

**PRESIDENT'S ASSENT TO BILLS**

Secretary: Sir, I lay on the Table copies, duly authenticated by the Secretary of Rajya Sabha, of the following four Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current Session and assented to by the President since a report was last made to the House on the 24th March, 1958:—

- (1) The Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property (Amendment) Bill, 1958.
- (2) The Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1958.
- (3) The Indian Reserve Forces (Amendment) Bill, 1958.
- (4) The Control of Shipping (Continuance) Bill, 1958.

**\*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd.****MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demands Nos. 66, 67, 68 and 123 relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for which three hours have been allotted. Hon. Members desirous of moving cut motions may hand over at the Table within 15 minutes the numbers of the selected cut motions.

I propose to call the hon. Minister at . . .

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): Sir, I may require 45 to 50 minutes.

Mr. Speaker: I will call him at 2.15.

**DEMAND No. 66—MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 12,37,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'".

**DEMAND No. 67—BROADCASTING**

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,67,58,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Broadcasting'".

**DEMAND No. 68—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,06,27,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'".

**DEMAND No. 123—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON BROADCASTING**

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,97,62,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Broadcasting'".

Shri Kumaran (Chirayinkil): Sir, it has become almost a convention to open the debate on the Budget demands for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting with some reference to the working of the All India Radio. Last year, when I opened the debate on the Demands for this Ministry, I also fully observed this convention. This time, I wish to make a departure from this convention because another very important matter is uppermost in my mind at present.

It is only a few days now since the Supreme Court delivered judgment on the petitions filed by certain newspaper owners challenging the constitutional validity of the Working

\* Moved with the recommendation of the President.

Journalists Act and the decisions of the Wage Board constituted under the Act. It was this Ministry that took the initiative in passing this important piece of legislation, and the working journalists of this country are very grateful to this Ministry for such action. This Act was passed by Parliament as a result of the acceptance by the Government of the recommendation of the Press Commission that Parliament must take action in respect of the working conditions of the working journalists in this country. The Press Commission made the recommendation in July 1954 and the Minister for Information and Broadcasting on September 8th, 1954, declared in this House that the Government will take up the implementation of certain important recommendations first. I concede that this legislation regarding working conditions of journalists in this country is very important and is one of the most important recommendations of the Press Commission. But we should not forget the fact that there are some other very important recommendations made by the Press Commission, which relate to this problem and also to the larger problem of establishing the press in this country on a more satisfactory basis. But, unfortunately, this Ministry has not taken up the recommendations and they are now waiting for more than three years.

The Press Commission recommended that newspapers should not be run with the profit motive, that is, that the newspapers in this country must have a more sacred motive. For this purpose, they have recommended certain modification or change in the ownership of newspapers in this country and also the diffusion and democratisation of the ownership. This is a very important thing, because, now almost all our newspapers are entirely controlled by big business in this country. This industry, just like any other industry, is now entirely controlled by the profit-seeking capitalists. The Press Commission has put forward certain suggestions for diffusion and democratisation of ownership.

One method suggested by them is transfer of ownership to public trusts. Another method by which this recommendation may be implemented was that the shares of ownership should be distributed among the employees working in the newspaper industry. But, so far, the Government has not taken any action in this regard and our newspapers are being controlled by the capitalists and they are being utilised for their own purposes.

We are boasting that we have set a socialist goal for our country and that we are going forward in the direction of socialism and that we are developing a public sector in our national economy. In the matter of the press, which is the most important medium of mass contact, entirely, the field is given to the private sector, that is big business. A very dangerous trend in this regard is the growing up of monopoly in this field and more and more chains are growing up. The papers are being controlled by big vested interests and they are utilising the press for their own purposes. The capitalists who own the newspapers are only interested in their profit, propagating their own views and furthering their own interests. The Constitution has guaranteed to the people the right of free expression and freedom of the press, but this freedom is now entirely monopolised by the vested interests and they are utilising this mass medium for their own purposes. If we are sincere in our attempt to bring about socialism, and if we are going to achieve our socialist goal, certainly this industry which is the most important industry as far as the common people are concerned, should be taken away from the hold of the vested interests and some form of democratisation and diffusion of ownership should be brought about in this industry.

Another point I wish to refer to is the recommendation made by the Press Commission in regard to the fixation of the price-page schedule. The Press Commission has pointed out that after the withdrawal of the Price-Page Control Order in 1953,

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there has been a marked tendency on the part of well-established papers to increase the number of pages and use it as a means of competition. The number of newspapers in India is very low, and it has to be increased, but under the present circumstances, new-comers cannot survive this unfair competition, and big vested interests are trying to stifle the new-comers, and thus it is hampering the growth of the newspaper industry in our country. All the economic advantages and other factors are being enjoyed by the old established papers, and the Press Commission has suggested that measures should be adopted to rectify the differences due to economic advantages and other factors. It was hoped that the Government would take action in this matter immediately after the Press Commission's recommendations were published, but so far the Government has not taken any step in this direction.

Another thing I wish to point out is in regard to the question of distribution of advertisements by this Ministry to the various newspapers in our country. In this matter also, the Press Commission has laid down certain broad principles which should be followed in distributing advertisements to the papers, but these principles are entirely neglected and violated. Advertisements are distributed according to the likes and dislikes of the officers concerned. This has given rise to complaints and discontent among the papers, especially the small newspapers and the mofussil papers. This also may be taken into consideration by the Government and I hope that a more equitable method of distribution will be adopted by the Government. In this regard the Press Commission has recommended that the distribution of advertisements must be handed over to the State Governments, and the distribution may be made by them according to local circumstances and necessities.

Another very important recommendation made by the Press Commission

was regarding the constitution of an all-India Press Council. Everybody expected that this recommendation would be implemented very soon, but the Government has not taken any step in this direction also. I wish the Government take immediate steps to constitute the Press Council, because it is necessary to safeguard the freedom of the press and help the press to maintain its independence.

Another recommendation by the Press Commission was about the re-organisation for our news-agencies, especially the PTI and the UPI. Everybody knows that these agencies are controlled now by some vested interests and, as in the case of newspapers, their only motive is profit-making. This state of affairs must be changed, and the PTI and the UPI must be reorganised and the workers who are employed in these news-agencies must be given a share in the management and running of the news-agencies.

Now I wish to offer a few remarks on AIR. Last year when I suggested that the AIR should be reorganised into a public corporation, the Minister said that it was not feasible under the present circumstances. He said that such a step would require a body of directors of the highest calibre, that we had not been able to think of a group of people to whom such an important organisation could be entrusted to run it well. This argument of the Minister is, to say the least, preposterous, because we know that this Parliament has created several autonomous bodies to deal with cultural matters, and they are doing well, they are manned by excellent people. But the Minister for Information and Broadcasting comes and says that he is the only person of sufficient calibre to deal with the broadcasting system in this country. I appeal to the hon. Minister to shed this illusion and approach the problem from a democratic and realistic standpoint.

**Shri Jacobin Alva (Kanara):** Is it the demand of the Communist Party that there should be a corporation for the AIR, a demand which has been sponsored by the capitalists of India?

**Shri Kumaran:** It may be sponsored by the capitalists or the socialists. We welcome that because a corporation constituted on the lines suggested by us will be more democratic and will be more conducive to the interests of the people of this country.

Another point I wish to make is in regard to the language policy followed by the Ministry in general and the AIR in particular. Nobody grudges the fact that Hindi is given prominence in the broadcasts and in publications put out by the Ministry, but the only thing is that other languages also should be given fair treatment; at least, they may not be given step-motherly treatment.

In page 13 of the Annual Report of the Ministry for the year 1957-58, it is stated that Hindi is the national language of India. This shows the wrong attitude the Ministry has taken in this matter. It is nonsense to say that Hindi is the national language of India. We are trying to make it the official language of India. There is a lot of difference between national language and an official language. This fact must be borne in mind by the people who are dealing with language issues, because otherwise, there will be great confusion and misunderstanding in the country. That will hinder the spread of Hindi also.

**Dr. B. V. Keskar:** I agree with the hon. Member.

**Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun):** Go to their Benches.

**Shri Kumaran:** Yes, thank you.

There are so many national languages in India, and only the mother-tongue of a people can be the national language of that people. There are so many national languages, at least a dozen national languages in India,

and Hindi is only one of them. As I said, we are trying to make Hindi the official language of India, but it is not our national language, and I hope that this impression will be corrected by the people who are dealing with the language issue in this Ministry.

It was the other day that the Prime Minister complained that his language was murdered by the All India Radio. Radio. It was a case of murdering Hindustani and mutilating it into some form of Hindi, which was not liked even by our Prime Minister. This is a case of murdering Hindustani, but in some ways the AIR, and the Publications Division of this Ministry, are starving the other languages to death. If this is a murder in cold blood, the other thing is death by starvation.

In this connection I wish to point out that in the foreign service broadcasts of the AIR, certain languages are excluded. Now, broadcasts are being made to listeners, especially in South-East Asia. In this regard there has been a persistent demand by the people of Kerala that Malayalam also should be included in the foreign service broadcasts. I think that the Ministry will bear this in mind and will include Malayalam also in the broadcasts to listeners in South-East Asia.

Lastly, I wish to point out something about the publications put out by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry.

Recently, I happened to see a publication called *Indian Drama*. It has been published under the auspices of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. I read it with interest because I wanted to know what was written in that book about Malayalam drama. There is a chapter in that book on Malayalam drama, but anybody who reads that article will be surprised to find that that article has been written by the author to establish that there is no drama in Malayalam. The chapter is on Malayalam

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drama, but the author goes on saying that there is no drama in Malayalam but there is only Kathakali in Malayalam. That is what has been sought to be established by the author. But actually, there is very good dramatic literature in Malayalam, and it can compare very well with the dramatic literature of any other language in India. That has been completely neglected by the author of that article who says that there is no dramatic literature in Malayalam. I do not know anything about the dramatic literature of other languages in our country, but as far as Malayalam is concerned, I know that there is very good dramatic literature in Malayalam, but that fact has been suppressed and distorted by the author of that article in the *Indian Drama*. At least in future when such publications are brought out by the Ministry, people with unprejudiced minds who know their subjects well must be asked to write articles for such publications.

Last time, when I was taking part in the debate on the Demands of this Ministry, I had pointed out certain defects in the appointment of drama producers and also other producers in the radio stations all over the country. Especially, I referred to some appointments in the radio station at Trivandrum. The apprehensions which I expressed at that time have now come out true. Recently, one of the drama producers of the Trivandrum station was dismissed. He does not know what the reason was, and the people of Kerala do not know what the reason for his dismissal was. But it is said that there was some quarrel or some disagreement from the beginning between this drama producer, who was a very great writer in our language and the director in charge of that station, and this has led to the dismissal of this writer. He is a very prominent person—I might also say here that he is an anti-communist—in the literary field. Such kind of high-handedness must be stopped. If Government are

going to take writers into All India Radio and the stations connected with it, they must give them at least some freedom to work, and they must not stifle their independence and dismiss them without giving reasons.

Last time, I appealed to the Minister that some inquiry commission may be appointed to go into the working of the All India Radio. At that time however, he rejected that request by giving some excuses. This time also, I repeat that request, and I hope that he will certainly appoint some commission to go into the working of All India Radio. For, there are certain things which have to be gone into and brought to light, and we must improve the standard of broadcasting in our country. So, I hope the Minister will certainly appoint a Parliamentary commission, and will not turn down the request at least this time.

Shri Sampath (Namakkal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, among the various subjects under the control of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the two most important subjects are the sole broadcasting organisation in India and an elaborate Films Division. These two powerful media are capable of both promoting as well as imperilling the growth of democracy according to the wishes of the powers that possess them. This could be understood very well if we look at the way in which the BBC of UK has been working and the purpose, for which the radio of the Nazi Germany was employed.

I strongly feel that the way in which the broadcasting system and the Films Division under this Ministry are employed is neither good nor desirable for the healthy growth of democracy. Judging from its mode of working or operation, one cannot but doubt whether this Ministry is not playing the role of the publicity agency of the Congress Party. The activities of the Congress Party are very faithfully, elaborately and even artistically covered by the radio as

well as the Films Division. Especially, the radio never fails even to focus portions of the Prime Minister's speeches which are particularly directed against other political parties in strong language. On the other hand, even casual mention is not made about the meetings, conferences and their demonstrations of the other political parties in most cases, however important and impressive they may be. For instance, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam which I have the honour and privilege to serve and represent conducted its State conference, the year before last, at Tiruchirappalli. The open sessions of the conference were attended by over 200,000 people, both men and women. Similarly, I witnessed a month back in Delhi a mammoth procession of Sikhs marching through the streets of Delhi protesting against some frequent sacrileges committed in their sacred places. They were expressing their strong resentment in a novel way. The whole procession marched in solemn silence, which was remarkable. Now, I ask Government what harm would there have been if the Films Division had exposed some fifty to hundred feet of its film to proceedings and processions of such kind, or the radio had devoted two or three minutes of its announcement of news to the important resolution passed in such conferences. If we were to film the proceedings at our own cost, with commentaries of news value, I know there will be many hazards and obstacles caused by the Censor Board from exhibiting them.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** To be fair, would the hon. Member tolerate the idea of the films covering the acts of hooliganism in which the DMK has indulged in, such as spitting on Brahmans, cutting off their tuft and so on?

**Shri Sampath:** I fear the hon. Member has not been well informed either about the DMK or the demonstrations conducted by the DMK.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** The DMK are the saboteurs of Indian freedom.

**Shri Sampath:** This wonderful Censor Board finds always something objectionable in such ventures. Even during the recent general elections, as we are all aware, the Congress Party produced a propaganda film criticising and ridiculing the other political parties and appealing to the people to vote for the Congress. I wonder whether Government will ever allow such a venture by any other political party.

**Dr. Keskar:** Oh! yes, certainly.

**Shri Sampath:** I am thankful for the assurance. We shall try it at the next elections.

**Dr. Keskar:** Please do.

**Shri Sampath:** Is such sort of attitude and condition conducive to the growth of democracy?

In Tamil Nad, the havoc caused by the Censor Board to the film industry is but well known. Some ten years back, the Tamil cinema underwent a great change. Instead of the usual mythology and other folk-lore themes that were resorted to till then, stories dealing with modern problems wherein plantation labourers, mill hands and office clerks were heroes, instead of the usual epic heroes like Rama, Arjuna and Krishna and other princes, became immensely popular. This change was brought about by Arignar Annadurai through his stories like 'Nallathambi' and 'Velaikari'. As he happened to be the leader of the DMK, there were fears in some quarters that the popularity of his stories might contribute to the popularity and strength of his party also. As if to allay the fears of such men, the Censor Board sharpened its scissors and saw to it that no picture with any progressive social theme with emphasis on eradication of casteism and other social evils such as superstition escaped its hands without serious mutilation. This attitude scared the capital in the film industry. In the film industry, as we all know, where several lakhs of rupees are to be spent in producing a film, the money factor

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is always the decisive one. If the men in the cine field were after such progressive themes, it was because they were paying and popular. So when they found that the Censor Board was bent upon crippling such ventures, the producers once again invoked the mythological heroes and other folk lore heroes, and the cobras that could perform wonders, the horses that could fly and the sword that could slay thousands of men at one stroke, and the *deva kanyas* in Miami swimming suits which made the censors lay down their scissors and clap their hands in approbation. Such devices to stifle new and progressive thoughts and ideas will never help the much talked of cause of evolving a casteless society or freeing the people from the clutches of superstition and ignorance.

The hon. Member who preceded me laid emphasis on the fact that the All India Radio is giving preference to Hindi. It is certainly giving preferential treatment to the Hindi language and a step-motherly treatment to the other national languages of India. I was afraid, before the hon. Minister gave an assurance, that this Ministry also was a victim of that false and fantastic idea that Hindi was the only national language of India. I am grateful for the assurance just now given by the Minister of Information and Broadcasting and hope that it will be followed by other vociferous members of the Treasury Benches, in giving an assurance to the people in the south and other non-Hindi speaking areas that their languages are also considered and respected as the national languages of India.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya (West Dinajpur): The Prime Minister himself has given that assurance.

Shri Sampath: That does not seem to be enough, because there is a fear that the Prime Minister is often overwhelmed by other people who have loud voices.

The Ministry is doing a great injustice to the people of the south in conducting the Vividh Bharati programmes in Hindi. Especially when there is another unit in Bombay conducting the Vividh Bharati in a similar manner, this will be construed by the people of the south as an ununderstanding and aggressive attitude on the part of the Government. I appeal to the Government to replace Hindi in the Vividh Bharati programmes broadcast from Madras by the languages of the south.

In its fervour and zeal to make Hindi suddenly a widespread and glowing language, I fear that the Ministry is causing heavy and unbearable strain on that language itself. As the hon. Member who preceded me has said, a few days back our Prime Minister had to say something harsh about the people responsible for giving the Hindi versions of his speeches—that they should be convicted of some horrible crime. I am at a loss to understand, and I expect light from the hon. Minister, whether those remarks are a reflection on the efficiency of the staff of A.I.R., or remarks on the limitations of the language concerned. One should look at the stature of a language and judge for himself the limitations of it.

Lastly, in giving government advertisements, most of the magazines and dailies belonging to political parties other than the Congress, and highly critical of government policies, are completely ignored. For instance, as many as a dozen or more organisations belonging to the D.M.K. Party are conducting various weeklies, monthlies and dailies. Not even a single journal representing that Party's views is given any government advertisement. This kind of earning support for the Government through an indirect sort of subsidy is highly deplorable. If such attitude continues, then all tall talk of the Government about the temper of democracy will prove to be empty words meant for

export to foreign countries and not meant for local consumption.

**Kumari M. Vedakumari (Eluru):** In the administrative cup-board of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, there are so many skeletons whose presence cannot be explained by the Minister...

**Dr. Keskar:** There are skeletons everywhere.

**Kumari M. Vedakumari:** ...because these are the products of gross injustice perpetrated by the whims and fancies and the changing policies of the Minister.

First, I shall put up the case of Programme Assistants. These people are employed to see, administer and look after the programmes. They were taken because they are highly talented, and they are a highly academic and cultured people.

