

[Shri Datar]

vants, but in the interests of the Government administration itself.

**Shri Punnoose:** May I seek a clarification?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Sufficient clarification has been given,

**Shri Punnoose:** Has the hon. Minister information with him to show what percentage of the money is going to be spent on housing of the lower grades of officers?

**Shri Datar:** I have got a long list. I do not like to tire the House by giving all that. I shall mention to the hon. Member.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** All those items need not be given: What share or percentage of the money is going to be spent for class IV officers?

**Shri Datar:** More than half of the amount is being spent—I am giving it generally so far as constables, head constables and others are concerned.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I think no hon. Member has any objection to all these cut motions being put together. I shall now put all the cut motions to the vote of the House.

*All the cut motions were negatived.*

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

"That the separate supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Travancore-Cochin to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of the following Demands entered in the second column thereof:

Demands Nos. XIX, XXV and XXXVII."

*The motion was adopted.* \*

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

#### DEMAND NO. XIX—PUBLIC HEALTH

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 19,000 be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Travancore-Cochin to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of 'public Health'."

#### DEMAND NO. XXV—LABOUR AND MISCELLANEOUS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,12,000 be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Travancore-Cochin to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of 'Labour and Miscellaneous'."

#### DEMAND NO. XXXVII—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CIVIL WORKS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 100 be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Travancore-Cochin to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of 'Capital outlay on Civil Works'."

#### STANDARDS OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL

**The Minister of Consumer Industries (Shri Kanungo):** Sir, the motion for referring the Bill to establish standards of weights and measures based on the metric system to a Joint Committee consisting of Members of both the Houses was moved

formally and I have the privilege of commending the motion to the House

I believe the matter has been discussed on various occasions and I do not have much to say on it. As early as 1955, this House accepted a Resolution moved by Shri Achuthan to the effect that "this House is of opinion that the Government should take necessary steps to introduce uniform weights and measures throughout the country based on the metric system." In obedience to the Resolution which has been accepted by the House, Government have taken certain steps which I will mention. One of the most important steps which is necessary is to lay down standards on the metric system. Parliament, according to the Constitution, has the right to lay down the standards. Their application and supervision will be in the hands of the States. But I beg to submit that until and unless the standard is laid down by legislation, it is difficult for other steps to be taken. To that extent I need not detain the House much longer in submitting arguments which are already in the records of the debates of the House. I would merely submit that the placing of this particular Bill in the statute-book is only the beginning of the work which Parliament has directed the Government to undertake.

I see that there are motions for referring the Bill for circulation to elicit public opinion. I very humbly submit that there is no necessity for it as such. The matter has been discussed, of course fitfully, for almost one hundred years. As a matter of fact, in 1870 legislation incorporating the metric system as the standard of weights and measures in this country was passed and was on the statute-book till it was repealed in 1939 or so, but lately the matter has been discussed very widely in the press and in other related spheres and the Planning Commission have given ample thought to it. A memorandum recording all the steps and discus-

sions on the subject has been circulated to the Members of this House and the other House as well. Therefore, I do not want to cover the ground which has been covered already.

I merely mention that we envisage a transition period which certainly is going to be a difficult period because any change in the *status quo* is certainly not pleasant. The period of changeover is expected to be between ten and fifteen years, and it will be a phased programme. The programme when it is to be undertaken will be placed before the House as and when necessary to ask for legislative powers or funds. Suffice it to say at the moment that there is a special administrative committee appointed by the Government of India to work out the different steps that are necessary.

I may mention in this connection that all the State Governments and all the commercial bodies have been consulted and without exception their views have been in support of the programme, that is, the decision of the Government that the standards of weights and measures should be based upon the metric system. Apart from providing the standards which should be obtained from international organisations and duplicated in the mints, ample provision has got to be made for the supply of the required weights and measures as and when the programme gathers momentum.

In connection with the Bill which the House has passed regarding coinage and currency, this matter has also been debated and as it was mentioned during the debate in connection with the resolution of Shri Achuthan, the first step, that is the changeover to the decimal system in currency and coinage has been already approved and will come into operation within a few months. To bring it into line it is certainly necessary that the weights and measures should also follow suit.

[Shri Kanungo]

It is a fact that today we have a multiplicity of weights and measures. Competent authorities like the National Sample Survey have recorded as many as 143 different systems of measurements and weights, 150 of volume and 160 of land areas. None of the existing systems is possible of adoption as such throughout the country apart from the fact that none of them is reasonably scientific, it is also an established fact that the metric system is the only scientific system and has been adopted by almost all the countries of the world, and it is particularly necessary that we should adopt it as quickly as possible so that we can avoid those conditions under which one of the major countries, that is the United Kingdom, finds it difficult to change over. It will be interesting to know, and it has been mentioned in this House also, that commissions in the United Kingdom have suggested the adoption of the metric system, but the very fact that they did not take the step early enough is a handicap to them, because a large amount of industrial equipment and machinery has got to be changed over, but the fact remains that competent commissions in the United Kingdom have suggested the changeover. Therefore it is specially necessary that when we are embarking upon the first phase of industrialisation in our country, we should have the changeover soon enough so that we may not face the handicap which is certainly likely when we have to change over from one to the other. Apart from it, when the standards, that is weights and measures of volume, lineal, square, liquid and all the rest of it, are streamlined on one system and with the adopted system of decimals in our country, calculations would become much easier. Personally I am attracted to the idea inasmuch as arithmetic for the younger generation will be much more simplified.

Sometimes it has been said that in a vast country like this any change will be difficult and will be resisted because the so-called illiterate and

backward people will find themselves in difficulty. I beg to submit that the people who are said to be illiterate, backward and so on are far from that condition. They are the most intelligent people you can come across. It is within the knowledge of the Members of the House that for land measurements, the acre-cent system has now become an accepted standard in our country, and this changeover took place without any conscious programme for its acceptance. So, I have not the least doubt that provided it is explained properly, and the programme is phased, so that there will be the least dislocation, the new standards will be adopted much earlier than we can imagine.

The Bill, as presented to the House, merely lays down the standards and also the provisions for the transitional period, besides some enabling provisions which are necessary for making the changeover.

In this connection, I might mention that after very careful consideration, the committee which has been constituted by Government has come to the conclusion that the nomenclature should be the international nomenclature. It has got the approval of competent organisations like the Board of Terminology of the Education Ministry, and also a special sub-committee of the committee.

To say that any of the existing terms should be adopted and new values given to them will create more confusion. In any case, the international terminology is very simple, and easy to pronounce. Just as the acre has become a current term in our country, I hope, the new nomenclature also will become current, for it is easy to understand, easy to remember, and easy to separate.

Therefore, I submit that the motion which I have moved may be accepted. In any case, the Joint Committee which consists of 30 Members from this House and 15 from the other House will have an opportunity of vetting it, and I hope that after passing the Joint Committee stage,

the Bill will be improved when and where it is necessary.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That the Bill to establish standards of weights and measures based on the metric system be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 45 Members; 30 from this House, namely, Shri R. D. Misra, Shri P. T. Thanu Pillai, Shri Bhagwat Jha 'Azad', Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan, Shri M. Muthukrishnan, Shri U. R. Bogawat, Shri Akbar Chavda, Shri M. B. Vaishya, Shri Ganpati Ram, Shri Sunder Lall, Shri A. R. Sewal, Shri Khub Chand Sodhia, Shri S. R. Telkikar, Shri Bhagu Nandu Malvia, Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta, Sardar T. S. Akarpuri, Shri C. R. Dasappa, Shri L. J. Singh, Shri K. T. Achuthan, **Shri Kamal Krishna Das**, Shri Birendranath Katham, Shri Bhawani Singh, Shri N. R. M. Swamy, Shri Badam Yella Reddy, Shri H. N. Mukerjee, Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy, Shri R. N. Singh, Shri Nand Lal Sharma, Shri Kailash Pati Sinha and Shri Nityanand Kanungo

and 15 members from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the 20th November, 1956;

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees will apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names

of members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

There are some amendments to this motion. One of them is in the name of Shri K. C. Sodhia. Does the hon. Member intend to move it?

**Shri K. C. Sodhia (Sagar):** Yes.

**Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour):** He is a Member of the Joint Committee. How can he move it?

**Shri Ramachandra Reddy (Nellore):** I have also given notice of a similar amendment.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Does the hon. Member intend to move his amendment?

**Shri Ramachandra Reddy:** Yes.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** But dates have not been specified in both the amendments. By what time do the hon. Members want that opinion should be elicited?

**Shri K. K. Basu:** Not in this Parliament.

**Shri Kamath (Hoshangabad):** That may be stated, when the hon. Member moves his motion.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I want to know the dates, so that the House might have a discussion on the original motion as well as the amendments thereto.

Now, the time allotted for this is 3 hours....

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** I would like to suggest 31st December, 1956 as the date.

**Some Hon. Members:** Too long.

**Shri Kamath:** On a point of order. Is it open to a Member of a Joint Committee or a Select Committee to ask for circulation of a Bill, after he has accepted a seat on the Joint Committee or the Select Committee on that Bill? Is that in order?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Let the hon. Member make the motion and then I shall see

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I am not in the Joint Committee, at any rate. The date I would suggest is 1st January 1957.

**Shri Kamath:** That is New Year's day. Anyhow, not before this Parliament.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Shri K. C. Sodhia has accepted his inclusion in the Joint Committee. Therefore, he cannot make his motion now.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** I would like to move my amendment rather than sit on the Joint Committee.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** That is not a choice that is left to me to put to the hon. Member. When the hon. Member's name was read out in the original motion, some days ago, he ought to have objected to it. But he has accepted the inclusion. If he wants to resign now, that is a different matter.

Anyhow, Shri Ramachandra Reddi's amendment does stand, and is in order.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** I am not against the principle of the Bill, and therefore, I think I need not resign from the Joint Committee. But I can press my motion for circulation for eliciting public opinion.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon):** May I submit that there is no inconsistency in pressing the motion for circulation and accepting the membership of the Joint Committee? After all, a person who accepts the inclusion of his name as a Member may only be said to have been committed to the principle of the Bill. But a person who gives notice of a motion for circulation may or may not be committed or he may accept the commitment, so far as the principle of the Bill is concerned. But he is not barred from giving that motion. I can understand that in the case of a Member who is a Member of a Select Committee, there may be a bar against his speaking, by convention. But so far as this matter is concerned

also, the Chair has been pleased to waive it many a time.

Therefore, my submission is that the mere fact that a Member has given a motion for circulation does not debar him from being a Member of the Select Committee or the Joint Committee. I do not know whether the hon. Member Shri K. C. Sodhia had accepted the membership of the Joint Committee, before his name was read out, because we find that usually, Government put in the names without consulting the Members. The hon. Member is even prepared to forego the right of his being a Member on the Joint Committee, and he wants to give his reasons why this Bill should be circulated. The mere fact that his name has been given by Government or the Government whip does not mean that he has been consulted and he has accepted the membership. When the hon. Member himself says that he did not accept it, there is no reason to think that he was asked.

**Shri Kanungo:** He has not said so.

**Sardar A. S. Saigal (Bilaspur):** He has already expressed his view.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava has said that that matter is a different one, namely that when a Member is put on the Select Committee, he is not allowed to speak.

I also observe that that is quite distinct from the present position. A Member is included in the Joint Committee. That is one Motion. Then there is a Motion for circulation for eliciting public opinion. That is quite a distinct one. He can choose one, not both. When his name was included in the Joint Committee, he ought to have objected. He has that choice even now. He may withdraw from the Joint Committee and move his Motion for circulation for eliciting public opinion. But when he accepts to work on the Committee, he should not have the option to move a different Motion also at the same time. Therefore, unless he withdraws from

the Joint Committee and expresses his intention to move his Motion, I cannot allow him to move his Motion. He cannot have both. He should choose one. If he withdraws from the Committee, I can allow him to move his Motion. Otherwise, he is at perfect liberty to speak when Shri Ramachandra Reddi's Motion is moved. If he wants to speak only, he will have that choice of speaking.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** May I respectfully point out that the Mover of a Bill, in ordinary cases, first of all moves a Motion in this House that the Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion? Afterwards, he himself may make a motion for reference to a Select Committee. Then afterwards, he himself may move that the Bill be taken into consideration. So these two motions, reference to a Joint Committee and circulation for eliciting public opinion, are not inconsistent with each other. As a matter of fact, the same Member who moves one Motion may also move the other Motion.

My submission is that even if he moves this Motion, he ought not to be debarred from being a Member of the Committee, because after all, in both cases, the person may be committed to the principle of the Bill. I may accept the principle and yet I may want that public opinion may be elicited. There is nothing wrong about it.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** These are two different things so far as I can see. If the same Member moves a Motion for eliciting public opinion and subsequently for reference to Select Committee, there are two different stages at different times. Now, at one and the same time, he cannot have both. He has to choose one. I have said that already. I differ from Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava in this respect.

So may I know whether Shri K. C. Sodhia elects to move his Motion by

withdrawing from the Joint Committee?—I find he does not.

Then there was a reference made by Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava that when the hon. Minister moved that Motion, it was not to be presumed that every Member had given his consent. That is exactly what I mean to say. It is presumed that he has given his consent. When his name was read out, he ought to have got up and said that his consent had not been taken. So when a Motion is moved, it is presumed that every Member has given his consent. If the hon. Minister moves that Motion on that assumption, certainly we have to accept it, unless the Member whose name is included, declares his intention not to join the Committee. Therefore, that assumption also is there. In view of the fact that Shri K. C. Sodhia has not expressed his intention to withdraw from the Committee, his Motion cannot be moved.

Now Shri B. Ramachandra Reddi may move his Motion and then discussion will proceed both on the original Motion and on his Motion.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I beg to move:

“That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting public opinion thereon by the 1st of January 1957”.

