

## (Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

## OFFICIAL REPORT

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## HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Tuesday, 9th December, 1952

*The House met at a Quarter to Eleven  
of the Clock*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

11-45 A.M.

## MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

## CYCLONE IN TAMILNAD

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Deputy Minister of Home Affairs will now make a statement regarding the adjournment motion relating to havoc caused by the recent cyclone in Tamilnad.

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** On Saturday last, Government promised to make a statement to the House about the damage caused in Tamilnad by the recent cyclone. Since then the matter has been taken up in the Madras Legislative Assembly and the Chief Minister made a detailed statement in that Assembly yesterday. I propose to circulate to the Members of the House copies of that statement tomorrow. In the meanwhile I proceed to give a summary of the latest information available to us. In view, however, of the fact that communications have been interrupted in certain areas, the statement is not quite complete. Also, I understand that it has been raining heavily in parts of Tamilnad since Sunday night and this might have caused some further damage.

On the morning of Sunday, the 30th November, a cyclonic storm of great velocity struck the South-East coast of Madras State and passed inland. Cyclonic weather is not unusual at this time of the year in that part of India but it appears to have been exceptionally severe on the present occasion. There was heavy rain from about 9 A.M. to 10 P.M. The cyclone was followed by a tidal wave and reports

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from more than one coastal town in the affected area refer to flooding by sea-water.

The affected area consists mainly of Tanjore and Tirrucharapally districts. The storm blew off roofs of houses, uprooted trees, and caused collapse of dwelling houses. Although most of the latter were mud houses and weak structures, quite a number of pucca buildings were damaged including a tuberculosis sanatorium which sustained serious damage. 169 persons have died and a number of persons have also been injured. Some 7 to 8 thousand heads of cattle have been lost, so far as has been ascertained at present.

Paddy, the main crop of the area, is reported to have been generally saved, but a five-mile belt of paddy along the Nagapatam coast has been destroyed. All reports agree that the greatest damage was suffered by coconut groves and plantain gardens. A final report as to the extent of damage is expected in the next few days.

Road communications were cut off on the 30th November but most of the main roads were restored by the 5th of December. Railway track was obstructed by fallen trees, telegraph and telephone wires damaged, and signalling posts badly twisted both on the main line (Villupuram-Cuddalore-Mayavaram-Trichinopoly Sections) as well as on the chord and branch lines. The obstruction was cleared and the tracks restored in most places by the 2nd and now the tracks yet to be restored are only two. It has been raining since Sunday night. A passenger train capsized on its side at Koyilvenni station but fortunately there was no casualty or injury to any person. Six loaded wagons derailed between Tiruturaipundi-Arangangi but no one was injured. The railway authorities have taken emergency measures for granting relief to their staff and their families by rushing food wherever it is essential, by placing premises at the

[Shri Datar]

disposal of the homeless and by granting advance of pay to the staff badly affected. Telegraph and telephone communications which were badly affected in the area hit by the cyclones were restored rapidly and, in fact, the telecommunication position was practically normal two days ago.

Local officials are taking active steps to arrange immediate relief by way of feeding the poor and the provision of shelter for the homeless. Building materials are being distributed. Non-official relief Committees have been formed in some towns and a District Cyclone Relief Committee is being formed in Tanjore. The State Government have authorised the Collectors to incur expenditure on relief measures; and in view of the nature of the emergency have delegated to them the widest possible discretion. It is clear that the Government of Madras and local non-official associations are dealing with the situation in an energetic manner.

**Kumarj Annie Mascarene** (Tri-vandrum): In view of the magnitude of the havoc caused by the cyclone has the Central Government given any relief to the State Government?

**Shri Datar:** It is for the State Government to ask for any aid but they have not asked for any aid from the Central Government.

**Shri Vallatharas** (Pudukkottai) rose—

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I will not allow any argument. The hon. Member may kindly resume his seat. I adjourned it for the purpose of enabling the hon. Minister to gather sufficient information regarding this matter and placing it before the House. No doubt a serious hardship has been caused and the matter is being tackled properly by the State Government. It is the primary function of the State Government and whatever help is asked for from the Central Government, it will be certainly given by the Central Government in consultation with the Provincial Government. I will not allow any adjournment motion on this ground and no further discussion over this matter is necessary. The House now will proceed with.....