**Dr. Keskar:** Hear, hear.

**Kumari M. Vedakumari:** At least he accepts that they are cultured and academic and well-equipped with the artistic paraphernalia. These people are employed for this purpose. But I think a new class has invaded the Information Ministry now. These people are called Producers. After this invasion, the Programme Assistants have become fossils, because the emergence of this new type of people, Producers, has created a sort of Egyptian Mummies in this Information Ministry, because these Programme Assistants are taken as Programme Assistance, they live and work as Programme Assistance and they will automatically collapse as Programme Assistance, since they have committed the greatest sin of being Programme Assistants! This is the fortune of these people. These people, who have had a high academic career and who are a highly cultured people, are not given any promotion at all. After the Producers have been taken, these people are put as they are, though

they are talented and fit for bigger jobs. I do not know what is the policy behind the Government's objection to the progress and promotion of these well-equipped and well-cultured men. I want to know what is the objection of the Government to promoting these people. I cannot understand why they cannot be given higher jobs when they have served for so many years. There are some people who have put in 10 or 15 years of service, but they are not promoted because they are Programme Assistants. They are really dissatisfied, dejected and disappointed, and anyone would feel pity on them, because the Minister will never reply as to what is the actual fate of these Programme Assistants.

I have few words to add about the Producers. There are so many people who have entrenched themselves by currying and buttering the Ministers. These Producers can go on leave for even a year, because they can catch hold of these Ministers or some other great people and apply for leave for seven or eight months, because they are big people. Nobody can open his lips because the Minister will then sack him.

So I think in order to improve the standard and the morale of the administrative set-up, the Minister should treat all cases in an equal and impartial way. I strongly appeal and humbly request him to see that all the artists, whether they belong to the higher groups, whether they belong to his group, to his State or any State, are given equal treatment.

Coming to staff artists, last year I had requested the hon. Minister to look into their difficulties. He agreed to do so. But not even one jot has been done, although one year has elapsed. I asked him about their permanency, I asked him about improvement of their deplorable position, I asked about their salary conditions and so on. But beyond merely speaking, nothing will be done to



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people who are serving for 'so many years. Anyhow, I would like to present the case again, because I think the Minister, who has so much power in his hands, can do something to the people who are suffering since long years. I think the programmes mainly and purely depend on the talents of the staff artists. These people are most neglected and their scales of pay are very low and they are worked to the maximum. These half-paid and half-starved people have to work and make the programmes brilliant ones. I do not know how the authorities can expect brilliant performances from these half-starved and half-paid staff artists. These people have no housing facilities; they have to come from long distances 5, 6 or even 10 miles, cycling in the wind and rain, day or night, they have to come and perform. How can we expect brilliant performances from them?

There is no permanency to the staff artists. They can be sacked even at a moment's notice by the Station Director himself. There is no clause in their terms of appointment that if an artist proves to be an excellent artist, if he has got good talents, culture and everything, he would not be sacked. These staff artists have to depend purely upon the whims and fancies of the Station Directors. I would request the hon. Minister to have such a clause inserted in their terms of appointment.

I think art is more important for the country. It is the only thing which will last longer than the ephemeral professions of a politician. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to look to the condition of these people. If anybody faces the microphone, he will understand that what is the important thing for an artist to give a brilliant performance is his mood. He will be coming directly from his house; his child may be suffering since a long time from so many ailments; and he may not have rice or vegetables; from that

house he directly comes to the office and sings into the mike. I am not pleading for the rich people; I am only pleading the case of a poor artist whom we want to give a brilliant performance, for which we are struggling. I would again say that something should be done to these people because no such performance can be good. It cannot be made good only out of the files of the hon. Minister or out of the speeches or assurances of the hon. Minister. The hon. Minister should consider the difficulties of the staff artists and do something to these poor artists.

There has been a change in the system of contracts. They used to take every artists on one year contract basis. When renewing the contract, they used to take the record of the artist and give him yearly increments. But, after 3 years, they take away the annual increments; and the records of the artists are not considered even when renewing the contract. When anything is done, when any step is taken, it must be helpful to the staff artists.

About cadres, housing facilities and medical facilities, I have requested the hon. Minister a number of times and I think he would do something for them.

The hon. Minister thinks that the National Programmes are very popular, because, in his files, he has got so many statistics. You can say, so many programmes have been relayed from the Delhi Radio Station, and so many artists have been participating in it. You can say anything in terms of mathematics. But, when you see the quality of the programmes, do you really think that people are enjoying them so well as you are proclaiming? No South Indian artist has been given a chance for two months. And, if I ask the same thing as what the other South Indian Members are asking, I think it would be a monotonous song to the ears of the hon.

Minister. But, I think he will look into the matter.

There is a complaint that some South Indian artists are refusing to come to Delhi because it is such a long way. But you can arrange them at Madras also and have them relayed from Madras and Delhi also. I request the hon. Minister to see something is done in this respect and a change is made to give a chance to South Indian artists.

Another thing is one which has come recently. When a good programme is going on—from a good artist—and when the artist is trying to warm himself up, it is cut and somebody comes in with how a chutney is made or how many vitamins are in it and how a minister opened a Janata Hotel. The artist is abruptly stopped in the middle of his very good programme. Only unmusical people can do this. Therefore something should be done and these programmes should not be interrupted by other relays.

Coming to the parliamentary correspondents. We are hearing since some weeks, a commentary on the parliamentary proceedings. Previously, we used to hear impartial relays of the proceedings. But, nowadays, the parliamentary correspondent says, 'the Opposition Member retorted'. Why use that word 'retorted'? Then, he would say, 'the Minister began to attack him'. I think an employee of the All India Radio cannot pass remarks like this on anybody in this House. An employee is not like an artist participating who can make his remarks.....

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khadesh): It is freedom of the Press.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: He is not an artist; he is only purveying some material; he is not independent to speak whatever he likes. Because he is supporting, you can support this. I think they must only convey the news of any matter which is going on

in Parliament. An employee of AIR has no business to pass judgments on our proceedings.

Even about their appointment, something has to be done. Departmentally, they are taking an examination or having some interviews. I do not know what is the departmental name for it. They have appointed Parliamentary correspondents. Nobody knows what is there in the question papers. When they are going to appoint.....

Dr. Keskar: How can anybody know that?

Kumari M. Vedakumari: I think it must be done impartially and through the UPSC. That is a good method.

Dr. Keskar: Yes.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: So, I think the hon. Minister will look into this very important matter also. Otherwise, it will create a very bad impression.

Coming to educational programmes, I want only to mention one point. The school teachers are given some contracts; they are also given the topics on which they have to write for being relayed. But the option of the subjects should be given to the teachers. They know much better than the people who are working in the AIR. You should ask them to contribute an article on any topic which they consider would be appealing to the young and educated people. A programme assistant cannot approach a teacher and ask him to speak on something he wants. If you want to improve the calibre or standard of the educational system, I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that the teachers should be given a bit of freedom and they should be given the option. If they are not able to read well, then, it is different. There are so many teachers who cannot read the papers well. These papers can be read by the artist. I think school boards for the AIR should be evolved.

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and they should be consulted whenever a programme is broadcast about the educational system. Without any prejudice or bias, I would request the hon. Minister to look into these simple matters and remedy the deplorable conditions of the staff artists. With these words, I beg to take leave of you.

Mr. Speaker: Sardar A. S. Saigal. Hon. Members may confine their remarks to ten minutes. There are a number of hon. Members who want to speak.

प्रश्नकार अ० सि० सहृगल (जंजीर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के बारे में जो डिमांड्स यहां पर पेश की गई हैं, उनका समर्थन करने के लिए तथा उन पर अपने विचार प्रकट करने के लिए मैं लड़ा हुआ हूँ।

द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में नौ करोड़ रुपया प्रसारण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए खर्च करने की तजवीज रखी गई है। आप अब देखें कि १९४७ के मुकाबले में १९५६ में हमारे पास कितने स्टेशन थे। १९४७ में हमारे पास केवल ६ स्टेशन थे जब कि १९५७ में इनकी संख्या २८ हो गई। इसको देखने से हम कह सकते हैं कि हमारा जो कदम है वह भाग की तरफ बढ़ रहा है और हम तरक्की कर रहे हैं। इसके साथ ही साथ आप देखेंगे कि १९४७ में हमारे पास केवल १८ ट्रांसमीटर थे जब कि उनकी संख्या आज ५३ तक पहुंच चुकी है। इनमें से ३१ तो मीडियम वेव के हैं और २२ शार्ट वेव के।

इसी तरह से अगर आप समाचार बुलेटिनों की तरफ देखें तो आपको पता चलेगा कि १९४७ में हमारे यहां से ५२ समाचार बुलेटिन प्रसारित हुआ करते थे और जित्त अक्षांशों में ये प्रसारित हुआ करते थे उनमें स्थानीय भाषाओं तथा दूसरी भाषाओं शामिल थीं। लेकिन आज अगर आप भाकशवाणी

से समाचार बुलेटिनों के प्रसारण को देखें तो आपको पता चलेगा कि ४६ बुलेटिन १६ भाषाओं में कर के लिए और बाकी विदेशों के लिए प्रसारित होते हैं। अब आप देखें कि आप और क्या क्या करना चाहते हैं आप शक्तिशाली ट्रांसमीटर लगा रहे हैं। आपने बम्बई में १०० किलोवाट का एक ट्रांसमीटर बम्बई में लगाया है, ५० किलोवाट के ट्रांसमीटर बम्बई, प्रहमदाबाद, जालन्धर, लखनऊ, बंगलौर, कलकत्ता इत्यादि में आप लगा चुके हैं। १९५८-५९ के लिए आप ने कहा है कि आप एक सी किलोवाट ट्रांसमीटर दिल्ली में लगाना चाहते हैं, ५० का टिस्वी में तथा इसी तरह के और कई जगहों पर लगाना चाहते हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप ने जबलपुर में या छत्तीसगढ़ में भी कोई ट्रांसमीटर लगाने पर विचार किया है? माननीय मंत्री जी ने छत्तीसगढ़ का दौरा भी किया था। क्या उस दौर के बाद आप ने यह जरूरी नहीं समझा है कि वहां के जो स्थानीय गाने हैं, कवितायें हैं तथा जो दूसरे लोक गीत हैं उनको प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए वहां पर एक ट्रांसमीटर लगाया जाए? मैं चाहूंगा कि या तो आप रायपुर में, या बिलासपुर में या छत्तीसगढ़ में ट्रांसमीटर लगाने पर विचार करें जिससे वहां के लिट्रेचर इत्यादि को बढ़ावा मिल सके। जिस जगह को आप ठीक समझते हैं, वहां पर आप ट्रांसमीटर लगा सकते हैं।

१९५८-५९ में अगर आप देखें तो आपको पता चलेगा कि भाकशवाणी के प्रसार के लिए आपने २१५ लाख रुपया खर्च करने की तजवीज रखी है। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं आपका ध्यान उस तरफ दिवाना चाहता हूँ जहां पर आपने परमार्नेट टिसीविज सेंटर्स की बात कही है। आप इन परमार्नेट टिसीविज सेंटर्स को त्रिनेत्रम में, जालन्धर में, श्रीनगर में, श्रीवास्तव में, जम्मू, कश्मीर

इत्यादि में लगाने का विचार कर रहे हैं। इसके साथ ही साथ आप यह भी कहते हैं कि जो पहले से ही सैट्स हैं उनको और अच्छी जगहों पर लेजाना आप चाहते हैं जब हम इस और देखते हैं तो हमारा ध्यान कम्युनिटी लिसनिंग स्कीम की तरफ भी जाता है। १९५४ तक तो कम्युनिटी रिसेवर्स की मेनटेनेंस इत्यादि की सारी जिम्मेवारी स्टेट्स के ऊपर थी। उस वक्त तक केवल, ५,३७१ रेडियो सैटों की ही व्यवस्था की जा सकी थी। इसके बाद १९५४ में यह तय पाया गया प्लानिंग कमिशन तथा वित्त मंत्रालय की सलाह से कि ५० फी सदी तक स्टेट्स को मदद दी जाये, लाउड स्पीकरों की खरीद के लिये, रेडियो सैट्स की खरीद के लिये तथा दूसरे सामान की खरीद के लिये। इस तरह से १२५ रुपये तक मदद देने का आपने फैसला किया। इसके साथ ही साथ आपने यह भी कहा कि गांव वालों को भी इस काम के लिये रुपया देना पड़ेगा। आपने यह भी कहा है कि एक रिसेबर के लिये जो विलेजर्स का शेर होना वह कोई ६३ रुपया होगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह भी ज्यादा है और उनका शेर जो है वह इससे ज्यादा ही पड़ेगा। आपको इस पर विचार करना चाहिये कि क्या इसको कम नहीं किया जा सकता है या सैटों की कीमत कम नहीं की जा सकती है? अगर आपने सैटों की कीमत कम की या फिर विलेजर्स के शेर को कम किया तो मैं समझता हूँ कि ज्यादा फायदा हो सकेगा। ३१ मार्च, १९५७ तक आप २५,०३६ रेडियो ही दे सके हैं। आपको ३१ मार्च, १९५८ तक ११,१६६ रेडियो सैट और सप्लाय करने थे। भाषा ये दिये गये हैं, या नहीं इसका कुछ पता नहीं है। १९५८-५९ के लिये आपने योजना बनाई है कि आप १२,१०० रेडियो सैट सप्लाय करेंगे। दूसरे प्लान के लिये आपने जो टारगेट फिक्स किया है वह ६०,००० रेडियो सैटों का है। स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स ने इस दिशा में कितना कार्य

किया है और कितनी सफलता उनकी मिली है, इसका विवरण मैं आपसे जानना चाहूंगा। ऐसा मालूम पड़ता है कि इस दिशा में स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को कितनी सफलता मिलनी चाहिये थी उतनी नहीं मिली है। किस तरह से सफलता प्राप्त की जा सकती है, मैं चाहता हूँ इस पर आप विचार करें। अगर आप गांव वालों को जो ६३ रुपये देने पड़ते हैं, उसमें कुछ कमी कर सकें तो आपको काफी सफलता मिल सकती है तथा गांवों के लोगों को भी इससे और अधिक फायदा उठाने का मौका मिल सकता है। इस तरह से और भी अधिक रेडियो सैट काम में आ सकेंगे।

आपने यह फैसला किया है कि गांवों में जो घरों में रेडियो सैट रखे जाते हैं उनके लिये लाइसेंस फी को घटा कर १५ रुपये से १० रुपये कर दिया जाये। यह जो कदम उठाया गया है इसका मैं स्वागत करता हूँ और ऐसा अच्छा कदम उठाने के लिये आपकी सराहना करता हूँ। लेकिन इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि शहरी लोगों के लिये आपने जो फीस को बढ़ाया हुआ है, उसको भी कम करने पर आप विचार करें।

अब मैं आपके केन्द्रों द्वारा जो ग्राम-वासियों के लिये प्रोग्राम बाडकास्ट किये जाते हैं उनके बारे में थोड़ा सा अर्थ करना चाहता हूँ। उनके लिये आप २२ भाषाओं में प्रोग्राम बाडकास्ट करते हैं। हमारे यहाँ भी ग्राम-वासी सेंटर हैं और उनके बारे में भी आपको कुछ करना चाहिये था। हमारे यहाँ छत्तीसगढ़, बस्तर, बिलासपुर, अम्बिकापुर, रायपुर के इलाके हैं। उन इलाकों की भाषाओं को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिये आपने क्या कदम उठाये हैं, यह मैं आपसे जानना चाहूंगा। आपने अपनी रिपोर्ट में कहा है —

Most of the tribal areas are inaccessible by road and there-

[सरदार भ० सि० सहगल]

fore the A.I.R. staff goes to these places to make recordings of tribal music. Programmes are pre-recorded sometimes for months together.

मंस टुमेवर पहले रिकार्डिंग कर लिया जाता है। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि वहां आपने किसनी रिकार्डिंग की है? मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूं कि जो छत्तीसगढ़ का इलाका है, वहां पर आदिवासी बहुत भारी तादाद में बसते हैं। उनकी भाषाओं को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिये आपको विशेष तौर से कब्र उठाने चाहियें। आपने कहा है कि नागपुर के गोंड, मरिया, मूड़िया इत्यादि ट्राइबल लोगों के लिये आप प्रोग्राम मध्य प्रदेश के लिये रिले करते हैं। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि वहां के लोगों के लिये आप और किन किन भाषाओं में प्रोग्राम रिले करते हैं। आपकी रिपोर्ट को देखने से पता चलता है कि इन तीन भाषाओं के अलावा आप किसी और भाषा को बढ़ावा देने की योजना नहीं रखते हैं। मैं चाहता हूं कि आप सास तौर पर छत्तीसगढ़ के इलाके की जो आदिवासियों की भाषाएँ हैं, उनको प्रोत्साहन देने की ओर विशेष ध्यान दें। मैं यह भी चाहता हूं कि उनकी भाषाओं को बढ़ावा देने के लिये वहां पर आप एक सेंटर की स्थापना करें जो बिलासपुर में हो जो कि सेंटर में है।

15 hrs.

आपने विविध भारती कार्यक्रम शुरू किया है और उसमें आपको काफी कामयाबी मिली है और उससे बहुत सी बातों की प्रतीति भी हुई है। विविध भारती द्वारा जो बातों की प्रतीति होती है। एक तो जो हमारे सहरी सुनने वाले भाई हैं और जो कि प्रख्यात गानों के सुनने वाले हैं तथा जो आमसी गानों को सुनना चाहते हैं और जो कि रीजनल स्टेज के प्रोग्राम हैं यह उनकी प्रतीति कर देता है। दूसरे हमारे आगामी क्षेत्र जो कि चाहते

है कि दोपहर के पहले करीब रात के लिये कुछ बातें उनकी रली जावें उसकी भी प्रतीति हो जाती है और यह ब्यबस्वः सराहनीय है। विविध भारती प्रोग्राम में सब जगह की चीजें सुनी जा सकती हैं। अभी हमारे एक भाई ने ऐतराज किया था कि विविध भारती का प्रोग्राम झाल इंडिया रेडियो से खाली हिन्दी में ब्रडकास्ट होता है। यह तो ठीक है कि वह हिन्दी में प्रसारित होता है और हिन्दी जानने वालों की संख्या भी तो इस देश में बहुत अधिक है और यही कारण है विविध भारती प्रोग्राम देश में करीब करीब हर जगह पोपुलर हो रहा है और कामयाब हो रहा है। इसके बारे में मंत्रालय की रिपोर्ट में यह दर्ज है :

"The Vividh Bharati has evoked enthusiastic response from listeners from all parts of the country. Preliminary survey of listening shows that the programme has been very well received and is on the way to becoming popular throughout the country."