This is a measure which seems to be fraught with many dangers rather than be of help at the present juncture. The House expected that the hon. Minister who has moved this Motion would have been able to give us a clearer conception of the future difficulties in implementing this Act, also the time within which it could be adopted not only by the Central Government but also by the States. I could see that there are several difficulties in implementing this Act. The Government must have envisaged these difficulties not from the Central Government point of view alone but also from the State Governments' point of view.

[Shri Ramachandra Reddi]

We have been told by the Minister that the States have been consulted in this matter and that they have given a favourable opinion. If that was so, the House could have been furnished with the opinions that have been given by the States, and the way in which they had looked at the problem and the way they wanted to solve the problem, once the Act was passed. Nothing of that sort has been done.

It has also been mentioned that the trades have been consulted and their reactions also are favourable. But my information is that the trades have not been very favourable to this measure, and they have registered their difference of opinion on this subject—I only wish to be corrected if I am wrong. As I understand, the trades have not been very happy over this change-over so suddenly and with so many difficulties seen by them.

Taking first the viewpoint of the States, I wish to enquire what amount of money each State would have to spend to implement this Act within a particular period. As it is, with regard to the record of rights of landed property, we have the links and acres and so on. When these measurements are converted into metres and so many other things mentioned in the Bill, what would be the amount of effort that should be put forth by the Government in educating all the people in the villages to see that the record of rights is correct up to the standards specified? This will create a lot of difficulty for village officers to keep records in good condition, according to the measures envisaged in this Bill. This would necessitate training and refresher courses for all these village officers. Otherwise, it will not effectively work and the result will be chaos created in that sector which is the main source of revenue in the States.

3.57 P.M.

[SHRI BARMAN in the Chair]

School children are now taught arithmetic with reference to rupees,

annas and pies, pounds and shillings and lbs. and ounces. The whole thing has now to be changed over. The children must be taught from now onwards how to adopt the new weights and measures. Not only this. The existing students in the upper classes have to be equipped with this knowledge. Further, the teachers themselves have to be trained in this particular matter. Otherwise, whatever they are now teaching will be continued and whatever is taught will not be useful after a few years under this Act.

It is, therefore, very doubtful whether the time-limit that has been placed in clause 1 is really sufficient or not. This shall come into force on such date, not being later than ten years from the passing of this Act. This is a very short time and it will be very difficult to develop everything by that time. Even today in rural parts, though rupees, annas and pies and lbs. and ounces are in vogue, there are certain areas which will not recognise the necessity for the tables that are now in existence all over the world. That is the backwardness of education in the country, and when these are the difficulties in the early adoption of these measures, it will be very unwise to fix the time-limit as not later than 10 years. It will be very difficult to undertake the preparatory work and see that it is done within ten years. The new system cannot be successfully worked without the co-operation of the people; and imposition is not the best way of obtaining such co-operation. It is difficult, therefore, at this stage, to forecast the period that will be necessary for the smooth changeover and I therefore urge that the stipulated period might be relaxed considerably.

4 P.M.

Then, I am not very sure whether the State Governments took this matter very seriously for the simple reason that if they had looked at the matter seriously and sincerely they must have found a number of difficulties in implementing this. They

probably thought that this is one of those ideals which the Central Government aims at and as such they need not worry themselves just at this time with the question of implementation as expeditiously as the Central Government requires.

All works are being done according to the existing schedules. We have got the inches, feet, yards, miles and so on. We are going to convert all these things into metres and several other things. All our works are being executed based upon the existing measurements and calculations and if the new measurements are going to be adopted it will take a very long time for the P. W. D. or any other Department to equip themselves with the knowledge and the correct method of calculation according to the new system and make the work perfect. I doubt very much whether this system will work as expeditiously as it is expected in the matter of development of our own resources, the development of our building constructions and the execution of our projects and so on and so forth. That is another sector where the difficulty will certainly be felt.

Whether within these 10 years uniformity can be achieved in the matter of adoption of these new weights and measures is doubtful and how many years it is likely to take, we cannot easily say at this stage. Our entire equipment is in terms of the present measures and if the entire equipment has to be utilised correctly and also manufactured correctly, it will take a very long time for us to change the specifications and adopt new specifications and turn out work in the best way. Therefore, it is very necessary that the matter should be once again taken over to the State Governments and the trades and their reactions taken so that there might be no difficulty in the implementation of this Act, whether it is within 10 years or even 20 years.

Recently you know that a sub-committee on nomenclatures has been

set up and I am told there is a considerable difference of opinion, whether the international terminology should be adopted in toto or whether equivalents should be used. It has been a matter of great discussion there. I am told that non-official opinion was in favour of adopting Hindi names. Whether we are going to change these foreign names into Hindi names and what time it is likely to take is another matter which requires deeper attention and consideration.

I, therefore, suggest without going into the merits of the Bill itself that the matter be postponed until the State Governments give their opinions about the utility of a measure like this and about the time within which they will be able to implement. It is not merely a question of passing this Bill and not realising the effect of it through the State Governments which have really to work out this.

These two institutions, namely, the State Governments and the trades in general would have to be consulted more deeply and their reactions taken. And, naturally, it will take 3 to 4 months to obtain them. It will also be necessary for the Central Government to invite the representatives of the State Governments and discuss with them the various aspects of this Bill and find out their actual reaction before they proceed with this Bill. After all, 4 months' time is not a very long time and there is a period of 10 years given here for the final implementation, or rather for the completion of the implementation of the Act. Nothing is going to be lost within these 4 months. I therefore urge upon the Government—rather request the Government—to avoid future difficulties and troubles and to have a closer consultation with the State Governments and also the trades and then only bring in a measure like this for the acceptance of this House.

I, therefore, request that the House do concede that this Bill might be



[Shri Ramachandra Reddi]

circulated for eliciting public opinion  
before the 1st January; 1957.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

“That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting public opinion thereon by the 1st of January, 1957.”

श्री खू चं० सोधिया : मैं ने इस विधेयक को खूब ध्यान से देखा है। अब हम ने दशमलव प्रणाली के सिक्कों को चालू किया है। इस दशमलव प्रणाली के सिक्कों में हमने रुपये को जैसे का तैसा रखा है, अठन्नी को भी जैसे का तैसा रखा है, चवन्नी को भी जैसे का तैसा रखा है। मगर आज कल के पैसों के बारे में हमने यह तय किया है कि उन को हटा कर रुपये में १०० पैसे रखेंगे।

आप जानते हैं कि आज कल देश भर में पैसे की कोई पूछ नहीं है। पैसे दो पैसे की कोई चीज बाजार में ली ही नहीं जा सकती। दुअन्नी, चवन्नी और अठन्नी से ही काम चलता है। इस लिये मेरी समझ में रुपये, अठन्नी और चवन्नी को इस सिस्टम में रख कर हम ने बड़ा वाजिब काम किया है।

जब हम इस विधेयक की ४ से लेकर ११ तक की धाराओं को देखते हैं तो पाते हैं कि आज तक हम जो लम्बाई की नाप काम में लाते थे, इंच, गज वगैरह, उस को हम ने डेसिमल सिस्टम में कर दिया है। एरिया के लिये भी जो एकड़ वगैरह की नाम थी उस को भी हम ने डेसिमल सिस्टम की बनाया। इस के बाद हम बाल्यूम पर आयें, बाल्यूम के लिये भी हम ने लिटर को अपनाया, और लिटर को अपना कर हम ने सेर, पाव और छटांक वगैरह को, जिस में दूध नापा जाता है, नहीं माना। इस के बाद हम ने वजन को लिया। वजन के लिये जो मन, सेर, छटांक और टन आदि थे उन सब को हम छोड़ रहे हैं।

इस बिल के उद्देश्य ही में बतलाया गया है कि यह बिल (विधेयक) बड़े महत्व का है, और मुझे इस बात का बड़ा दुःख है कि पार्लियामेंट (संसद्) के इस आखिरी मौके पर, जब कि पार्लियामेंट के काम की ओर उतना ध्यान नहीं है जितना कि होना चाहिये, क्यों सरकार इस बिल को यहां पेश कर के अपने ऊपर एक बड़ी मुसीबत मोल ले रही है। वह मुसीबत यह है कि अभी पिछले मौके पर जिसको चन्द ही रोज हुए हैं, मैं ने नैचुरल रिसोर्स और साइंटिफिक रिसर्च के मिनिस्टर (प्राकृतिक संसाधन वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा मंत्री) साहब से प्रश्न किया था कि आप के जो सर्वे मॅप्स (सर्वेक्षण नक्शे) हैं उन को आप दशमलव सिस्टम में कब तक ला पावेंगे तो उन्होंने फरमाया था कि इस में ५० वर्ष लगेंगे। तो आप सोचिये कि जब सरकार को बने वनायें नक्शों को इस प्रणाली में बदलने के लिए ५० बरस लगेंगे तो इस काम में कितनी ज्यादा देर लग सकती है तथा कितना जटिल और कठिन यह काम है। मैं समझता हूं कि इस से देश के सभी गरीब और अमीर आदमियों का ताल्लुक है। एक जो दूध बेचने वाला है, एक जो जंगल में रहता है, एक जो गल्ला बेचने वाला है सब के सब का इस से किसी न किसी प्रकार से सम्बन्ध है और कोई भी इससे अछूता नहीं है। इस बिल का प्रभाव सब पर ही पड़ने वाला है। मैं यह नहीं कहता, कि यह जो मीट्रिक (दशमिक) प्रणाली है यह अच्छी नहीं है। मीट्रिक सिस्टम अच्छा है, इसे मैं मानता हूं। मैं यह भी मानता हूं कि साइंस के काम में इसका प्रयोग करने से बहुत आसानी होती है और इससे जो रिसर्च का काम होता है, उसका आदान प्रदान दूसरे देशों के साथ किया जा सकता है। इस तरह से यह हमें अपने वैज्ञानिक उन्नति के कार्यों में सहायता देने वाला सिद्ध हो सकता है। लेकिन इस पद्धति को इस देश के ऊपर, इस समाज के ऊपर आप लादें, इसको मैं वाजिब नहीं मानता हूं। मैं नम्र निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि इस

बेश में हम डेमोक्रेसी (लोकतन्त्र) का नाम लेते हैं और डेमोक्रेटिक काम करने की कसम खाते हैं तो क्या यह वाजिब नहीं है कि जब कि इस बिल का करोड़ों लोगों पर असर पड़ने वाला है तो उनकी राय जाने बिना हम इस बिल को यहां न लायें। अगर उनकी राय जाने बिना इस बिल को पास कर दिया गया तो मैं समझता हूँ कि यह एक नावाजिब बात होगी। मिनिस्टर साहब ने अभी फरमाया कि इस बिल के बारे में तमाम स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स (राज्य सरकारों) की तथा जितनी भी विद्वानों की समाज है उसकी राय मालूम कर ली गई है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जब इस बिल को इस हाउस के सामने लाया जाता है और इस हाउस के सदस्यों से बुद्धिपूर्वक अपनी राय देने को कहा जाता है तो क्या यह जरूरी नहीं है कि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स ने तथा विद्वानों की समाज ने जो रायें सरकार को दी हैं वे भी हमारे सामने ला कर रखी जायें ताकि हम इस चीज पर अच्छी तरह से विचार कर सकें।

आप मीट्रिक सिस्टम की बात को तो जाने दीजिये। यह केंद्रीय सरकार भाज २० या २५ बरस से यूनिफार्म (एकरूप) बाटों को प्रचलित करने के लिए लगातार कोशिश कर रही है लेकिन आज तक इसमें वह सफल नहीं हो सकी है। अभी मंत्री महोदय ने फरमाया कि इस देश में १४० किसम के बाट १५० किसम के वाल्यूम और १६० किसम के लैंड एरियाज का प्रचलन है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जब इस सरकार ने तथा प्रान्तीय सरकारों ने जहां तहां कानून भी बनाये और जो मैं समझता हूँ २५ के करीब हैं, और जिन को इस बिल के द्वारा मंजूर करने के लिए कहा गया है, फिर भी वे यूनिफार्म बेटस और मीजर्स इस देश में कायम नहीं कर सके तो इस बात को कहना कि १० साल के अन्दर यह काम हो जाएगा, मैं समझता हूँ ठीक नहीं है और मेरी समझ में तो यह चीज नहीं आती है। मेरे विचार में जो कठिनाइयाँ सरकार के रास्ते में आयेंगी उन पर भी विचार नहीं किया गया

है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि सरकार कोई ऐसा काम न करे जिसे को करने के बाद उसे फिर से यह कहना पड़े कि यह बात नहीं हो सकी है और कम बक्त रखा गया था। इसलिए मेरा नम्र निवेदन है कि सब से पहले हमें लोगों की राय को इस बारे में साफ साफ मालूम कर लेनी चाहिए। मैं समझता हूँ कि जब सरकार ने पक्का निश्चय कर लिया है कि इसको पास कराना ही है तो चाहे लोग चिल्लायें, चाहे जितना भी विरोध करें, वह उसको पास करवा कर ही रहेगी, लेकिन यह उसके लिए ठीक नहीं है। यह इस सरकार का फर्ज है कि इस देश के करोड़ों लोगों से जिन के दैनिक जीवन में इस बिल का प्रभाव पड़ने वाला है, इस देश के व्यापारियों से, इस देश के बड़े बड़े चैम्बर्स आफ कामर्स (वाणिज्य मंडल) से इस बात को पूछें कि कौन कौन सी अड़चनें उनके रास्ते में आने वाली हैं और उनको हल करने के लिए तथा उनको कम करने के लिए क्या क्या उपाय किए जायें। इस चीज पर ध्यान देना बहुत आवश्यक है। इस वास्ते मेरा निवेदन है कि इस बिल को जल्दी से इस सदन से पास कराने के बजाय यह ज्यादा मोजूँ होगा कि इस बिल को लोगों की राय जानने के लिए प्रचारित किया जाए। इसके बाद जो सरकार को करना है वह तो होगा ही फिर चाहे जनता कुछ भी कहे और जनता के प्रतिनिधि कुछ भी कहें। जब ऐसी बात है तो इस बिल को एक महीने के भीतर पास कराने की क्यों जल्दी की जाती है, यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता। इस तरह से इसको पास करवा कर के और पालियामेंट की सील लगवा करके आपको क्या फायदा होगा।

