like to point out that at the time the last Assembly of Travancore-Cochin met, there was a Bill before it dealing with land ceilings etc. It had been introduced in the last session of the legislature before it was dissolved. If I remember aright, it was merely introduced and nothing further was done.

Shri A. M. Thomas: It was pending before the Select Committee when the legislature was dissolved.

Shri Datar: Did they submit a report?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The Select Committee did not submit a report.

Shri V. P. Nayar: But the Minister gave an assurance to the Select Committee.

Shri Datar: Fixation of ceiling for existing holdings and restrictions on acquisition and possession raise difficult problems. They are under examination. We are prepared to tackle all these problems, but then my hon. friends opposite would come round and say that we have absolutely no right to tackle such controversial and far-reaching problems. All the same, as I pointed out, we are examining them, to the extent that it is possible to do so. Out of 20 or 22 Acts that were before the state legislature was dissolved, already the President has promulgated 11 pieces of legislation or Bills. Thus, you will find that we are trying our best to improve the tone of administration, to do whatever is possible, consistently with the limits ordinarily placed upon the President's administration.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The hon. Minister stated that certain land reforms were introduced. May I know what those land reforms are?

Shri Datar: What I stated was this, that we are considering certain questions and we shall take up those questions to the extent that we consider that the President's rule can take them up. That is a matter which we have to understand. It is possible for us to have something done as we have already done. All the same, within a short time, I am hoping that a popular Ministry would take over before one year is out. We shall, therefore, try to do whatever is possible. But, I should reply to my hon. friend that we have not worsened the situation at all.

An Hon. Member: Question.

Shri Datar: I am quite confident that but for party alignments my hon. friend Shri Nayar would help us. I know he is generally very earnest. I should like to submit that we are trying our best to see to it that the...

Shri A. K. Gopalan: The hon. Minister said that as far as the Opposition is concerned, they were saying that the Government should not take up the question as far as land reforms are concerned. I assure him that as far as the drastic land reforms are concerned, the Opposition will never say that you should not do it. Even though there is no legislature there, we say that it is always welcome and there would be no question of opposition.

Shri Datar: There is a new factor in our favour and we shall try to take advantage of it as far as possible. We have to take into account also the complexity of the problem.

Shri Velayudhan: The opposition is not here; it is there.

Shri Datar: As Shri Gopalan assures, if there is a general desire we shall go to the extent that is possible. All the hon. Members will be Members of the Consultative Committee in a week's time and, therefore all these questions will be considered. We are in the hands of the Consultative Committee.

I have made reply to a number of points. I would say again that we have not worsened the Administration.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Why repeat it?

Shri Datar: I repeat it and I am going to repeat it because it is a very serious accusation which I am confident my hon. friend did not mean. I see it from the manner in which he wants me not to proceed with this.

Shri Punnoose: May I ask one question, about the reorganisation of the districts in Travancore-Cochin?

Shri Datar: My hon. friend has suggested that we should form some more districts and one at Alleppey. If I mistake not, that question will be fully examined. So far as the administration is concerned, we ought to take

into account one factor that when new districts are formed—as we are going to form 3 districts in the present Malabar—there should be unanimity of opinion amongst hon. Members. That question will naturally be taken up as soon as possible, viz., that 3 districts will be formed with 3 different capitals, and the public offices in Tellicherry will be maintained to the extent possible. So far as that question is concerned, there is no alternative at all. But, I should point out to this House that the creation of 3 districts in place of one would involve a recurring expenditure of Rs. 2 lakhs. That is a point which the hon. Members should also take into account. But, so far as the question of Alleppey is concerned, we will deal with it and examine that question from the different points of view.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: What about the *anjal* staff?

Shri Datar: So far as this last question is concerned, now that my hon. friend has just pointed out that question to me I shall look into the matter.

Shri Achuthan: What about the cashew-nut industry and the critical situation now?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What about this question that I am going to put before you now?

The question is:

"That this House approves the Proclamation issued by the President on the 1st November, 1956, under article 356 of the Constitution, in relation to the State of Kerala."

The motion was adopted.

5-46 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, the 4th December, 1956.