इसलिये हमारे कुछ भाइयों का यह ऐतराज कि यह पोपुलर नहीं है क्योंकि यह सिर्फ एक ही भाषा में ब्रडकास्ट किया जाता है ठीक नहीं है और मंत्रालय की रिपोर्ट से उनका वह ऐतराज गलत साबित हो जाता है।

अब मैं देहाती प्रोग्राम के बारे में कहना चाहता हूं। इस प्रोग्राम में जो जहां की रीजनल भाषा है उसमें वहां के प्रचलित लोक गीतों का प्रसार होता है। इसके साथ ही साथ करल प्रोग्राम में गांवों के तमास काया जैसे उनके कलचरल प्रोग्राम गाने, नाटक और खेल आदि की चीजें भी प्रसारित की जाती हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त मेरा निवेदन है कि करल प्रोग्राम कमेटी में तथा दूसरी कमेटियों में हेल्थ डिपार्टमेंट, करल हेल्थ डेवलपमेंट और स्टेट्स नवर्नमेंट के बीच

वोनों को जो कि वहाँ के लोकल मामलों में वित्तव्ययी लेते हैं या जिन्हें कुछ तजुर्बा है उन्हें भाष इन कमेटियों में रखें। उनका सहयोग लेकर यदि भाष इस कार्य को करेंगे तब इस काम में भाषको और अधिक सफलता मिलेगी। सन् १९३६ में प्रकाशवाणी के ६ मुख्य स्टेशन थे जहाँ से कि यह रूरल प्रोग्राम ब्रॉडकास्ट किया जाता था और तब करीब ३० से ६० मिनट तक यह प्रोग्राम ब्रॉडकास्ट किया जाता था जब कि आज २८ स्टेशन से रूरल प्रोग्राम ब्रॉडकास्ट किया जाता है और जो करीब ४५ से ७५ मिनट तक किया जाता है यदि इस का एवैज निकाल कर देखा जाय तो पता लगेगा कि भाल इंडिया रेडियो प्रतिदिन इस प्रोग्राम को २५ घंटे भारत की प्रमुख २ भाषाओं में रिले करता है...

श्री जाबब (मालेगांव) : यह २५ घंटे का दिन कब से हो गया ?

सरदार अ० सि० सहगल : भाल इंडिया रेडियो द्वारा जो हिन्दी में भाषण प्रसारित किये जाते हैं और उन भाषणों को लेकर जो समाचार बुलेटिन निकलते हैं उसके सम्बन्ध में ४-४-५८ को एक पत्रकार ने पत्रकार सम्मेलन में प्रधान मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान उनके साज किले के १५ भगस्त के हिन्दी भाषण की धोर दिलाया था और उस प्रश्नकार के प्रश्न का जवाब देते हुए प्रधान मंत्री महोदय ने यह कहा था :

"A Correspondent: I heard your Red Fort speech (in Hindi) on Independence day. Fifteen minutes later, I heard the A.I.R. Hindi news bulletin. The two were entirely different.

Mr. Nehru: This is murder of the language. It is much worse than murdering an individual."

इस तरह की चीज अगर भाल इंडिया रेडियो में होती है तो वह हमारे लिए बड़े धर्म की चीज है मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह जो छोटी-छोटी हमारी कमजोरियाँ हैं उन को

दूर किया जाय। इन सबों के साथ इस मंत्रालय की जो सब की माँग है उनका मैं समर्थन करता हूँ।

Shri Ansar Harvani (Fatehpur):  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I consider the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting as one of the most important Ministries. While the Ministry of External Affairs has to keep our neighbours in good humour and has to raise the stature of this country in the international world, while the Home Ministry has to look after internal security, while the Ministry of Food and Agriculture has to increase our food production, the task of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is two-fold. On the one hand it has to reach the warmth and glow of freedom to the far-off villages. On the other, it has to function as a live-wire machinery of Government and create that atmosphere in the Government and to reach public opinion to them.

I wish that our hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting was raised to the stature of a full-fledged Cabinet Minister so that he could sit in the Cabinet where he could convey public opinion to the Members of the Cabinet on the one side and he could know the mind of the Cabinet to give the news on the other side.

Sir, as I pointed out, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has got to be a live-wire machinery. But I feel that it has not reached that stature. It is a pathetic sight to see in the Central Hall our friends of the Press roaming around, and hanging about the other Ministers just to fish out news. It is another sight to see our Ministers cultivating the pressmen on the social level so that better publicity may be given to the activities of their Ministries. That proves that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has not been feeding the Press in the way it ought to have fed it. That means that the Ministers are not getting the publicity through the channel of the Ministry

[Shri Anwar Harvani]

of Information and Broadcasting in the way in which they ought to get. Therefore, something should be done about it. I do not mean to say that the hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting should become a little Dr. Goebells, although Berlin is not far off from Paris where he was educated. But certainly I want him to play a much more effective role than what he is playing today. I want him to be sought after by the Press. But today unfortunately I feel that he is not sought after as he ought to have been sought after by the Press.

Sir, one of the greatest achievements of the Ministry in recent years has been the appointment of the Press Commission and the publication of its report. But I hang my head in shame when I see that most of the important recommendations of the Press Commission have yet got to be implemented. Some minor recommendations have been implemented, e.g., the appointment of a Registrar of Press. But the appointment of a Registrar of Press is meaningless without a Press Council. The hon. Minister may point out that the various parties have not reached an agreement and therefore the Press Council has not come into existence. That shows the failure of the Ministry. The Ministry ought to have brought about an agreement between the various parties, if the parties themselves had failed in arriving at one, and Government is strong enough to implement such an agreement.

Recently we saw the pathetic sight of the Wage Board Award being rejected by the Supreme Court. I bow my head to the decision of the Supreme Court. But then there must have been something wrong somewhere for the Supreme Court to come to that decision. I feel that the Government is still strong enough to implement its decision in some way or other. The press barons express their inability to implement the Award of the Wage Board. But

Government has the power to call for their balance-sheets; Government has full powers to appoint one of the Commissions like the Chagla Commission to inquire into the assets, liabilities and financial condition of the press barons. The press barons have enough money with them to build huge structures in Delhi; the press barons have enough money to employ their own sons or other peoples son-in-law as advisers or managers; the press barons have enough money to snatch an editor from a Marwari newspaper to another newspaper. But the press barons have no money to pay the starving working journalists on whose sweat and blood they have been living all these years. I appeal to the hon. Minister to come forward and save the starving pressmen, the dying pressmen from this condition. It is a shame to us that we should allow the pressmen to live in this way. They will lose their confidence in parliamentary democracy if we do not come to their rescue. We live on the press and the goodwill of the pressmen. If we lose the goodwill of the pressmen we will lose their faith in the future of parliamentary democracy. That is about the Press Commission.

I now come to the All India Radio. It is one of the greatest instruments of publicity, propaganda and cultural programme of the Government.

What is the position of the All India Radio? When we go through the Budget provision we find that most of the money of the All India Radio is spent on the administrative machinery. I will give you the figures. In the Directorate-General of All India Radio the Budget estimate figures for 1958-59 are: Pay of officers—Rs. 4,42,000; Pay of Establishments—Rs. 5,13,200; Allowances; Honoraria etc.—Rs. 4,81,500; Other charges—Rs. 3,15,000; and Allowances to Artists—Rs. 2,98,000. So we find that most of the money is spent on establishment and services and the least amount is spent on the artists.

and on the allowances. If we compare these figures with the figures of the British Broadcasting Corporation because I do not want to compare the All India Radio with the American broadcasting system, which is a commercial thing.....

**Dr. Keskar:** Sir, the hon. Member is committing a mistake. The Directorate-General does not broadcast programmes. For allowances to artistes and money spent on programmes he should look to the expenditure at different stations and not to the budget of the Directorate-General.

**Shri Ansar Harvani:** They also pay for the artistes.

**Dr. Keskar:** That is for certain All India programmes, and not for the general programme; for that you must look to the various stations.

**Shri Ansar Harvani:** In B.B.C. we find that they spend 55.61 per cent on programmes, 23.47 per cent on engineering, 7.88 per cent on premises and 4.13 per cent on management and services.

There is one other thing. In the old days the British Government used to be very fond of ICS officers. If an ICS officer was not found to be a very good administrator he was shuffled out and even made a headmaster. But, when in 1936 the Britishers decided to have a broadcasting system in the country they brought a very good Englishman, from there—Mr. Lionel Fieldon—who later became the first Director-General. He trained a brilliant professor from Punjab, who later on became the permanent representative of Pakistan in U.N.O. and today he is the Assistant General Secretary in the United Nations Organisation. He left another non-official, who was an educationist, whom the ICS officers in some way shuffled out and today he is not to be found.

I have nothing to say about the incumbents of the Directorate General of All India Radio. They may be very

brilliant people—they are brilliant people—but I feel that the Directorate-General of All India Radio should be presided not by an ICS officer but it should be presided by someone who has real cultural background, by someone who has educational background, by someone who has not just the experience of 20 years as a Magistrate or Collector and some years in an office pushing files. The task of running the radio is not that of file pushers. The task of running the radio is the task of a real genuine educationist and culturist. I have nothing to say against the persons who hold that position, but I hope that point will be considered by the hon. Minister.

Then, Sir, there is another point to which I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister, and that is about publication. We find that there is a publication organisation in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, a publication organisation in the Ministry of Education, a publication organisation in the A. G. C. R's. Office and almost all the Ministries are having their own publication organisations. We have also a Publication Division. I do not understand why these organisations cannot be co-ordinated and brought under the direct control of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. I do not understand why the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting cannot be an all-pervading organisation giving publication and publicity to the various Ministries. I do not understand why the Ministries are not impressed to seek the help and aid of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to get their publications done. There must be something wrong somewhere, and that is why most of the Ministries are running their own independent publication organisations.

Then, Sir, one word more and I have done, and that is about our publicity on Kashmir. There is a gallant lady in this city. I may have not admiration for her wisdom but I certainly admire her tenacity. With the



[Shri Anwar Harvani]

minor resources of a business house at Ahmedabad, she is doing much more harm to our affairs in Kashmir than we have been able to do with the huge resources of India in Kashmir affairs. Therefore, I will ask the hon. Minister to intensify this publicity about Kashmir and bring out a journal on Kashmir. The Kashmir Government also brings out a journal—*Kashmir Today*. Why can't we co-ordinate these two publications? Why should there be two units, one unit attached to the Trade Commissioner here and another unit attached to Ministry of Information and Broadcasting? Therefore, the activities on Kashmir should be co-ordinated; that is the request that I have to make to the hon. Minister.

About advertising I have to point out that while these Press barons express their inability to pay to the poor working journalists, they have been cheating the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting by 15 per cent commission which they are getting. Members of the Eastern Newspaper Organisation get 15 per cent commission from the Government for their advertisements. We have got our own huge organisation, we have got our own studio and our own men. Why should we run to these agencies who charge 15 per cent from the Exchequer just for collection? That is the point which I would like the hon. Minister to consider.

In the end, Sir, I support the Demands relating to this Ministry.

Shri Goray (Poona): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have no intention referring to any murders in the A. I. R. or to point out any skeletons in anybody's cupboard. I want to make a few suggestions because I think that the A. I. R. has some special functions to perform in a country like India where communications are either very few or non-existent and distances are great.

Internally, I think that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting must help to bring about a renaissance in the

country, and externally, it must project the fast changing patterns of life that are taking place here. In my humble opinion, these are the two criteria by which the success of this Ministry must be judged, and I am sorry to say that, though this Ministry has done some good work by way of encouraging the artistes, by way of encouraging classical music, it has not lived up to the mark.

Sir, so far as India is concerned, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is yet a small organisation. The report that has been submitted to the House says that up to 31st December, 1957, the total radio licences were of the order of 13,47,000. If we compare this figure with that of the United Kingdom, we find that United Kingdom has about 70 lakhs of radio licences for sound only and 72 lakhs for television and sound combined. I do not want to say that our Ministry should make as much progress as United Kingdom has done, because it is an industrially advanced country; but we have to take into consideration that this vast net-work that United Kingdom has, or the United States of America has, or countries like Canada and Australia have, are run on totally different lines than those that we have adopted for our own development.

Sir, it may be argued that just like us the United Kingdom has also a monopoly. It has a Corporation, but still it is a monopoly. No doubt the Corporation in the United Kingdom have consistently fought for the maintenance of this monopoly. But, at the same time, they have taken good care to see that this monopoly does not give rise to abuse or misuse of power. They have always submitted themselves to Commissions after Commissions. I am not very fond of Commissions. I do not say that a Commission should be appointed to enquire into the administration of the AIR or the whole of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, because I suspect that

there are certain skeletons in the cupboard. But I consider that Commissions are necessary because they serve as mirrors; they serve a purpose by inducing us to become introspective and to find out if there are any faults and to find out ways and means of improvement.

In the United Kingdom, from 1923 to 1949 there were no less than four Commissions. The first Commission was the one which was presided over by Sykes. The second was that of Crawford. The third was the Ullswater Commission and the fourth was the Beveridge Committee. In the report of the Beveridge Committee it has been pointed out as follows:

"The problem as it presents itself to us is that of devising internal as well as public and external safeguards against misuse of broadcasting power. We have to ensure that whatever authority has charge of broadcasting shall have within it effective organs of self-criticism and of response to criticism from outside in continual operation, shall have within it a force making for increasing devolution of authority, shall have within it a force keeping access to microphone open to all who are worthy of such response. We have to ensure that, if for any reason these internal safeguards prove ineffective in the broadcasting authority as first established, there shall be effective means outside the authority of bringing the failure to light and to correction".

13.33 hrs.

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

I do not understand why our Ministry has always fought shy of having a Commission. Every year almost, there is a demand that there should be a Commission and every year almost, I think the Minister in charge of this Ministry has refused to accept that idea. Therefore I would like to know what the built-in safeguards in

our country are, against the misuse of power or abuse of power.

In the United Kingdom you will find that in addition to these Commissions or Committees appointed from time to time, there are about 30 advisory committees which are constantly watching the working of that particular Corporation. Besides that, you will find that there are audience research committees, and it is said that every day they interview about 4,000 listeners and try to find out what the cross-section of public opinion thinks about their performances. This incessant watchfulness on the activities of a particular Ministry does prevent misuse of power and abuse of power and it keeps the Ministry in constant and very close and intimate touch with the public opinion in the country. I think that our Ministry is not aware of the dissatisfaction in the country about the way they are broadcasting about the programmes that they are evolving and about the way that they function.

I would also like to point out this because some people will ask, "Are there any abuses of power? Is the Ministry abusing or misusing its power?" So, I would like to add an explanation. The Press Commission has remarked about the working of this particular Ministry in the following words:

"A scrutiny of collection of photographs, press releases, and Government periodicals shows a tendency to ignore the fundamental achievements or objectives and to spotlight the dignitaries, to emphasise persons and not what they have done. The Information Directorate and Government publications should eschew such a stultifying tendency".

These are the words of advice and I think that if the Ministry takes these words to heart a lot of improvement can be effected.

Dr. Keskar: It is not regarding this Ministry only.

**Shri Tyagi:** The whole Government?

**Shri Goray:** This Ministry is included in that.

**Shri Tyagi:** Is it in regard to the whole Government Policy?

**Shri Goray:** I would say that this particular reform is very necessary because the face of India is changing. We have to meet new challenges. We have to fulfil the second Five Year Plan and perhaps this Plan will be followed by another, and the political face of India, as I said, is changing too. The whole of India is no longer dominated by one single party. In West Bengal, for instance, or in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Bombay and in Kerala, new parties which challenge the domination of the Congress are coming up. If you want to reflect all the changing moods and patterns in the country, whether they are economic or political or otherwise, then you will have to evolve this broadcasting and information machinery into a finely sensitive organisation. It cannot be continued in the same old rut.

Just now, an hon. Member referred to the fact that a lot of discrimination is made between parties and parties. There also, I would like to point out that in the United Kingdom, whenever elections come near, they see to it that the Government party, the party in power, and the opposition parties are given equal chance. For instance, in 1945, they said that any party which set up 20 candidates for the Parliament will be given one broadcasting programme. Now, I think this is something that our Government should copy so that there will be no discrimination. I remember a very funny case. In Bombay State, when two members of the Praja-Socialist Party left the party, immediately, the same evening, that particular item was broadcast. The Government benches very well know what is happening to the Congress now, what sort of discipline is there, what sort of mutual recrimination is there, and still we find that so far as the AIR is concerned they show as if they do

not know anything about it. But as soon as something happens to other parties at once it is broadcast throughout India.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** That means that the AIR is giving preference to other parties!

**Shri Goray:** Yes, that is so.

**Shri Tyagi:** In West Bengal, when Shri Siddharth Ray resigned, his resignation was broadcast immediately.

**Shri Goray:** When it becomes too much, then I suppose something of that sort is done. So far as the different departments working under this particular Ministry are concerned, I would like to point out this.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Normally ten minutes are given, as announced by the Speaker. I have allowed 15 minutes to the hon. member.

**Shri Goray:** There is a report in my hands. It is about the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. It gives in Appendix II, the list of publications brought out by this Ministry from April, 1957 to March, 1958. It will be quite interesting to go through its pages. What do you find there? You find that under the head, General Publicity—English, 74 pamphlets have been published. But when you go to other languages, you will find that hardly half a dozen publications have been brought out. I do not know why English continues to be our mother-in-law even now. (Laughter). You will find that in this list there are certain items: No. 12, *Children of India*, No. 14, *Food Grains*; No. 17, *Irrigation, Improved Seeds and Land Reclamation*; No. 20, *The Andaman and Nicobar*; No. 30, *Fisheries*; No. 33, *Hygienic Living*; No. 36, *New Era of Science*; No. 44, *Bhagirath Pamphlet No. 2, Population and Food Production*; and so on. Should not all these pamphlets which give facts and figures by way of information reach our masses and our villages in their own languages? But all these pamphlets on very important subjects are brought out in English. I do not know what is the use of these things. I

have heard that hundreds of copies of the *Yojana* printed in English are distributed free, because nobody would buy them. It is worthwhile to examine whether all these propaganda materials are really serving any useful purpose or whether simply they are a sort of prestige publication which serve no useful purpose.