अभी मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा कि एक रेजोल्यूशन (संकल्प) यहां पर अच्युतन साहब ने पेश किया था और उस रेजोल्यूशन के मुताबिक ही सरकार इस बिल को लाई है। किस कारण से अच्युतन साहब के दिल में यह बात आई इसको यहां पर कहने से कोई लाभ नहीं है। क्योंकि सरकार का यह मंशा था इसीलिए उसने अच्युतन साहब को

[श्री लू० चं० सोधिषा]

खड़ा किया था और इस हाउस के सब मेम्बरों ने उसका समर्थन किया था। इस तरह से वह रेजोल्यूशन प्राया था और उसके मुताबिक कार्रवाई हो रही है। अब एक कमिटी बनी है जो सारे मामले पर विचार कर रही है और देख रही है कि क्या क्या करना होगा और क्या क्या कठिनाइयां आयेंगी। इस कमिटी में हमारे मिनिस्टर साहिबान हैं और दूसरे बड़े बड़े लोग हैं। वे लोग तो यहाँ पर बैठे हुए हैं और यहाँ पर बैठ कर बड़े मज्जे से हुक्मनामा जारी कर देते हैं और उनको क्या फिक्र है कि इसका देश के करोड़ों गरीब आदमियों के ऊपर क्या असर होने वाला है। इस वास्ते मैं चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इस सारे मामले पर सावधानी से विचार करे और फिर किसी नतीजे पर पहुँच कर कार्य करे। कांस्टीट्यूशन (संविधान) की एंटीरी ५० के मुताबिक पार्लियामेंट यूनिट्स मंजूर कर सकती है जबकि एंटीरी २६ आफ दी स्टेट लिस्ट (राज्य सूची) के मुताबिक उनको अम्ल में लाने की जिम्मेवारी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स के ऊपर है। जिन्होंने इसको अम्ल में लाना है उनकी इसके बारे में क्या राय है, उसको हमारे सामने न ला करके इस काम में जल्दी करना, मैं समझता हूँ, ठीक नहीं है। इस किसम का उतावलापन करना अक्लमन्दी नहीं होगी। अगर सरकार समझती है कि इससे देरी होगी, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि एक महीना दो महीने, चार महीने या साल भर की देरी भी अगर हो जाए तो जैसे आपने १० साल की लिमिट रखी है, उसे आप एक साल और बढ़ा सकते हैं, इससे कोई खास फर्क नहीं पड़ता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप वह काम करें जिस से आप को बाद में यह कहने का मौका न मिले कि इस देश में मीट्रिक प्रणाली चल नहीं सकी है। मैं यह दावे से कहता हूँ कि आप जो कुछ कर रहे हैं वह सरासर हमकत है और इस देश के लोगों को बरबाद करने की बात है। इससे कोई फायदा होने वाला नहीं है। आज हमारा काम बहुत अच्छी तरह से चल रहा है। आप यह कहते हैं कि पिछले पांच सालों में हमारे देश

ने बहुत तरक्की की है और हमारा व्यापार बहुत बढ़ा है और बढ़ रहा है तो क्या मैं पूछ सकता हूँ कि जो वेट्स और मैजर्स (माप तौल) हैं क्या उन्होंने कोई बाधा डाली है। इस वास्ते यह कहना कि इससे देश का व्यापार बढ़ेगा, या कॅलकुलेशन (हिसाब लगाने) में सहायता मिलेगी बेकार है। मैं तो यह समझता हूँ कि जहाँ आपका डाट इधर से उधर हुआ, जहाँ आपके छापेलाने वालों ने जरा सी गलती की वहाँ आपका सारा काम चौपट हो जाएगा। इस लिए मेरी यह प्रार्थना है कि आप बिल आफ दी व्हिस्प, जुगनू की जो चमक है, उसको पकड़ने की कोशिश न करें कि जो अड़चन आपके रास्ते में आने वाली है उनको आप एकट्ठा करें और उनको संग्रह करने के बाद और उन पर पूरी तरह से विचार करने के बाद यदि सरकार के मन में यह धाबे कि यह होना हो चाहिये पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर साहिबान चाहें तो बड़ी खुशी से वह ऐसा कर सकती है।

आप यहाँ पर स्टील प्लॉट लगाने जा रहे हैं और उसके लिए करोड़ों रुपये का सामान मंगाया जा रहा है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आप का जो मीट्रिक सिस्टम है, क्या यह सारा सामान उस के अनुसार आ रहा है? अगर वह सब सामान मीट्रिक सिस्टम के अनुसार नहीं आ रहा है, तो वह अड़कों रूपों का सामान आप क्या करेंगे? क्या इस देश के लोगों के पास फ्रिजूल पैसा पड़ा हुआ है कि आप उस को इस तरह बहा देंगे? इस बिल में एक कनवर्शन टेबल दिया हुआ है, जो कि मैं आप को पढ़ कर सुनाना चाहता हूँ।

सभापति महोदय : वह तो बिल में लिखा ही है। सब मेम्बर उस को स्वयं पढ़ सकते हैं।

श्री लू० चं० सोधिषा : मैं आप का और इस सदन का ध्यान इस बात की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि उस में तीन तीन, चार चार डिजिट्स—दशांश या शतांश नहीं बल्कि सहस्रांश तक की गिनती और तबादले की बातें हैं। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि वे गरीबों

के दिमाग में कैसे आयेंगे। कहा गया है कि मन, सेर और छटांक के वर्तमान सिस्टम से गरीब लोगों को धोखा दिए जाने की सम्भावना है। मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर गरीब किसी तरह सताए जाते हैं, उन के साथ किसी किसम का धोखा किया जाता है और पैसों के लेन-देन में उन के साथ भ्रष्टाचार होता है, तो उस का कारण मन, सेर, छटांक का सिस्टम नहीं है, बल्कि उस का कारण उन की इल्लिड्रेसी (निरक्षरता) है—उन की निरक्षरता है। जब तक आप उस को नहीं हटायेंगे, तब तक ये सब बातें गरीबों को धोखादेही से बचाने में कामयाब नहीं होंगी। इस लिए सरकार से मेरी अपेक्षा है कि वह इस बारे में उतावलो न करे।

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal):** Sir, when the non-official Resolution on the introduction of metric system was brought before this House by Shri Achuthan, I supported it subject to the amendment that the system should be introduced by a phased programme. The hon. Minister stated that the Government accepted the spirit of that amendment and that they would certainly have a phased programme. After that, when the decimal coinage Bill came before the House, that was also supported by us. So, we certainly wish this Bill complete success. Why should there be hesitancy and opposition in certain quarters, opposition by Shri Sodhia and Shri Reddi? As far back as 1940, the commercial sub-committee of the National Planning Committee recommended the introduction of metric system in India. If we look into the history of this matter, we find that the Royal Commission and various other committees also recommended the same. The Minister had already referred to 1870 Act which became a dead letter because it could not be enforced throughout India. So, this is not new or something alien to India. The scale of arithmetical notation which is universally adopted by civilised nations is something in-

vented in India. The bewildering variety of weights and measures which we find in India today certainly make it rather imperative to adopt this system. We are launching upon a programme of rapid industrialisation and so we should adopt this scientific and internationally recognised system. I do not understand the hesitancy and opposition.

It is not so much because what the Prime Minister has stated in the forward to the *Memorandum on the Introduction of Metric System in India* by Pitambar Pant wherein he says:

“We are, on the whole, a conservative country and it is not very easy to change old-established customs.”

**Shri Kamath:** Sir, When the Prime Minister is here, we must have a quorum.

**Mr. Chairman:** The bell is being rung—now there is quorum.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** It is difficult not so much because what the Prime Minister has said, but because there is no universal education in the country. Had the Government taken article 45 of the Constitution very seriously and provided adequate organisation and finances, this difficulty would not have arisen and today, we would not have been faced with the opposition of Shri Reddy or Shri Sodhia. It is because of the illiteracy and the lack of education facilities in the country that we are hesitating to introduce this system. Otherwise, this is a system which has been accepted by more than two-thirds of humanity. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it is stated that more than seventy countries have adopted it. The important countries that have not yet introduced this system in all spheres of their activities are the U.S.A., U.K. and countries in the Commonwealth. Even there, this system has been adopted partly so far as scientific cal-

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 culations are concerned. So, there is no reason why we should not make a serious attempt to introduce the metric system.

What is the present position in the country today? There was a sample survey in about 1100 villages and the survey indicated that there were 143 different varieties of weights and measurements prevailing. So far as maund is concerned, the name is the same but it indicated different measures. Again, the name with regard to seer is the same but it has been found that in sixty per cent of the villages it was eighty tolas; in thirty per cent of the villages it was 24 tolas; it was forty tolas in seven per cent of the villages and in the rest it was 20, 50, 96 or 105 tolas. It is a bewildering variety.

So far as linear or square measure is concerned, in my district itself there are four or five varieties of measuring land. All call the unit a *bigha*. In some places three *bighas* make an acre; at some other places two *bighas* go to make an acre; it is 2.5 *bighas* at some places.

If you consider the measurements of volumes, they fare no better. They too differ very much from place to place and sometimes they differ in the same district also. The result is that the poorer section of the people suffer very much. The reports of the agricultural marketing officers would indicate that the poor cultivators suffer much. They show that in many places they are forced to offer certain extra quantity. For instance, in Bihar they have to give as much as six seers extra for a maund. They calculate maund by *pasuris* and 8 *pasuris* make a maund. A *pasuri* is about 12 chattaks more than 5 seers. So the net result is, when a cultivator sells a maund of a particular thing, he actually gives not 40 seers but much more than 40 seers. In such cases he give 6 seers more. This is the position in which we find ourselves today.

In order to evolve an order out of this chaos, it is very necessary that we should adopt some international-

ally recognised scientific system in this country. There is no difference of opinion so far as the question of standardisation is concerned. Everybody agrees that weights and measures should be standardised. The only question is whether we should adopt this metric system, this scientific system, this internationally recognised system, or the pound and foot system which we have accepted, or any other indigenous system. That is the only point to be considered here.

So far as the indigenous system is concerned, I have already mentioned how there is a bewildering variety. Even if you want to have a standard in relation to certain indigenous systems, the people of one particular area will not find it at all in anyway easier than the metric system. It is because you get so much difference from the system in terms of which you want to attain standardisation. Therefore, the metric system should be adopted as the most acceptable in the situation obtaining at present.

Certain remarks have been made that the present time is not the best time for the introduction of this system because, it has been urged by Shri Sodhia, we are launching upon the Second Five Year Plan, machinery has been ordered, steel plants are going to be built up and so on. I would say it is just the opposite. It is because we are going to launch upon a programme, it is because we are going to spend some Rs. 500 crores or so for industrialisation during the Second Five Year Plan and are also making plans for further industrialisation during the next Five Year Plan period, that it is the opportune time for the introduction of this system. Unless you do it now, the difficulty which they are facing in the United Kingdom will have to be faced by us.

It has been said that it will involve an expenditure for conversion into the new system. But will not the expenditure be much more if you defer it till some future time? Therefore, this is the proper time for the introduction of this system.

As regards the cost some calculations have been made by the expert who was given the responsibility to study the matter in details, and he has shown that in fact, it is not as much as it is generally believed to be. Sometimes there is an exaggerated notion prevailing regarding the cost of conversion. It may be Rs. 1 crores annually or something about that spread over a number of years. But, in view of the facilities that it will give, it will be worth spending that amount, because it will put us in line with the rest of the world so far as the adoption of this scientific system of weights and measures is concerned and facilitate our method of calculation.

Then there is another point. Sometimes it is said that because we are carrying on our trade and commerce with such countries as the United States of America and United Kingdom who have not yet adopted this system, it may create some difficulties for us so far as trade with those countries is concerned. But it has been very clearly pointed out by Mr. Pant in his notes—he took into consideration all the relevant facts which we can verify with reference to our import and export figures, world trade figures etc.—that two-thirds of the trade of these countries, United Kingdom and U.S.A., is with countries which do not have their own systems and which follow only the metric system. So it is proved through experience that there would be no difficulty so far as trade and commerce with countries not adopting metric system is concerned. Moreover, even those countries are now thinking in terms of adopting this system.

If we look a little back, we shall find that the conference of International Chambers of Commerce held in Paris before the second World War had an item on agenda regarding important subject of unification of weights and measures throughout the world. A special study group was created to investigate and report on

the means of obtaining such a uniformity in international trade. They made certain recommendations. Their conclusion is as follows:

“From all points of view whether commercial, historical, didactic or scientific, it is evident that the whole world candidly desires a uniformity of weights and measures. Only one of the three above systems can bring that uniformity.”

They have referred to the different systems. Then they say what is that system. This report further says:

“The International Chamber of Commerce; Stating that the decimal metric system has been adopted in course of the post-war years by a large number of countries;

Observing that there exist, especially in the Anglo-Saxon countries, other systems of weights and measures which, if continued to be used, would obstruct for a long time to come the international unification;”

They have taken all these things into account. The report says:

“Considering that practical experience gained by countries which have adopted the metric system shows clearly the happy results obtained by its adoption in the field of trade and industry, by activating national economy and simplifying international relations.

