

Mr. Chairman: All other amendments are barred now.

MOTION RE REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

Shri Ramananda Das (Barrackpore): What is the time allotted for the consideration of this Report?

Mr. Chairman: The House knows that the Business Advisory Committee very probably allotted five or six hours for this.

Hon. Members: Six hours.

Mr. Chairman: This Report was not considered last year also. Yesterday I pointed out that the Chair also was very anxious that full time be devoted to the consideration of this Report. When we agreed yesterday to dispense with the question hour today, we thought that 2½ hours at least would be devoted to it. But now we find that much more time has been taken on other business, and if we are to take up the non-official business at 2-30 p. m., enough time will not be available for full discussion of this Report.

Therefore, I have to ask the House how it proposes to make up for the time which has been lost in other discussions. There are two courses open. So far as the Chair is concerned, the Chair is quite agreeable to take some time away from the time allotted for the non-official business, if the House is agreeable to finish the discussion today. If the House is not agreeable, we will take as much time as possible today, and proceed with the discussion up till 2-30 p. m., and then take the discussion to the next session. There are thus two courses open. I am anxious that full time be given to the discussion of this report. It may be decided just as the House pleases. If the House wants that we may take some of the time of the non-official business, the House can express its willingness to do so. If the House wants that the

debate may be taken over to the next session, it can do so. Let us, first of all, just find out from the hon. Home Minister his reactions, because his reactions must also be considered.

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): I have no objection to the discussion being taken to the next session.

Mr. Chairman: I think the House is agreeable that we may spend as much time as possible today, and then the rest of the time may be taken up in the next session. Then we will proceed with this, till 2-30 and then postpone it, for further discussion, to the next session.

Dr. Katju: I beg to move:

"That the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, be taken into consideration."

Whatever opinion may be expressed by the House about the acts of commission or omission on the part of the Government, I think there would be general unanimity that the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has done his job, so far as he can, very well. The Report which is now in the hands of the hon. Members is very full, having behind it the very painstaking efforts of the Commissioner, and is very objective.

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon cum Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): What have the Government done?

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister has just started and the questions have also simultaneously started. Let us hear him. Hon. Members will get time to say all that they want to say.

Dr. Katju: Their interruptions indicate their affection for me personally. The Report is a very objective one, and I feel that every imaginable aspect of the important problem relating to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is touched upon in that Report. It is a very thorough one. The Commissioner has had to do a very stren-

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rious job. He goes about touring practically the whole of India once a year, and then, he must contact the various State Governments, and the various State Ministers, the departmental heads, and then he tries to promote the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as a whole to the best of his ability. He uses his utmost exertions. I think we are indebted to him for a very fine report.

Last year, we had a discussion on the previous report, and the House would recollect that I gave an undertaking that every suggestion made during the course of the debate would be most carefully analysed, that the speeches of every Member would be analysed, would be grouped together, and that there would be the fullest consideration of every single suggestion, and that the information would be laid before the House as to what action Government have taken. I understand that a big sort of memorandum has been prepared; the left-hand column shows the suggestions you have made and the right-hand column shows the action that has been taken, or may be taken. Of course the action may be meagre in your opinion, and may be sufficient in my opinion. It also shows the subject-matters which are under consideration, and so on and so forth. But the House would at least appreciate that nothing has been passed over. Every single objection and suggestion has been taken into consideration, and we have tried our best to be guided thereby.

There are numerous amendments which have been tabled to this motion. There is the familiar point—the desire that there should be a separate Ministry for this subject, the desire that there should be a better representation in the services. The most important of the whole thing, the most important problem that seems to weigh with the Members is jobs, and more jobs and the fulfil-

ment of the desire to fill as many reserved posts as possible with members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, under the Constitution. The great grievance has always been made during the last three years that in the higher ranks, the reserved posts are not filled by members of the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes and their representation is very meagre. I have dealt with it during the past years, and I can only say that two things will have to be remembered. First, in the matter of jobs, posts and appointments, it is not only the question of giving representation to one particular community, but that you have got to bear in mind the general efficiency of the administration. When you appoint a District Magistrate—it does not matter to me who he is—that District Magistrate has, under his administrative guidance and control, the welfare and the prosperity of a million or two million or three million people of that district and all those people may belong to all communities—Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs—and they may be 'touchables' or untouchables. If the District Magistrate is not up to the standard or up to the mark, then the people may suffer, and it will be a very scanty consolation to say, "very well, that particular District Magistrate was a Brahmin. We had to appoint a Brahmin and though he was not up to the mark, he had to be there, but people suffer." The article put in in the Constitution regarding this must always be borne in mind: "with due regard to the efficiency of administration". I am in entire sympathy with the aspirations of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Let the House take it from me; without the slightest mental reservation, I am very eager that not only the reserved posts should be given to the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, but I am praying for the day when their numbers would be much larger should be much larger than that what is laid down in the Constitution. But

that is not a very essential point. The real truth of the matter is that this problem requires treatment on a long range, and I propose to take some time of the House in dwelling upon that long range aspect of the matter. That is the question of how the Government proceeds to promote the education, particularly, higher education of the members—both men and women—of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. If we get a good many number, a sufficiently adequate number, then their appointments will follow as the night follows the day. On that matter, I would ask hon. Members to read the sections relating to what are called the educational facilities to the students of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and tribal areas. It is really a remarkable story.

Shri Barman (North Bengal—Reserved—Sch. Castes): May I just interrupt the hon. Home Minister? He has cited the very same case of a District Magistrate as he did on the last occasion. Is it his case that all the Scheduled Castes candidates are asking to be at once appointed to the posts of District Magistrates? Why is this extreme analogy given in all cases? No man, not even a Bramin, will insist on such a thing.

Shri Velayudhan: No man wants efficiency to suffer.

Dr. Katju: If there is any deficiency left in my speech, then hon. Members may put some questions at the end of my speech as to what I have got to say on those points which I might have omitted. To take up a point in the middle of the speech and begin a cross-examination is really embarrassing.

Mr. Chairman: If any hon. Member has to put any question, it would be better if it is put at the end of the speech. To interrupt the hon. Minister when he is developing a point is not fair. It is not in the interest of good debate either.

Shri Velayudhan: Let me submit to you, Sir, that it is not for propaganda.

Mr. Chairman: Every hon. Member has a right to say anything in this House. When the hon. Member gets a chance he can reply to it. If in the course of a speech, every hon. Member puts a question and expects a reply to it, then there will be no debate at all.

Shri N. Rachiah (Mysore—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Every time the hon. Minister makes a speech he refers to the Education Ministry.....

Mr. Chairman: Order, Order. I have already ruled that if there are any questions they may be put in the end. The hon. Member, instead of doing that, is criticising the speech of the hon. Minister. This is not right.

Shri N. Rachiah: I am not criticising. I just want a clarification.

Mr. Chairman: I won't allow the hon. Member to speak at this stage.

Dr. Katju: The aspect which seems to be very irritating, and to which I was inviting the attention of the House, was the assistance provided by Government, both Central Government and the State Governments in the field of education, in the matter of providing educational facilities to young men and young women of Scheduled Castes, so that they may prosper and may qualify themselves for appointment to the highest offices in the State, not only reserved appointments, but also all other appointments. Secondly, education is necessary, because the number of jobs after all is a limited one. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes number about seven crores. If you give them 700 jobs, or even 7,000 jobs, you provide for that number of families. I do not in any way minimise the psychological importance, the sentimental importance, the political importance of giving them the highest job. That is not my point. What we would like to do is to raise the whole

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standard of their living, and give them all help. It is from this point of view that I always attach the greatest importance to what Government is doing in the educational field.

Now, Sir, figures have been given in Appendix XIV and I imagine hon. Members would have made themselves familiar with them. It will be found that the amount of scholarships which was given six years ago, that is in the year, 1947-48, was only Rs. 5,39,000. Year by year the sum has been increasing and in the year 1953, with which the Report is dealing, it was a sum of Rs. 62 lakhs. I many inform the House that in the year which is closing, namely, 1954, this sum of Rs. 62 lakhs has gone up to Rs. 1,18,00,000. This only represents the amount awarded in the shape of scholarships by the Central Government to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes throughout India. Please remember—and I am sure hon. Members would have seen this from the appendix—that this includes scholarships awarded for pre-graduate courses like intermediate and other courses like M.A., Ph.D., LL.B., and professional education in every sphere of life, and I may point out that more than about 11,000 boys and girls have been receiving stipends. This is not all. Apart from this 1 crore and 18 lakhs (the report mentions only Rs. 62 lakhs) the State Governments are doing their very best to assist to the utmost of their capacity in the expansion of education. The Report would show that in State after State the whole education is free. In the case of indigent students no tuition fees are charged at all. Thus if you take into consideration the assistance of Rs. 1 crore and 18 lakhs given by the Central Government, together with the assistance which is given in every State, A, B and C, the sum total will be very substantial. Several crores of rupees are provided for the benefit of the members of the Scheduled Castes, and I am very happy really to see

that education among them is spreading rapidly.

There was a scheme by which Scheduled Castes boys were being sent abroad, for foreign training, with very substantial scholarships of about £400. The scheme was started on an experimental basis for one year. But the results were so satisfactory that, as I announced in the House some time back, when this matter came up for discussion, it has now been put on a five year footing. The number of students has been increased from 5 to 10 and Government is feeling very happy indeed over the success of their experiment. This is an aspect which I would request the House not to forget. To hon. Members who say that Government is not doing this and that, I say that Government's record of activity in this field is a very gratifying one and credit ought to be given to them for this.