There is a department of Registrar of Newspapers for India. Here we find the interesting information that this one department situated in Delhi is dealing with 6,517 newspapers including periodicals. Language paper editors have reported to me that when they try to correspond with this particular department, it takes nearly six months or even a year to get a reply for the simple reason that there are not enough people who know the languages. Therefore, I would say that instead of having this over-concentration of power in one department, why don't you have branches all over India which will deal with the particular languages—Marathi, Gujarati, Kannada or Bengali,—in places like Calcutta, Bombay, or in the heart of the place where that language is spoken?

**Dr. Keskar:** The hon. Member has not understood the working of the Registrar. The Registrar's office is established by law simply to register the newspapers and periodicals and get their annual return. He has got nothing else to do. It is the State Government which deals with the papers in regard to the other matters.

**Shri Geray:** While on this point, I would like to mention that a new challenge is coming up before you. So long we were thinking that something will be done about the price-page schedule, but nothing has been done. One of our Members has suggested that perhaps it is due to the fact that tremendous pressure is being brought to bear on this Ministry by the owners of the chain newspapers in this country. Yet another difficulty has arisen in the way and that is about the fate of the working journalists, after the Supreme Court decision.

I hope that the hon. Minister in charge of this Ministry in collaboration with the Minister of Labour would do some thing to counteract the effect which has been produced by the decision of the Supreme Court and very soon something will have to be done to ameliorate their fate.

About the research department...

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now the hon. Member must try to conclude.

**Shri Geray:** I had lot of points to deal with, but I will conclude in two minutes. There is no doubt that the Ministry has given a good deal of encouragement to the writers and the artistes, but care should be taken to see that while they are giving encouragement to the artists, their liberty should not be tampered with. It must be seen that they do not lose their inspiration to contribute to the culture of this country. In this case, I am reminded of the words uttered by a great poet about another great poet in England when he got some sort of Government patronage. He said:—

“Just for a handful of silver,  
He has left us,

Just for a ribbon to stick in his  
coat”.

This should not happen, because I am afraid that some of our foremost writers have in a way begun to get stale and fade away after they have been absorbed in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The only test is whether AIR has succeeded in becoming part and parcel of our daily life, whether the Indians feel that AIR is part of their daily life. I think that test will prove that we have yet great leeway to make.

Perhaps if a simple survey were taken, we would find that instead of AIR becoming a part of our life, Radio Ceylon or Radio Goa has become part of our life. That is an indication of our failure and I think very fervent efforts will have to be made to remedy the situation.

**Shri Tyagi:** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I am in agreement with some of the Members who have emphasised the

[Shri Tyagi]

importance of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. It is a pity that this Ministry should have been left as a Ministry without active participation in the Cabinet, because it is through this Ministry that the country gets information and I think seen from this angle the portfolio carries with it the highest importance. But unfortunately the manner in which the Government is being composed is such that my feeling is that subjects are not given much importance as persons and it is a pity.

My advice to the Prime Minister is that he must try to run the Government in an absolutely impersonal way and subjects must have their due importance. For instance, unfortunately when the Defence Minister died.....

An Hon. Member: Education Minister.

Shri Tyagi: I am sorry, but that was the case with the Defence Minister also. When he died, that portfolio was kept with the Prime Minister, but he delegated it to a small man for practical work. Likewise, the Education Ministry, which is a very important portfolio, was split into two and now the portfolio does not enjoy the rank of a Cabinet portfolio. I therefore suggest that it may be examined whether this portfolio deserves to be a Cabinet portfolio. I think subjects must be dealt with according to their importance.

Sir, I have no cut motion to press, but I have some positive proposals to make. I will come to that later, but lest I should forget, I must say that the latest ruling of the Supreme Court has created a sort of scare amongst the journalists and I hope Government will soon take some steps to mend matters, because after all, they are the markers of the conscience of the nation. Laws are not so effective as really the conscience of the nation is. This is the most precious thing in a nation—its own conscience—and that is built by journalists. If these journalists starve or are not

well off, the tendency would be to seek quarters from where they can get a little better means to just carry on their life and pull on. The result would be that their impartiality would be lost and with the loss of impartiality of journalists, the conscience would be lost. Therefore, it is very important.

I will deal with one point which strikes me because the portfolio is not of the Cabinet rank. Without any set rules and regulations, the subject of information has in practice been divided into so many sections. Each Ministry is dealing with the subject. How can a Minister of Information or the Ministry of Information give proper information to the country if the Ministry does not know what happens in the Cabinet, if neither the Secretary nor the Minister ever peeps into the Cabinet. How are they to know what is the policy? There are many matters of importance on which policies change from day to day. But the Information Ministry for its functioning depends on some Deputy Secretary of another Ministry, wherewith some employee of this Ministry is also attached. The information that the nation is receiving today is through their hand-outs; and not through one mouth piece. It is a pity. I have some personal knowledge. Perhaps now the time has come when some bold step must be taken....

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): By?

Shri Tyagi: By the Government, the Treasury Benches. What do you mean? Am I not entitled to address the Government?

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Why not?

Shri Tyagi: Then why do you question me?

Shri Narayanankutty Menon (Mukandapuram): It is only an aside.

Shri Tyagi: My submission is that there must be real co-ordination of work between Ministries which is

badly lacking and I want to give the benefit of my personal experience to the House as well as to the Treasury Bench.

For instance, there are numerous journals and periodicals issued by various Ministries. There is one monthly magazine—*Kurukshetra*; Rs. 10,200 per issue is the cost of this journal. It is being issued independently of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. I do not know whether even their permission is sought. It is issued by another Ministry. Then there are *Gram Sevak*, *Bhagirath*, *Social Welfare* (English), *Social Welfare* (Hindi), *Samaj Kalyan*, *Metric Measures*, *Travellers in India*, *Yojana*, *March of India*, *Kashmir*, *Ajkal*, *Bal Bharati*, etc. There are a number issued from each Ministry. It is in a chaotic state.

The Department of Information has been split into so many divisions. It is not one mouth-piece. It has so many voices under one roof.

An Hon. Member: Vices?

Shri Tyagi: I say "vociés" and not "vices". I hope this matter will be taken care of and looked into. I wish the Information Ministry is made a Cabinet Ministry. It must be an all-unified Ministry. Information must be correlated and co-ordinated. It is not like a small branch issuing some pamphlets here and another there.

Now I must congratulate the Minister and the Ministry that they have kept the traditional neutrality of the department, although some members of the Opposition might, for opposition's sake, criticize it.

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Shri Tyagi: But I know that the Department of Information and Broadcasting has kept high traditions of neutrality and non-alignment. So many elections have come. I challenge....

Shri Khadlikar (Ahmedabad): Neutrality of the ivory tower?

Shri Tyagi:.....anybody to disprove this claim. They have never biased their news or expressions in any way with any political motive. People who do not get many votes and get defeated think it is perhaps on account of the radio broadcasting. Anyway, that is one thing which they have maintained and I am proud of it. Our Government has maintained that high tradition.

There is one suggestion which I have to make, and that is this. Perhaps we can make a better use of the radio, as an instrument, for propagating education, for which we are spending huge amounts. This is my concrete proposal and you might please, look into it. I have been pressing for the past few years for this proposal. We are spending a large sum of money on University education. In Universities the number of students in a class has become as big as 500 or 1,500. Then, the education in Universities is only through lectures by professors. So, my proposal is to open an AIR University which for the purpose of examination may be affiliated to some regular University. Now, only those young people who attend the classes have the right to get degrees and higher education. Elder ones like me, who have lost their youth in follies have no means to get education.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Follies?

Shri Tyagi: There are men in profession and business. There are many people who, for want of money, have got themselves enrolled as clerks etc. Their educational career is lost. Let them also get some facility for getting further qualified educationally. So, my proposal is that for those who are employed and who are earning there must be some facility for education. Therefore, let there be an AIR University where lectures can be given. Each student might easily pay Rs. 10/- per month or so as tuition fees to this University and get himself enrolled. Let there be lectures for an hour fixed for that purpose according to a

[Shri Tyagi]

schedule—at such and such hour economics—lectures by such and such professor shall be held. You may bring the best professor and pay him sumptuously, say Rs. 400-500 per lecture. I do not mind that. Even then it will be cheaper for thousands and thousands of students who are working either in factories or in farms or in offices or villages. They cannot afford Rs. 100 or Rs. 200 per month on education in towns. Now, under this scheme, if they have a radio receiving set, they can learn their lessons at their own houses. I have seen many students seeking some tuition at the time of the examination for which the teachers are paid Rs. 100 or Rs. 200 per month. That can also be saved if students appearing for a particular examination are grouped together.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: How do you realise the fees?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Only those students will be allowed, who pay the fees.

Shri Tyagi: If those students want to take a degree, they will have to apply and get themselves registered. They will be entitled to sit for the examination of, say, the Delhi University, like other college students. They will be at par with others. Naturally, in order to qualify themselves, such students will have to pay the fee and abide by all the rules and regulations. Thereby, without many buildings, without incurring expenditure on staff, you will be giving education to thousands and thousands of people and the proposition will be paying. You will not have to spend even a pie on account of this scheme.

I think that in that way we could make a better use, a much better use, of our radio, without incurring more expenditure towards education and we can just divert our funds to other constructive channels and thereby make education cheaper.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The following are the selected cut motions relating to various demands under the Minis-

try of Information and Broadcasting which hon. Members may move, subject to their being otherwise admissible:

Demand No.	No of Cut Motions
66	1397, 1398.
67	1248, 1249, 1399, 1400, 1401, 1402, 1403, 1404, 1405, 1419, 1420.
68	1406, 1421, 1422.

*Failure to implement the main recommendations of the Press Commission*

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

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

*Need to take steps to bring about diffusion of ownership of newspapers*

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

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

*Need to arrange special programmes once a week in all Radio Stations for removal of untouchability*

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Delay in opening a 20 K. W. Transmission Station at Fakirpada in Orissa*

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Need to appoint a Commission to enquire into the working of the All India Radio*

**Shri Kumaran:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Need to take steps to convert All India Radio into a Public Corporation*

**Shri Kumaran:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Need to make advisory Committees more representative and effective*

**Shri Kumaran:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Corruption in All India Radio*

**Shri Kumaran:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Discrimination in the selection of artistes and writers in All India Radio*

**Shri Kumaran:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Need to include Malayalam in broadcasts for listeners in South-East Asia*

**Shri Kumaran:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Prominence given to Hindi and step-motherly attitude shown to other languages*

**Shri Kumaran:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to include popular poems, songs, and dramas with progressive content in broadcasts*

**Shri Kumaran:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Working of the Music Artistes Screening Committee*

**Shri Kumaran:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to co-ordinate Plan publicity between the State and Central Governments*

**Shri Kumaran:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to prevent exhibition of crime thrillers and obscene pictures imported from U. S. A.*

**Shri Kumaran:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure of the Censor Board to improve the standard of Indian films*

**Shri Kumaran:** I beg to move:

"That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** All these cut motions are now before the House.

A list indicating the numbers of the selected cut motions will be put on the Notice Board and will also be circulated to Members to-night for their information.



श्री मन्मथ प्रसादकर : (बाह्य फिल्मों रचित अनुसूचित जातियों) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्रालय के सम्बन्ध में जो बाद विवाद चल रहा है उस के सम्बन्ध में मुझे कुछ कहना है। मंत्रालय की ओर से जो विवरण प्रकाशित हुआ है, उसे मैंने धाबोपान्त पड़ा। पढ़ने के बाद मैंने उस में कुछ विशेष बातों को पाया उन में से जितने में समझ सका हूँ कि सब से अधिक सराहना के योग्य है वह स्वरांकन व्यवस्था है। स्वरांकन व्यवस्था में जो हमारे देश के नेता हैं, उन कलाकारों की जो कि हमारे देश के सर्वोत्तम कलाकार हैं, उन सब की बाखूरी संकित की जाती है। उन का रेकार्ड किया जाता है और रेकार्ड करने के बाद उन की आइडेंट्रो तैयार की जाती है। पिछले एक वर्ष से यह कार्य चल रहा है। इस व्यवस्था में कुछ बड़े रेकार्ड तैयार किये जाते हैं। वे २० मिनट तक के हैं जो कि एक भाषण के लिये पर्याप्त होते हैं। इस में पूज्य बापू गांधी जी के रेकार्डों को भी तैयार किया जा रहा है, साथ ही सरदार पटेल, सरोजनी नायडू और विष्वम्ब कवि रवीन्द्रनाथ टैगोर तथा अन्य कलाकारों के रेकार्ड तैयार किये जा रहे हैं। यह वास्तव में बहुत प्रशंसनीय और सराहनीय कार्य है। यह ऐसा कार्य है कि जिस से भ्रान्त वाली जो पीढ़ियाँ हैं वे उन की वाणी को सुनेंगी, बाद करेंगी और शिक्षा ग्रहण करेंगी। मैं वस्तुतः माननीय मंत्री महोदय को इस के लिये बन्धुवाद और बधाई देना चाहता हूँ।

रेडियो लाइसेंस के सम्बन्ध में यहां पर्याप्त कहा गया। गांवों के लिये भाष ने कुछ छूट थी। किन्तु मैं चाहता हूँ कि शहर में सुनने वाले लोगों को भी लाइसेंस के लिये जो शुल्क लिया जाता है उस में छूट मिलनी चाहिये और जिस प्रकार पहले १० ६० प्रति वर्ष के हिसाब से लिया जाता था, ठीक उसी तरह से अब भी लिया जाना चाहिये। जैसा विवरण में दिया गया है,

सन् १९५७ में रेडियो की संख्या बहुत बढ़ गई है और मैं समझता हूँ कि उस से फाय भी काफ़ी बढ़ी है। इस दृष्टि से देखते हुए भी हमें रेडियो लाइसेंस की जो फीस है, उस में कमी करनी चाहिये। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहूंगा कि वे इस सम्बन्ध में पूरा पूरा ध्यान दें कि भाष भावयकता इस बात की है कि रेडियो फीस कम की जाय।

साथ ही मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम बहुत दिनों से जनता रेडियो की बात सुनते आ रहे हैं किन्तु इस सम्बन्ध में कोई प्रगति नहीं हुई है। भाष लीव रेडियो सुनना चाहते हैं किन्तु सस्ते रेडियो के प्रभाव में वे सुन नहीं पाते हैं। खरीद नहीं पाते हैं। मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि सरकार सस्ते रेडियो देने की व्यवस्था करे। जहां तक ग्रामीण जनता का सम्बन्ध है, विवरण में दिया गया है कि गांवों में रेडियो दिये जाते हैं, दिये भी गये हैं किन्तु मैं चाहता हूँ कि सुपूर गांव में जहां हरिजन लोग चौपाल बनाते हैं और शाम को इकट्ठा होते हैं, उन में से प्रत्येक चौपाल को सरकार की ओर से चाहे केन्द्रीय सरकार की ओर से चाहे राज्य सरकार की ओर से, रेडियो सेट दिया जाना चाहिये ताकि वे भी समझ सकें कि संसार में क्या हो रहा है और सामाजिक कार्यक्रमों को भी समझ सकें।

विविध भारती कार्यक्रम के सम्बन्ध में, जोकि पिछले एक वर्ष से चल रहा है, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह बहुत सराहनीय है। पहले लोग रेडियो सीलोन के कार्यक्रम काफ़ी सुनते थे, लेकिन अब वह कार्यक्रम सुनना जरा छोड़ दिया गया है। किन्तु मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो विविध भारती का कार्यक्रम है उस में ऐसे संगीत न सुनाये जायें जो सुनने में बड़े कर्ण कट्टे होते हैं और जिन की साधा और भाव बड़े विचित्र से होते हैं, जिन को भाई और बहन एक साथ बैठ कर नहीं सुन सकते, जिन को माँ और पुत्र एक साथ बैठ

कर नहीं सुन सकते। कम से कम ऐसे सिनेमा संगीतों को तो न सुनाया जाय। जैसा कि विवरण में दिया गया है मैं मानता हूँ आप ने कुछ सरल और सुगम संगीत तैयार किये हैं। इस में कहा गया है कि ७,००० सुगम संगीत तैयार किये गये हैं। कुछ मुझे भी सुनने का अवसर मिला है। उन में से अधिकतर तो बहुत अच्छे हैं, बहुत सुन्दर हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप जो आप का सुगम संगीत कार्यक्रम है और उन के रेकार्ड तैयार कराने का कार्यक्रम है उस को चालू रखें। मैं कोई कारण नहीं समझता कि जब दूसरे रेकार्ड तैयार करने वाली कम्पनियाँ आप से कुछ अधिक अच्छे गीत दे सकती हैं और लोगों को आकर्षित कर सकती हैं तो हमारा जो यह मंत्रालय है वह उसी तरह के आकर्षक और सुन्दर गीत क्यों नहीं दे सकता। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस तरह का जो सुगम संगीत है, उसे अधिक प्रोत्साहन दिया जाय और विविध भारती कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत उस सुगम संगीत को सुनाया जाय।

ऐसा देखा गया है कि खास तौर से पिछले दो वर्षों के अन्दर आवाज तेज होती गई, यह कहा गया कि सिनेमा संगीत जो है वह अपसीलता की पराकाष्ठा पर पहुँचता जा रहा है और इतना भद्दा और गन्दा है कि उसे सुना नहीं जा सकता। लेकिन मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि जो केन्द्रीय फिल्म सेन्सर बोर्ड है वह उन फिल्मों को किस तरह से रिलीज करता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस तरह के जो गीत हों वे निकलवा दिये जाने चाहियें। पिछले कुछ दिनों से मुझे कुछ फिल्मों देखने का अवसर मिला है। मैंने देखा है कि आजकल नग्न नृत्य होते हैं। जो तारिकायें होती हैं वे अपने शरीर को अर्द्ध नग्न रखती हैं और उनके साथ नृत्य किये जाते हैं। विदेशी और भारतीय नृत्यों को सम्मिश्रण कर के एक नये 'संयुक्त नृत्य' की रचना की जाती है जो कि

बहुत बुरा है और वर्णसंकर है। वर्णसंकर चीज कभी अच्छी नहीं हुआ करती। मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो इस प्रकार का वर्णसंकर संगीत और नृत्य तैयार किया जा रहा है उसको रोकना चाहिये। या तो उसे भारतीय होना चाहिये या फिर अगर वह विदेशी है तो उसे विदेशी ही रहना चाहिये। उसमें भारतीय और विदेशी धुनों का सम्मिश्रण नहीं होना चाहिये। मैं समझता हूँ कि आप मेरी प्रार्थना पर ध्यान देंगे।