Appeals:

to the national committees of different countries not employing the metric system to draw the attention of their respective governments to consider favourably the question of progressive adoption of this system;

to the national committees of countries where the metric system has been officially adopted, to kindly attract the attention of their respective government, if necessary, to take necessary

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measures for making its use obligatory to the exclusion of all measures of length or mass."

They have also expressed an opinion which is favourable for the adoption of this system universally. So, these arguments do not in any way stand in our way.

Then, with regard to the question of standardisation, while supporting this Bill I would like to point out to the Government that this work of standardisation is not going on in the manner in which it should be done. I know of a sub-divisional town in my constituency, Ghatal. There what I find is, the Agricultural Marketing Officers are adopting some sort of standards for existing weights like seers, pavs etc. What happens is this. While the poor vegetable vendors and other poor people are sometimes fined and punished for using certain under-weights—I do not want to encourage that in any way—at the same place there are big merchants who are not being punished for not selling goods by correct measures. They generally use the higher multiples; it may be maunds, ten seers, five seers etc. They are not checked by these officers. Whenever these officers go to the markets, it is the vegetable vendor or some other poor man that they catch and the big culprits are not caught. Therefore, the complaint remains. The administration must standardise its attitude so far as the question of standardisation is concerned. There should not be double standards or different standards for different sorts of people. So my point is that this attitude should also be standardised.

In connection with the introduction of this system, as I said at the time when a resolution in this regard was brought up, I would repeat that it is not a question of a phased programme alone. As it is, they have provided for a period of ten years for the complete change-over. I say that there should not only be a phased programme but adequate pro-

paganda and education in this regard. This is very essential, especially in a country where the people have not attained a standard of education and where universal literacy is yet to be attained.

The Government themselves have said that they will adopt certain measures to educate the people on the new system. They have said that they will have recourse to the press, the radio and the films and that they will issue pamphlets and hold popular exhibitions, so on and so forth. But the main thing is to give intensive education and make intensive propaganda including teaching in the elementary schools and also in the technical and engineering schools. Further, the schools should keep samples of all the standard metric weights and measures

In this connection, I would like to offer a suggestion to the Government. So far as the question of providing samples of weights and measures is concerned, the Government should not leave it to the educational institutions. The young boys who are studying in the elementary schools and secondary schools and other technical institutions should be given an opportunity to see these things in their schools and understand the change. For this purpose, I would urge upon the Government to place orders with suitable firms for the manufacture of samples and distribute them all over the country. I know that the Government is supplying certain equipments like clocks, maps, etc., to certain categories of schools. I would even suggest that the Government themselves should manufacture the samples and send them to all the schools and other institutions so that in the course of a month, full knowledge of the change-over could be spread out throughout the country and enable crores of students to come to know of the metric system. Wide publicity should be undertaken in this regard, and the panchayats and local bodies also should be supplied with the samples.

There are certain provisions in the Bill which say that the Government would, on their own, manufacture certain standard weights and measures and that they would distribute them to the States. It is proposed to keep the weights and measures, as standardised samples, at suitable places so that the people can come and verify the measures with those kept in those places. But this will not do. We are speaking of the extension of the public sector. I have urged previously also that so far as the weights and measures are concerned, the Government should manufacture all the weights and measures in a factory of their own. It should not be left to the private sector. As it is, one has to go to the marketing officer and ask him to go to the market and examine and check up whether a particular measure or weight is correct or not. We have to ask him to see whether it is below the standard prescribed, what is the extent of variation etc. After all, the poor people are innocent. The poor vendors do not deliberately use the wrong weights or measures, for they just purchase them from a big dealer, who has got something to do with the manufacture. So, so far as the manufacture of weights and measures is concerned,—whether it is a multiple or a sub-multiple—it should be entirely in the public sector. I feel very strongly about it. If the public sector takes up the manufacture, the difficulty in procuring standard weights and measures will be eliminated and further, there will not be so many counterfeit measures in the market.

Then there is another important point to which I should like to draw the attention of the House. While you specify certain multiples or sub-multiples of a particular weight or measure,—whether it is a metre, or a gramme,—you should naturally think of such multiples as are nearly equivalent to the current yards and seers, etc. That will facilitate matters. I admit there are certain difficulties because of the lack of educa-

tion. But then there are certain conditions which are favourable to the country. Our present yard is very nearly a metre, for, a metre is 1.09363 yards. So, with the introduction of the system of metric weights and measures, if you ask for a yard of cloth and if the trader measures it in metres, the customer is not going to lose. In fact, neither the trader nor the customer are going to lose anything at all. Our current measures are very nearly equal to the metric system. If you take a kilogramme, it is very nearly a seer—2.24 pounds. A seer is widely current in the country. So, with these facilities, we can adopt the scientific system which is the only system that is suited to the intelligent civilised community.

With all these comments, I would support the Bill, and shall once again urge upon the Government to start right now a wide publicity and propaganda. The proper kind of educative propaganda should be undertaken and samples should be manufactured and distributed throughout the country. In that way, the Government can proceed.

As I have said earlier, I shall conclude by saying that the spread and advance of education is an important aspect which should be looked into. It cannot be viewed in isolation from all other problems. That fact should also be borne in mind. If more money is allocated for the advancement of education and to achieve the target laid down according to article 45 of the Constitution, I do not find any great difficulty in going ahead with this scientific system which all parts of the world will have to adopt sooner or later

श्री हेमराज (कांगड़ा) : आज जो यह विधेयक सदन के सामने पेश है यह उस इंडियन काइनेज प्रमेट्रिक्ट ऐक्ट (भारतीय टंकन संशोधन विधेयक) की एक कड़ी है। जिस वक्त वह ऐक्ट पास किया गया था उस वक्त भी बहुत से माननीय सदस्यों ने यह राय जाहिर की थी कि यह ऐक्ट बालू नहीं हो सकेगा



[श्री हेमराज ]

क्योंकि जनता उसको समझ नहीं सकेगा। लेकिन उसके बावजूद भी हमने उसको पास कर दिया और आज एक विज्ञप्ति भी जारी हो गयी है कि वह १ अप्रैल सन् १९५७ से जारी भी हो जायेगा। लेकिन आज जो विधेयक हमारे सामने पेश है और उस ऐक्ट में बड़ा भारी अन्तर है। यह जो विधेयक था, जो कि अब ऐक्ट (अधिनियम) बन गया है, वह हमारे रोजमर्रा के लेन देन से ताल्लुक रखता है जब कि यह विधेयक हमारे माप और तोलों से ताल्लुक रखता है। जैसा मेरे से पूर्व वक्ता ने बताया, आपके जो सिक्के हैं वे तो आपके टक्काल में बनते हैं और उनको आप बनाते हैं, इसलिये उनके बारे में जनता को कोई दिक्कत नहीं हो सकती। जो चीज आपके यहाँ बनती है उसमें किसी किस्म का ट्रेर फेर नहीं हो सकता। लेकिन जो आपके पास तौल की कार्रवाई है, जैसा कि आपने स्टैंडमेंट आफ् ड्राबजेक्ट्स एंड रीजन्स (उद्देश्यों और कारणों का विवरण) में दिया है, उसे राज्य सरकारें इम्प्लीमेंट करेंगी। आपने शब्दयूल में दिया है कि इस कं मुताल्लिक जो १६ ऐक्ट है उनको आप मंजूख कर रहे हैं। आपने बताया कि राज्यों में जो वेट्स एंड मेजर्स (माप तोल) चले हुए हैं वे सन् १९३९ के ऐक्ट के मुताबिक चले हुए हैं। लेकिन मंत्री महोदय ने फरमाया था कि गो कि सन् १९३९ के ऐक्ट को पास हुए करीब बीस साल हो गए फिर भी अभी तक सारे मुल्क में एक तरह के वेट्स और मेजर्स नहीं चल पाये हैं। नतीजा यह है कि किसी राज्य में एक किस्म के माप खोल चलते हैं और दूसरे राज्य में दूसरे किस्म के, एक जिले में एक किस्म के वेट्स एंड मेजर्स (माप और तोल) चलते हैं और दूसरे जिले में दूसरे किस्म के। आप बीस साल में इस सिस्टम को सारे देश में चालू नहीं कर सके। अब इस विधेयक में आपने यह रखा है कि इस इतने कम्प्लीकेटेड सिस्टम (जटिल प्रणाली) को आप दस साल में देश में चालू कर देंगे। मुझे बड़ा शक है कि इस सिस्टम को लोग दस साल में समझ पावेंगे। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर दस

साल के बजाय आप बीस साल नहीं रखेंगे तो यह चीज नहीं चल पायेगी।

अभी माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने फरमाया है कि ७० देशों ने इसको अपना लिया है और इसको चालू कर लेने से हमको भी बहुत सुविधा हो जायेगी। सुविधा हो जायेगी यह तो ठीक है लेकिन जो उसके लिए आपने उपाय सोचे हैं, उनको लागू करने से पहले इससे पहले का जो उजुर्बा आपको है, उसको भी ध्यान में रखना चाहिए इसका सबसे ज्यादा बुरा असर तो बेपढ़े लिखे लोगों पर होगा। जैसा कि माननीय वक्ताओं ने मुझ से पहले बताया है, इस देश में १७ फीसदी श्रावमी पढ़े लिखे हैं और जो आपने कनवर्शन टेबिल दिये हैं उनके जरिये कोई श्रावमी भाई यह नहीं समझ पावेगा कि एक छटांक कं बदले उसको कितनी चीज मिलनी चाहिए या यह कि उसकी कितनी तोल बनती है। आपने जो इंडियन काइनेज (भारतीय टंकन) के सिलसिले में टेबिल (तालिका) दिया है उसको हम पढ़े लिखे श्रावमियों तक को हिसाब लगाने के लिए अपने पास रखना पड़ेगा और अब इस कताब में जो टेबिल आपने दिये हैं वे भी हमको बाजार में चीजें खरीदने के लिए अपने पास रखनी होंगी। और इस देश के ३६ करोड़ श्रावमियों के लिए आपको इस तरह की कितनी टेबिल बनानी होंगी। तो आपने जो दस साल की अवधि रखी है मैं नहीं समझता कि जनता इस अवधि में इस कनवर्शन टेबिल को समझ लेगी। यह जो विधेयक है इसमें जो सिस्टम दिया गया है उसके कारण हमारी जनता का बहुत ज्यादा एक्सप्लायटेशन (शोषण) रुक जावेगा। इस लिहाज से तो मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करता हूँ कि जिस तरह से आप देश में एक तरह का लेजिस्लेशन (विधान) और बातों के लिए बना रहे हैं, जैसे लेंड के लिए एक किस्म का लेजिस्लेशन सारे देश में ला रहे हैं, उसी तरह से वेट्स एंड मेजर्स के लिए भी एक सा लेजिस्लेशन सारे देश के लिए ला रहे हैं मैं इसको आवश्यक

समझता हूँ कि इस माप तोल के सिलसिले को भी हमें सारे देश में एक ही स्तर पर लाना चाहिए। मुझे पंजाब का खास तौर पर तजुर्बा है।

सेक्शन (घारा) १७ में जो आपने सबसेक्शन (उपघारा) (ई) में इस तरह पर लिखा हुआ है :

"The manner in which the value expressed in terms of any weight or measure other than in terms of a standard of mass and measure may be converted thereto".

उसके मूताल्लिक मैं यह अर्थ करना चाहता हूँ कि आज तो हमारे हर सूबे में जो इन्स्पेक्टर्स (निरीक्षक) हैं उनमें कोई तो वेट्स एंड मेजर्स के इन्स्पेक्टर हैं, और कोई और चीज के इन्स्पेक्टर्स हैं। अब होता यह है कि करीब करीब हर साल हर एक स्टेट में वेट्स एंड मेजर्स सम्बन्धी कानून बनते हैं और भाये दिन बांटों में और पैमानों में तबदीली होती रहती है और लोगों का पैसा जाया होता है। देहातों में तो वह हालत है कि वहां पर लोग पैसा खर्च करने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं और मैं अपने पहाड़ी और पथरीले इलाक़ों की बाबत बतलाऊँ कि वहां पर तो लोगों ने यह बांट वगैरह खरीदे ही नहीं हैं बल्कि पत्थरों को उठा कर उनको तोल लिया है और उन्हीं से अपना काम लोग चलाते हैं और जिस वक्त यह इन्स्पेक्टर्स वहां पर जाते हैं तो वेट्स एंड मेजर्स को न पाकर उनका चालान कर देते हैं और आम तौर पर सारे लोगों का चालान करना शुरू कर दिया जाता है। इस सम्बन्ध में मेरा कहना यह है कि अगर इस तरह से उन गरीब और छोटे छोटे व्यापारियों का हमारे इन्स्पेक्टरान ने चालान करना शुरू कर दिया तो बजाय इसक कि यह स्टैन्डर्ड वेट्स एंड मेजर्स वाली चीज वहां पर लागू हो जाये, वहां पर एक बग़ावत का अग्रसर फ़ैल जाने का भ्रंशे हो सकता है। इस सम्बन्ध में हम लोग इतनी जल्दी जल्दी लेजिस्लेशन कर रहे हैं कि लोग हमारे जो देहातों

में छोटा मोटा व्यापार कर रहे हैं वे कुछ ख़बर से गये हैं और वह समझते हैं कि यह एक मुसीबत उन पर नाज़िल हो रही है और उनको समझ में नहीं आता कि इसको कैसे हल किया जाये।