**Shri Nambiar** (Mayuram): I am also a signatory of the adjournment motion. I have got a report from Golden Rock that about 2,000 railway workers' quarters are affected, they have lost all their properties and no relief is given to them. It is the concern of the Central Government. Apart from the help offered by the State Government, I want to know whether any-

thing more can be done not only to the losses sustained by the farmers, etc., in Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts but also to the railway workers' properties. In view of these facts, will the Central Government give some relief to these people?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The statement read out by the hon. Deputy Minister of Home Affairs says:

"The railway authorities have taken emergency measures for granting relief to their staff and their families by rushing food wherever it is essential, by placing premises at the disposal of the homeless and by granting advance of pay to the staff badly affected."

If anything more is necessary, certainly all those matters will be considered by the railway authorities and from the manner in which they have tackled this situation already it is clear that they will not be behind any others in rushing to their aid.

**Shri Vallatharas:** The havoc caused is to the extent of 15 lakhs in Pudukkottai constituency. May I know whether the Central Government has been furnished with any information from the State as to the total amount that has so far been given during these 9 days as relief to the local people.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Barring the statement that has been made, they are trying to handle the situation.

**Shri Vallatharas:** May I know what the State Government has done?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Hon. Members as representatives in the Provincial Legislature are equally anxious about this. I will not allow any more matter to be discussed.

**Shri Nambiar:** What has happened to the motion.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** That motion is disallowed. It is a State subject. There are representatives of the people in the State as we are here. They are sufficiently strong to take care of themselves. Inasmuch as it is an extraordinary situation where both the Central Government and the State Government have to consult and collaborate, I allowed this matter to be placed before the House. The hon. Deputy Minister of Home Affairs has made a statement with respect to all the matters that have been raised and is willing to place such other material that he has before the House. Under these circumstances, it is unnecessary to pursue this matter,

The Government is equally anxious to do its best in this regard.

**Shri Amjad Ali** (Goalpara-Garo Hills): On a point of order. I tabled an adjournment motion and I am to be informed what has happened to it.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Regarding the Adjournment motion, hon. Member must bear in mind that so far as adjournment motions are concerned, copies of the motion must be handed over to the Speaker, the Minister concerned and the Secretary and if the Speaker has given his consent, then, it can be brought to the notice of the House. The Speaker may find that it is not necessary to give his consent at all in which case it cannot be referred to the House. This is apart from the admissibility. The rule 60 says that a motion for adjournment of the business of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance may be made with the consent of the Speaker.

**Shri Sarmah** (Goalghat-Jorhat) rose—

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. I have already indicated here that so far as the particular matter is concerned, if before the adjournment motion was tabled, there are questions relating to that matter and which are coming up by way of discussion for half an hour, as in this matter, an adjournment motion is not necessary. I said, it is not a matter of recent occurrence. The matter has already been brought to the notice of the House and a separate half an hour has been devoted for discussion of that matter. Therefore, I need not give my consent. It is not necessary. It is only a repetition.

**Shri Sarmah:** May I, with your leave, invite the attention of the Government to a very urgent matter in connection with the same matter.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** No, no.

**Shri Sarmah:** I got the telegram last night.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have not given my consent to the adjournment motion. I am not going to allow this motion without even the adjournment motion.

**Shri Sarmah:** This is a different matter.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There may be many matters. The hon. Member can tell me what exactly it is. I cannot interrupt the proceedings of the House. I must go by the Order Paper. There are various items to be gone through today. Now, legislative business.

## IRON AND STEEL COMPANIES AMALGAMATION BILL

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Further consideration of the Bill. Clause by clause discussion will now take place.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 4 to 6 were added to the Bill.

Clause 7.—(Terms of transfer)

**Shri N. Somana** (Coorg): I beg to move:

In page 2, lines 47 and 49,—

for "for" substitute "of the value of".

**Shri A. C. Guha** (Santipur): I have an amendment, No. 7.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am coming to that later.

**Shri N. Somana:** The sentence as it stands is not very clear.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari**): It is only a verbal amendment. Instead of 'for' he wants the words 'of the value of'. It means the same thing.

12 Noon

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is felt that it is not necessary. There is no difference in substance. It is one of form. The form as it stands is equally intelligible.

**Shri N. Somana:** The clause says, ".....four ordinary shares for rupees ten each.....". The language would be better if it reads ".....four ordinary shares of the value of rupees ten each.....".

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Not necessary; it is after all a verbal amendment.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh** (Gorakhpur Distt.—South): I want to move that in section 8.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We are on clause 7 now.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I beg to move:

In page 3, after line 25, insert,—

"Provided that the Central Government in consultation with the Tariff Commission shall have the power to convert the preference shares into ordinary shares within three years from the appointed day."

My only submission is that in such an important industry, preferential shares should not be allowed to continue