मैं चित्रों के सम्बन्ध में भी एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ। हमारे यहां जो चित्र बनते हैं वे आवश्यकता से अधिक लम्बे होते हैं। उनमें मैंने देखा है कि पूरे तीन घंटे तक उनको देखते रहना आवश्यक हो जाता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो फिल्में बनें उनकी लम्बाई कम की जाय ताकि सिनेमा अच्छे बनें और बुरी बातें उनमें देखने को न मिलें तथा जिस तरह के संगीत का मैंने जिक्र किया उस तरह का संगीत उन में सुनने को न मिले। मैं समझता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय इस और खास ध्यान देंगे।

मैं दिल्ली प्रसारण केन्द्र से प्रसारित होने वाले देहाती कार्यक्रम के सम्बन्ध में विशेष तौर से कुछ बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। मैं पिछले दस वर्षों से देहाती कार्यक्रम को सुनता आ रहा हूँ। मेरा निर्वाचन क्षेत्र देहात है। यहां से हरियाणा संगीत और हरियाणा कार्यक्रम प्रसारित किया जाता था, पिछले दो ढाई वर्षों के अन्दर उसमें कुछ परिवर्तन हो गया। पहले तो यह एक घंटे का कार्यक्रम होता था। इस एक घंटे के कार्यक्रम में आधा घंटा तक हरियाणा संगीत या हरियाणा कार्यक्रम होता था जिसमें नाटक नौटंकी आदि हुआ करती थी, जिसको हमारे यहां दिल्ली और रोहतक के लोग बहुत पसन्द करते थे। किन्तु मैंने यह देखा है कि पिछले दो ढाई साल से यह क्रम बदल गया है और एक खिचड़ी कार्यक्रम प्रसारित किया जाता है।

[श्री नवल प्रभाकर]

वह दो भाषाओं में होता है, १५ मिनट तक ब्रज भाषा में होता है और १५ मिनट तक हरियाणा की भाषा में होता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप चाहे जो प्रोग्राम प्रसारित करें उसे एक ही भाषा में प्रसारित करें, चाहे आप ब्रज भाषा में प्रसारित करें। मैं ब्रज के गांधी में गया और वहाँ के लोगों से मिला। आपके इस कार्यक्रम को न तो ब्रज के लोग पसन्द करते हैं और न हरियाणा के लोग पसन्द करते हैं। ब्रज के लोगों को हरियाणा की भाषा बड़ी घटपटी मालूम होती है और हरियाणा के लोगों को ब्रज भाषा घटपटी लगती है। मैंने माननीय मंत्री जी को इस सम्बन्ध में एक बर्ष हुआ एक पत्र लिखा था परन्तु मुझे दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि उसका कोई उत्तर अभी तक प्राप्त नहीं हुआ। तो मैं चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय इस ओर ध्यान दें। मैंने मंत्री जी से इस विषय में बात भी की थी और उन्होंने आश्वासन दिया था कि वह ऐसा करेंगे कि एक दिन ब्रज भाषा में प्रोग्राम करेंगे और एक दिन हरियाणा की भाषा में कार्यक्रम करेंगे। परन्तु मैं देखता हूँ कि इस बीच में उसमें कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ है। मैं यह देख रहा हूँ कि हरियाणा भाषा में जो कार्यक्रम होता है उसका दिन प्रति दिन ह्रास होता जा रहा है। मैंने यह भी देखा है कि ब्रजभाषा के कार्यक्रम के लिये तीन व्यक्तियों को लगाया गया है लेकिन हरियाणा की भाषा के कार्यक्रम के लिये एक ही आदमी लगाया गया है। तो हरियाणा भाषा के प्रति इस तरह का अन्याय नहीं होना चाहिये और मैं मंत्री जी से कहूँगा कि वह इसके ऊपर अधिक ध्यान दें। हमारे यहाँ जो देहाती जनता है उसमें इस कारण काफी असन्तोष फैल रहा है। उस असन्तोष को ध्यान में रख कर समझता हूँ कि वह इस ओर ध्यान देंगे।

मैं कुछ शब्द आपके प्रकाशन के सम्बन्ध कहना चाहता हूँ।

**उपाध्यक्ष महोदय :** बकत तो बच हो गया। दस मिनट से ज्यादा तो बकत नहीं है। आप स्वीकर साहब ने कहा है कि दस मिनट से ज्यादा बकत न बिदा जाय।

14.00 hrs.

**श्री नवल प्रभाकर :** मैं अभी दो मिनट में समाप्त किये देता हूँ।

मैं आपके प्रकाशन के सम्बन्ध में कह रहा था। मैं अधिक नहीं कहूँगा। आपके यहाँ से जो "योजना" प्रकाशित होता है वह दो भाषाओं में, हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी में, प्रकाशित होता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि वह प्रकाशन जो कि पाक्षिक है यह साप्ताहिक कर दिया जाय क्योंकि इसको काफी पसन्द किया जाता है। और मैं यह भी चाहूँगा कि जो अन्य प्रादेशिक भाषाओं में उनमें भी इस "योजना" का प्रकाशन होना चाहिये। इससे काफी लोगों को लाभ होगा।

अन्त में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप जो भी साहित्य प्रकाशित करें वह सस्ता होना चाहिये और आप सस्ता साहित्य प्रकाशित करेंगे तभी देश की गरीब जनता उसको खरीद सकेगी।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को फिर धन्यवाद देता हूँ और जो दिल्ली से देहाती प्रोग्राम प्रसारित किया जाता है उसकी ओर मैं उनका ध्यान पुनः दिलाता चाहता हूँ और आशा करता हूँ कि वह इस ओर ध्यान देंगे और इस कार्यक्रम में परिवर्तन करने की चेष्टा करेंगे।

**श्रीमती उषा नेहरू (सीतापुर) :** श्रीमान् जी, मैं आपकी बहुत मन्हाकर हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस महकमे के बारे में अपने थोड़े से जवाबलात आपके सामने रखने का मौका दिया।

में बराबर माननीय सदस्यों की बनीं  
सुन रही थी और मैं समझती हूँ कि हमारे  
मिनिस्टर साहब बहुत सुधाकिस्मत हैं कि  
जितना हम समझते हैं कि उन पर अपो-  
जीशन की तरफ से हमला होगा वह नहीं  
हुआ।

श्री बजरत्न सिंह। वक्त ही नहीं  
मिलता।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : वह कमी प्राप तो  
पूरी नहीं करना चाहती ?

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू : वह तो मैं कैसे  
कर सकती हूँ क्योंकि मैं भी तो इस  
सरकार का एक हिस्सा हूँ। लेकिन अगर  
ज्यादा अपोजीशन होता तो ज्यादा अच्छी  
स्पीचें होतीं।

एक माननीय सदस्य : वक्त नहीं दिया  
गया।

डा० कोसकर : टाइम तो बिजनेस  
एडवाइजर की कमेटी देती है, कोई क्या करे।

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: They  
say, the Ministry is so unimportant.

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू : शुरू में एक भाई  
ने उभर से कहा कि उन्हें ब्राडकास्टिंग  
स्टेशन से यह शिकायत है कि वहाँ ज्यादातर  
कांग्रेस पार्टी का प्रोपेगेंडा होता है। वह  
न जाने कौन कौन रेडियो स्टेशन सुनते हैं।  
हम भी ब्राडकास्टिंग सुनते रहते हैं  
और कांग्रेस वालों को तो बराबर यह शिकायत  
है कि हमको रेडियो स्टेशन नोटिस ही  
नहीं करता। और उधर से यह  
शिकायत है कि उनका क्या नहीं किया  
जाता। तो मुश्किल तो यह है कि हमारी  
भी उन से यही शिकायत है कि वे कांग्रेस  
पार्टी का ऊरा भी विचार नहीं करते और  
न रेडियो से कांग्रेस पार्टी का प्रोपेगेंडा  
होता है। इसलिए मैं उन से . . .

श्री बजरत्न सिंह : प्रधान मंत्री को  
वक्त मिलता है।

डा० कोसकर : प्रधान मंत्री को निकाल  
दीजिये।

श्री बजरत्न सिंह : निकल भी जायेंगे।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी से तो नहीं।

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू : दूसरी बात यह  
कही गयी है कि हिन्दी में ज्यादा प्रोपेगेंडा  
होता है। तो यह तो भारत के सारे लोगों  
को अच्छी तरह से मालूम है कि इस देश  
की जो राष्ट्र भाषा है वह हिन्दुस्तानी है  
तो जब मुल्क ने हिन्दुस्तानी को राष्ट्र भाषा  
मंजूर किया है तो रोज रोज यह शिकायत  
क्यों की जानी चाहिए कि साहब सब कुछ  
हिन्दी में हो रहा है। लेकिन मैं कहती हूँ  
कि जो रीजनल लैंग्वेज हैं वे जिन्दा  
रहेंगी और फूलेंगी फलेंगी क्योंकि इसको  
हम लोग अच्छी तरह समझते हैं और अपो-  
जीशन वाले भी खूब समझते हैं कि कोई  
मुल्क जिन्दा नहीं रह सकता अगर उस  
मुल्क की रीजनल लैंग्वेज खत्म हो जायं  
तो रीजनल लैंग्वेज तो हमारे सिर पर है  
लेकिन हिन्दुस्तानी जो है वह तो हमारी  
राष्ट्रभाषा है। इसको हमें नहीं भूलना  
चाहिए और न इस की शिकायत करनी  
चाहिए।

एक बात हमारे भाई त्यागी जी ने  
कही। वह मैं नहीं समझ सकी। उन्होंने  
न मालूम क्या कहा। बहरहाल मेरा  
समझ में आया कि उन्होंने यह कहा कि  
हमारी जो सारी मिनिस्ट्रीज है। उन सब  
का बोझ इनफारमेशन और ब्राड-  
कास्टिंग मिनिस्ट्री पर पड़ता है। यानी  
जो सारे मिनिस्ट्रीज के अखबार हैं,  
पत्रिकायें हैं उनका काम हमारी इनफारमेशन  
और ब्राडकास्टिंग महकमों को करना होता है  
तो यह तो मैं जरूरी समझती हूँ कि हमारा  
जो इनफारमेशन और ब्राडकास्टिंग का  
महकमा उसको ऊंची जगह और पक्की  
मिलनी चाहिए। यह जरूरी भी है।

**जीमटी उमा नेहक]**

वह मुहकमा सब कुछ कर सकता है। इसके हाथ में बड़ी शक्ति है। मैं समझती हूँ कि हर मुहकमे में कोमार्डिनेशन होना चाहिए और जब ऐसा होगा तो हर मुहकमे की सारी बातें इसा मुहकमे से आया होंगी क्योंकि इनफारमेशन और ब्राडकास्टिंग का मुहकमा ही सरकार का गाउब फीस है। जो त्वाणी जो कह रहे थे मैं नहीं समझ सकती।

जी स० न० बनर्जी (कानपुर) : वह जस्टीफाई कर रहे थे कि डिप्टी मिनिस्टर की पोस्ट की जरूरत है।

जीमटी उमा नेहक : किसी ने यह भी कहा था कि हर मुहकमे में आई० सी० एस० आफिसर रखा दिया जाता है। यह शिकायत थीर यह गिला तो मुझे भी है। अंग्रेजों के वकत में तो आई० सी० एस० का राज था। अंग्रेज यह समझते थे कि अगर उनको हकूमत करनी है तो आई० सी० एस० वालों को उन्हें प्रबन्ध रखना चाहिए। लेकिन इस वकत तो भारतीय राज्य है। मैं ब्राडकास्टिंग मुहकमे के बारे में ज्यादा नहीं जानती लेकिन मैं ने गजब तो यह देखा कि डिफेंस डिपार्टमेंट ने यह होता है कि वहाँ पर कैंटोनमेंट बोर्ड हैं और कैंटोनमेंट सरविस है कैंटोनमेंट वालों की। वे लोग डिप्टी डाइरेक्टर तक तो हो सकते हैं लेकिन अगर डाइरेक्टर की जगह होती है तो वहाँ आई० सी० एस० आफिसर रखा जाता है। अब ज्यादा आई० सी० एस० वाले तो रहे नहीं इसलिए डाइरेक्टर की जगह होने पर आई० एस० प्रफ़र रखा जाता है। तो यह चोज ठीक नहीं है क्योंकि जो भी लड़के किसी सरविस में जाते हैं वे यह नहीं चाहत कि आसमान पर टंगे रह जायें। अगर वह डिप्टी डाइरेक्टर हो सकते हैं तो वह डाइरेक्टर भी होने चाहिए। लेकिन उनकी डाइरेक्टर नहीं बनाया जाता और ऊपर से लाकर एक आदमी उस जगह पर रखा

दिया जाता है। मैं समझती हूँ कि सरकार को इस पर धीर करना चाहिए और इसको प्रलय करना चाहिए।

अब इन सब बातों के बाद मैं यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि सब लोग इस बात से जाकिफ हैं कि यह जो इनफारमेशन थीर ब्राडकास्टिंग मुहकमा है यह कितना जरूरी थीर महत्व का मुहकमा है। लेकिन इस के साथ ही जो लोग प्रबन्धार पढ़ते हैं सबरें सुनते हैं और रिपोर्ट बगैरह देखते हैं, उन को यह अच्छो तरह से माजूम है कि १९४७ से आज तक इस मुहकमे में कतनी तरक्की—कितनी उन्नति—हुई है। मैं ने सोचा था कि मैं आप को तरक्की के बारे में सिलसिलवार बताऊँ कि कितने ब्राडकास्टिंग स्टेशन खोले गए ह, कितने नए ट्रांसमीटर लगाए गए, बगैरह, लेकिन मुझे बोलने का मौका देर से मिला और मुझ से पहले मेरे भाई श्री सहगल ने आप के सामने पूरी हालत बयान कर दी है।

मैं इस मुहकमे के काम को देखती हूँ, स्टेशनों से गानों, फोक-सांग और मौसमी गानों को सुनती हूँ लेकिन मेरे सामने यह स्थान आस तीर से है कि इस मुहकमे के जो लोग मिलते रहते हैं और इस का बिक करते रहते हैं, ने सब जो भी मित्रा आते हैं गिला थीर शिकायत करते हैं, जैसे कि अमी मेरी बहन कुमारी वेद कुमारी ने की। वह शिकायत नहीं होनी चाहिए। इतना सुन्दर मुहकमा है और उस में यह शिकायत नहीं रहनी चाहिए। जिन लोगों ने, जिन कारीगरों थीर बर्कड ने इस मुहकमे को मुइतना बड़ा थीर शानदार बनाया, आज ने अपनी सबिस की सिम्पोरिटी का प्रश्न हमारे सामने लाते हैं। आज वे हम से कहते हैं कि हम सालों से काम करते हैं थीर हम अब भी टेम्पोरेरी हैं। ३ अगैल को जब यह प्रश्न आया, ती मिनिस्टर साहब ने बताया कि होम मिनिस्टर

और पब्लिक सर्विस की बिकरों हैं। इस बात का इरादा है कि इस सिलसिले में एक केंद्र बने, लेकिन वह आज तक पूरा नहीं हुआ। मैं उम्मीद करती हूँ कि मिनिस्टर साहब बतायेंगे कि उन्होंने सर्विस के बारे में क्या किया है।

जहां तक सर्विस का ताल्लुक है, चाहे होम मिनिस्ट्री हो, चाहे कोई मिनिस्ट्री हो, हमारा यह फ़र्ज है कि हम अपने बर्कज को सिन्कोरिटी आफ़ सर्विस दें और उन को तरक्की का मौका दें। मैं अच्छी तरह से जानती हूँ कि टेम्पोरेरी तौर पर रखना फ़ायदे की चीज़ होती है कि जब चाहा भ्रमण कर दिया, लेकिन मैं समझती हूँ कि यह श्रुत बात है और इसे हम को बन्द करना है। मिनिस्टर साहब इस के बारे में बतायेंगे। मैं बताना चाहती हूँ कि पिछली दफ़ा मिनिस्टर साहब ने खुद कहा था कि इस बारे में फ़िक्र करने की बात नहीं है, कोई डिफ़िकल्टीज इस में नहीं आने वाली हैं और सब चीज़ें तय हैं। उन्होंने ने यह भी कहा कि Financial regulations came in the way. All these have been smoothened out and in future there will be no difficulty.

यह आपने बताया हम को था और हम समझते थे कि सब चीज़ें स्मूदन घाउट हुई होंगी और आप के कारीगर खुश होंगे। मैं इस बारे में ज्यादा न कह कर मिनिस्टर साहब से कहूँगी की वह इस मामले को देखें और अगर होम मिनिस्ट्री या पब्लिक सर्विस कमिशन बीच में आते हैं, तो उन को उन से लड़ना होगा, क्योंकि भारत के आजाद होने के बाद हम यह गवारा नहीं कर सकते कि भारत के ग्रामीण, बर्कज, पैजेन्ट्स, और किसान परेशान-हाल हों। भारत तभी सुशाहाल हो सकता है, जब यहां के पैजेन्ट्स और बर्कर सुशाहाल होंगे, जब हम उन लोगों की मदद करेंगे और उनको खाने को रोटी भेलेगी।

आखिर में मैं फिर मिनिस्टर साहब से प्रार्थना करूँगी की वह सर्विस वालों की तरफ़ ज़रा ध्यान दें। मैं यह भी पसन्द करूँगी कि हमारे रेडियो स्टेशन के जो भी प्रोग्राम हों, वह बर्कज और पैजेन्ट्स के ख्याल से बनाये जायें।

**Shri Khadilkar:** Since independence we see that all round in the different regions and different centres new radio stations are being opened, but we have got to consider whether all the material that is broadcast, that is given or doled out to the people, has been improved or attuned to the changed circumstances that we are facing today. I would request some of the hon. Members here to listen for five days continuously to different programmes on the radio and see if they feel satisfied that the radio is being used as an instrument of education in a broad sense, doing some healthy entertainment service or serving the purpose of the nation, making the people acquainted with the different developmental aspects of our programme. If I were to confess, I must say I have done this.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharya:** Continuously?