एक और मुश्किल हमारे लोगों को इस सम्बन्ध में यह दरपेश आती है कि हमारे पंजाब के जो वेट्स एंड मेजर्स थे, उन पर हर साल हेडक्वार्टर में जाकर मुहर लगवाना पड़ता है और इसके लिये उनको परेशानी का सामना करना होता है और मुहर लगवाने के लिये उनको २, २ और ३, ३ दिन लग जाते हैं और जब वे बेचारे देखते हैं कि इन्स्पेक्टर साहब उनके बांटों पर मुहर नहीं लगाते और उनको देर हो रही है तो लाचार होकर उनको रिखत खिलानी पड़ती है और तब कहीं उनका जाकर काम बन पाता है। इस तरह से पंजाब में यह मुहर लगवाने का बंधन होने से रिखतसतानी काफी चलती है और मरता क्या न करता उस बेचारे गरीब व्यापारी के पास इतना तो टाइम होता नहीं कि वह वहां बैठा रहे क्योंकि उस हालत में वह ख़ाये क्या और देर होने पर उसे लाचार होकर इन्स्पेक्टर साहब को रिखत देनी पड़ती है।

मैं समझता हूँ कि श्री एन० बी० चौधरी ने इसके सम्बन्ध में जो यह सुझाव रखा है कि जिस तरह से मिट से सिकके ढलते हैं उसी तरह से मिट से यह वेट्स एंड मेजर्स भी ढल सकें तो काफ़ी हद तक उनकी मुश्किल धासान हो सकती है, मैं समझता हूँ कि वह दुस्त सुझाव है और इस पर गौर किया जाना चाहिये। मैं तो कहूँगा कि अगर सैट्रल गवर्नमेंट इसको नहीं करना चाहे तो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को यह चीज अपने हाथ में लेनी चाहिये। आज मौजूदा सिस्टम वहां पर यह है कि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट कुछ मोनोपोलिस्ट्स (एकाधिकारियों) को इसका ठेका दे देती है और वे मनमानी कीमत इन बांटों वगैरह के लिये रखते हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि अगर आप चाहते हैं कि यह कानून सारे देश में सही तरीके से अमल में लाया जाये तो

## [श्री हेमराज]

भारतको ऐसी व्यवस्था करनी चाहिये ताकि सारे देश भर में वेट्स एंड मेजर्स की एक ही कीमत हो और उनकी मुस्तलिफ़ कीमतें नहीं होनी चाहियें जब कि प्राज हालत यह है कि विभिन्न राज्यों में मुस्तलिफ़ कीमतें हैं।

एक शिकायत इसके मुतालिक यह भी है कि पहले उनके पास एक वेट एंड मेजर्स थे, गवर्नमेंट ने अपने स्टैण्डर्ड वेट्स एंड मेजर्स (नाप और तोल) चालू करे और उनके मुताबिक उनको तुलवाया और नपवाया जिसके कि परिणामस्वरूप उनके पहले वाले वेट्स एंड मेजर्स बेकार हो गये और वे उनके किसी काम के नहीं रहे। जहां नये वेट्स एंड मेजर्स चालू करने में सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट और स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स का काफी खर्चा होगा वहां आपकी यह भी खयाल रखना चाहिए कि यह जो आप नये वेट्स एंड मेजर्स जारी करेंगे, उनसे पब्लिक को कितना नुकसान और दिक्कत का सामना करना पड़ेगा और क्या आपके पास इसके लिए कोई उपाय है जिससे कि उन्होंने जो पहले उन वेट्स एंड मेजर्स पर रुपया खर्चा हुआ है वह बेकार न जाय और क्या आप जो पैसा उन्होंने खालरूटी उन पर खर्चा हुआ है उसको वापिस करने के लिए तैयार होंगे ? मैं आपके सामने एक सुझाव यह रखना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो आप वेट्स एंड मेजर्स सारे देश भर में जारी करने जा रहे हैं, इनकी कीमत जायज होनी चाहिए। अगर उनकी कीमत आपने बहुत ज्यादा रखी तो यह जो आपपईकानून बनाने जा रहे हैं यह पनप नहीं सकेगा और चालू नहीं हो सकेगा क्योंकि कोई भी धादमी अगर इन वेट्स एंड मेजर्स की कीमत ज्यादा होगी तो वह उन्हें खरीदने के लिए तैयार नहीं होगा।

यह कुछ ऐसी समस्याएं हैं जो देहाती क्षेत्रों में हर छोटे बड़े धादमी के सामने जो बाजार में अपना माल बेचने के लिए आता है, पेश आती है, छोटे छोटे दुकानदार या जमींदार बन रहें जो अपनी पंदावार को बेचते हैं, उन सब के सामने यह समस्याएं आती हैं।

इसके प्रतिरिक्त मैं आपका ध्यान इस बात की ओर विशेष रूप से दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि जो छोटे छोटे व्यापारी होते हैं, उनका इस्पैक्टस लोग धामतौर पर ज्यादा चालान करते हैं और उनको तंग और परेशान करते हैं और जितनी उनके पास पूंजी नहीं होती है उतना उन पर जुर्माना ठोक दिया जाता है और उसका नतीजा यह होता है कि वे लोग अपनी गवर्नमेंट के हर एक कानून को अच्छी नजर से देखने के बजाय, उनके दिलों में गवर्नमेंट के बरखिलाफ़ एक नफ़रत का जजबा फैल जाता है। होता यह है कि जो बड़े बड़े दुकानदार होते हैं वे तो छूट जाते हैं क्योंकि वे पैसा खिला देते हैं और जो छोटे लोग होते हैं छोटी छोटी मछलियां होती हैं, उनका चालान करा जाता है और चंकि देश में अधिकांश संख्या ऐसे लोगों की है, इसलिए वह बड़ा तबक़ा गवर्नमेंट के बरखिलाफ़ होता चला जाता है। अगर आप चाहते हैं कि आपका यह कानून जिसका कि मैं स्वागत करता हूँ, ठीक तरह से देश में चले तो उसके लिए एक ही उपाय है जिसके कि करने से यह देश भर में सही तरीक़े से लागू हो सकेगा। आपने इसमें एक चीज रखी है और वह यह है कि जिस एरिया में यह कानून लागू होगा वहां तीन साल के अन्दर पहले से जो वेट्स एंड मेजर्स चालू हैं, वे ही वहां पर चलेंगे और जारी रहेंगे। आप ने जो तीन साल की अवधि रखी है, वह बहुत थोड़ी है, जिस तरह से मैं पहले तजवीज दे रहा था कि अवधि को २० साल होना चाहिये, उसी तरह से यह अवधि बढ़ा कर पांच या दस साल कर देनी चाहिये।

5 P.M.

आप कहते हैं कि जो आप के सिक्के हैं और नाप तोल है, आप की मैशिनरी उन का प्रोपैगैन्डा कर के उन को देहात तक पहुंचा देगी। मैं समझता हूँ कि जो आप के देहाती क्षेत्र हैं उन में आप रेडियो के जरिये से और लारीज जो आप की हैं उन के जरिये से, इस चीज को पहुंचायेंगे। बहुत से देहात से

भाजकल एसे हैं जहाँ पर आप की लारीज जाती भी नहीं है। ऐसे क्षेत्रों में आप कैसे समझते हैं कि आप की पब्लिसिटी मुकम्मिल हो जायेगी जहाँ पर आप के पब्लिसिटी डिपार्टमेंट के लोग पहुंचते ही नहीं हैं। इसके लिये यह बहुत जरूरी है कि जो ए० ई० एस० ब्लाक्स हैं, या जो आप का कम्यूनिटी प्रोजेक्ट्स (सामुदायिक परियोजनाएं) हैं, उन में आप मेलें वगैरह का इन्तजाम करें, मेलों में देहात के बहुत लोग जाते हैं, उन जगहों पर आप को इन चीजों के लिये प्रच्छा प्रदर्शन करना चाहिये ताकि यह प्रणाली बहुत जल्दी सब जगहों पर चालू हो सके।

एक और बात की तरफ मैं आप की तबज्जह दिलाना चाहता हूँ जिस वक्त आप की राज्य सरकारें इन माप और तोलों को राजज करती हैं, उस वक्त वह लोगों को माप और तोलों पर मोहर लगवाने के लिये हेडक्वार्टर (मुख्यालय) बुलाती हैं। इस लिये उन को हेडक्वार्टर्स पर बुलाया जाता है मुहूर्ते लगवाने के लिये ताकि वह यह जान सकें कि जो माप और तोल इस्तेमाल की जा रही हैं, वह कम तो नहीं है। इस के लिये मेरी तबजीज यह है कि बजाय इस के कि उन लोगों को जिला हेडक्वार्टर पर बुलाया जाये, हर एक तहसील हेडक्वार्टर पर या थाना हेडक्वार्टर पर मुहर के लगवाने का इन्तजाम होना चाहिये। आप को चाहिये कि केन्द्रीय सरकार को धोर से या राज्य सरकारों की धोर से इस तरह का प्रबन्ध करवाने का प्राविजन अपने क्लस में ही कर दें।

बहुत सारे माननीय सदस्यों की जो यह राय थी कि इस विधेयक को पब्लिक धोपी-नियन के लिये भेज दिया जाये, उस के साथ मैं सहमत नहीं हो सकता क्योंकि, जहाँ तक मैं समझता हूँ, यह मामला देश के सामने धाज नहीं आया है, धाज से कई वर्ष पहले से देश के सामने धा चुका है और इस पर काफी से ज्यादा चर्चा भी हुई, काफी से ज्यादा कमेटियां भी बनीं और काफी से ज्यादा कमेटीय

(समितियों) ने अपनी रिपोर्ट्स (प्रतिवेदनों) भी दी हैं। साथ ही यह भी उन्होंने दर्शाया है कि इस पद्धति से दूसरे मुल्कों के साथ हमारे लेन देन बहुत अच्छी तरह से चल सकता है। इसलिये मैं इस हक में नहीं कि इस को राय धामा के लिये मुस्तहर कर दिया जाये, लेकिन इस हक में जरूर हूँ कि जो धवधियां इस विधेयक में रखी गई हैं, उनको बढ़ा दिया जाये।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस विधेयक का स्वागत करता हूँ और धाशा करता हूँ कि यह जो नुटियां हैं उन को हमारे माननीय मंत्री ध्यान में रखते हुए इस विधेयक में संशोधन जरूर करेंगे

**Shri Kamath:** In putting this measure through in this House....

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam):** On a point of order. There is no quorum.

**Mr. Chairman:** The bell is being rung.

**Shri Kanungo:** When Mr. Kamath starts speaking the quorum will be there

**Shri Kamath:** I hope so.

**Mr. Chairman:** Now there is quorum.

**Shri Kamath:** In putting this measure through in this House for acceptance in the country outside, I would earnestly request the hon. Minister and the Government to measure the weight of criticism with regard to this Weights and Measures Bill.

The genesis of this Bill seems to be that it is a corollary—it is complementary—to the earlier measure which the House adopted last year, namely, the Decimal Coinage Bill. Here I have got a very neat brochure published by the Publications Division of the Government and there is

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reference to this measure on page 8 of this brochure. Here it is stated:

"There is another reason why introduction of decimal coinage at this time is particularly opportune. In order to be fully effective, decimal coinage must be linked with the introduction of the metric system of weights and measures. It has been proposed that the latter reform should be spread over a period of ten years."

That is, the introduction of the new weights and measures should be spread over a period of ten years. The decimal coinage is to be introduced next year from April 1, 1957; that has already been announced.

"Thus decimal coinage, which will be introduced next year, will be the precursor to the bigger reform of standardising weights, weights and measures, of which there is at present an enormous multiplicity...."

Mark the words "enormous multiplicity".

"...and variety all over the country, leading to a great deal of confusion."

That is the present state of affairs.

"Neither the metric system of weights and measures nor the decimalisation of the coinage has, therefore, come too soon."

How this inference that has been drawn in the last sentence is not very clear. It is admitted by Government that at present there is enormous multiplicity and variety of weights and measures all over the country leading to a great deal of confusion. Therefore, to one of ordinary intelligence it might have appeared that the first reform that was needed was a correct system of measures, not the decimal or the metric system; a correct and uniform system of measures all over the country from Kashmir to Kanya Kumari and from Kutch to Kohima. We would have thought that there is a more

urgent necessity for that and not for this metric system.

I am not opposed to this in principle, but I am considering priorities. I would have thought, considering all these things—it is not my own;—it is the Government's statement that there is multiplicity and variety of weights and measures in this country which leads to a great deal of confusion—to avert this confusion, to put an end to this confusion, the Government would have taken steps to have a correct system of weights and measures throughout the country and an efficient inspectorate to check up the weights and measures all over the country. It is common experience—you are also very well aware and I need not remind the House—that there are in bazaars and markets different weights and measures in different States and in different towns in the same State—under-weighing and all these malpractices. Even stones and pebbles are sometimes used for weighing all kinds of commodities which common people are in need of. I thought that the Government which speaks for the common man, for a welfare state, would have come forward with a Bill to have a correct and uniform system of weights and measures all over the country, and for an efficient inspectorate to see that that it is enforced. But, I am afraid that even if this Bill is sought to be put through in stages, say, with effect from next year, there is bound to be an immediate impact on the Second Five Year Plan. The Plan is before the country. The facts and figures which have been compiled will have to be recast in terms of metres, kilogrammes, etc. I am sure this can be avoided. I find there is a provision in clause 1 sub-clause 3 that it shall come into force on such date, not being later than 10 years from the passing of this Act. In the brochure on the decimal coinage system, it has been proposed that the latter reform should be spread over a period of ten years. Here it is said that it shall come into force. I do not know what it means. The whole clause, if

you read it, means that it may come into force within 10 years either in whole or in part. The language is not clear.

**Mr. Chairman:** The meaning is that it shall be in full force but the phraseology is not quite happy.

**Shri Kamath:** It may be made happy in the Joint Committee. I would suggest to the Joint Committee that this should be made clear as to what is meant by this clause.