Then, I come to another point. The Constitution has provided that so far as Scheduled Tribes are concerned, they should be given assistance for their upliftment. There are several welfare schemes for members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Hon. Members would have seen section 10 of the Report and also Appendix XVIII. Here again the figures are indeed revealing and should say very reassuring. The total amount spent on the welfare of Scheduled Tribes in Tribal areas is Rs. 4 crores and 31 lakhs in 1953. This includes the Central grant of Rs. 1,91,42,000 and a contribution of Rs. 2,39,56,000 by the various States, making a total of Rs. 4,31,00,000. I submit this is not a small sum; it is a substantial sum. Welfare schemes have been devised meticulously in every field, water supply, housing, etc. It has nothing to do with giving of lands. Details about this have been given in the Report and I would not tire the patience of the House, by elaborating upon this. So far as Scheduled Castes are concerned a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs

was provided for welfare schemes, like provision of drinking water, housing and other measures for removal of untouchability. Of this a sum of Rs. 43 lakhs has been spent, while Rs. 7 lakhs remains unspent. Besides these grants-in-aid were given. Then a sum of Rs. 30 lakhs was spent for the execution of welfare schemes for members of the ex-Criminal Tribes and Rs. 30 lakhs for other Backward Classes. Now, this is specifically limited to the members of these classes. But the House is aware that the Central Government and the State Governments have been carrying out a most ambitious programme for the benefit of the under-developed sections of the community. There is no distinction between Scheduled Castes and un-scheduled castes. Everybody benefits. If you give security of tenure in the villages by abolition of the zamindaris, who benefits? It is the cultivator that benefits. Out of the cultivators there are numerous persons who are members of the Scheduled Castes, but there are also others who are members of the so-called higher castes. Similarly, expansion of education. Millions of primary schools have grown up. Then there is employment provided by the building of roads, construction of dams and employment in public works of all sorts of description. We must take a complete view. When you are talking of the economic condition of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, I suggest to you that you should not concentrate only on what we call the specific matters, welfare schemes and other schemes which have been undertaken by Government for the benefit of the Scheduled Castes primarily, or grants which may be provided for their benefit, but in order to have a picture as a whole you must take into consideration all the reforms which are being handled by Government, reforms which are calculated to raise the standard of living of the people as a whole and, secondly, reforms which are calculated to bring about an improvement in the condition of the Scheduled Castes specifically.

Because, there is a tendency to concentrate on it and say "Four crores! Four crores is nothing" or "you have given only fifty lakhs, you have done this and done that", and leave aside the general picture altogether, the general picture which my hon. friend Mr. Nanda has been dealing with. Because it is of essential importance. The whole effort of Government is calculated to raise the condition, to bring about improvement of the under-developed people. And therefore it really benefits primarily or to a very large extent members of the Scheduled Castes. This aspect should not be overlooked. Go into the countryside, and what do you find? Number of schools, primary schools. Suppose you say there should be wider education; these scholarships and other facilities which have been accorded, they all deal with higher education. But so far as primary education is concerned it is free. And if in every State thousands and thousands of schools are opened, who benefits? Not the so-called higher castes. Everybody benefits. And that includes the Scheduled Castes also. No one is excluded. Similarly, efforts are being made to develop cottage industries. Who carries on cottage industries? Cottage industries are carried on by everyone. And to the extent that the cottage industries are carried on by Scheduled Caste people that community benefits. I am only drawing attention to the fact that the picture that we draw before ourselves should be a complete picture and should not be a lop-sided one.

So far as these appointments are concerned—I am not saying something to which my hon. friend took great objection, about the case of District Magistrates and all that; that is not the point; I realise that there have been shortcomings—but so far as these appointments are concerned please remember that the Constitution has provided for a separate machinery. It is for the Public Service Commission to select the best available persons. The Public Service Commission is

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bound by the Constitution and we cannot interfere with its liberties, with its course of action in the matter of selection of candidates. So far as relaxations are concerned, Government has ordered relaxation. I informed the House that in regard to non-gazetted posts we have, I think, extended relaxation to five years, and so far as gazetted posts are concerned, to three years. There is a measure even now under discussion whether this limit should not be extended even in regard to gazetted posts from three years to five years. The Public Service Commission has expressed an opinion—may be a tentative opinion—that extension of this period is not a suitable thing because then we will not get proper persons. That matter is constantly under discussion.

What I wish to assure the House is that every single matter of detail is being discussed. Take another case, namely promotions and transfers. It is said that these reserved jobs are being given to others. That raises a question of great importance. You may reserve some posts and say that measures should be taken to see that those reserved posts fall to the lot of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But when once appointments have been made, then in the case of promotions and transfers this distinction has never been observed so far. But even there we are seeing as to what should be done so that the rights of the members of the Scheduled Castes are not in any way minimised or prejudicially affected. As I said over and over again, I wish to say please do realise that Government is as sincere as anybody about the working out of the Constitution, about fulfilling the requirements of the Constitution in letter, in spirit, and there is not the least desire in the Ministry or anywhere for dodging them in any shape or form.

I do not wish to take any further time on this matter. If necessary, I

shall say something by way of reply. If there are any questions which my hon. friends would like to put to me, I shall be prepared to answer them.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Chairman: So many want to put questions, or do they want to speak?

Shri Velayudhan: The amendments are there.

Mr. Chairman: Hon. Members will kindly allow me at least to place the motion before the House. If no questions are going to be put, then I will place the motion before the House.

Shri Barman: I do not know whether I have offended the hon. Minister.

Dr. Katju: No.

Shri Barman: What I meant was that you should take the case of the Saurashtra Government. They are trying to...

Dr. Katju: I cannot go into different Governments.

Mr. Chairman: If the hon. Member wants to put any specific question he may do so. Otherwise, if he starts speaking he will lose his right to speak later.

Shri Barman: May I ask the hon. the Home Minister whether the Central Government cannot follow the Saurashtra Government in the matter of filling posts which are not posts of District Magistrates, taking their academic qualification and training them; whether the Central Government has ever tried such methods which have been adopted already by the Saurashtra Government? It is in the Shrikant Report.

Dr. Katju: I shall deal with that point in my concluding speech.

Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru) rose—

Mr. Chairman: When I wanted to know whether any hon. Members wanted to put questions, he did not rise. I suggest that when the hon. Member speaks he may put his question, and he will have the right of getting the reply also.

I shall now place the motion before the House.

Motion moved:

"That the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, be taken into consideration."

Sarfar A. S. Saigal (Bilaspur): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953 and the policy of the Government of India in relation thereto, records its satisfaction over the progress made."

Shri M. L. Agrawal (Pilibhit Distt. cum Bareilly Distt.—East): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House, having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, regrets that due steps have not been taken to safeguard their interests in the matter of representation in the House of the People and the State Legislative Assemblies guaranteed to them under Articles 330 and 332 of the Constitution of India."

Shri Ram Dhanai Das (Gaya East—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953 approves all the recommendations made by the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes but regrets the laxity of the State Governments in implementing the recommendations and is of the opinion that the Central Government should take keen interest in the matter and direct the State Governments to watch the progress especially in the field of education of the sweepers and scavengers i.e. Domes, Bhangis etc. who deserve more attention on special footing so as to ensure for them justice and equal progress."

Shri Brohmo-Chaudhury Goalpara-Garo Hills—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, approves the policy of the Government of India in giving a priority to the problems of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, but regrets that—

- (a) adequate steps are not being taken to implement the directive principle of the State policy laid down under Article 46 of the Constitution;
- (b) the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has not been able to co-operate with the State Governments in ameliorating the conditions of these Castes and Tribes;
- (c) due emphasis is not being laid on formulating comprehensive schemes for improving com-

[Shri Brohmo Chaudhury]

munications, education, medical, housing and other facilities so as to improve the socio-economic conditions of these backward people;

(c) the Commissioner has not tried to study the requirements of backward areas and to put up proposals for opening of Community Projects and N.E.S. Blocks and other developmental activities among these backward people;

(e) there has been no attempt to get suitable officers from the States familiar with the special problems of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to advise the Central Government and the Commissioner on the local problems of their respective States; and

(f) the officers posted to tribal areas are not required to learn the tribal dialects or acquaint themselves with the customs, manners and conditions of life of the tribal people and familiarise themselves with their special problems."

Shri Frank Anthony (Nominated—Anglo Indians): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, regrets that the educational and economic safeguards in respect of the Anglo-Indian Community are not being implemented satisfactorily."

Shri Natawadkar (West Khandesh—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House, having considered the Report of the Commissioner

for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, regrets that due steps have not been taken to safeguard their interest in the matter of revision of the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950, issued by the President of India under clause (1) of Article 342 of the Constitution."

Shri Dasaratha Deb (Tripura East): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, regrets that the suggestions made in this Report have not been properly implemented and is of the opinion that—

(i) the Central Government should take immediate steps to implement the recommendations made by the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as regards removal of untouchability and social disabilities, security of land tenure, education and so on,

(ii) immediate steps should be taken to rehabilitate Tribal 'joomias' in the plains free of cost and to provide them with free implements, seeds and monetary assistance as grant-in-aid,

(iii) immediate steps should also be taken to introduce autonomous administrative set-up in the Tribal Scheduled Areas, as prescribed in the Constitution, with full powers to execute their development schemes,

(iv) proper safeguards for Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes, who have been living

in the areas of non-tribal people, should be maintained, such as security of landholdings, security of employment in public services, participation in political activities, provision of educational facilities and so on, and

- (v) village panchayat system should be introduced without delay in the areas where this system has not been introduced so far."

Shri B. K. Patel (Surat—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House, having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, regrets that due steps have not been taken to safeguard their interest in the matter of appointing an Enquiry Commission under Article 339 of the Constitution to inquire into the prevailing conditions of Scheduled Tribes in general and Scheduled Areas in particular, and assessing the welfare activities done for them throughout India and particularly in the Scheduled Areas."

Shri B. S. Murthy: I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, recommends to the Government to set up a Standing Committee for accelerating the speed of ameliorating the conditions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in accordance with the guarantees given in the Constitution."

Shri Bheekha Bhai (Banswara—Dungarpur—Reserved—Sch. Tribes):

I beg to move:

(1) That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953 regrets that due legislation has not been undertaken by State Governments to safeguard the interests of Scheduled Tribes and to raise the tone of administration in the scheduled areas of different States."

(2) That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House, having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending 31st December, 1953, regrets that the Commissioner has failed—

- (a) to incorporate in his Report the annual statement of total number of reserved vacancies advertised and the number of vacancies actually filled up by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates.
- (b) to suggest any effective machinery between the State Governments and the Centre to execute comprehensive schemes intended for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes,
- (c) to show the amounts which lapsed every year out of the grants made to State Governments under Article 275 of the Constitution, and
- (d) to mention voluntary and forcible conversions undertaken by Foreign missions in the Scheduled Areas of different states."

Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House, having considered the Report of the Commissioner

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for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, regrets that due steps have not been taken to safeguard their interests."

Shri Velayudhan: I beg to move:
That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House, having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, regrets that after Independence there has been a set-back to the activities of the emancipation of the untouchables."

Dr. Satyawadi (Karnal—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

(1) That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, regrets that—

- (a) the Government have failed to include the Harijans working as sweepers and scavengers in the Subsidised Housing Scheme for the industrial workers, and
- (b) the Government have failed to include the Harijans working as sweepers and scavengers in the benefit provided for the factory labour in the Payment of Wages Act, Workmen's Compensation Act, Employment of Children Act, Health Insurance Act and similar social legislations."