**Shri Khadilkar:** For eight days you try to listen to it.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharya:** Have you tried continuously for eight days?

**Shri Khadilkar:** Yes. Of course, certain aspects of the programme I have got to neglect. If a survey is taken you will find that the record of this Ministry from this angle, is as another hon. Member suggested, a record of utter failure.

Why I say is this. Let us take one aspect of the problem. Our Minister knows it very well. He constituted a Commission for enquiring into the conditions in the newspaper industry. Recommendations were before him, and it was stated by the Commission while making those recommendations that they should not be implemented piece-meal but they must be taken

[Shri Khadilkar]

together. What has happened? What is the record? Firstly, we all know what has happened as regards the wages of those who are serving the newspaper industry.

As regards the price-page schedule, every time he promises but that promise, I do not think, is likely to be fulfilled during the remaining period of four years or so till the next elections.

As regards the advertisement policy, what do we find? If you just open the local language papers the district papers, small papers, you will find usually that they are not given any patronage regarding advertisements—advertisements, for instance, regarding the Janata policy. They are being advertised in papers which the common mass of people cannot understand because English is not their mother-tongue.

Regarding the policy so far as the working journalists are concerned, the Minister might say: "What can we do? We appointed a Wage Board, the Wage Board gave an award, the Supreme Court found some fault and today things stand where they are." And what are their wages? I am not worried about the people who are fortunate enough to serve in the press gallery here in the Lok Sabha, but you go to the district places. Their emoluments, monthly emoluments, today hardly exceed the emoluments of *charpasis* of the Lok Sabha. This is the position, and our Minister for Broadcasting sites hands folded. In a way he confessed his impotence before the present situation as it is without doing anything.

Dr. Keskar: Sir, the Working Journalists Act is administered by the Labour Ministry, and though I am sitting hands folded, it is not on that account.

Shri Khadilkar: Well, this is a very strange thing that the Act has to be administered by the Labour Ministry. That is all right, but he must have

something to administer. If the very Act is challenged, who is ultimately responsible? The Labour Minister says: "After all, what can I do?"

Dr. Keskar: Then, tell him, not me.

Shri Khadilkar: Therefore, I would suggest that the over-all responsibility for looking to the conditions of the working journalists, looking to the conditions in the newspaper industry, doling out patronage regarding advertisement, all this responsibility must be shouldered, and boldly shouldered, by the Minister sitting opposite. It is no use taking shelter.

For instance, what is the state of the industry. Let us look at it from the democratic point of view. Today, the bigger papers, papers with larger circulations, papers that are produced from different centres are amassing circulation, and the smaller papers, papers which served during the struggle for freedom are being wiped out. We are talking that the regional languages will be encouraged, Hindi or Hindustani will be encouraged. Let him give figures as to how the patronage is given. I will give him a challenge here. Let him give his figures as to how much patronage of advertisement from the Government goes to the English press and what proportion goes to the Indian language press. Let him give the figures and convince this House. I am confident that hardly a few crumbs reach them.

Let me come to another aspect of it. Because of the present state of the industry, it has not remained a one-man job. Formerly, in the early stages of journalist history, journalism in India was looked upon as a mission, it was not looked upon as something like an industry or business. Today, the big capitalist interests have entered into that industry. They have established their monopoly of circulation; and, therefore, what the people should read, in what light they should view the national scene and so on are

controlled by these big capitalists, these chain-paper people. At the same time, because of the patronage that they enjoy and because of the favourable terms of business they get today in the market, the Indian regional language press is practically being wiped out.

We are saying that we do not want concentration of power, we want to build up democracy, and we want to reach the people. But the vehicles that are supposed to reach the people are being shut out. What has the Minister done so far in this behalf? I have several times asked him, 'What about the price-page schedule?'. He has said, 'It is ready, but I am afraid such and such a newspaper magnate is likely to run to the Supreme Court. So, I must take all care.' Then, he says, 'I have submitted this and that.' But ultimately this recommendation of the Press Commission has not been implemented. Today, it is the language press which is being run with little sense of mission; it is the press belonging to the Opposition Party which sustains democracy. Were it not for these, we would have found one party and one voice and we would have heard that voice on the broadcasting station. Therefore, that press which is performing a useful function, and where the Opposition is serving in a small way, should be kept alive. Is the Minister conscious of it? No. Therefore, I would humbly submit that the recommendations of the Press Commission ought to have been implemented. If they are not implemented today, then some way must be found out in order to save democracy, because unless the small press is kept alive and it educates the people in the new tasks, nothing is likely to happen, no progress is possible and one monolithic party structure will rule over this country.

There is just one more point that I would like to touch, and that is in regard to selection of speakers for broadcasts. Let him give me figures as to how speakers are chosen.

Shri Ferose Gandhi (Rai Baraili): It is not him, but her. It is Shrimati Tarakeshwari Sinha who is here now. Dr. Keskar has gone away.

Shri Khadilkar: I am sorry. Let the Ministry give me figures.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Member addresses the Chair, there would be no such difficulty.

Shri Khadilkar: I have studied this problem of how different talks are broadcast on the radio station. Men who have hardly any acquaintance with planning or with social services, or with the historical events which we celebrate on some important occasions are being invited from distant places simply because they happen to hold particular posts in particular Congress Committees. That is the situation that prevails. Even when speakers belonging to the Opposition agree regarding the objective, yet they are not selected because their political affiliations are taken into consideration. I would like to know whether selection of speakers on topics like planning, social services, social work etc. is done without taking into consideration the political affiliations of the persons concerned. As far as I have been able to study this problem, I am convinced that every time a small lecturer in a college who has just graduated, and who is supposed to be politically neutral is invited. I cannot understand this neutrality, when we have got a definite ideal before us. And this is my charge against this Ministry. If this Ministry is supposed to propagate our ideal, namely to build up socialism, is it taking people who can talk about socialism, about what is being done regarding labour, what is being done regarding social services, what is being done regarding housing and so on? That voice must reach the people, and then only the people will be enthused about it. But, as under the old British tradition which we have inherited, we say that we are neutral about it. I cannot understand this neutrality. This neutrality is a treachery to our national objective.



[Shri Khadilkar]

and it cannot be pursued by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, because that is a Ministry which is supposed to discharge a big function, I mean, educating the people. I have studied what the position is in other nations that are being built up. There, this department serves a very useful purpose, most educative purpose, such as giving a new vision and a new outlook as to enthuse the people; since the normal voice cannot reach the people. This voice should reach the people. That is the provision that is made for this department in other countries. But here, 'hand-folded', our Minister says 'I am not responsible for this. I am helpless before this.' This is the history and this is the record of this Ministry.

Therefore, I would say that unless these improvements are made, I do not think it will serve any useful purpose. It might broadcast Ministers, it may give information or disinformation, but whatever is wanted by the people will never reach them.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: Shri Jagdish Awasthi. The Minister was to have been called at 14.15, but I have extended the time. Therefore, hon. Members should take care to finish within ten minutes.

Dr. Sushila Nayar (Jhansi) rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall call the hon. Member later.

श्री जगदीश अवास्थी (बिल्हौर) :  
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस मंत्रालय के सम्बन्ध में मैं बहुत ही संक्षेप में दो तीन बातों की ओर ध्यान आकषित करते हुए कुछ निवेदन करूंगा।

पहली बात मुझे यह निवेदन करनी है कि जब मैंने इस मंत्रालय की पिछले साल की रिपोर्ट को पढ़ा, तो मुझे ज्ञात हुआ कि इस मंत्रालय के प्रकाशन विभाग ने लगभग ७३

पुस्तकों का प्रकाशन किया, जो कि अंग्रेजी में थीं और हिन्दी तथा प्रादेशिक भाषाओं में लगभग इतनी ही पुस्तकों का प्रकाशन हुआ। एक तरफ तो अंग्रेजी भाषा के प्रति देश में जो चर्चा हो रही है, उस पर रोष प्रकट होता जा रहा है और दूसरी तरफ भारत सरकार का प्रकाशन विभाग अंग्रेजी भाषा में अधिक से अधिक प्रकाशन कर के जनता की भावनाओं के साथ खिलवाड़ करता जा रहा है। इसमें तो मतभेद हो सकता है कि अंग्रेजी भाषा कम हटे, लेकिन इस विषय में कोई मतभेद नहीं है कि इस देश से अंग्रेजी भाषा को निश्चित रूप से जाना है, चाहे आज जाय, कल जाय या वस, बीस, पच्चीस वर्ष के बाद जाय। इसलिए इस मंत्रालय की यह जिम्मेदारी है कि अंग्रेजी भाषा में कम से कम प्रकाशन हो और प्रादेशिक भाषाओं और हिन्दी के प्रति उदारता की नीति और उदार दृष्टिकोण अपनाया जाय। मैं चाहूंगा कि भविष्य में निश्चित रूप से अंग्रेजी भाषा के अपेक्षाकृत हिन्दी और प्रादेशिक भाषाओं में अधिक प्रकाशन हों।

इस के बाद मैं मंत्रालय का ध्यान उस पुस्तक की ओर आकृष्ट करना चाहूंगा, जो कि उस के प्रकाशन विभाग के द्वारा प्रकाशित हुई है और अंग्रेजी में जिस का नाम है "Eighteen Fifty Seven" उस का हिन्दी रूपान्तर है "अठारह सौ सत्तान"। मैंने गत वर्ष भी इस सम्बन्ध में बहुत कुछ निवेदन किया था, लेकिन गृह मंत्रालय इस विषय में बिल्कुल मौन रहा। इस पुस्तक को इस सदन के कई माननीय सदस्यों ने पढ़ा होगा। मैं समझने में असमर्थ रहा हूँ कि एक तरफ भारत सरकार ने १८५७ के स्वतंत्रता युद्ध में आहुति देने वाले वीर पुरुषों के प्रति श्रद्धांजलि प्रकट की, देश में समारोह मनाया गया और दूसरी तरफ हम देखते हैं कि इस पुस्तक में लेखक महोदय ने इस प्रकार के भाव व्यक्त किये हैं, जो न केवल तरुणों की दृष्टि से अनुचित हैं, बल्कि अंधर देखा जाय, तब उन में हमारे

वैशम्य हीरोव—हमारे राष्ट्रीय महान् पुस्तकों—के प्रति बड़े ही अपमानजनक विचार व्यक्त किये गये हैं। यह पुस्तक मेरे हाथ में है और ज्यादा समय न होने के कारण इस की कुछ ही पंक्तियां बहुत शीघ्रता में पढ़ कर सुनाना चाहूंगा।

श्री कीरोव गांधी : फाड़ना नहीं ।  
(Laughter)

श्री जगदीश अक्षयी : धंवराइये नहीं, वह नहीं होगा। अब गुस्मा उस मीमा तक नहीं जायगा।

इस पुस्तक में प्रारम्भ में ही प्रस्तावना में लिखा गया है—

“.....उस समय भारतवासियों का राष्ट्रीय चरित्र बहुत गिर गया था। विद्रोह का संचालन करने वाले नेता कभी भी एक दूसरे से सहमत नहीं होते थे। उन को एक दूसरे से ईर्ष्या थी और वे एक दूसरे के खिनाफ़ चालें चलते रहते थे।”

आगे लिखा गया है—

“अधिकांश नेताओं ने व्यक्तिगत कारणों से इस संघर्ष में हिस्सा लिया। .....झांसी की रानी की भी अपनी शिकायतें थीं.....”

इतना ही नहीं, आप देखें कि इस पुस्तक के उपसंहार में लेखक महोदय ने क्या विचार व्यक्त किये हैं—

“अबध के देशभक्त अपने राजा और देश के लिए लड़े, परन्तु वे स्वतंत्रता के समर्थक नहीं थे, क्योंकि वैयक्तिक स्वतंत्रता की कोई धारणा उन के सम्मुख नहीं थी। इस के विपरीत यदि उन का बस चलता तो वे पुरानी व्यवस्था को पुनर्जीवित करते और उस सब को प्रस्थापित करते जिस की कि वह व्यवस्था प्रतिक्रिया थी। अंग्रेज सरकार

में अवश्य रूप से एक सामाजिक क्रांति कर दी थी। उस ने स्त्रियों की कुछ असमर्थताओं को हटाया था, उस ने कानून की दृष्टि में मनुष्यों की समानता स्थापित करने का प्रयत्न किया था.....”

ऐसी बहुत सी चीजें इस में हैं। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में आश्विकार भारत सरकार की नीति क्या है। अगर इन इतिहासज्ञ महोदय को सचमुच अपने विचार व्यक्त करने थे, तो वह करते, लेकिन कोई आवश्यकता नहीं थी कि भारत सरकार उस विचार-धारा की एक पार्टी बन कर इस पुस्तक का प्रकाशन करती। जब मैं ने प्रश्न किया, तो मुझे बताया गया कि इस पुस्तक के प्रकाशन में अंग्रेजी संस्करण पर ४२,००० रुपया खर्च किया गया और हिन्दी संस्करण पर ७,००० रुपया खर्च किया गया। आश्विकार एक मूल में दो जवानें रख कर भारत सरकार क्यों बोलती है? मंत्रियों ने भाषण दिये। बड़ी बड़ी अडॉजलियां प्रकट की गईं, लेकिन इस पुस्तक को देखिये कि कितने अपमानजनक विचार उन के प्रति व्यक्त किये गये हैं। मैं इस मंत्रालय से जानना चाहूंगा कि इस पुस्तक के सम्बन्ध में उस की क्या नीति है। मैं, यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस पुस्तक में जिस प्रकार के शब्दों का—जिस प्रकार की भाषा का—प्रयोग किया गया है, वह मिस म्यो द्वारा व्यक्त विचारों से कम नहीं है। मुझे वह दिन याद आता है, जब मिस म्यो ने “मदर इंडिया” लिख कर भारत के प्रति अपमान प्रकट किया था। वही विचार आज इस पुस्तक में व्यक्त किये गये हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि इससे अधिक लज्जा की बात कोई नहीं हो सकती। यह केवल हमारी भावनाओं से ही नहीं, तथ्यों से भी सम्बन्ध रखती है। निश्चित रूप से इस पुस्तक का प्रचलन बन्द होना चाहिए। मिस म्यो ने जो पुस्तक लिखी थी उसमें आप सब को मालूम ही है कि भारतीयों का कितना अपमान किया गया है। वह पुस्तक भी बिल्कुल

[श्री जगदीश जयसूरी]

ही ब्रिटिश कैंप में बैठकर लिखी गई है । ऐसा मानना होता है कि तत्त्वों के आधार पर या वास्तविकता के आधार पर इसमें कोई बात नहीं लिखी गई है । इस प्रकार की दोहरी नीति चल करके अब प्राय के समय में भारतीय जनता को धंधेरे में नहीं रखा जा सकता है ।

अब मैं आकाशवाणी के प्रोग्रामों के सम्बन्ध में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ । जो साप्ताहिक हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी में प्रसारित होते हैं, उनमें जितने स्टाफ को रखा गया है उस धोर में आप का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ । मुझे पता नहीं यह बात कहां तक सत्य है कि स्टाफ में बहुत अधिक वृद्धि कर दी गई है । केवल हिन्दी समाचार जो प्रसारित होते हैं उस विभाग में ३०-३५ आदमी रखे गये हैं जिन की बिल्कुल भी आवश्यकता नहीं है । आज हम इकोनामी की बात करते हैं और कहते हैं कि समय बहुत नाजुक है और हमें एक एक पैसा बचाना चाहिये और कठिन परिस्थितियों में हमारी सरकार तथा समाज को चलना पड़ रहा है । ऐसी हालत में ३०-३५ आदमियों को बिना काम के रखना कहां तक उचित कहा जा सकता है ? इस छोटे से कार्य के लिये इतने अधिक आदमी रखे गये हैं । इसी तरह से और भी विभाग हैं जहां पर बहुत अधिक आदमी रखे हुए हैं । मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस सब की जांच हो और विभागों में अफसरों की जो बाढ़ सी घा गई है वह समाप्त होनी चाहिए । इसकी आप खानबीन करें और मुझे विश्वास है अगर आपने ऐसा किया तो काफी बचत आप कर सकेंगे । आज मैं देखता हूँ कि जहां पर तीन या पांच आदमी काम कर सकते हैं और अच्छी तरह से कर सकते हैं वहां पर तीस या पैंतीस आदमी नियुक्त कर दिये गये हैं ।

रेडियो विभाग में साहित्यिक कार्यक्रम करने के लिए कुछ प्रोड्यूसर नियुक्त किये गये हैं । इसमें कोई शक नहीं है कि रेडियो विभाग बहुत से जो हमारे देश के साहित्यिक हैं उनकी सेवाएं प्राप्त करता है और उनको

अपने पास रखता है । लेकिन मुझे यह जान कर बड़ा आश्चर्य हुआ है कि लखनऊ रेडियो स्टेशन में एक साहित्यिक महोदय को रखे हुए तीन वर्ष हो गये हैं और उन्होंने इन तीन वर्षों में सिवाये अपने दस्तखत करने के और कोई कार्य नहीं किया है । ये महान साहित्यिक पुरुष हैं और इनका नाम भी बड़ा है और उनको रखा भी जाना चाहिये लेकिन उनसे कुछ काम भी लिया जाना चाहिये । यह देश का पैसा है जो हम व्यय कर रहे हैं और इसका उचित ढंग से व्यय किया जाना चाहिये । जो प्रोड्यूसर्स होते हैं वे जितने भी साहित्यिक अथवा सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम होते हैं उनको मनमाने ढंग से चलाते हैं और जिस कलाकार को चाहें बुलाते हैं और जिस को चाहें नहीं बुलाते हैं । मैं चाहता हूँ कि सभी साहित्यकारों का सहयोग प्राप्त किया जाये ताकि कोई भी पक्षपात की शिकायत न हो । इन प्रोड्यूसर्स की सहायता के लिए मैं यह भी चाहता हूँ कि एक क्षेत्रीय सलाहकार समिति हो और उससे राय लेकर लोगों को बुलाया जाये । आज बहुत सी शिकायतें सुनने को मिलती हैं कि साहित्यकारों को रेडियो स्टेशन पर नहीं बुलाया जाता है । मैं चाहता हूँ कि मंत्रालय जो मैंने सुझाव दिया है उस धोर ध्यान दे और यदि उसने ऐसा किया तो यह बहुत उत्तम होगा और शिकायत का कोई मौका बाकी नहीं रह जायगा । कितनी बार कितने कलाकार को बुलाया जाये तथा कितना एमार्चेंट दिया जाये, कितना पैसा दिया जाये इस पर भी नियंत्रण रहना चाहिए । किसी किसी को बीस बीस मर्तबा बुला लिया जाता है और किसी को एक बार भी नहीं ।