Shall I invite your attention and the attention of the House to another observation in this brochure which is in the foreword or preface by our hon. Minister Shri A. C. Guha? He has recognised, this brochure tells us, that even though, with regard to the decimal coinage system, the first Act was passed as long back as 1871,—roundabout 80 years ago—for a variety of reasons, the Act remained inoperative. The reason for this, as set forth in the preface, is apparently “peoples” co-operation was not forthcoming”. The Minister has also laid a very great burden on the educated community in our country to see that this measure on decimal coinage is made a success and it is implemented properly in the country. I do not wish to cast any reflection on our educated community. All of us here in this House are educated and I do not wish to cast any reflection. I do hope that the hope expressed by the hon. Minister will be fulfilled. But it is the common experience of most of us that in dealing with uneducated people, the illiterate folk in the villages, the educated community or the sophisticated section of the community tends to be not always honest so far as money, weights and measures, and very mundane affairs are concerned. I would therefore ask the Minister whether it is too late in the day even today to ascertain the opinion of State Governments and organisations of labour,

agriculture and other organised parties or groups in the country, business, trade and commerce, and thus prepare the ground for this measure. I understand there is a big brochure by Shri Pitambar Pant about decimal coinage. Those of us who are in touch with our constituencies know what the people think. Though some of them know that the decimal coinage is coming, I do not think many of them have heard that this metric system of weights and measures was in the offing. That is the impression that I have gained in my association with the people outside. This will come to them, not as a bolt from the blue, but certainly as a great surprise and perhaps an unpleasant surprise. May I ask in all humility how many of our friends either inside or outside, who have not got a scientific background, who have not had science as one of the subjects at the University, have really grasped what is contained in the Schedule and the various terms used in the clauses: candela, luminosity, solidification of platinum, etc. All these terms are highly scientific and technical terms. I do not think that apart from technical people, even the House has been well educated or well informed about the various terms and technical phrases that have been used in this Bill.

I would like to point out that this metric system is not obligatory in every country in the world even today. It may have its own fascination for certain people, but I would like to stress this aspect of the matter that it is not obligatory. It is permissive in many countries. The Prime Minister in one of his speeches on the other Bill on decimal coinage in this House said that we do not consult the people about the theory of relativity. Of course, we do not consult the people on the theory of relativity. But, you cannot put the theory of relativity on a par with weights and measures which you have to use every hour, every minute in every nook and corner of the country. I am sure the Prime Minister will not put these two things on the

[Shri Kamath]

same footing. Therefore, I think more caution and more time should have been taken by the Government before bringing this measure before the House. I was referring to the point that this system is not obligatory but permissive. Here I have the Encyclopaedia Britannica, which is my authority for making this statement. This is volume 15, the latest Edition of 1953. Here it says:

"The metric system is either obligatory or permissive in every civilised country."

It means that it is not compulsory everywhere. To cite an example, in China, which is comparable with our own country in point of size, what is happening? This is a country with which we are having very good relations and intimate contacts. I think we should take a leaf from the experience of China. It is said:

"In China the situation was very complicated."

This is the latest edition—

"Units differed in value from place to place,"—

Almost identical with what obtains in this country—

and in the same locality, people connected with different trades had conflicting units.—

Almost our own experience in Bengal, Madras, Madhya Pradesh and other parts of our own country.

An attempt was made—mark the words—an attempt was made to bring order out of this chaos—a very apt and expressive phrase—by the gradual adoption of the metric system in a series of carefully planned steps scheduled to cover "the period 1930-1935 inclusive."

They thought that they could do it in five years. Our Government has laid down a Schedule of 10 years.

But then, what happened there? It says: "It is doubtful..." that is in 1953, not in 1935.

**Mr. Chairman:** It may be a historical affair.

**Shri Kamath:** 1935 is our own age, not historical.

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, in that sense,

**Shri Kamath:** It concludes like this:

"It is doubtful if the programme could have resulted in a complete change in the units of measurement in China because of conditions."

**Mr. Chairman:** Political conditions also.

**Shri Kamath:** But I think the revolutionary Government which has come to power in China, 1949, like our own Government might have even hastened in this direction in a revolutionary manner, but it appears up to 1953 there was not much change in the system of weights and measures and they were not successful in China.

This system originated in France in the eighteenth century. The French National Assembly adopted a resolution in this respect in 1791. Then, what happened? Mark these words.

"It took many years for the metric system to be adopted as an obligatory system even in France."

And then it goes on to say:

"The progress in most other countries has been also very slow, but its desirability as an international system was recognised by geodesists and others."

Not by everybody. I do not know the meaning of the word "geodesists". "Geodesy" comes from 'earth', I suppose, and "geodesists" are earth-measurers I believe. But even after these 150 years it is not obligatory on every civilised country. But what do we propose to do here? Clause 14 of the Bill empowers the Central Government by notification to permit the use of other weights and measures

already extant for a period of three years.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** Not exceeding three years.

**Shri Kamath:** It means up to three years you can use the other weights. We think that we will be much more able, much more competent to put this through than almost every other country in the world. The system which had its genesis in 1791 is not in vogue today as an obligatory or a compulsory system in all countries, but we, after ten plus three years, that is simple arithmetic—ten years for enforcement and after that for three years we might have the other weights and measures extant.....

**Mr. Chairman:** In some cases in some States regarding certain commodities the limitation can be three years.

**Shri Kamath:** Three years, that is what I say. After three years you cannot have it, that is what I mean.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Not only after three years, but when it will come into force we do not know, because under clause 1 it has been said:

“.....the Central Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint; and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act or for different areas or for different classes of undertakings or for different classes of goods.”

**Mr. Chairman:** That is right, but so far as I understand, within the course of these ten years certain provisions might be introduced two years after, some three years after, but within the course of ten years all the measures will be introduced.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** So, it does not exceed 13 years.

**Shri Kamath:** Ten plus three, thirteen. Please see clause 14.

**Mr. Chairman:** It reads:

“Notwithstanding that this Act has come into force in respect of

any area or class of goods or undertakings, the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette permit the continuance of the use, after such commencement.....”

That is the trouble. “Commencement” means it may be after ten years or within ten years we shall complete the process.

**Shri Kamath:** The brochure says we must complete within ten years. According to my interpretation, there will be no more than thirteen years for the introduction of a uniform metric system in this country. It may be less than thirteen years.

**Shri Kanunge:** Assuming that the last notification will be on the last date of the tenth year.

**Shri Kamath:** I say thirteen years or less. It may be eleven, ten, nine, six, two or one.

**Mr. Chairman:** Anyway it is not so material.

**Shri Kamath:** I am constrained to say that they are taking too optimistic a view of the situation. And the unlucky number thirteen might dog their steps. And I may be permitted to say that clause 2 read with clause 14 really makes a little chaos in this Bill, and I hope the Joint Committee will be able to bring some order out of the chaos, and if it does not do so, the common man, the poor man in the village especially, will be hard hit in the bazaar and in the market when he goes for shopping and for buying his daily needs.

Take one little instance. The Army—our Minister is anxiously waiting for his Bill to come up—has got a schedule of various qualifications and requirements for the physical fitness and other things of their jawans and for the admission of people into the armed forces. If this is adopted, they will have to straightaway switch on to metres from inches—metres, and so



[Shri Kamath.] many centimetres for expansion and all that. I believe the Minister of Defence Organisation is listening, is very carefully listening, and is wondering as to how this will be done so far as the Army is concerned. And if you look at the Schedule to the Bill, it is a bit terrifying. One inch is 0.0254 metre, one yard is 0.9144 metre. Now I suppose when they convert the measurements of chest and height and what not into metres and centimetres, they will not be exact, they will be only approximate.

**The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi):** The inch tapes will be changed.

**Shri Kamath:** And confusion may result even in a very educated department, that is, the Army.

**Shri Tyagi:** No fear.

**Shri Kamath:** No fear about education, or what do you mean? I said about our educated department, the Army, and "no fear" the Minister says.

Anyway, I would point out also before I close that this Bill again seeks to exclude the State of Jammu and Kashmir by clause 1, sub-clause (2). I have been referring and reverting to this matter again and again. Whenever a Bill comes up before the House—such a clause has been coming up before the House for the last six months or more—every time the excuse is trotted out from the Treasury Benches that the Jammu and Kashmir Government has not been consulted and their consent has not been obtained. Under the Constitution they have to okay. But is it presumed by our luminaries on the Treasury Benches that the Jammu and Kashmir Government will not consent to measures, or has it become a sort of cliché or a stereotyped formula that has to be included in every Bill?

**Mr. Chairman:** There may be some difference. It is one thing to consult or ask the consent of that Government regarding a Bill which has not yet become a law, and it is quite another to ask their consent after it has been passed. The Bill may undergo some changes here in this House. So, after

the Bill is passed, it will be quite proper to send it to them and ask their consent.

**Shri Kamath:** I am very glad you have thrown light on this rather obscure thing.

**Mr. Chairman:** That is my view.

**Shri Kamath:** Anyway, on this rather obscure thing, you have thrown some light, and I hope the light will guide the Treasury Benches, and after the Bill is passed, I hope they will consult the Jammu and Kashmir Government. But they have not done so in the past with regard to so many Bills. That point has been raised in this House, and we have been told by them 'we have not consulted them'. That is to say, after the Bill was passed, and the President's assent was given, even then, the Jammu and Kashmir Government had not been consulted. Either they do not bother to consult, or they have no mind to consult or they have no will to consult. I do not know what it is. It is high time that at least in the case of measures like this, they are consulted.

I am sure the Jammu and Kashmir Government will not object to a measure like this. If they did, well, I do not know what to say about the Jammu and Kashmir Government, whether it is sheer cussedness on their part, or whether it is sheer obstinacy, or whether it is sheer intransigence or call it what you will. I am sure if they are reasonable, they would not object to a measure like this, to enforce a measure like this in their own State.

Now, here is another encyclopaedia, namely the *Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences*, published in New York. This is an American encyclopaedia, whereas the other one was the British encyclopaedia. I tried to get hold of the Soviet encyclopaedia also, but I could not get it here. I hope, however with the spirit of Panch Shila growing and strengthening the ties between the two countries, we would soon have the Soviet encyclopaedia also. Today unfortunately, a copy is not there in our library.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** It is in the Russian language.

**Shri Kamath:** There was some such encyclopaedia in Russia published about two years ago, and it had something interesting to say about Gandhiji and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. I believe that encyclopaedia is not with us.

But the American encyclopaedia says—I do not know whether the Minister has cared to glance at this encyclopaedia so far, but I hope he will do so when the Joint Committee takes up the matter—

“The claims of the metric system to universality in trade and industry have encountered opposition in several countries.”

Therefore, it has been provided that it should not be obligatory or compulsory. Here also, I would request the Minister and Government not to make it compulsory or obligatory, not for thirteen years only, but till such time as every man, woman and child in this country is educated—not merely literate, but educated—in the sense that our Minister of Finance has used the words ‘the educated community’.

The Minister of Education, some time ago, answering a question in this House, said that the pace of progress with regard to universal free compulsory primary education has not been commensurate with the period stipulated in the Constitution. You are aware that the Constitution has prescribed a period of ten years, for the introduction of universal free compulsory education. According to article 45 in the chapter on Directive principles of State Policy, ten years have been prescribed for the State to endeavour to provide free compulsory education. But the Minister of Education told the House some days ago that today, even after six years after the passing of the Constitution, even one-third of the community, that is, the children of the community, have not had free primary education. It was even less, I believe; I think he said one-fourth. If this be the pace, it is wrong to inflict on the country a system—whether it be weights and

measures or coinage—which will not be understood—not to talk of its being appreciated—by the vast masses or the millions of people in this country, who are likely to suffer more than the educated or the rich section of the community, and who will be cheated, mulcted of their sparse earnings, and put to great difficulty in their daily life.

In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, signed by the Minister himself, we find:

“There is urgent need for enforcing a uniform system of weights and measures throughout the country. The question has been under consideration of the Government for some time past, and it is felt that the best course would be to adopt a uniform system of weights and measures based on the metric system.”

I wish they had had a uniform, correct system of weights and measures throughout the country, not necessarily the metric system but a uniform and correct system of weights and measures, to start with. Every country has acted with caution and gone at a slow pace in regard to the adoption of the metric system. Why should we hasten or why should we be so hasty? Why should we not go with caution, and at a slow and deliberate pace, to achieve this reform which is desirable in itself? We are concerned at this point, at this stage, with the pace of the reform and the priority.

I would again insist that what is wanted today is a correct system of weights and measures, and a good inspectorate, and efficient inspectorate, and an honest inspectorate throughout the country to enforce the correct system of weights and measures, not necessarily the metric system as such. This might have followed later on after the people had been educated in honesty, that is, honesty about weights and measures. We could have easily adopted the metric system fifteen years or ten years or even five years after that. But in the first year,

[Shri Kamath]

just for novelty's sake, it is not enough if we adopt the metric system. Let us make it true and effective first. I am afraid at this rate it would not be effective. It would not be accepted by the people at large in the country. Even we, as I said, are not able to understand it fully. I tried to go through the schedule and the various scientific and technical terms. As I have had some scientific training at the university, I was able to follow something of it, but there are bits of it which seem obscure to me also. And I wonder how the vast masses or the millions of people outside will be able to grasp and understand the mass of verbiage that this Bill contains. And Government, I am sure, have not put forward any brochure so far to prepare the ground for this Bill.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons further goes on to say:

"The Bill seeks to lay down metre as the primary unit of length and kilogram as the primary unit of mass. It lays down standards not only for mass and length, but also for time, temperature, electric current and luminous intensity. The Bill merely lays down the standards of weights and measures."

The rest is, of course, left to the State Governments.