(2) That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, regrets that

the Government of the Punjab have failed—

- (a) to rehabilitate the Harijan tillers who have been ejected in thousands by the land-lords and made refugees in their homes,
- (b) to provide in consolidation operations, plot to Harijans for Bara, compost pits, grounds for grazing their cattle and burning their deads,
- (c) to fill up the vacancies in Government services according to the quota reserved for Scheduled Castes,
- (d) to protect the right of the Harijans who are still deprived of the facilities in taking water from 99 per cent. of village wells, and
- (e) to do any thing to improve the condition of the sweepers and scavengers as far as their living as well as social, economic and housing conditions are concerned."

Shri Ramananda Das: I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House, having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, is of the opinion, that—

- (a) a separate Ministry for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes should be established,
- (b) a sum of rupees ten crores should be reserved every year for the social, economic and educational uplift of these classes,
- (c) free and compulsory primary education should be provided for these classes in all the states,

- (d) facilities for free Secondary, Higher and Technical education with scholarships should be given to students of these backward classes,
- (e) adequate representation, according to population basis, should be given to them in Government services,
- (f) at least one member belonging to one of these classes should be appointed in all Public Service Commission of the States, Railway Public Service Commissions and all such appointment boards, to safeguard the interests of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and backward classes,
- (g) land should be distributed to the actual tiller of the soil,
- (h) subsidy and help should be given for small-scale and cottage industries,
- (i) drinking water facilities should be provided in all the villages and localities for these people in all the States, and
- (j) provisions of the Minimum Wages Act should be implemented for the agricultural labourers throughout the country."
- abilities of the Scheduled Castes in Madras State,
- (c) no steps have been taken to provide the Scheduled Castes people with the supply of drinking water, land and house sites,
- (d) representation of the Scheduled Castes in All-India and State Services is very poor, and
- (e) a special Ministry has not been established at the Centre to look after the interests of the Scheduled Castes."

Shri Bheekha Bhai: I beg to move:

(1) That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, regrets that in absence of a Commission, contemplated under Article 339 of the Constitution, no Committee has been set up to assess the welfare activities undertaken by various State Governments for ameliorating the conditions of Scheduled Tribes and development of the Scheduled areas in different States."

(2) That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, recommends to the Central Government that pending the appointment of a Commission as contemplated under Article 339 of the Constitution, a Central Tribes Advisory Committee should be constituted to advise on the administration of ameliorative measures for Scheduled Tribes and to suggest and supervise the proper implementation

Shri Veeraswamy (Mayuram—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, regrets that—

- (a) the recommendations of the Commissioner have not been implemented with any sincerity and seriousness both by the Central and State Governments,
- (b) the Report does not contain proper details about the dis-

[Shri Bheekha Bhai]

of the safeguards provided under the Constitution for the development of the Scheduled Areas throughout the Union of India."

Mr. Chairman: All these amendments and the original motion are now before the House.

Shrimati Khongmen (Autonomous Distts.—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): The Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1952 was being discussed in the House towards the end of last year.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. Before the hon. Member proceeds, I would like to fix the time for speeches. As I understand that a very large number of hon. Members are anxious to speak, I think 15 minutes for the leaders and 10 minutes for ordinary Members would be all right. If you want a large number of Members to take part, that is the only course open to me. I am in the hands of the House. If the House wants more time, they have to take a decision.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: The leaders should be given more time or the spokesmen of the parties may be given more time.

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Fifteen minutes for each Member and 20 minutes to the leaders may be given.

Hon. Members: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: All right. Twenty minutes for the leaders and 15 minutes for ordinary Members. I would request the hon. Members not to force me to ring the bell more than twice.

Shri Velayudhan: Another point regarding distribution of time. In calling the Members from the Scheduled Castes, one from each State may be called. The situation is different from State to State.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. This kind of request is sometimes made.

I set my face against it. The entire House is interested in the question; not only the Members of the Scheduled Castes. At the same time, I quite realise that this is a matter of very special concern for them. So long as I am in the Chair, there will be a preponderance of speakers from the Scheduled Castes; but it will not be solely confined to them.

Shri Frank Anthony: On a point of clarification, you have been pleased to say that leaders will be allowed 20 minutes. I shall presumably be the sole spokesman for one of the communities for which safeguards are intended here. Will I be given time as a leader or as a sole spokesman?

Shri Veeraswamy: In view of the importance of the subject and also in view of the fact that the discussion will also be continued in the next session, I would suggest to the Chair that more time be allotted to the discussion of this subject: say 10 hours.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. Allotment of time is to be made by the Business Advisory Committee. The whole thing is not to be finished today. If the Business Advisory Committee in their wisdom want more time to be given, the Chair will have no objection. It is for the Business Advisory Committee to apportion time.

So far as Shri Frank Anthony is concerned, the hon. Member is fully aware that though he is not a Party leader, it is not only to the Party leaders that more time is given, but also to such persons as are not Party leaders, but who at the same time hold a position higher than the ordinary Members. Every effort shall be made to see that the point of view represented by Shri Anthony and others is fully allowed to be represented in the House.

Shri Thimmaiah (Kolar-Reserved-Sch. Castes) rose—

Mr. Chairman: I am afraid all this

time is being taken away out of the time allotted for the discussion.

Shri Jangde (Bilaspur-Reserved-Sch. Castes): May I make one suggestion? The Private Members' Bills should be suspended and carried over to the next session.

Shri Thimmaiah: This report relating to 1953, we are discussing at the end of 1954. If we discuss it in 1955, it will not look nice.

Mr. Chairman: This matter has been decided by the House. I do not want to re-open this matter.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: (Calcutta-South-East): Am I to understand that the time allotted to the leader would also be allowed to the spokesman of the Party although he may not be the leader?

Mr. Chairman: If the leaders do not propose to speak on this question, so far as the spokesman is concerned, this concession will be allowed. If the leaders also want to speak, I am afraid it will be difficult to give them so much time.

Shrimati Khongmen: When the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was discussed in the House towards the end of last year, the hon. Home Minister promised that in future, he would see that the discussion on the report is not delayed to such a late date. But, the report of 1953 has actually been presented today at the close of 1954, when the report for 1954 is almost due. That is rather unfortunate, because the discussion of the report of one year is meant to affect the administration of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes in the next year. I hope in future this fact will be borne in mind that the discussion may not be so delayed.

Although the report deals with the subject of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Anglo Indians and other Backward Classes, I should like, as on previous occasions, to confine my observations mainly to

the subject of the Scheduled Tribes. I leave the other questions to other speakers.

Shri Datar: May I correct the hon. Lady Member. This report was submitted to the President in February, 1954 and placed on the Table of the House either in March or April.

Hon. Members: Not discussed.

Shri Datar: So far as the presentation of the report is concerned, it was done as early as possible.

Shrimati Khongmen: I meant discussion.

I would only like to say one word to my Scheduled Caste friends. We tribals do not believe in caste; we treat every one as equal. If any one tries to behave in a superior manner, we simply ignore that person or community and take no notice of them. I would ask my Scheduled Caste friends to learn from us and not feel inferior and feel that they are equals and behave with others as men with men.

Now, I will come to the report. The author of the Report deserves my compliments on his effort to make the report as attractive and as pleasant to read as possible. I would particularly like to mention the importance he gives to the tribal arts and culture. The cover of the Report, as you would see, would create an impression that it entirely deals with the tribal arts and culture, which we are so proud of. I wish he had added some colour and pictures in between the pages too.

Now, the Report under consideration, like the previous report, is another lengthy statement showing that so many schools were opened, so many dispensaries have been started and so on, but it is nowhere mentioned that the general living conditions of these people—I mean the tribals people—have changed, or, for that matter, even slightly improved. A lot of money is being spent on constructing school buildings, some of which do not last long, and on open-

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ing of dispensaries to some of which the people cannot go. In my humble opinion, the greater need is to make these people realise that these things are for their good and for their benefit. What is the use of a lofty school building if the boys and girls are not simultaneously persuaded to use it. Let Government officials and teachers first explain to them that they should go to school. Let the tribals feel that they are one with the rest of the population of the country, and that the country wants to help them. It is necessary that suspicion be removed from their mind. The tribal people have been exploited so long that they now look to everybody with distrust. They would rather go to somebody of their tribe who practices witchcraft or gives some herbs which he claims would cure all ills, rather than go to the Government dispensary. We should make an effort to win their goodwill and confidence. I regret to have to say that the attitude of Government officials towards them is far from sympathetic. The senior officials who stay hundreds of miles away from the tribes, seldom come in contact with the tribals, so much so that they have come to look upon them as their rulers, rather than friends. Many of them do not know their language, neither do they understand their ways and customs. In places, again, where they get an opportunity to live and work in their midst, they resort to interference with their age-long customs and beliefs.

In this connection, I feel hesitant, but I am obliged to touch a point which has caused some feelings recently. It is alleged that some officials in the tribal areas are trying to create Christian and non-Christian feeling. In a secular State it is only proper that such a thing should be prevented by all means. Previously among the tribals, this feeling was not there, and in the same family individuals belonging to different religions

lived happily. It would be unfortunate if this happy relation is disturbed now through any mistaken policy.

I agree that Government is doing its bit towards achieving the higher ideals of educating the tribals. They are giving a large sum of money for scholarships to children belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, for which we are very grateful indeed. But, along with this, I would urge upon the Government to see that they get employed in Government services. Our Constitution provides for special consideration in public services for the children of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, of course, consistent with efficiency. But, we should not lose sight of the fact that efficiency comes with opportunity. Unless educated youths do get employment, the incentive for others is lost, and the main objective of the Constitution is defeated. It is for the Home Ministry to see that the quota reserved be filled up, and I would stress what my hon. friend Shri Barman had already said to the Home Minister, that in this matter the Government of India should follow what the Government of Saurashtra has been doing. The Government of Saurashtra have been endeavouring to fulfil their obligation according to the Commissioner's Report.