अब मैं इस मंत्रालय का शिक्षा विभाग से जो सम्बन्ध है उसकी ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ । सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्रालय और शिक्षा मंत्रालय, इन दोनों मंत्रालयों को अगर काम की दृष्टि से देखा जाये तो देखा प्रतीत होता है कि नीचे

बहूत नहीं है कि वे मंत्रालय पुनर्गठन से काम करें। इन दोनों में सामंजस्य स्थापित होना चाहिये। यदि ऐसा हुआ तो जो आपका ध्येय बड़ रहा है तथा मंत्रालयों तथा मंत्रियों की जो बाढ़ ती धा गई है, वह कम हो जायेगी और कार्य की दृष्टि से भी तथा मितव्ययिता की दृष्टि से भी यह अच्छा रहेगा कि इन दोनों मंत्रालयों को एक में मिला दिया जाये।

इस विभाग द्वारा सुगम संगीत का कार्यक्रम भी प्रसारित होता है। उसमें बड़ी सुन्दर वाणियां सुनने को मिलती हैं। महात्मा कबीर की सुन्दर वाणी सुनने को मिलती है। महात्मा कबीर के अलावा और भी कई सन्त और कवि हुए हैं जिन की वाणियां सुनाई जानी चाहिये जैसे गुरुनानक, रई दास इत्यादि। इनकी कोई वाणी सुनने को नहीं मिलती है। इस प्रकार के जो कार्यक्रम हैं उनमें उन महापुरुषों को भी शामिल किया जाना चाहिये तथा उनकी रचनाओं को भी शामिल किया जाना चाहिये जिनको जाने या भनजाने में निरादर की दृष्टि से देखा गया है भ्रमान को बजह से। मैं चाहता हूँ कि हम इस सम्बन्ध में उदार दृष्टिकोण अपनायें और सब के साथ न्याय करें।

श्री भवत बर्दान (गढ़वाल) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, क्योंकि समय बहुत कम है, इस बास्ते एक ही मुख्य विषय की ओर मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकर्षित करना। लेकिन उस मुख्य विषय की ओर ध्यान से पहिले यहाँ पर एक दक्षिण भारत के माननीय सदस्य कोकि प्रविड़ मुनेन कदम से सम्बन्ध रखते हैं, उन्होंने दक्षिण भारतीय रेडियो के ऊपर और रेडियो की भाषा नीति के ऊपर जो बोलोप किया है, उसके बारे में थोड़ा सा कहना चाहता हूँ। मैं समझता हूँ कि प्रत्येक समझदार सदस्य का यह कर्तव्य ही जाता है कि वह उसका प्रतिवाद करे। पिछले वर्षों में यहाँ पर जब इस मंत्रालय के सम्बन्ध में वाद-विवाद हुआ था उस समय भी यह प्रश्न उठाया गया था और वह बिल्कुल स्पष्ट रूप से बताया दिया

गया था कि जहाँ तक चुनावों का सम्बन्ध है आकाशवाणी ने अत्यन्त निष्पक्षता के साथ अपने कर्तव्य का पालन किया है। जहाँ तक भाषा नीति का सम्बन्ध है, प्रायः इंडिया रेडियो उसी भाषा नीति का प्रवर्तन कर रहा है जोकि केन्द्रीय सरकार की नीति है, और जिसका जिक्र कि संविधान में किया गया है। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं इतना ही कहना चाहूँगा कि यदि किन्हीं प्रांतों में अड़चन पड़ रही है तो उनका सहानुभूति के साथ अध्ययन किया जाना चाहिये। मैं हिन्दी के उन समर्थकों में से हूँ जोकि इस बात का प्रयत्न कर रहे हैं या प्रयत्न करना चाहते हैं कि हिन्दी के विकास का मतलब कहीं भी यह नहीं है कि हम अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं को किसी प्रकार से हानि पहुँचायें। हम तो यह चाहते हैं कि सभी भारतीय भाषाओं का विकास हो और उस में योगदान देना सब भारतीयों का कर्तव्य है। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जो के विशेष तौर से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि जैसा कि यहाँ पर कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने बताया है, अगर कोई अड़चन पड़तो है तो उसकी खानबीन की जानी चाहिये और अगर कोई ऐसे कारण हैं जिन से कुछ असन्तोष होता है तो उनको दूर किया जाना चाहिए। इतना कह कर अब मैं अपने मुख्य विषय पर आता हूँ।

पिछले वर्ष में ने माननीय मंत्री महोदय की बर्षाई दी थी कि प्रेस आयोग की रिपोर्ट के ऊपर उन्होंने बहुत सहानुभूति के साथ कवम बढ़ाया है। सन् १९५२ में उसकी स्थापना हुई थी और सन् १९५४ के मध्य में उसकी रिपोर्ट आई और अब चार बरस होने को आ रहे हैं। माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने इस सदन में कुछ समय पहले बड़े दावे के साथ कहा था कि जितनी भी कमिशनरों की रिपोर्ट निकली हैं उनमें सब से अधिक तेजी के साथ और सब से व्यापक ढंग से अगर किसी की सिफारिशों को कार्यान्वित किया गया है तो वह इस आयोग की रिपोर्ट है। जहाँ तक माननीय मंत्री महोदय की भाषना का सम्बन्ध है और जहाँ तक कि मंत्रिमंडल की भाषना का भी

### [श्री बल्लभ वर्मा]

सम्बन्ध है, मैं समझता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में कोई दो रायें नहीं हो सकती हैं कि वे पूरे बिल से उसकी सिफारिशों पर धमल करना चाहते हैं। लेकिन व्यवहार में देखा गया है कि जो मुख्य-मुख्य सिफारिशें थीं उनके बारे में अभी तक भी कोई जबरदस्त कदम, कोई ठोस कदम नहीं उठाया गया है। इन चीजों से शब्दों में मैं आपको यह बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि वे कौन-कौन सी मुख्य सिफारिशें हैं, जो प्रेस आयोग ने की थीं। उसने आठ मुख्य सिफारिशें की थीं।

पहली सिफारिश प्रेस रजिस्ट्रार की नियुक्ति के बारे में थी। उस की नियुक्ति हो गई है। उस के द्वारा प्रतिवर्ष हम को पत्र-व्यवसाय के सम्बन्ध में आंकड़े मिलने लग गये हैं। लेकिन प्रेस कमीशन ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में जो जो अधिकार प्रेस रजिस्ट्रार को देने की सिफारिश की थी मैं समझता हूँ उस से बहुत कम अधिकार उस को दिये गये हैं। चूँकि यह बिल्टेल का प्रश्न है, इस बास्ते इस में मैं इस बन्त नहीं जाऊंगा।

दूसरी सिफारिश स्वाभित्त्व के प्रसरण (डिफ्यूजन आफ़ ओनरशिप) के बारे में थी। इस के सम्बन्ध में अभी तक कोई विशेष कदम नहीं उठाया गया है। मेरे पास आंकड़े हैं जिन को मैं यहाँ पेश करना चाहता हूँ। प्रेस आयोग की रिपोर्ट में बताया गया था कि पांच मासिक २६ समाचार पत्रों को निम्नसते वे और हमारी जितनी सप्लूकेशन थी, जितनी ग्राहक संख्या थी उस की ३१.२ प्रतिशत उन के हाथ में थी। इसी प्रकार से १५ मासिक ऐसे वे जिन के पास ५४ समाचारपत्रों का स्वाभित्त्व था और ५०.१ प्रतिशत ग्राहक-संख्या को वे नियंत्रण करते थे। लेकिन इस बीच में हालत और भी बखतर हो गई है। अब हालत यह है कि पांच मासिक ३७.१७ प्रतिशत सप्लूकेशन को कंट्रोल करते हैं, १० मासिक ५६.५ प्रतिशत ग्राहक संख्या का नियंत्रण कर रहे हैं

और जिन १५ का मैं मैं पहले थिक किया है वे १५, थोक पहले ५०.१ प्रतिशत सप्लूकेशन का नियंत्रण करते हैं आज १५.६ प्रतिशत सप्लूकेशन का नियंत्रण कर रहे हैं। इस का मतलब यह हुआ कि यह जो टैंडरी है यह बढ़ती चली जा रही है। कमीशन ने यह कहा था कि प्रेस काउंसिल की स्थापना होनी चाहिये और प्रेस काउंसिल पांच वर्ष का मौका दे मासिकों को कि वे लोग स्वयं डिफ्यूजन करें और देखें कि वे कैसा करते हैं या नहीं। उस के बाद यह देखा जाये कि प्रेस काउंसिल क्या कदम उठा सकती है। लेकिन इस के बारे में अभी तक कोई भी कार्रवाई नहीं की गई है।

तीसरी सिफारिश प्रेस काउंसिल के बारे में थी। इस के सिलसिले में मैं अधिक कहना नहीं चाहता। पिछली बार की संसद् के कार्यकाल में राज्य सभा में वह विधेयक पारित हो गया था और दुर्भाग्य कुछ ऐसी बात हुई कि उस को लैप्स होना पड़ा। हमारे माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने कई बार मेरे प्रश्नों के उत्तरों में तथा अन्य प्रश्नों के उत्तर में यह आश्वासन दिया था कि उस को जल्दी फिर पेश किया जायेगा और विभिन्न स्वर्यों के बीच बातचीत चल रही है। पता नहीं वह कुछ दिन कब आवेगा जबकि वह पेश किया जायेगा। प्रत्येक भ्रम में हम सवाल उठाते हैं और हमें आश्वासन दे दिया जाता है। मैं आशा करता हूँ माननीय मंत्री महोदय जल्द इस सम्बन्ध में आज निश्चित घोषणा करने में समर्थ होंगे।

चौथी बात, जिस के कि सम्बन्ध में श्री स्वाडिलकर ने भी उल्लेख किया, वह मूल्यानुसार पुस्त-सूची अर्थात् प्राइस वेज शेड्यूल के बारे में है। मैं इस के सम्बन्ध में ज्यादा जोर देना चाहता हूँ। हमारे हिन्दी और भारतीय भाषाओं के जो समाचारपत्र हैं वे बड़े समाचारपत्रों के सामने प्रति-योगिता में टिक नहीं सकते। उन के किस्से

एक ही धारा है और यह यह कि प्राइस फ्लैट बेइकूल हो जिस का कि अधिनियम इस संसद में स्वीकृत हो चुका है और जिस के बिना-बारे में मुझे पता है कि बहुत कुछ प्रगति हो चुकी है और एक सेट्युप भी तैयार हो गया है ; लेकिन पता नहीं क्या प्रयत्न बढ़ती हैं, किस तरीके से माननीय मंत्रियों को प्रभावित किया जाता है या कहां पर धोरण डाला जाता है । कोई न कोई बात खबर है, कुछ दाल में काला जकर है, जिस से कि यह निर्णय होने के बाद धोरण दो वर्ष समाप्त हो जाने के बाद भी उसे कार्यान्वित नहीं किया जा रहा है ।

पांचवें प्रेस आयोग ने सिफारिश की थी कि विज्ञापनों की नीति के सम्बन्ध में कुछ परिवर्तन किये जायें । दो दिशाओं में उन्होंने सिफारिश की थी । एक तो यह कि जो हिन्दी और अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं के समाचारपत्र हैं उन को अधिक से अधिक विज्ञापन दिये जायें, खास कर उन की ग्राहक-संख्या के अनुसार । इस सम्बन्ध में मैं मंत्री महोदय को थोड़ी-बहुत बर्बाद देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने ने उस दिशा में एक कदम उठाया है, लेकिन अभी तभी संतोषजनक प्रगति नहीं हुई है । इस सम्बन्ध में मेरे पास आंकड़े हैं । सन् १९५६-५७ में कालम इन्वेज के हिसाब से कुल १६८५०१ वर्गीकृत विज्ञापन दिये गये थे, क्लासिफाइड ऐडवर्टिजमेंट्स दिये गये हैं जिन में से अकेले अंग्रेजी के १२७११०, हिन्दी के १५४५० और रीजनल लैंग्वेज के २६६५१ कालम इन्वेज थे । सन् १९५७-५८ में कुल १०३२०६ क्लासिफाइड ऐडवर्टिजमेंट्स दिये गये जिस में से अंग्रेजी के समाचारपत्रों को ६५५६७ यानी आधे अधिक से दिए गये और हिन्दी को ११८७७ कालम इन्वेज दिये गये और रीजनल लैंग्वेज को २५७३२ कालम इन्वेज दिये गये । यह मैं मानता हूँ कि भारतीय भाषाओं के समाचारपत्रों को पहले से अधिक प्रोत्साहन दिया जरूर रहा है लेकिन जितना, हमारे हिन्दी और अन्य

भारतीय भाषाओं के समाचारपत्र पाने के अधिकारी हैं उतना उन्हें नहीं दिया जा रहा है ।

प्रेस कमीशन ने इस सम्बन्ध में यह भी सिफारिश की थी कि टेलिविस्कॉपिक रेट विद ऐन अपर लिमिट जारी किया जाय । बड़े-बड़े समाचारपत्रों को विज्ञापन देने के सम्बन्ध में कोई नियम होना चाहिये जिस के कि अनुकूल उस की ग्राहक संख्या हो और उस के अनुसार उस का वितरण करना चाहिये । मुझे आशा है कि अपने जवाबी भाषण में मंत्री महोदय उस पर कुछ प्रकाश डालेंगे ।

छठी बात यह है कि अखबारी कागज के बारे में न्यूजप्रिंट के बारे में कमीशन ने यह सिफारिश की थी कि एक स्टेट ट्रेडिंग कॉरपोरेशन बना कर उस के हाथ में यह चीज दे दी जाय । बाहर के देशों से जो हम अखबारी कागज मंगाते हैं उस को और हमारे देश में जैसा नेपा पेंपर मिल्स में जो अखबारी कागज बनाया जाता है उन सब को ले कर इन का एक ही मूल्य स्थिर किया जाय और कागज एक ही मूल्य पर सब समाचारपत्रों को दिया जाय । स्टेट ट्रेडिंग कॉरपोरेशन को यह काम दे दिया गया है ; लेकिन अभी तक पूरा अधिकार नहीं दिया गया है । इम्पोर्टर्स के बारे में कुछ कदम उठाये गये हैं ; लेकिन अभी तक वह पूरे नहीं हैं और उन पर पूरी तरह से अमल नहीं हो रहा है । प्रेस कमीशन की सब से बड़ी सिफारिश यह थी कि बाहर से, विदेशों से, जो हम अखबारी कागज मंगाते हैं और हमारे देश में जो कागज का उत्पादन होता है उन दोनों का मूल्य एक प्रकार का हो और वह सब समाचारपत्रों को दिया जाय । इस पर अभी तक अमल नहीं हुआ है ।

सातवीं बात हमारी संवाद-समितियों के पुनर्गठन को से कर है । पी० टी० आई०

[श्री अमृत वर्धन]

के सम्बन्ध में यह कहा गया था कि उस के लिये एक पब्लिक कोरपोरेशन होना चाहिये, लेकिन अभी तक उस के सम्बन्ध में कोई क्रम नहीं उठाया गया है। मंत्री महोदय इस भाग के बारे में सदा यह कहते रहते हैं कि यह उन का प्राइवेट एफ़ेयर है, वे जैसा चाहें करें। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस प्रकार की नीति शिथिलता की नीति है और उस में काम चलने वाला नहीं है।

य० पी० धार्डि० के बारे में कमीशन ने एक ट्रस्ट बनाने की सिफारिश की थी जोकि अब तक नहीं बना। मुझे जहाँ तक पता है यू० पी० धार्डि० का जो पहले संगठन था और अधिकार सेसर्स में वे अधिक लोगों के हाथ में थे, जबकि अब कोई एक करणानी सज्जन हैं, उन एक अकेले धार्डमी के हाथ में इस का सारा कामकाज है। सिफारिश यह थी कि उस के लिये एक ट्रस्ट होना चाहिये लेकिन उस के बजाय एक धार्डमी के हाथ में यह सारा काम है और उसी का यह परिणाम है कि जो वहाँ पर जनरल एडिटर काफ़ी वर्षों से बहुत शोम्पता के साथ काम कर रहे थे उन को २४ घंटे का नोटिस दे कर हटा दिया गया।

अन्तिम बात जो मैं कहना चाहता हूँ वह सुप्रीम कोर्ट का एवार्ड है और जिस का कि जिक्र मेरे माननीय सदस्यों ने भी किया है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने अभी हाल में एवार्ड दिया है और जिस के कि बारे में माननीय मंत्री जी मैं उठ कर महाशक्त करते हुए कहा कि वह अब और रोजगार मंत्रालय का कार्य है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि वह अधिनियम तो बाब में कार्यान्वित करने के लिये अब व रोजगार मंत्रालय को दिया गया था; पहिले तो सूचना व प्रसारण मंत्रालय ने ही उसे स्वीकार किया था। धतः यह मंत्रालय उस की जिम्मेदारी के अपने को मुक्त नहीं कर सकता। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि

हमारे अब और रोजगार मंत्रालय के मंत्री महोदय कुछ दिनों के अन्दर एक सम्मेलन बुलाने वाले हैं और विभिन्न संस्थाओं को निमंत्रण दे चुके हैं। उन के उद्देश्य की सफलता की मैं शुभ कामना करता हूँ, मगर मुझे ज्यादा विश्वास नहीं है कि सफलता मिलेगी ऐसा। कान्फ़ेंस पहले भी करने की कोशिश की गई थी, लेकिन उस में सफलता नहीं मिल पाई थी। धतः मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि उस का प्रमोंटमेंट होना चाहिये और जो कानून उस के लिये बना था जो अधिनियम बना था, उस का संशोधन भी संसद् में भ्राना चाहिये। गवर्नमेंट को इसका क्रम तत्काल उठाना चाहिये और उसके बीच में जब तक कि कानून बनता है तब तक उस को अपने अधिकार के द्वारा अन्तरिम सहायता देने की एक निश्चित योजना लागू करनी चाहिये और तभी जा कर हम श्रमजीवी पत्रकारों के प्रति कुछ न्याय कर सकते हैं।

श्री० सुशोभा नगर : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका धन्यवाद करती हूँ कि आपने मुझे मन्द मिनट इस समय दिये। इस मौके पर मैं दो तीन बातों को तरफ़ मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान दिलाना चाहती हूँ। उससे पहले सिर्फ़ एक चीज जो कि सामने के विरोधी पक्ष से हमारे एक भाई ने भ्रमो बड़े जोरों से कहा उसका जो मैं जवाब देना चाहती हूँ।

आपने बड़े जोरों से इस चीज का विरोध किया कि न्यूटैलिटी की क्यों बात करते हो। न्यूटैलिटी निकम्मी चीज है और मंत्री महोदय का यह कहना कि न्यूटैलिटी की भावना रखने वाले बस्ताधों को वह रेडियों के लिए इस्तेमाल करते हैं यह सतत है और बड़े जोरदार धम्कों में उन्होंने उसका विरोध किया। इससे प्रकट होता है कि हमारे प्राय के जो नेतापक्ष हैं जैसे हमारे विरोधी पक्ष के भाई जो कि अभी बोले थे उनके विचार में ऐसी सतत बैठ गई है कि बोवितिकल म्यूज और पीनिलिकल

क्यार यह हर चीज के लिए आवश्यक है और उसके बगैर जीवन चल ही नहीं सकता था। सही बात यह है कि आज देश में राजनीति है और वह रहेगी लेकिन जो रचनात्मक काम है उनको बहुत ज्यादा आवश्यकता है और शिक्षा और तालीम को बहुत ज्यादा आवश्यकता है। उस शिक्षा और तालीम में राजनीति का घाना आवश्यक है, ऐसा मेरी समझ में तो नहीं है।

सोपी बात है। आज हम लोगों का जीवन क्या है ? हेल्थ, एजुकेशन को देखिये, कितनी मोटी-मोटी चीजें हैं जो कि हम लोग नहीं जानते हैं। सोशल एजुकेशन को देखिये, यह कितनी सोपी सी बातें हैं जो हम लोग नहीं जानते हैं। हमारे एक पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर के यहाँ दक्षिण से एक देवोबी आई हुई है। उनके पास सुबह से शाम तक लोगों का तांता लगा रहता है कि हमको प्रसाद दे दोयिये, हमारी बोमारी अच्छी हो जायगी, रोग अच्छा हो जायगा और उस साइन में मैंने और लोगों के भलावा पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर भी खड़े हुए देखे . . . . .