I would once again reiterate, that while I am not opposed to this Bill in principle, I am of the opinion that the time that Government have chosen for the introduction of the Bill is somewhat inopportune, considering the observations of the committee itself, that is to say, of the special committee on weights and measures, which reported on this matter in 1949. From the brochure, at page 7, we find:

"The Committee, therefore, recommends that the decision of the interim Government in India for the adoption of decimalised currency should be implemented as early as possible. The Committee further recommends that the weights and dimensions of the new coins should be related to the

metric system of weights and measures, so as to facilitate the propagation of general knowledge of the magnitude of the new units among the public."

They wanted, therefore, that the decimal currency should precede and should be the precursor. But the decimal currency has not yet come into force at all. We have passed the Bill, but the decimal currency has not yet come into force. It is supposed to come into force next year, that is, on the 1st April 1957. And this brochure says that it should be the precursor of this system of weights and measures. Therefore, it would have been very well if Government had waited for the decimal system of currency or coinage to have come into force on 1st April 1957, and to have left it to the new Government to have taken in hand the introduction of a Bill for a uniform system of weights and measures, based on the metric system, throughout the country.

पंजित ठाकुर दास भागंब : इस बिल के मुताल्लिक जो तकरीरें हुई हैं वे मने सुनी हैं डेसीमल कायनेज के दशमलव टंकन के मुताल्लिक श्रावजवशान्त्र को पढ़ा है और मिनिस्टर साहब की तकरीर को भी बड़े गौर से सुना है। इन के बावजूद मरी समझ में अभी तक यह नहीं आई है कि इस बिल के खिलाफ उसूलो एतराज क्या है मने श्री कामत, श्री रेडडी और श्री सोधिया की तकरीरें सुनी हैं और उन तीनों मेंबर साहबान ने इस बिल के उसूल से इस्तिलाफ नहीं किया है। श्री सोधिया और श्री रेडडी की तकरीरों से यह साफ बाजेह होता कि इस बिल के मुताल्लिक बहुत जल्दी नहीं करनी चाहिए और इस को पब्लिक प्रोपोनियन लोक मत एलिसिट करने के लिए भेज देना चाहिये। खुद इस बिल की दफा ३ से मालूम होता है कि फिलवा के इस में जल्दी की कोई बात नहीं है और ऐसी कोई बात नहीं है कि आज कल ही यह हमारी पालियामेंट में पास हो जाय, वना फिर कभी यह नहीं होगा या ऐसा करने से कोई नुकसान होगा। जनाब के

नोटिस में शायद एनफोर्समेंट प्रवर्तन के बहुत कम प्राविज्ञान उपबन्ध आए होंगे, जिन में लफ्ज "डिफरेंट" भिन्न का दस्तोमाल इस कदर प्रोफ़-यूजली किया गया है। इस बिल में लिखा हुआ है कि

".....and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act or for different areas or for different classes of undertakings or for different classes of goods."

हिन्दुस्तान की मौजूदा कन्डीशन में यह प्राविज्ञान निहायत वाजिब है, इस बात को मैं डाउट (संदेह) नहीं करता हूँ। इस हाउस का कोई भी मेम्बर इस बिल के ऊपर मोतरज नहीं है। जो बिल हमारे सामने रखा गया है उस में लिखा गया है कि दुनिया के ७० कन्ट्रीज (देशों) में इन पैमानों को तस्लीम किया है, जिस के नाथने ये हैं कि दुनिया भर में यह मेट्रिक सिस्टम रायज है और बड़ा काबिले-कबूल है। मेरी समझ में यह बात नहीं आती कि जब हम दुनिया के साथ लेन देन करते हैं व्यवहार करते हैं तो फिर इन स्टैंडर्ड वेट्स एंड मैजज (प्रामाणिक माप तौल) को कम से कम उसूलन क्यों न माने। मेरे दोस्त कामल साहब ने एनसाइक्लोपीडिया (विश्व कोष) और दूसरी किताबों से पढ़ कर सुनाया। उन में यह नहीं कहा गया है कि जहाँ तक वेट्स एंड मैजज का सवाल है, वे मुस्तलिफ़ कन्ट्रीज (देशों) में होने मुनासिब है या उन कन्ट्रीज में वे रायज नहीं हैं। उन्होंने फ़रमाया कि मीट्रिक सिस्टम आबलीगेटरी नहीं है, लेकिन वह तो अलग बान्न है सवाल तो यह है कि जिस दुनिया में हम रहते हैं उसमें ७० कन्ट्रीज उस सिस्टम को मानते हैं, तो फिर उसूलन उसको मान लेने में क्या एतराज है।

श्री कामल : वहाँ भी लाजिमी नहीं है।

पंडित डाक्टर दास भागवत : सिर्फ एक जगह सुना कि लाजिमी नहीं है, बाकी जगह तो आप ने नहीं सुनाया।

इस सिस्टम को यहाँ पर रायज करने के उसूल से कोई भी आनरेबल मेम्बर खिलाफ नहीं है। इस बारे में इस्तिस्लाफ़ हो सकता है कि इस को इस मुल्क में रायज करने में कितना अरसदलगेगा। इस सिलसिले में मैं जनाब को तवज्जह इस बात को तरफ़ दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि यहाँ पर मिन्ट (टक-साल) बने हुए इतना लम्बा अर्सा गुजर चुका है, लेकिन उस के बाद भी इस मुल्क में सारे सिवके उस तरह रायज नहीं हैं, जिस तरह कि हम समझ बैठे हैं। आज भी कई जगहों पर कोड़ियाँ और डबल पैसा और दूसरी कई चीजें चलती हैं। सब जगह पाई और पैसा नहीं चलता है, हालांकि उन को रायज हुए इतना अरसा हो चुका है। इसी तरह मुल्क में कन्वा मन, पक्का मन बगरह बीस तरफ़ के स्टैंडर्ड (परिमाण) हैं। एक भाई ने पढ़ कर सुनाया कि यहाँ पर मन की डिनामिनेशाज (अभिधान) की १४० बेरिएशज (विभिन्नतायें) हैं। पहाड़ों और कई दूसरी जगहों पर लोग पक्के वेट्स एंड मेजज (माप और तौल) को नहीं जानते हैं। इस सिलसिले में स्टेट्स में जो हालात हैं, वह उन लोगों से पूछिये, जो कि वहाँ बसते हैं। लोकल गवर्नमेंट्स ने इन वेट्स एंड मेजज की वजह से लोगों को कितनी तकलीफ़ दे रखी है और कितनी कनफ्यूजन पैदा की हुई है, वहाँ के लोग ही जानते हैं। मैं पंजाब से आया हूँ, जो कि एक बड़ी एडवान्स्ड स्टेट (प्रगतिशील राज्य) है। आप वहाँ किसी मंडी में किसी भी दूकानदार से पूछिये कि लोगों को इस मामले में कितनी दिक्कत का सामना करना पड़ता है। अमी श्री हेमराज जी ने बताया है कि वहाँ पर इम्पैक्टजं ने हेवक किया हुआ है। वे लोगों का चालान करते हैं और बिला वजह चालान करते हैं। इम्पैक्टजं (निरीक्षक) इतने बढ़ गये हैं कि हर तरफ़ रिस्वत का बाजार गर्म है। जहाँ तक सिक्कों का ताल्लुक है, कम से कम वे गवर्नमेंट की

[श्री डाकुर दास भार्गव]

मिन्ट में तो बने हुए हैं और जो सिक्के लीगल टेंडर (विधि मान्य) नहीं हैं, वे काउन्टरफीट तो हैं, लेकिन इस के मुकाबले में आज जितने वेट्स एंड मेजर्ज बने हुए हैं, उन को कौन बनाता है ? वे किसी मिन्ट में नहीं बनते हैं ? उन को गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया (भारत सरकार) नहीं बनाती है। लेकिन गवर्नमेंट चन्द बड़े बड़े मानोपलिस्ट्स (एकाधिकारियों) को ठेके देती है और वे लोग इनको बनाते हैं। उस के बाद यह देखने के लिये कि वे वेट्स एंड मेजर्ज ठीक हैं या नहीं, साल-ब-साल उन पर ठप्पे और मोहरें लगाई जाती हैं। इस में लोगों का बहुत वक्त जाया हो जाता है और उनको बड़ी तकलीफ होती है। इसलिये पहलो और लाजिमी तजवीज यह है कि सब वेट्स और मेजर्ज सिक्कों की तरह गवर्नमेंट फैक्टरी में बनें और कोई प्राइवेट आदमी इनको न बनावे। मैं यह मानने के लिये तैयार हूँ कि उतने धरसे में, जितने में कि हम इस को रायज करना चाहते हैं, हमें इस को रायज करने में मुश्किल आ सकती है। मेरे दोस्त ने सफा ७ पर से पढ़ कर सुनाया कि गवर्नमेंट का मन्शा यह है कि पहले डैसीमल कायनेज आये और फिर ये वेट्स एंड मेजर्ज आये। उसी के मुताबिक इस बारे में अमल किया जा रहा है। इसमें कोई शक नहीं कि डैसीमल कायनेज (दशमलव टैकन) प्रोक्सरी होगा। वेट्स एंड मेजर्ज का यहाँ पर सवाल यह है कि चूँकि यह बिल हर एक शरुस की लाइफ को एफैक्ट (प्रभावित) करेगा, इसलिये अगर यह तजवीज की जाय कि इसको लोगों की राय जानने के लिये सकुलेट (परिचालित) किया जाय, तो इस में खराबी की क्या बात है ? मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि इस तजवीज को मानने से क्या फर्क पड़ जायगा। आखिर इस को इतनी जल्दी रायज करने की क्या वजह है ? मेरे

स्थान में तो यह जरूरी है कि जब भी पार्लियामेंट कोई ऐसा कानून बनाये, जिस का ताल्लुक लोगों की रोज मर्रा की जिन्दगी से हो, उस वक्त उस के बारे में हर एक शरुस की राय मालूम करने का तरीका अस्तियार किया जाना चाहिये। हकीकत यह है कि जब किसी बिल को पब्लिक प्रीपीनियन एलिसिट (राय प्राप्त) करने के लिये भेजा जाता है, तो वह लोकल गवर्नमेंट (स्थानीय सरकार) और बाज एलोसियेशन्ज (संस्थायें) वगैरह और चन्द एक मुतादद लोगों के पास जा कर ही रह जाता है। हमारे रेड्डी साहब और सोधिया साहब जिन लोगों की राय जानना चाहते हैं, उन की राय आज तक किसी बिल के बारे में नहीं जानी गई है। एक दफा मैंने एक बिल के बारे में छः लाख आदमियों के दस्तखत पेश किये थे और जो आज भी भवन के एक कमरे में रहीं की टोकरी में पड़े हुए हैं। किसी ने उन को उठा कर नहीं देखा। आज तक उतनी रायें किसी बिल के बारे में नहीं आईं, जितनी कि उस बिल-बनस्पति बिल-के बारे में, आई थीं। इस लिये मेरा कहना यह है कि कम से कम लोकल गवर्नमेंट, हाई कोर्ट और पब्लिक के आदमियों की राय जानने की तकलीफ आप क्यों नहीं करते। यह अमेंडमेंट (संशोधन) आप क्यों नहीं मानते। इस में क्या फर्क पड़ जायेगा ? इस बिल के उसूल को तो कोई भी बड्डेचन नहीं करता है। हिन्दुस्तान के सामने इस के अलावा कोई चारा ही नहीं है कि वह इन वेट्स एंड मेजर्ज को एक्सेप्ट (स्वीकार) करे। हमारे पास कोई आल्टरनेटिव (वैकल्पिक) चीज ही नहीं है, जिस के बारे में हम कहें कि हम उस को मानेंगे और इस सिस्टम (प्रणाली) को नहीं मानेंगे। जहाँ तक इलैक्ट्रिक करेन्ट (बिजली) टैम्परेचर (ताप) और ल्यूमिनस इन्टेंसिटी (प्रकाश की महत्ता) के यूनिट का ताल्लुक है, मैं न ही

जानता कि उनके लिये एम्पीयर, सैन्टीग्रैड और कैंडला होना चाहिये या कुछ और होना चाहिये ।

श्री कानुनमन्त्री : हमारे मुल्क में यही चालू है ।

पंडित ठाकुर दास भागवत : अगर यही चालू हो, तो यह हमारी कालोसल इन्टीरैस (बड़ी भूल) है कि हम उन को भी नहीं जानते । यहां पर सवाल तो लोगों को एजूक्रेट करने का है । हमारे गुहा साहब बड़े तजुबकार मिनिस्टर हैं । उन्होंने लिखा है कि जब तक पब्लिक इस बारे में को-अपरेट (सहयोग) कर के इन वेट्स एंड मेजर्ज को पापुलर नहीं करेगा, तब तक हम इन का फायदा नहीं उठा सकते । डेसीमल कायनेज (दशमलव टैकन) के मुकाबले में वेट्स एंड मेजर्ज कई दर्जे मुश्किल चीज हैं और उन का समझना और पापुलर करना और भी मुश्किल होगा । मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि इस काम के लिये तीन साल का अरसा मेरो नाकिस राय में बहुत थोड़ा है और इस को बढ़ाया जाना चाहिये । लोगों में कोई भी चीज—बहुत अच्छी चीज भी—पापुलर करने में बड़ी देर लगती है ? हमारी यह एजम्प्लान (धारणा) गलत है कि दिल्ली में कोई बिल पास करने से ही वह हिन्दुस्तान के गांव गांव में फैल जायगा । यहां पर बहुत से लोग ऐसे बैठे हैं, जिनको राय में दस साल का अरसा इस को पूरा करने के लिये बहुत कम है । मेरे क्याल में आप इस पोरियड (काल) को फीनक्सिबल (लचीला) कर दें । अगर आप देखें कि पेस आफ प्रोग्रेस (प्रगति की गति) बहुत तेज है और लोगों में एजूकेशन बहुत बढ़ रही है और वे बहुत जल्दी इस को समझने लग जायेंगे, तो आप को अस्थियार है कि आप इस को कम कर दें । यह सब कहने में मेरा मतलब यह है कि हम को इस तबाल को