I may also point out that the most urgent and important task of the Government to take up immediately is the development of roads and communications. It is a well known fact that roads and communications in almost all the tribal areas are non-existent, and where they do exist, their condition is so bad and deplorable that they can hardly be called roads, and they cannot be used for the greater part of the year. Officers find it almost impossible to go to the tribal areas, even if they wish to, or to be of any help to the people whose welfare they are supposed to look after. Frequently officers meet with accidents due to bad roads. I

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may mention here that the Assistant Commissioner himself met with such an experience fourteen months ago while going to one of the tribal areas. He might have lost his life, but, thank God, he came back with only a serious injury on his head. I am sure that as soon as better means of communications are established, the tribals will come in contact with their more advanced brethren and an urge to improve their lot will awaken in them. It will also result in the rapid development of these people. Their economic condition, too, will improve, for, they will be able to bring their produce to the outer markets and get better prices for them.

They also need pure drinking water. They require protection against malaria and other common diseases which take away hundreds of them every year.

With such a short time at my disposal, it would not be possible for me to deal with many of the points, but I should like to mention about the tribal areas of the easternmost part of our land. The Home Minister once expressed his satisfaction with the working of the District Councils. In Assam five District Councils are working according to the provision laid down in the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution. I am afraid I do not feel the same way as the Home Minister in this matter. I also have connection with the working of these Councils, and I am as anxious as he is for their success, but I may tell him for his information, and also for the information of this House, that all is not well there, and things have not worked out as one would have liked them to. The members of the Councils feel that their power is so curtailed and their financial resources so limited, that they find it almost impossible to function. Letters and telegrams are sent to me to urge upon the Government to do something about it. With this end in view, I have proposed an amendment to the Constitution; I

shall deal with the subject more when the occasion comes. My only intention in mentioning this is that I want to draw the attention of the Government so that the problem of this type and other similar problems may be dealt with before it is too late.

I would like to say that conditions in the North Eastern Frontier Agency are being improved by the Government and they are taking steps to have new schemes. But, I feel that the work has not advanced as satisfactorily as one would have wished. The appointment of officers in this area has been criticised and I think it would have been worth while for Government to consider the same.

The road scheme has not progressed to the extent it should be. A few jeepable roads in this area are needed. Motor tracks under construction here and there alone do not meet the demand of the whole people. Contracts for road construction might, as far as possible, be given to the hill people themselves. It is found that outsiders do not take much interest in them. Waste of money should be avoided by proper repair of houses and roads. In the last floods about fifty lakhs worth of houses and roads were damaged. This could have been avoided by proper repairs.

It is also reported in the Press that the local administration has stopped opening new lower and primary schools on account of dearth of Hindi teachers and teachers who have undergone basic training. The opening of new schools should not be stopped. Let people get at least literary education.

Though disappointed at the slow progress we are making, I should like to express my faith and confidence in the goodwill of the Government and in the keen interest that our Prime Minister is taking in the tribal people. Under his leadership, it is still possible to go on hoping that some day in the distant future

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may be Government will find that the tribals will rise to the occasion and show to the whole country that they are a worth while people and that they will be able to contribute to the building up of our country and our nation.

Shri P. L. Kureel (Banda Distt. cum Fatehpur Distt.-Reserved-Sch. Castes): I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to make a few observations in this House. Before I say anything, I would like to say one thing and that is—you must have also noticed, Sir, that the Scheduled Caste representatives have lost all interest in the proceedings of the House. Not that they have nothing to contribute, not that they are not interested in the proceedings of the House but because they feel that their voice has fallen flat on the ears of the Government, that their voice has been completely ignored by the Government. (*Interruptions*) Even the suggestions and recommendations made by the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have not been implemented. Really, I am grieved to see that none of the Cabinet Ministers is present here today. Even the Deputy Ministers had not the courtesy to sit here and hear the grievances of the depressed class people.

Mr. Chairman: The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs is here.

Shri P. L. Kureel: At least the Planning Minister and his deputy ought to have been here. Even the Parliamentary Secretaries are absent from the House, and it is also very strange that some of the most prominent members of the ruling party are absent today. Only a few of the Scheduled Caste representatives are present in the House.

Several Hon. Members: No, no.

Shri P. L. Kureel: It shows that the Government appear to be very indifferent to the problem of the Scheduled Castes.

Same is the case in the matter of appointment of members to the Select Committees. The claim of the Scheduled Caste representatives is ignored. Last time two Committees were appointed,—the Select Committee on Rubber and the Select Committee on Coffee. Some seven or eight Members were taken on the Select Committee on Rubber and some seven or eight Members were taken on the Select Committee on Coffee, as if they are only fit for lying down on rubber cushions and drinking coffee and they are not fit for any other job. There is no other Select Committee on which such a large number of representatives of the Scheduled Castes has been taken.

I am really very sorry at the manner in which this debate has been arranged. It shows that the Government is very indifferent to the problem of the Scheduled Castes. It has taken full one year to allot time for the discussion of the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I am very sorry that whenever we come here and make constructive criticisms or criticise the Government we are labelled as unpatriotic, as anti-nationalist and sometimes every effort is made to see that those Members who criticise the Government should not be allowed to speak in this House. Patriotism is not the sole monopoly of any particular caste or community. It is an innate quality found in the very life blood of every human being. Every Scheduled Caste representative here is a perfect nationalist; he is patriotic to the backbone. Whatever he says, he says with the best of motives and in good faith. With due respect, I would submit that the Home Minister has always tried to give evasive replies. The Scheduled Castes are part and parcel of the Indian community. They want that the country should progress; they want that there should be national unity in this country.

But men like him will be responsible if they adopt a different attitude. Does he want to see that they adopt the same attitude which the Muslims in this country adopted? Does he want to see, like the Hindu Muslim riots, Harijan and non-Harijan riots in this country? I tell him if the Government do not realise this, the day will come when the Harijan and non-Harijan riots will become a regular feature in the social life of this country. This is a very serious problem; this is a national problem and the Government cannot ignore this problem. Now, their hopes and aspirations have been roused to such a pitch that nothing short of equal status in society is going to satisfy the Scheduled Caste people of this country.

The representatives of the Scheduled Castes of all political parties including those who belong to the ruling party have joined hands in expressing their dissatisfaction at the pace of progress after independence. All Scheduled Caste representatives are not as domesticated, as humble and as silent as you see them here. Listen to them outside the House; they are as bitter as Dr. Ambedkar; they are as bitter as I am; they are not so silent and domesticated as they are sitting here. You have got to realise that fact. The last debate on the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was an indication of the bitterness and frustration felt by the members of the Scheduled Castes over their lot. This is not the first time that the grievances are being ventilated in this House. It has become a perennial thing. Only the bitterness has been growing into anger. I think the Government should earnestly do whatever is possible for the early uplift of the Scheduled Castes.

I will now come to the problem of untouchability. The hydra-headed monster of superiority still reigns supreme, and they still suffer from many socio-economic disabilities.

Legislation has been introduced very recently to remove these disabilities, but I think it will still take some time for it to become law.

In this connection, I would like to remind the House of one very important resolution which was adopted by a very big conference held in Bombay in the year 1932 after the epic fast of Gandhiji, in which many prominent Hindus were present. The text of that resolution is as follows:

"This Conference resolves that henceforth no one shall be regarded as untouchable by reason of his birth, and that those who have been so regarded hitherto will have the same right as other Hindus in regard to the use of the public wells, public roads and other public institutions. These rights shall have statutory recognition at the first opportunity, and shall be one of the earliest acts of the Swaraj Parliament, if it shall not have received such recognition before that time. It is further agreed that it shall be the duty of all Hindu leaders to secure by every legitimate and peaceful means the early removal of all social disabilities now imposed by custom upon the so-called untouchable classes, including the bar in respect of admission to temples."

Twenty-two years have passed since this resolution was adopted, and it has taken seven long years for this Government to introduce an anti-untouchability measure in this House; and I think it will take some more time for it to become law.

Untouchability is the result of the caste system. Unless you strike at the root, unless you remove the caste system itself, untouchability cannot be removed. Legislation will have the desired effect, so far as the educated classes are concerned. But if you want to root it out completely, then you have got to strike at the very root of the caste system. Some people say that once untouchability

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is removed, the caste system will disappear automatically. I disagree with this. An untouchable may enter into any temple, and may dine in any restaurant, so long as he does not reveal his caste, and so long as he does not say that he is an untouchable. I think I must have, if I may say so, polluted every famous temple of India, and dined in every restaurant in India in the different States that I have visited, but nobody took any objection to it. This shows that unless the caste system is rooted out, the problem cannot be solved. It is the caste system, or I shall even go to the extent of saying, the *Varnashrama* that has been responsible for all this. *Varnashrama* is nothing else than the caste system; it is just an abridged form of the caste system. So, unless you remove that, you cannot remove untouchability.

You have got to educate the people also. While approving the measure introduced in Parliament recently, I may say that to make organised and persistent efforts to improve their economic and social status is far more important than merely securing entry into temples, or enacting an anti-untouchability Bill. I am sorry that even our organisations, the non-official organisations like the Depressed Classes League, the Scheduled Castes Federation etc.—there are a number of other organisations like the Harijan Sevak Sangh and so on in many States also—have not realised the importance of raising them socially, economically and culturally. The first thing that they should do is to raise their cultural level, their educational and their economic condition, for that is what will give them an equal status in society. I would ask the Government to educate them, to improve their economic condition, and also to improve their social status.

Now, I come to their representation in services. Entry into public service is a very important question. To the Scheduled Castes, it is a very vital question, because trade and in-

dustry as an opening for a career are blocked to the Scheduled Castes for they have not got their own capital to start small-scale industries or big industries. So, it is only in public services that they find a career for themselves. If, therefore, the Scheduled Castes, who after overcoming so many hurdles and difficulties educate themselves, are not given representation in services, there is complete frustration, and sometimes, this discourages the other members of the community to take to education. In spite of the various safeguards and reservations, their representation in the services, as is known to everybody in this House, is absolutely negligible. In the superior services, in class II services as also in class III services, their representation is absolutely negligible. I have got the various figures, but it will take much time. This reservation exists for them since 1943. And yet, their representation in the superior services will hardly be two or three per cent. at the most. I would refer to two things in this connection. One is that the Scheduled Castes have taken to education very late, and therefore it will be long before they are in a position to compete with the major communities. So, the Government should not be asked to depend entirely on the competitive examinations. Moreover, there is no school for education in political and administrative matters, where they should first go and qualify themselves in the abstract, before they are put in charge of the district or before they are entrusted with the responsibilities of administration. Only if a person is sufficiently advanced and educated in a general way, he can safely be entrusted with the responsibilities and duties of administration. Administrative efficiency is really the result of experience and practice. Akbar the Great did not receive any education in any school, in the literal sense of the term. But it was Byram Khan who gave him general education, and it is because of that education and training that Akbar was able to

become a very able administrator. Similarly, we have Shivaji who did not receive any education in any school; but he received very good training and general education from his guru.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What about our Ministers?

Shri P. L. Kureel: They are highly educated, no doubt.

Lastly, I would like to stress on just one fact with regard to diplomatic posts and that is that you have got to make a beginning in this regard. At the time of the British rule in India, even those who were educated up to the eighth standard were made officers and magistrates. Those who are old enough know that they did it, and I think those persons who were so appointed acquitted themselves very well. Now, you cannot say that suitable candidates are not available. There are many suitable candidates, and the only point is that you should feel for them and give them necessary training. Once it is proved that you are sincere, we want nothing else; if we are convinced that you are sincere and that you want to raise us to the level of the other Hindus, I assure you that we shall voluntarily surrender all the special privileges, and concessions enjoyed by us. But at present at every step, we feel that you are not sincere, that you are dishonest, and I can even go to the extent of saying that you are trying by every means to keep out the Scheduled Castes from Government services. There are many other points to deal with, but I do not know how to finish them.....

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member has taken 13 to 14 minutes already.

Shri P. L. Kureel: But I hope to deal with them in some other opportunity.

Shri B. S. Murthy: I assure Shrimati Khongmen that the Harijan does not suffer from any inferiority complex.

Shri Thimmaiah: He never suffered from it.

Shri B. S. Murthy: He has been the original child of the soil. If *Bharatmata* has produced a son, it

was the Scheduled Caste first, and the rest later. Even though he has long been suffering, the Scheduled Caste has been having a robust optimism, that one day he will be able to regain his lost power, and the day is not far off when a Harijan, as Gandhiji had dreamt and said, will be occupying the Rashtrapati Bhavan here. Therefore, neither the Scheduled Tribes nor the so called higher communities in this country need feel proud that the Harijan today is suffering from an inferiority complex. No, not at all. We refuse to call ourselves anything but the children of the soil.

Now, I come to Dr. Katju. Last time when I was talking here, I said that his name would indicate that he was always residing on the *Kailash Parvat*. He does not come to the mundane plane. Does he understand that he often offends the sentiments of the Harijans? As Minister in charge of Harijans, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, does he realise the responsibility with which he must talk here? He says that if the application of every Harijan is entertained, the general efficiency will suffer. Is this the statement we expect from the protector of the interests of the Scheduled Castes? I ask you in all humility, does he consider that the general efficiency is suffering because Scheduled Caste people are taken at the ratio—niggardly ratio—alotted by the Central Government?

Shri Velayudhan: They are suffering because Dr. Katju is there.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Let him understand that:

"Full many a gem of the purest ray serene.

The dark unfathomed caves of the ocean bear."

My friend is prompting me to quote the other two lines. But these are enough for the digestion of the Ministry here. What does it mean? Go to the villages and find out. Why should he say that general efficiency will suffer? My friends have cited the example of Saurashtra. I would cite another, and I have been citing

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this example. The British Government have been nominating Harijans as gazetted officers straightway and I have not come across any instance where a Harijan officer thus promoted has proved a failure. I consider that it is the failure to appreciate the facts on the part of the Ministry that is responsible for the full quantum of representation not being given to the Scheduled Castes. How long do they want to treat us with this step-motherly attitude? How long do they want us to dream the dreams of Mahatma Gandhi who wanted to lay down his life for the Harijans? I am rather surprised at the *mala fides* of the Government, if I can use that word, without meaning anything derogatory either to the Minister or the Deputy Minister, that is responsible for not seeing the Scheduled Castes get their quota both in the Central Government and in the State Governments

Again, he has unfortunately, said that we are using this forum as a propaganda forum. Is he entitled to use that word? Well, if it is a fact that the Government are negligent, why should we not voice forth our feelings? Why should we not cry from the house-tops that the Government are neglecting their bounden duty? Is it propaganda to ask and say that we have not been getting all these things and you have been negligent and guilty of dereliction of duty? No, I do not think that Dr. Katju has done any justice. What is the fun of saying a few words and running away from this House? He has said that Rs. 1,18,00,000 have been given this year towards scholarships to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe boys and girls. I must thank him for this figure. But did he say that all the applications received have been allotted scholarships? Did he tell us how many applications have been received, how many applications have been entertained and how many have been rejected? I do not know if this amount that has been

allotted has been enough to cover all the applications that have come, to help the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students for furthering their educational career.

Shri Barman: I may tell my friend that Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been given all the scholarships asked for. In this category are also included backward classes.

Shri Velayudhan: No, no.

Shri B. S. Murthy: I am thankful to Shri Barman for the information.

Shri Velayudhan: We know of cases where applications have been rejected even though they had the requisite qualifications.

Shri Barman: There must be some reason.

Shri Velayudhan: That is what I say—there are some other reasons.

Shri Barman: All eligible students of the backward classes and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been given scholarship. I am a member of the Board.

Shri B. S. Murthy: I am thankful again to Shri Barman for giving me this information. But let him please take some information from me. Scores of young men and young women from Andhra and Madras have been writing to me that they have not yet been informed whether their applications have been entertained. I would like to have this clarified by Shri Barman, if he can do it.

Again, Dr. Kallas Nath Katju, our Minister in charge of the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, has said that the Public Services Commission is opposed to any extension of the age limit. That is why, Sir, we have been asking the Ministry to have a Scheduled Caste member on the Services Commission. It is a well known fact that for the last six or seven years, the Government have been in search of a member of the Scheduled Castes to give him a seat on the Union Public Service Commission. I am very sorry

to note that the Government have not so far been able to find out one. I can give half a dozen names, if they want, if they have not yet got any person, who is well known in the country for service to the country as well as the community. Again, I know that not only the Central Service Commission but all the Services Commissions in India are opposed as a whole to entertaining applications of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I can give reference to the Minister, and the Deputy Minister who is now getting out.....

Shri Datar: Should I not go even for lunch?

Shri B. S. Murthy: I want him to hear me especially because during the debate on the Untouchability (Offences) Bill in the Rajya Sabha, he has been gracious enough to promise that 100 posts of assistants will be immediately given to the Scheduled Castes in the Central services. Will he be candid enough to say whether or not the Union Public Service Commission has been opposing him and his Ministry in giving these 100 jobs by advising not to give 100 jobs at once but to give them 20 this year, 20 next year.....

Shri Datar: I may point out to the hon. Member that it is highly unfair to the UPSC. They have not come against this scheme at all. In fact, this matter is taken up and will be implemented at a very early date.

Mr. Chairman: Even if they had been opposing, it is all to the credit of the Ministry that they have been opposing that. Is the hon. Member's information correct?

Shri B. S. Murthy: I want a clarification. That is why I say, let there be a member of the Scheduled Castes in the Service Commissions in the Centre as well as in the States. Then we will know whether or not justice is done. In Madras, in Andhra, in West Bengal, in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, so many things are being done. You say that 18 per cent. of the jobs are ours; actually we get 8 per cent. of the jobs. Why should you

be unkind to us and at the same time say that we are not grateful? We are grateful for what you have done. But please allow us to say that we need more. Why do you want to gag us by saying that we should not do this. Again, my friend, Shri P. L. Kureel, was telling about the Untouchability Act. We have all along been agitating for central legislation. But it is, thanks to Swami Karpatriji, that we have got this legislation. Swami Karpatriji is responsible for making the Government come before the House with this legislation. What has happened in Deogarh? You must be knowing. It is a well known secret. It is public knowledge. People also know what has happened in Banaras.

About this, I would like to say one thing. As long as these swamis are opposing temple entry for Harijans every Scheduled Caste member must oppose the bogus anti-cow slaughter agitation. If they want man-slaughter, why should we support them in their anti-cow slaughter move? I do not understand it. Therefore, every Harijan in India should from today always carry on a propaganda against the anti-cow slaughter movement. Let Karpatri come out in the open with an unconditional apology for what he has done in insulting Harijans, in insulting the nation, in insulting the fair name of Hinduism.

Shri Dhulekar (Jhansi Distt.—South): Nobody supports him.

Shri B. S. Murthy: My friends talks like this here. Let him go outside and say it.

Shri Dhulekar: I do.

Mr. Chairman: Is Karpatriji the only representative of the Hindu community? There are others who have different views.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Swami Karpatriji has achieved popularity, if not notoriety, for having opposed entry of Harijans into temples.

2 P.M.

Again, I want to call the attention of the hon. Home Minister and the Deputy Minister to certain facts that

[Shri B. S. Murthy]

had been enumerated in the Commissioner's report. Even today Harijans are not allowed to draw water from the public wells constructed by the Government out of the public funds. This is still so in Andhra. If you refer to the Commissioner's report, you will find it. Again, marriage processions are not allowed.

Mr. Chairman: He must conclude now. Already the hon. Member has taken 13 minutes and if he wants he can take two minutes more.

Shri B. S. Murthy: I am the principal spokesman of the Party.

Mr. Chairman: I have not heard from any party that he is the principal spokesman.

Shri B. S. Murthy: It will be seen from the absentees.

Mr. Chairman: How do I know when all of them are absent? Their absence does not indicate this. Let the Party write to me and I will certainly allow 20 minutes to the hon. Member. I have been allowing 15 minutes to every hon. Member even if the Party had not written to me. I do now know whether they will accept him as their spokesman. Let no hon. Member think that I will ring the bell so as to curtail his time; I will never do it.

Shri B. S. Murthy: One minute may be added to my time.

Mr. Chairman: Certainly, more than one minute.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Marriage processions had been obstructed. Even going to the post office is not possible. They are not allowed to go to the post office and purchase post cards. There is nobody to protect them. In Kutch, the children of Harijans are not admitted in the schools. Government must say why they are not being admitted. Even in Delhi, under the very nose of the Central Government, some time back, what happened? In the Resident Magistrate's compound, some time back, some Harijans wanted to take some water and they went to—in Hindi it is called—*Piaoo*. For that reason, a

police constable, a head constable and a clerk of the Resident Magistrate and all the big persons in the compound came to collect money from them and harassed them. If this can be done under the very nose of the Ministry, you can imagine what things will happen in the rural parts of India.

I do not have enough time. Last time also, I told them and now I am again telling them about the growing need for houses to the Harijans all over India. Their urgent need is house sites and drinking water. For this, I propose that the Government should give Rs. 5 crores and ask the other Governments to give Rs. 5 crores. If that is done, I think that within two years, all the Harijans can be given house sites. They can have little houses—hovels of their own.