एक रियैलैस्टिक (यथार्थवादी) तरीके से देखना चाहिये । मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस बात पर जिद्द न की जाय कि इतने असे में यह चीज आयें । मैं चाहता हूँ कि इन दोनों बातों पर सिलैक्ट कमेटी (प्रवर समिति) गौर करे ।

एक और जिमना सवाल उठता है जिस की तरफ मेरे दोस्त रेड्डी साहब ने भी आप का ध्यान दिलाया है । यह सवाल नामनक्लेचर (नामावलि) जो आप ने एक्सेप्ट किये हैं उस के बारे में है । ये नामनक्लेचर (नामावलि) वही हैं जो कि दूसरे मुल्कों में एक्सेप्ट किये हैं । पेशतर इस के कि मैं इस के बारे में अर्ज करूँ मैं एक दलील जो हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर (प्रधान मंत्री) साहब ने हाउस में दी थी उस की तरफ आपका ध्यान दिलाना अपना फर्ज समझता हूँ । उन्होंने कहा था कि जितनी देर डेसीमल कायनेज को चालू करने में करोगे उतनी ही ज्यादा तकलीफ होगी । आज जितनी भी कॅलकुलेटिंग मशीन (गणना मशीन) वगैरह हमारे देश के अन्दर हैं उन को तबदील करने में बहुत ज्यादा नुकसान होगा और बहुत ज्यादा तकलीफात का सामना करना पड़ेगा जैसा कि दूसरे मुल्कों को करना पड़ा है । यह काम इतना कालोसल (महत) और ओवरवैलहमिंग (बड़ा) नजर आता है कि सारे देश के अन्दर जो यादें हैं या बीधा हैं उन सब को एक लाइन के अन्दर लाना बहुत ही मुश्किल है । जो असा रखा गया है उस में तबदीली लाना कठिन नजर आता है । आज देश में गिरह और गज और बालिशत वगैरह चलते हैं और मोटर नहीं चलते हैं । जब यह तबदीली आयेंगी तो जो होशियार आदमी हैं वे गरीब आदमियों को चोट (घोषा देना) करेंगे । आप का मंशा यह है कि यह जो चेंज ओवर ही वह इस तरह से प्रेजुअल (क्रमशः) हो, इस तरह से सिस्टेमेटिक हो कि लोगों के

[पं० ठाकुर दास भार्गव]

साथ धोखा न हो सके। जहाँ तक इस बिल के उसूल का ताल्लुक है, मुझे इस हाउस के अन्दर कोई भी ऐसा आदमी नजर नहीं आया जो इस के बरखिलाफ हो। इसलिये यह बहुत जरूरी है कि जितना भी प्रचार आप करें, वह कसी भूरत में कम नहीं होना चाहिये। मैं जानता हूँ कि हर रोज हम कानून पास करते हैं जो कि गवर्नमेंट गजिट में शायी हो जाते हैं। इस के बारे में भी आप ऐसा ही करेंगे और बहुत ज्यादा जोर मारेंगे तो उन को वर्नक्यूलर पेपर्स (देशी भाषाओं के समाचार-पत्रों) में भेज देंगे और भी जोर मारेंगे तो बीट आफ ड्रम (डोल बजा कर) से एनाउन्समेंट (घोषणा) करवा देंगे। यह सब कुछ तो हो सकता है। मैं आप को एक मामूली सी बात बतलाता हूँ। यह जो कम्पेन्सेशन स्कीम (प्रतिकर योजना) का मामला था जिन को रुपया लेना था उस के बारे में बहुत ज्यादा दिक्कत हुई है। यह चीज ऐसी थी जो कि वाइल्ड फायर (भयानक आग) की तरह फैल जानी चाहिये थी। क्योंकि लोगों को रुपया लेना था। ताहम कई लोग ऐसे रह गये जिन को कि रुपया लेना था और जिन्होंने दरखास्तें नहीं दीं और जिन के बारे में आज यह कहा जाता है कि अब सब रास्ते बन्द हो गये हैं और क्यों उन्होंने ने वक्त पर दरखास्तें नहीं दीं और इस के सबूत में वह डाकुमेंट्स (प्रलेख) पेश करें। तो मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि बदकिस्मती से इस देश में असली हालत क्या है, कितनी ज्यादा इगनोरेंस (अज्ञान) है, कितनी ज्यादा इलिट्रेसी (निरक्षरता) है, इस का अंदाजा कोई भी इस हाउस के अन्दर लगाने को तैयार नहीं है। मैं अर्ज करता हूँ कि यह चीज बहुत अच्छी है लेकिन हमें यह भी नहीं भूलना चाहिये कि हमारे देश के अन्दर १५ परसेंट से ज्यादा लोग ऐसे नहीं हैं जो दस्तखत करना जानते हों।

यह सही बात मालूम पड़ती है। बावजूद फाईव यीर प्लान (पंच वर्षीय योजना) के अन्दर सब फिगरस (आंकड़े) देने के उस में यह लिखा हुआ है कि अभी तीन प्लान पीरियड्स (कालावधियों) की जरूरत होगी। पेट्रर इस के कि हम कांस्टीट्यूशन (संविधान) में जो हुक्म हुआ है कि १० साल के अन्दर हम फ्री और कम्पलसरी प्राइमरी एजुकेशन (अनिवार्य प्राथमिक शिक्षा) सब को दे सके। तो मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि आप जल्दी न करें और आप आहिस्ता आहिस्ता चलें। मुझे यह जान कर खुशी हुई है कि रेलवे ने इस काम में सब से पहले कोआप्रेट करने को कहा है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट के जितने भी डिपार्टमेंट्स (विभाग) हैं उन सब को सब से पहले आगे आना चाहिये और इस को हर तरीके से पीपुलराइज करना चाहिये। इस में कुछ तरीके भी दिये हुए हैं कि पैम्पलेट्स (पत्रिकाओं) के जरिये से लोगों को एजुकेट किया जायेगा। क्या ये पैम्पलेट्स उन के लिये जारी किये जायेंगे जो पढ़ना लिखना नहीं जानते हैं। गांवों के अन्दर इस चीज को चलाने के लिये कितने ही बरस लग जायेंगे। वेट्स एंड मेजर्स के बारे में सन् १९३६के अन्दर एक एक्ट पास हुआ था। उस के बारे में आपने स्टेटमेंट आफ आबजेक्ट्स एंड रीजन्स में लिखा है कि :

The standards of weights and length have been laid down in the Standards of Weight Act, 1939, and the Measures of Length Act, 1889, the standards being the seer, the pound, the yard and their multiples and sub-multiples. These standards, however, have not been effectively enforced throughout the country.

जब इन पर आपकी इतनी कोशिशों के बावजूद आज तक पूरी तरह से अमल नहीं हुआ है तो यह जो आप बिल्कुल नई चीज

बना रहे हैं इस को अमल में लाने के लिये आप क्यों इतनी ज्यादा जल्दी कर रहे हैं। आप क्यों यह चाहते हैं कि यह चीज तीन साल में खत्म हो जाय या १० साल में खत्म हो जाये। यह वाजिब नहीं है। आप इस को फ्लेक्सिबल (लचीला) क्यों नहीं रखते हैं अगर आप तेजी से कदम बढ़ा सकते हैं तो तेजी से बढ़ाये और अगर नहीं बढ़ा सकते हैं तो उस के मूताबिक चले। तो मैं चाहता हूँ कि सिलेक्ट कमिटी (प्रवर समिति) इन सब बातों पर ध्यान दे और जो पीरियड रखा गया है उस पर गौर करे। जो रियलिस्टिक चीज है वह होनी चाहिये और हमें प्रैक्टिकल (व्यवहार कुशल) आदमियों की तरह से विचार करना चाहिये।

जहत क उसूलों का सवाल है, मैं नहीं समझता कि किसी को इन पर कोई एतराज है। मैं अपने आप को एक मॅम्बर पालियामेंट होते हुए भी इन्-काबिल नहीं पाता कि जहाँ तक इस चीज का ताल्लुक है कि किलोग्राम कितने सेर के बराबर होता है यह क्या चीज किस के बराबर होती है, मुझे यह कहते हुए शर्म महसूस होती है कि इस से मैं वाकिफ नहीं हूँ।

**श्री त्यागी :** की (कुंजी) छप जायेगी।

**पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव :** त्यागी जी कहते हैं कि की छप जायेगी। मुझे तो ऐसा नजर आता है कि त्यागी जी देहरादून से आगे नहीं चलते हैं; जो किताब छपेगी वह काम के काम आयेगी क्या इस पर भी उन्होंने विचार किया है। मैं तो समझता हूँ कि वह देहरादून के आगे गांव के अन्दर नहीं जाते हैं और वहाँ की क्या हालत है इस का पता लगाने की कोशिश नहीं करते हैं। उन की नो रोशनी है वह देहरादून और मसूरी के जो गरीब आदमी हैं उन तक नहीं पहुँचती

है। उस गरीब आदमी का जो पढ़ा लिखा नहीं है क्या होगा यह आप बतायें।

आप कोई ऐसा तरीका निकालें जिस से कि आप जितनी तेजी के साथ उस तक पहुँचना चाहते हैं उतनी तेजी के साथ पहुँच सकें।

**श्री कामत :** चुनाव के दौरान में जायेंगे।

**पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव :** तो मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो बातें मैं ने कही हैं उन पर सिलेक्ट कमिटी विचार करे।।

**Shri S. C. Samanta (Tamluk):** I welcome the Bill and oppose the motion for circulation for eliciting public opinion because by passing the Bill we are not closing every door and, Government will have the responsibility to reach every man about the proposal they have put before Parliament. So, I think, there is no necessity for circulation.

My friend, Shri Sodhia was telling us that merchants and Chambers of Commerce have not been consulted. I would respectfully request him and also my hon. friend Shri Reddi to go through the book supplied to us, *The Metric System in India*, by Pitambar Pant. In this book everything has been dealt with elaborately. We find at the end of the Bill that there are 16 Weights Acts and Weights and Measures Acts in India, and each of them is very different from the other.

I have come to know, which I did not know, that in West Bengal a seer means 60 tolas, 80 tolas, 82 tolas, 84 tolas, 90 tolas, 93 tolas, 96 tolas, 101 tolas, 102 tolas, 105 tolas and 120 tolas

**Pandit K. C. Sharma (Meerut (Dist.-South):** Keep these tolas for tomorrow.

6 P.M.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** One seer means this much for different commodities. For this reason we want some uniformity in a State. As there is no Act in West Bengal in this regard, these things have happened there and a seer means anything from 60 to 120 tolas.



**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member may continue on the next day. Now we have the half-an-hour discussion regarding Development Grants to Manipur.

#### DEVELOPMENT GRANTS TO MANIPUR

**Shri Rishang Keishing** (Outer Manipur-Reserved-Sch. Tribes): The facts to which I have to invite the notice of this House today pertains to the factors which are responsible for jeopardising the Central allocation of schemes to the State of Manipur, which is ruled directly by the Central Government. A study of these facts will cast a sad reflection over the unsympathetic attitude of the State Government and apathy displayed by the same towards the development of the State in general and that of the tribal area in particular. Sir, I might be blamed for railing at everything which the Government of Manipur does, but I fail to understand how I should appreciate them when almost every day I receive complaints from the tribal people about the lack of sympathy, apathy, incompetence and corruption of the State Government there. When I attempt to invite the attention of the Ministers, they often either ignore it or they cover the acts of the Administrative Representative there or sometimes camouflage the issue. The Ministers here are the representatives of the people, but so far as Manipur is concerned, I am inclined to think that they are not here to do something good for the public or the people of Manipur.

On the 29th May, I asked of the Home Minister as to whether it was a fact that out of the Central grants sanctioned for 1955-56 of Rs. 14.62 lakhs, Rs. 11.50 lakhs had lapsed. The Deputy Minister for Home Affairs had vaguely replied that during the period the State Government had completed works costing Rs. 7 lakhs. In this connection, I would like to inform the House that Rs. 11.50 lakhs lapsed during that year. Works to the ex-

tent of Rs. 7 lakhs might have been completed, but payments for the works completed were not made, and the unpaid amount totalled about Rs. 4 lakhs. The villagers who have constructed a 35-mile road in Tamenglong Sub-Division, a 10-mile road in the southern part of Ukhrul, and another 10-mile road in the western part of Ukhrul at the rate of Rs. 1,500 per mile were not paid.

As regards Tamenglong, I am sure the House will be aware that this area is a famine-affected area, and the people of this area enthusiastically worked for the construction of the road, for, without the money, they were starving. They need the money for their food and they also worked on the road according to the specific order of the State Government Authorities. Here is a letter which I received from the local people. The letter was addressed to the Development Commissioner, who was also the Deputy Commissioner on July 1956. With your permission I wish to read out a small portion of it.

"That under Tribal welfare schemes, with a view to give some sort of relief as well as to develop the area, development works such as construction of water points in the villages and new roads from village to village etc., are given to the public. The wages per day per head (labour) was fixed at Rs. 2 for clearing the paths, Rs. 2 per square foot for making new wooden bridges on the paths, Rs. 1,500 for new earth-work per mile, and at various rates from Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 3,000 for the construction of water points. We have completed the construction works before three months back. Our works were also supervised and the measurements of the works were taken by the Mohorors, Overseer, and expert engineer. We the public suffer much for delay in payment of our wages for the work done as we live from hand to mouth."