About the land reforms, there was some talk and Shri Nanda was telling us about land reforms. In places where these land reforms had been implemented or where these are being implemented, the actual tiller of the land has not been benefited because in many parts of India the petty landlord is coming in and he makes himself the tiller of the soil. The officers of the Government connive with him and he gets away with the piece of land which, properly speaking, should go to the tiller of the land.

Even in regard to cottage industries, I am not sure whether full sympathy is shown by the officers and whether they give all possible help to the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who are trying to eke out their livelihood by engaging themselves in these cottage industries. I would again request the Government to bring a legislation at the earliest opportunity declaring a moratorium for the Harijan debtor because he lives in a hovel. As Miss Mayo had said, he has nothing with which to clothe himself. How can he liquidate the debt? Government should sympathise with these people and come before this House with the legislation for moratorium.

Now, I am coming to my last point.

Mr. Chairman: He can take two minutes more; I have treated him as a spokesman.

Shri B. S. Murthy: I propose that Government should constitute a Central Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes' Welfare Board to assist the Commissioner. We are already having such boards. But it is a peculiar thing that the Chairman of the Central Social Welfare Board thinks that the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes falls beyond the purview of her work. Therefore, I request the Government to constitute at the earliest opportunity a Central Social Welfare Board for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

I have to say a few words about representation in the Committees and in the delegations and also in the Ministries. When you are allowing representation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the services, why not also give them proper representation in the Cabinet? According to the ratio in which representation is given to these people in the services, I think there should be three Harijan Ministers. There should be at least three Ministers of State and half a dozen Deputy Ministers from these people. We are not so greedy as that. But let us tell the country that their interests are not neglected. There are some people here who ask: What can Harijan Ministers do? We want all the non-Harijan Ministers to be in charge of Harijan portfolios and all the Harijan Ministers to be in charge of.....

Sardar Hukam Singh (Kapurthala—Bhatinda): Non-Harijan portfolios!

Shri B. S. Murthy: ...something else. After all, we must understand that the national solidarity depends more upon the co-operation of the Harijans. It is the neglect of Harijans that led to the division of India. If Pakistan is there today, the fault must be laid at the doors of the Hindu community which neglected them for centuries. If you want national solidarity and patriotic effort to achieve national progress and grow from

strength to strength I want much more to be done for Harijans. We are grateful for what has been done.

श्री जंगल : मुझे दुःख है कि अनुसूचित जातियों के कामरनर की रिपोर्ट पर बहुत विलम्ब के बाद बहस की जा रही है। स्वतंत्रता के बाद और संविधान के पास होने के बाद पांच साल व्यतीत हो गये, परन्तु हरिजनों की नौकरियों की जहाँ तक हालत है, अबस्था सुधरी नहीं है। मैं ने अभी शेड्यूल कास्ट, आदिम जातियों और अनुसूचित जातियों के कामरनर की रिपोर्ट को पढ़ा, उसमें मैं ने देखा कि फर्स्ट, सेकेंड और नान गजेटेड रैंक में एक भी हरिजन किसी भी डिपार्टमेंट में चाहे गवर्नमेंट डिपार्टमेंट हो या सेमी गवर्नमेंट डिपार्टमेंट हो, कहीं भी नहीं है। हम ने यह भी देखा कि रेलवे सर्विस कामेशन या दूसरी मिनिस्ट्रियाँ और डिपार्टमेंटों के जरिये इम्प्लायमेंट एक्सचेंज को केवल २.५ प्रतिशत नोटीफिकेशन दिया गया है।

जब कि उन्हें २१ प्रतिशत नोटीफिकेशन देना चाहिये था तो क्यों उन्होंने केवल २.५ प्रतिशत नोटीफिकेशन उन को दिया है ? नोटीफिकेशन देने के बाद में बहुत ही कम हरिजन लिये गये हैं। यदि आप कम्युनल रोटेशन को दलेंगे तो आप को मालूम होगा कि हर एक डिपार्टमेंट के जो एस्टीमेटेड गान्व के आफिसर्स हैं वे नहीं चाहते हैं कि कोई हरिजन किसी ऊंची नौकरी पर आये और कम्युनल रोटेशन में चाहे वह प्लांट ७, ६, १६ या १५ कुछ भी हो जब हरिजनों या आदिम जातियों का नम्बर आता है तो उस को टालने की कोशिश की जाती है। अभी अभी मुझे मालूम हुआ कि इलाहाबाद रेलवे सर्विस कामेशन में जहाँ ८५ आदिमियों को नौकरी पर लिया गया है वहाँ एक भी हरिजन या आदिम जाति के व्यक्ति को नहीं लिया गया है जब कि कायर्द के अनुसार ११ हरिजनों को लेना चाहिये था। जब वहाँ ८५ आदिमियों को रक्खा गया तो

[श्री बांगड़]

क्या उन में एक भी जगह के लिये कुशल हरिजन नहीं मिल सका ? उन को नहीं मिल सका क्योंकि वे चाहते हैं कि जान बूझ कर कम्यूनल रोस्टर को टाला जाय। जब हमारा गृह मंत्री बोल रहे थे तो उन्होंने कहीं पर भी इस बात पर जोर नहीं दिया कि कम्यूनल रोस्टर का पालन किया जाय और यह कि हर एक मिनिस्ट्री और हर एक डिपार्टमेंट में यह दंडा जाय कि कम्यूनल रोस्टर के मुताबिक काम होता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि हर एक मिनिस्ट्री और हर एक डिपार्टमेंट इस बात पर ध्यान रखे कि कम्यूनल रोस्टर का पालन किस प्रकार किया जाता है। असल बात तो यह है कि हरिजन का नम्बर ६ प्वाइंट के बाद आता है यानी जब (६) छः आदमी रख लिये जाते हैं तो सातवें पर हरिजन का नम्बर आता है। अगर इस प्वाइंट को अपसर लोग टाल जायें तो फिर १४ प्वाइंट पर कहीं जा कर हरिजन का नम्बर आता है। एंसी हालत में हरिजनों को अच्छी से अच्छी नौकरी कैसे मिल सकती है ?

मैं ने यह भी दंडा कि शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स कमिश्नर ने लड़कियों की शिक्षा के लिये कुछ भी नहीं किया है। हरिजन और आदिम जातियों में पढ़ने वाली लड़कियों की संख्या बहुत कम है, यानी एक प्रति शत भी नहीं। क्या ही अच्छा होता कि जो १ करोड़ और १८ लाख रुपया केंद्रीय सरकार कालेज और यूनिवर्सिटी शिक्षा के लिये खर्च करती है कम से कम दो चार लाख रुपया पांचवीं कक्षा से मीट्रिक तक की लड़कियों की शिक्षा के लिये अलग से रख देती ताकि जो हमारा देश की बहन हैं वह अधिक से अधिक पढ़ सकें। हरिजनों और आदिम जातियों में लड़कियां बिल्कुल पढ़ी हुई नहीं हैं।

इस के प्रश्नात मैं फोर्सफुल कंवेशन के सवाल पर ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। हमारा शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स कमिश्नर ने यह नहीं बताया कि इस देश में मिशनरीज आ कर

कितना रुपया इस के लिये खर्च करती हैं और स्वतंत्रता के बाद कितने हरिजन और आदिम जातियों के लोग ईसाई हो गये। शायद वह इस को बताने की जरूरत नहीं समझते हैं। हर एक को अपने धर्म और अपने जीवन का भान रहता है पर हमारा शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स कमिश्नर ने इस बात पर जरा भी ध्यान नहीं दिया। मुझे मालूम है कि खास कर मध्य प्रदेश में कितनी ही एंसी तहसीलें हैं जहां क्रिश्चियन मिशनरीजों का इतना ज्यादा अत्याचार हो रहा है कि हमारा इजारा हरिजन और आदिम जातियों के लोग वहां पर ईसाई बनते हैं। मैं तो मिशनरीजों को तब धन्यवाद देता जब वह हमारा यहां के सर्वण जातियों तथा पढ़े लिखे लोगों को ईसाई बनाते। उन बंधारों को उन गरीबों को जिन को अपने जीवन में होश संभालने का आभास नहीं है, रुपयों का प्रलोभन दे कर, दो चार कपड़ों का प्रलोभन दे कर ईसाई बनाना कदा तक जायज है इस पर यह सदन विचार कर सकता है। इन चीजों पर हमारा कमिश्नर साहब ने एक शब्द भी नहीं कहा है।

इस के उपरान्त मैं इस बात पर आता हूँ कि कानिस्ट्रयूशन में लिखा हुआ है कि हरिजनों और आदिम जातियों को हर जगह उचित प्रतिनिधित्व दिया जायगा। मध्य भारत और मध्य प्रदेश में जहां हरिजनों और आदिम जातियों की संख्या बहुत अधिक है। वहां पर हरिजनों के लिये अलग मंत्री रह सकेंगा और अलग डिपार्टमेंट भी रह सकेंगा ऐसा बताया गया है, "में हाइरकट" ऐसा शब्द लिखा गया है। लेकिन सन् १९४९ के पहले मध्य प्रदेश में एक कौन्सिलर के का मिनिस्टर हरिजन था और दो पार्लियामेंट्री सेक्रेटरी थे। अब वहां केवल दो डिप्टी मिनिस्टर हैं। कौन्सिलर के का एक भी मिनिस्टर हरिजन नहीं है जब कि उस प्रदेश में हरिजनों या अनुसूचित जातियों की संख्या करीब ३५—४० लाख के

हैं। और हरिजननों के लिये अलग डिपार्टमेंट तो वहां अब भी नहीं हैं।

अभी हमारे गृह मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि सिचाई, सड़क और जनरल एजुकेशन से हरिजननों को और आदिम जातियों को फायदा तो पहुंचता ही है। लेकिन उन के लिये इस फायदे को कौन रोक सकता है? मुझे पता है कि उन्होंने आदिम जातियों के सम्बन्ध में कहा था कि ४ करोड़ रुपया नींगलीजबल एंमाउन्ट नहीं है। मैं भी मानता हूँ कि यह कम एंमाउन्ट नहीं है। लेकिन इन अनुसूचित आदिम जातियों के क्षेत्रों में यदि आप ४ क्या १० करोड़ रुपये भी खर्च करें तो भी उन लोगों के साथ न्याय नहीं होता आप उन के साथ कोई रियायत नहीं करते हैं। मैं आप को मध्य प्रदेश का उदाहरण देता हूँ। वहां का जो अनुसूचित क्षेत्र है यदि वहां पर आदिम जाति के लोग न होते तो भी सरकार वहां रेलवे, रोड्स, इरिगेशन, कुएँ पर जनरल डेवलपमेंट के लिये खर्च करती या नहीं? इस के अतिरिक्त भी वहां पर कोई रियायत आप ने इन आदिम जातियों के लोगों को दी है या नहीं यदि आप इस की जांच करेंगे तो आप को पता लगेगा कि उन लोगों की आप ने कोई खास सेवा नहीं की है।

हरिजननों के सम्बन्ध में कहा जाता है कि साइब, एफिशिएन्ट एंडीमिनिस्ट्रेशन, कृशल शासन को देखते हुए हम हरिजननों को कोई विशेष सुविधा नहीं दे सकते। अगर उन को नौकरी पर नहीं लेना चाहते तो यह कह देते हैं कि लोक सेवा आयोग तो एक स्वतंत्र संस्था है जो कुछ बह कर उस के लिये हम कुछ नहीं कर सकते। मैं समझता हूँ कि सब से ऊंची संस्था यह संसद है। यह संसद लोक सेवा आयोग के रूप में संशोधन कर सकती है। यह संशोधन ला कर हमारे हरिजन भाइयों को अधिक से अधिक संख्या में वहां ला कर बिठा सकती है। पांच साल कील चुंके हैं, पांच साल और बाकी है, जगला एलकेशन जो होने वाला है वह आखिरी

एलकेशन होगा, क्या आप ४० साल के बाद हमें हमारा एरा परसेन्टज देगे? क्या हमारा रिजर्वेशन है उसी को ले कर हम गुलाम बने रहेंगे? हम कर तक इस चीज को अपने गले में लटकाये रहेंगे यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता। सरकार का यह कर्तव्य होना चाहिये कि जब अब केवल पांच साल रह गये हैं तो किसी भी तरीके से जो हरिजननों को अधिक से अधिक बढ़ाया जाय। आज कहीं हजारों लाखों हरिजननों में से एक हरिजन नौकरी पर जाता है। जब हम में एक हरिजन सब इन्स्पेक्टर या डिस्ट्रिक्ट मैजिस्ट्रेट होता है तो लाखों हरिजननों को गौरव होता है और वे उस एक आदमी से उत्साह लेते हैं। एक हरिजन भी सरकारी नौकरी पर चला जाता है तो उस से हम लोग इन्स्पिरेशन लेते हैं।

अब मैं पब्लिक सर्विस कमिशन के मामले पर आता हूँ। चार पांच साल पहले यहाँ श्री राजगोपालाचार्य होम मिनिस्टर थे मैं ने उन से पूछा तो मुझे मालूम हुआ कि रिटर्न एग्जामिनेशन में तो दो चार हरिजन पास भी हो जाते हैं लेकिन वाइवा बोसी में वह फेल कर दिये जाते हैं। मुझे डर है कि वह इस लिये नहीं फेल हो जाते कि उन में कोई दोष है बल्कि इस लिये कि अफसरों का माइन्ड प्रेजुडिसिड है। उस को अभी तक दूर नहीं किया गया है। मैं खादी पहनता हूँ, जब कभी कोई आदमी खादी पहने हुए या भारतीय वेष भूषा में अफसरों के सामने जाता है तो उस को अफसरों की निगाहों में नगण्य गिना जाता है। वह कहते हैं :

"You must look like an officer, you must behave like an officer."

यह उन की मेंटैलिटी है। जब तक यह मेंटैलिटी रहेगी तब तक कोई भी हरिजन या आदिम जाति का आदमी आगे नहीं बढ़ सकता है। नौकरी में भी आने नहीं बढ़ सकता है। यह जो मेंटैलिटी है इस को सरकार ने क्यों दूर नहीं किया यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता। इसी लिये हमारे हरिजन भाई या जो शोषित समाज के लोग हैं वे

[श्री बांगड़]

पब्लिक सर्विस कमिशन की इंटरव्यू में जाकर फेल होते हैं और जो लोग अगर्जी वष भूषा के और फेशन के पुतले होते हैं वष लिये जाते हैं। भारतीय वष भूषा के लोगों को नहीं लिया जाता है। और इसी मेन्टीलिटी के कारण हमारे भाई पीछे रहते हैं। स्टूट पीहनने वालों की कद्र होती है और धोती पीहनने वालों को घृणा की दृष्टि से देखा जाता है। मैं इन सब चीजों पर आप का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ।

इस के उपरान्त छुआ छूत के सम्बन्ध में भी मुझे कुछ कहना था पर क्यों कि उसके लिये अलग बिल आ रहा है, इस लिये अभी बोलना बेकार होगा। साथ में मैं बैकवर्ड क्लासेज कमिशन के बारे में भी कह देना चाहता हूँ। बैकवर्ड क्लासेज कमिशन को बने हुए साल भर हो गया। बैकवर्ड क्लासेज कमिशन की रिपोर्ट पर अन्तिम निर्णय नहीं हुआ लेकिन डिप्लोमेटिकन कमिशन की रिपोर्ट पर हो गया। क्या आप समझते हैं कि बैकवर्ड क्लासेज कमिशन की रिपोर्ट पर फिर जातियां नहीं घटाईं या बढ़ाईं जायेंगी ? चौक १९१९, १९२९, १९३९ और १९४९ की जन संख्या के अनुसार कुछ जातियों के आंकड़े नहीं मिलते तो उस पर सरकार कैसे अमल करेगी यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता। उन्होंने जो डिप्लोमेटिकन कमिशन बनाया है, मैं समझता हूँ कि उस पर लाहों रुपया बरबाद कर दिया। बैकवर्ड क्लासेज कमिशन की रिपोर्ट आने के बाद यह जानने के लिये अनुसूचित जातियां घट गईं या बढ़ गईं आप को फिर से सेन्सस करना पड़ेगा, साथ में शैड्युल्ड ट्राइब्स की संख्याओं को भी फिर निर्धारित करना पड़ेगा। उस के बाद फिर आप को कान्स्टिट्यूटरीज को डिप्लोमेट करना पड़ेगा। जब सरकार यह समझती थी कि बैकवर्ड क्लासेज कमिशन की रिपोर्ट अभी नहीं आई है तो उस ने पहले डिप्लोमेटिकन कमिशन की रिपोर्ट को क्यों पास किया।

बैकवर्ड क्लासेज कमिशन ने साल भर हो गया अपनी फाइनल रिपोर्ट नहीं दी, सिर्फ इंटरिंस रिपोर्ट दी है, लेकिन उस को सदन के सामने नहीं रक्खा गया। अभी वह स्टूट्स के पास जायगी उस के बाद इस सदन में आयेंगी। उस के अनुसार कुछ जातियां घट जायेंगी और कुछ बढ़ जायेंगी। इस के बाद जब एलेक्शन होगा तो डिप्लोमेटिकन कमिशन की रिपोर्ट पर विचार कर लेने के बाद बैकवर्ड क्लासेज कमिशन की रिपोर्ट पर विचार करना इस सदन के लिये कोई लाभदायक चीज नहीं है।

इस लिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि गृह मंत्री जी और सरकार इस बात पर बहुत ध्यानपूर्वक विचार करें और विचार करने के बाद जो भी उचित हो करे। १९५६-५७ की इलेक्शन तो हरिजननों और आदिमजातियों का नेक्स्ट और अन्तिम चुनाव है। शिक्षा विभाग की बात गृहमंत्री करते हैं परन्तु दूसरे मामलों पर चर्चा करने का मौका ही नहीं देते। कई बार प्रश्न पूछे जाते हैं लेकिन उन के उत्तर में कह दिया जाता है कि I require notice। require notice.

मुझे उन की तरफ से ऐसे जवाब सुन कर बहुत दुख होता है। जब हम १० दिन पहले या २० दिन पहले सवाल लिख कर दे देते हैं तो मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि वे क्यों इतने ज्यादा असें में सारी इनफार्मेशन इकट्ठी नहीं कर लेते। शायद वे फाइल पढ़ते ही नहीं।

इसके डलावा होम मिनिस्टर साहब को कई खत लिखे जाते हैं लेकिन उन का कोई भी जवाब नहीं दिया जाता। दो साल हुए मैं ने अपने निजी फायद के लिए नहीं बल्कि कम्युनिटी के फायदे के लिए एक पत्र गृह मंत्री जी को लिखा था जिसका कि उन्होंने जवाब देना भी मुनासिब नहीं समझा। अगर मੈम्बरो के पत्रों के ही उत्तर नहीं दिए जाएंगे तो जो छोटें मोटें आदिमी पत्र लिखते हैं उनका जवाब कैसे दिया जा सकता है।

में यह जानना है कि गवर्नमेंट को हमारे साथ पूरी सिम्पथी है और यह बात उस वक्त साबित हो गई थी जब हम डिलीमिटेशन कमिशन एक्ट में सुधार करने पर विचार कर रहे थे। उन्होंने हमारी राय को स्वीकार किया। अभी हमारे मित्र कुरील साहब ने कहा कि अगर हरिजनों की हालत में सुधार न किया गया तो हरिजन बगावत कर देंगे और हिन्दुस्तान में राइट्स हो जाएंगे। मैं इस बात का विरोध करता हूँ और यकीन दिलाता हूँ कि यहाँ पर बगावत होने का या राइट्स के छिड़ जाने का कोई सवाल पैदा नहीं होता। हम अहिंसा को पसन्द करते हैं। हम एकता को पसन्द करते हैं। हम चाहते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान की तमाम जातियाँ एक दूसरे के साथ मिलजुल कर रहें। इन हालात में हिन्दुस्तान में बगावत होने की कोई वजह नहीं है। हम बगावत नहीं होने देंगे। जमाना स्वयं १०-२० वर्षों में हरिजन हिन्दू का भेद नहीं रखेगा। लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जल्दी से जल्दी हरिजनों की दशा सुधारने का प्रयत्न उनको करना चाहिए। जो कुछ भी हम ने कहा है मैं गृह मंत्री महोदय से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह उसको ऑफिसियल भूट में न लें, यह समाज का शोना है और इस दृश के करोड़ों हरिजनों और आदिजातियों की पुकार है और मैं अब करता हूँ कि वे इन की पुकार को सुनें और इस पर अमल करें।

अन्त में मैं कहना चाहूँगा कि जब बैंकवर्ह क्लॉसिस कमिशन की रिपोर्ट गवर्नमेंट के पास आ जाए तो वह उसे जल्दी से जल्दी इस सदन में पेश करें और उस पर बहस करने का मौका दें।

श्री नवल प्रभाकर (बाह्य दिल्ली—रचित अनुसूचित जातियाँ): तीन साल लगातार प्रार्थना करने के बाद यह पहला मौका है कि मुझे इस सदन में शॉर्टलैण्ड कास्ट कमिशनर की रिपोर्ट पर बोलने का मौका मिला है। दिल्ली से मैं लांक संभा का सदस्य हूँ और

जब से मैं इस सभा के अन्दर आया हूँ तब से मैं बराबर लिख रहा हूँ कि हरिजनों को प्राइमरी से लेकर एम० ए० तक की शिक्षा निःशुल्क दी जानी चाहिए। दिल्ली केन्द्रीय सरकार के मातहत है और खासतौर से जो दिल्ली यूनिवर्सिटी है वह केन्द्रीय सरकार के अधीन है और उसका कंट्रोल उसके हाथ में है। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं ने बहुत से पत्र लिखे हैं, बहुत सारे प्रश्न भी इस सदन में किए हैं किन्तु उन सब प्रश्नों के उत्तर में यही कहा गया है कि यह मामला 'अंडर कंसिडरेशन' है। यह कंसिडरेशन कितने साल तक चलती रहती है, यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आया। तो मेरा सरकार से निवेदन है कि यदि वह हरिजनों का उद्धार करना चाहती है और हरिजनों को आगे ले जाना चाहती है, और उनकी उन्नति करना चाहती है, जैसा कि गृह मंत्री जी ने अभी कहा और अपने भाषण में उन्होंने ने शिक्षा पर काफी ज्यादा जोर दिया तो इन को निःशुल्क शिक्षा जरूर दी जानी चाहिए। तमाम हिन्दुस्तान में जितने भी हरिजन छात्र हैं उनको पहली जमायत से लेकर उंची से उंची कक्षा तक उन से कोई फीस नहीं ली जानी चाहिए। मुझे इसका बहुत कटु अनुभव है कि जब एक बच्चा मीट्रिक पास करता है या हायर सैकेंडरी का इम्तहान पास करता है और उसके बाद कालेज में दाखिल होने के लिए जाता है तो उसके सामने एक बड़ी विकट समस्या उपस्थित हो जाती है और वह समस्या रुपये की होती है। जब कोई कालेज में दाखिल होने के लिए जाता है तो उसको सैकड़ों रुपये फीस इत्यादि के खर्च करने पड़ते हैं। शुरू में ३ या ४ महीने की फीस ली जाती है और उसके साथ साथ उसको पुस्तकें भी खरीदनी पड़ती हैं। यह रूपया वह कहां से लाए और कैसे जमा करे। यह एक कठिन समस्या उसके सामने आ जाती है। तो मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि तमाम हिन्दुस्तान के लिए यह फैसला कर दिया

[श्री नवल प्रभाकर]

जाए कि जो भी हरिजन हैं उनको एम० ए० तक फ्री शिक्षा दी जाएगी। इस के अलावा यह भी हो जाना चाहिए कि जो छात्र वृत्ति हो गी वह भी उसे दी जाएगी। मैं ने जो पत्र लिखे हैं उनके जवाब में मुझे बताया गया है कि जो भी हरिजन लड़के पास होते हैं और कालेज में दाखिल होने जाते हैं उन को छात्र वृत्ति दी जाती है। लेकिन मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि जब ये बच्चे कालेज में दाखिल होने जाते हैं और उनके सामने रुपये की समस्या खड़ी हो जाती है, उसको भी हल करने का प्रयत्न किया जाना चाहिए।

दूसरी बात में पुलिस के सम्बन्ध में कहना चाहता हूँ। इस के बारे में मैं ने दिल्ली सरकार को कई पत्र भी लिखे हैं और उनके नोटिस में मैं ने यह चीज लाई है कि पुलिस में हरिजनों को भर्ती करने का कोई प्रबन्ध नहीं किया गया है। मैं ने दिल्ली सरकार के मंत्रियों को भी पत्र लिखे हैं लेकिन उन की तरफ से कोई एक्शन नहीं लिया गया। प्रदर्श कांग्रेस के प्रधान श्री सी० क० नायर ने भी होम मिनिस्टर के बजट के समय कहा था कि आज भी दिल्ली में हरिजनों को पुलिस में बिल्कुल भर्ती नहीं किया जाता। मैं एक दो भिसालों आप के सामने पेश करना चाहता हूँ जिस से आप को यह पता लगेगा कि किस बिना पर इनको रिजर्वेट कर दिया जाता है। एक हरिजन लड़का जो कि गैज़एट था ए० एस० आइ० की पोस्ट के लिए गया। बड़ा नाँबवान और खूबसूरत होने के इलावा कद वर्गेरह में वह सब शर्तें पूरी करता था। इन सब चीजों में पास होने के बाद जब वह इंटरव्यू में गया तो उस से पूछा गया कि वह किस कम्प्यूनिटी को बिलॉग करता है जिस के जवाब में उसने कहा कि वह चमार कम्प्यूनिटी को बिलॉग करता है। जब उस से पूछा गया कि उसके पिता क्या काम करते हैं तो

उसने कहा कि वह जूते बनाते हैं। इसके बाद उस को बताया गया कि सिर्फ उन लोगों को पुलिस में नौकरी मिलती है जिन के बाप पुलिस में होते हैं और चूंकि आप का बाप पुलिस में काम नहीं करता इसलिए आप को नौकरी नहीं मिल सकती। सारी शर्तें पूरी करने के बावजूद इस को सिर्फ इस बिना पर रिजर्वेट कर दिया गया कि उसका बाप पुलिस में काम नहीं करता था इसी तरह का एक क्रैस पिछले दिनों में नॉटिस में आया और मैं ने उस गृह मंत्री जी के पास भेज दिया। उसका उत्तर मुझे यह आया है कि सेरे कागज फलां जगह भेज दिए गए हैं और उस जगह से वे दूसरी जगह भेज दिए गए हैं। इस पत्र पर अन्तिम फॉसला क्या हुआ इसके बारे में मुझे अभी तक कुछ भी पता नहीं लग सका है।

इसके बाद मैं मकानों की समस्या के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। जब मैं इस सदन में खड़ा होता हूँ और इस भवन को देखता हूँ और इस भवन की आस पास की सड़कों को देखता हूँ और इन सड़कों पर चलती मोटरों को देखता हूँ, और इन सड़कों के आसपास खड़े महलत को देखता हूँ तो मैं हँसना होता हूँ कि एक तरफ तो ऐसी आकर्षक चीजें हैं लेकिन दूसरी तरफ जैसे मकानों में भंगी वर्गेरह रहते हैं उनको देखकर घृणा होती है। जैसे मकानों में वे रहते हैं और जिस प्रकार का जीवन वह व्यतीत करते हैं मैं समझता हूँ कि एक कुत्ता भी उनसे अच्छी तरह रह सकता है। वे इतने ज्यादा छोट गंद, मैले और भद मकानों में रहते हैं कि देखने वाले के हृदय में हँसानी और घृणा के सिवा कुछ भी नहीं पैदा होता। मैं गृह मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह जा कर देखें कि कौसी बुरी हालत में ये लोग रह रहे हैं। आप मौली नगर में जाएं, बापा नगर में

जाएँ तो आप देखेंगे कि कितनी बढ़तर हालत में ये लोग पहुँच रहे हैं। म्युनिसिपल कमिटी में जो भंगी काम करते हैं, और दूसरे सरकारी दफ्तरों में जो हरिजन काम करते हैं उन के पास रहने के लिए मकान नहीं हैं। इस बातसे मेरी गवर्नमेंट से प्रार्थना है कि इन लोगों के रहने के लिए वह अच्छे मकानों का प्रबन्ध करें।

अब मैं जो रुपया स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को दिया जाता है केन्द्रीय सरकार की तरफ से उस के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। यहाँ से कहा जाता है कि इतना रुपया सैंक्शन हो गया है जो कि आप हरिजनों पर खर्च कर सकते हैं। लेकिन मैं देखता हूँ कि साल खत्म हो जाता है लेकिन कुछ भी रुपया खर्च नहीं किया जाता। जो थोड़ा बहुत रुपया खर्च भी किया जाता है वह भी एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन पर ही खर्च किया जाता है। इस की तरफ भी सरकार को ध्यान देना चाहिए।

इसके बाद मैं कुछ थोड़ा सा दिल्ली की बैंकवर्ड क्लॉसिस के सम्बन्ध में खास तौर से कहना चाहता हूँ

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. It is now 2-30. We have to take up other business. Hon. Member may resume his speech in the next Session.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

NINETEENTH REPORT

Shri Altekar (North Satara): I beg to move:

"That this House agrees with the Nineteenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 22nd December, 1954."

This is in connection with the allotment of time for Bills that are fixed for discussion today. That allotment is given in Appendix II. There are allotted 2 hours for the Bill by Shri U. C. Patnaik, Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2½ hours for the Bill of Shrimati Khongmen,

Constitution (Amendment of the Sixth Schedule) Bill, 2 hours for Shrimati Uma Nehru's Bill, Women's and Children's Institutions Licensing Bill and 1½ hours for Dr. N. B. Khare's Bill, Ex-Army Personnel's Litigation Bill. Another point that has been decided is in connection with the classification of the three Bills that were before the Committee. All of them have been classified in category B. That is the report. I commend it to the acceptance of the House.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Basirhat): Before you put it to the House, I rise to ask for clarification of one point. Although I had spoken to Shri Altekar and he had asked me to appear before the Committee by word of mouth, he had said that he would send a letter. I never received that letter and could not place before the Committee my view on the Electricity Supply (Amendment) Bill. I wrote to him a letter saying that it should be kept over till I am allowed to appear before the Committee and put forward my point of view. Neither did I get a letter nor was I asked to appear, except by word of mouth by Shri Altekar. I would request the House to hold it over for the reconsideration of the Committee when I may be able to put forward my point of view before them and they may be able to categorise it in whatever category they may like. I would request that my Bill be held over.

Mr. Chairman: This point could have been made after I placed the motion before the House. Then some reply could have been made by Shri Altekar.

Shri Altekar: May I explain the position?

Mr. Chairman: Order, order.

Motion moved:

"That this House agrees with the Nineteenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 22nd December, 1954."

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty has made a point. If Shri Altekar wants