श्री ब्रह्मराज सिंह : उस पक्ष के मेम्बर ने या इस पक्ष के ने ?

श्री सुखान्ता नायर : भाल इंडिया रेडियो के यह दो मुख्य कार्यक्रम मेरी समझ में है। आज रेडियो का शिक्षा के कार्यक्रम में कितने महत्व का स्थान है इसके बतलाने को आवश्यकता नहीं है सब लोग उसको जानते हैं। भाल इंडिया रेडियो एनफ्रान्सेशन एंड ब्राडकास्टिंग की मार्कल ब्राडकास्टिंग बरीरह के और बहुत से काम होते हैं लेकिन उन सब के मरुसदहेतु मुख्यतः दो हैं। एक तो उद्देश्य मनोरंजन अर्थात् इंटरटेनमेंट का है और दूसरा उद्देश्य शिक्षा का एजुकेशन का है। जहाँ तक इंटरटेनमेंट का सवाल है मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहती हूँ कि उसका ज़ात्ता अच्छा प्रोग्राम है और उसमें सुधार हो सकता है मगर जहाँ तक शिक्षा का एजुकेशन

का सम्बन्ध है, मुझे नम्रता से कहना होगा कि इन दस वर्षों में रेडियो जितना काम कर सकता था वह नहीं कर पाया है। सीधी बात है कि चाहें हेल्थ मिनिस्ट्री हो, चाहे इंडस्ट्रीज का विभाग हो अथवा चाहे कोई और ही गवर्नमेंट का विभाग हो, जहाँ तक जनता को साथ ले जाने का सम्बन्ध है, जनता को साथ ले जाने के लिए जनमत तैयार करने का सम्बन्ध है उसमें विजुएल एड, धाँकों और कानों से सुन कर जो एम्प्रीशन पड़ सकता है दिमाग पर, वह काम रेडियो की मार्कल बहुत बढ़िया तरीके से हो सकता है। दूसरे देशों में यह काम टेलिविजन से भी होता है। हमारे यहाँ टेलिविजन नहीं है तो उसमें कोई बहुत दिल छोटा करने की बात नहीं है। रेडियो से हम बहुत काम ले सकते हैं। इसके लिए मेरा यह निवेदन है कि एक अच्छी ज़ात्ती योजना एनफ्रान्सेशन एंड ब्राडकास्टिंग मिनिस्ट्री को बनानी चाहिए और उसमें सही तरीके से समय का विभाग हो ताकि प्राथमिक, समय शिक्षा को ही हो और प्राथमिक समय मनोरंजन को मिले। मनोरंजन में भी ऐसी चीजें चुनी जा सकती हैं जिन का विभाग को प्राये और ऊँचा ले जाने से सम्बन्ध हो और उसके साथ ही साथ वह शिक्षा का भी साधन बन सके। मगर उस के भलावा कम से कम प्राथमिक व्यवस्थित ढंग से हेल्थ एजुकेशन के लिये, सोशल एजुकेशन के लिये होना चाहिये। एडल्टरेशन की बात हम फूड और ड्रग्ज के सम्बन्ध में करते हैं एडल्टरेशन का कानून कहां तक सफल हुआ है। ज़ाली कानून से वह सफल नहीं हो सकता जब तक उस के पीछे एक ऐक्टिव जनमत हमारी जनता में जागृत न हो। उसे करने के लिये हमारा यह मंत्रालय बहुत काम कर सकता है।

इसी प्रकार से हम आज मारल एंड सोशल हाईजीन की बात करते हैं। मगर जो हमारे सिनेमा होते हैं, जो हमारे गीत होते हैं उन में काफी अस्वीलता आई जाती है। सेन्सर बोर्ड बने हुए हैं, लेकिन सेन्सर



[श्री० सुशीला नायर]

बोर्ड्स को धितना ऐक्टिव होना चाहिये, धितना काम करना चाहिये, उतना, मैं नम्रता से कहूंगी, धाय ही नहीं रहा है और दीक्षमल डंग पर जो काम होना चाहिये वह भी नहीं हो रहा है। तो अगर मंत्री महोदय व्यवस्थित ढंग से यह काम करें तो देश की जनता की बहुत बड़ी सेवा हो सकती है। पार्लिटिक्स को उसमें लाने की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं। यह नहीं कि कमी एक घुन आई और चार, छः टाक्स करवा दी हेन्स के बारे में, कमी चार, छः करवा दी किसी और विषय के बारे में। नहीं, हर, हूके हर महीने बाकायदा लगातार एक कम्पेन चलना चाहिये। स्माल पाक्स हम हटा सकते हैं, निकाल सकते हैं, यह हम अपनी जनता के विभाग में ठीक से चुता दें कि यह किस तरह से हो सकता है और होना चाहिये। मैं धमी हमीरपुर जिले से आई हूँ। घर, घर गांव-गांव, मैं देवी जी की पूजा हो रही है। नेचक फेली हुई है बच्चों में। किसी के विभाग में नहीं आता है कि इसे हम रोक सकते हैं या रोकने के लिये हम क्या करें। यह सारे काम यह मंत्रालय कर सकता है। यह मंत्रालय कोई अलग से है, वह वाटरटाइट कम्पाईमेंट है, ऐसा मैं नहीं समझती। दूसरे जिसने मंत्रालय है, सास तीर से सोधाल सचिस के, उन सब का यह भाउबपीस है, सेबक है और इस मंत्रालय की मार्केंट वह बहुत काम कर सकते हैं और उनको करना चाहिये। इस लिये उनकी योजना हो, उनकी एक प्लानिंग हो, धापस में मिल कर बिचार पूर्वक सारी चीज को तैयार करना चाहिये।

मैं एक चीज बड़ी नम्रता से कहना चाहती हूँ। मंत्री महोदय ने कहा बिरोधी पक्ष के एक साथी की बात के उत्तर में कि यह जो जर्नलिस्ट्स का सवाल है वह लेबर मिनिस्ट्री से सम्बन्धित है। मुझे भी इस चीज का दुःख हुआ कि जो हमारी गवर्नमेंट तय करती है उस बडिक्ट को वह

एनकोर्स नहीं करवा सकी, किसी भी कारण से ही, लेकिन जब हमारी जनता को जबाब मिलता है कि एक मंत्राय से सम्बन्धित है धा दूसरे से तो हमारे लिये बड़ी कठिनाई हो जाती है। गवर्नमेंट तो एक है। ज्यामेंट रिस्पॉन्सिबिलिटी या सम्मिलित जिम्मेदारी है तो उस में धापस में मंत्री महोदय सलाह कर के जबाब दें बड़ी खुशी से, लेकिन हमें यह जबाब अगर न मिला करे कि दूसरे मंत्री का, दूसरे खाते का यह काम है तो हमारे लिये और जनता के लिये बड़ी आसानी हो जायेगी।

एक छोटी सी चीज जो फारेन ब्राडकास्ट्स होते हैं उनके बारे में कहूँ। उस के अन्दर कोई अश्रद्धा प्रोपेगेंडा नहीं। खामलाह हमारी जनता को बहुत से फारेन ब्राडकास्ट्स बिलाये पिलाये जाते हैं, यानी उनके माइन्ड को उस की खुराक दी जाती है। उस के बारे में क्या हो सकता है, मैं नहीं जानती। प्रसबनर पावरफुल ट्रान्समिटर्स की मार्केंट बाहर के अनडिजायरेबल ब्राडकास्ट्स को रोकना जाता है, जो कुछ भी हो, लेकिन मैं ममझती हूँ कि हमारी सरकार को यह देखना चाहिये कि अश्रद्धी में अश्रद्धी चीजें हमारी जनता को मिलें और खराब चीजें उन को न मिलें रेडियो सुनते समय कई दफा हम अपने यहां की बात सुनना चाहते हैं, वह नहीं आती क्योंकि बाहर के जो ट्रान्समिटर हैं बहुत पावरफुल होते हैं। हिन्दुस्तान के अलग-अलग हिस्से हैं। दिल्ली को थाम छोड़ बीजिये हिन्दुस्तान के किसी और हिस्से का प्रोधाम ध्राप लेना चाहें तो वह नहीं आता है इस सम्बन्ध में एक बात कहूंगी ....

**उपाध्यक्ष महोदय :** अब तो मावनीर सदस्य को खत्म करना चाहिये। सबय के के वक्त तो माननीय सदस्य ने कहा धा पि पांच मिनट या उससे भी कम।

**Dr. Sushila Nayar:** I have not tak five minutes.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Ten minutes are over.

**Dr. Sushila Nayar:** This was the last sentence I wished to say. Had I not been interrupted, I would have finished.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** How could I foresee that?

**डा० सुशीला नायर :** मैं बहुत जल्दी खत्म कर रही हूँ ।

करीब दस मील का एक टेप उन्होंने तैयार किया गांधी जी के बारे में । अलग अलग लोगों के अनुभव थे । उनके वबैन अनुभवों को रेकार्ड करवा के । बहुत बैल्बुएबल मैटीरियल है, उनमें से कई ऐसे लोग हैं जो जिन्दा नहीं हैं कि उनकी बाणी आप सुन सकें । मैं मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करूंगी कि अगर वे उन रेकार्डों को बी० बी० सी० से ले सकें और उनका सही उपयोग हो सके, तो देश के लिये वह बहुत अमूल्य चीज होगी क्योंकि उन्होंने उम में से जो ब्राडकास्ट किया है वह बहुत ही सुपरफिशल है, बहुत ही पर्फक्टरी तरीके से तैयार की हुई चीज है और उस का सही उपयोग अपने देश में किया जा सकता है । मैं आशा करती हूँ कि इस मैटीरियल को उपलब्ध करने का मंत्री महोदय प्रयत्न करेंगे और उसमें सफलता प्राप्त करेंगे ।

**Dr. Samantsinhar (Bhubaneswar):** **Mr. Deputy-Speaker,** Sir, at the outset I thank the Ministry for the effective steps to revive the Indian culture through the radio and also particularly for the selection of new programmes last year. I may mention the talks given by Prof. Haldane regarding the 'unity and diversity in life'. Similar interesting programmes should be selected in future also and they should be broadcast through the radio.

Of course I share the views of my hon. friends regarding the conditions of the working journalists. We must

think out some effective measures to remove their hardships. Journalism has become a good profession in the country and it will provide employment to numerous people. It has also become a very profitable industry in the country. In view of that, the

15 hrs.

condition of the working journalists—those who are practically maintaining the industry and through whose effort the industry is growing—should be improved. These profit-making proprietors should be made to see that the condition of the working journalists is improved immediately, and this Ministry should take effective measures to remove their grievances in collaboration with the Labour Ministry.

At the same time, Sir, I see that there is actually no proper co-ordination between the different Ministries. Though there is the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, I see that other Ministries give periodical information in the papers. All these things should be co-ordinated and everything should be done through the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Sir, radios have gradually become very popular among the people. Therefore, the prices of radios should be brought down and the people should be supplied with cheap radio sets. I also fully agree with the idea given by Shri Tyagi regarding the Air University. That is a very novel idea, and I hope the Ministry would take some effective measures to see how this can be put into practice.

Now I would like to draw the kind attention of the Ministry to some of the grievances relating to my part of the country. There are some difficulties experienced in the only radio centre in Orissa—Cuttack. I have heard some allegations made against that centre. I hope some enquiry will be made with a view to remove those difficulties.

[Dr. Samantnihar]

At the Cuttack Centre there is no drama producer. The programme assistant working there is working as programme assistant cum drama producer. That programme assistant is not well versed in drama. Therefore, in the choice of casts and dialects there is no proper selection with the result the drama is not getting popular there. I request that a drama producer may be posted at Cuttack Centre so that selection of casts and dialects can be done properly.

As regards the National Programme, Hindustani music is given more time. I request that other classical music, including Odissi and other Karnatic etc., music, should be given more time as is given to Hindustani music.

I do not know what happens in other centres, but at Cuttack there is a Programme Advisory Committee. That Committee is there only in name; their advice is not actually taken by the radio staff there. This Committee sits only once in six months or ten months. The agenda is prepared by the Station Director. He includes the items to be discussed at the meeting of the Committee. The members are not given any previous intimation about the subjects to be included in the agenda. Therefore, the subjects put down by the Station Director only are discussed at the meeting. The Advisory Committee's advice is not taken with regard to the well-being of the station or the programmes that would please the public.

In the selection of artistes I hear very serious complaints. I hear that talkers and artistes are not being selected properly. I do not know whether it is correct or not, but I am told that the officers there take a percentage of the artiste's remuneration. I request the hon. Minister to enquire into the matter and see whether these things are correct or not.

As regards Odissi songs in the name of Odissi they are giving some other songs which are not actually Odissi. All those songs that are written in Oriya language are not Odissi. Odissi

is a very typical one. Other songs should not be included and given out in the name of Odissi; only genuine Odissi songs should be included under this item.

The Gongahali programme and the programme for women are also not popular. They are not according to the choice of villagers and women-folk. They should be according to the likings of the villagers. The problems which they face should be served through the radio, and not what the announcer wishes. I, therefore, request that these things should be properly scrutinised and effective steps taken in these matters.

On the whole, Sir, I am glad that during the last few years this Ministry has done very good work, and for that I congratulate the hon. Minister.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not find the name of Shri Bhattacharyya in the list that is with me. But if he is anxious to speak he may have five to six minutes.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: Sir, just before the sitting began I approached the Speaker and submitted in the usual form intimation of my desire to participate in this debate. I do not know how my name has been, unfortunately, left out.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He may speak now.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, it is just in the fitness of things that the Ministry's failure to implement the main recommendations of the Press Commission has occupied a major part of this debate. Most of the speakers have referred to it. The policy that the Ministry has pursued with reference to the Fourth Estate has not been just. It has always been vacillating, as a result of which it has pleased none neither the newspaper proprietors nor the working journalists. As I have said, the main recommendations have not been implemented, and what little was done has now

been undone as a result of the Supreme Court decision.

I do not know whether the Ministry is going to move again to set up a National Wage Board for this purpose or whether the Government will take the initiative in attempting to arrive at a negotiated settlement by calling all the parties together. Of course, that is left to them, but up till now no movement has been made to that effect.

Though it belongs to a different Ministry, I take this opportunity to express myself on the same as the matter is very urgent. The judgment of the Supreme Court has not solved the problem, it has only created the problem the result of which will gradually unfold itself. That is why I ask the Ministry to be very considerate but to be very active in having something done to fill up the vacuum that has been created by the Supreme Court judgment.

As regards the other things I have to say this much. Reference was made to the appointment of the Press Registrar. The Press Registrar should not be an officer merely to have statistical collections. His functions should be wider and should be spread out to include more important things to be done with reference to the interests of the newspapers and the newspaper workers.

Coming to the report of the Ministry that has been circulated to us, I have something to say. In the previous years' report I find at page 7 that the programme section contained something about Sanskrit. It says that "the Sanskrit programme introduced in April, 1949 aim at acquainting the listeners with the cultural traditions embodied in Sanskrit". In the present year's report I do not find that item. I do not know whether it is an omission in preparing the report itself or whether the item has been omitted altogether. Anyway, that is not proper, because the Sanskrit Commission itself has suggested that the A.I.R. should take up imparting lessons in Sanskrit just as it has been imparting lessons in Hindi. There is

something more to be said about it. The Prime Minister had suggested some time ago that every citizen in India should learn the National Anthem. In that matter the A.I.R. can do much. It may introduce some service to teach this. The A.I.R. may at least once a week teach it through suitable persons as is being done in the case of music. If that is not found possible, approved records of National Anthem might be broadcast every week from all the stations.

Regarding the item *Gandhi Charcha*, I say that the different broadcasts made under this heading should be brought together and published in Hindi and English. That would help people to get an insight into Gandhiji's mind and activities which are not usually narrated in the biographies and which it is essential that the people should know in order to understand him properly.

There is another important thing I should say. The Tagore Centenary is coming a few years hence. This Ministry has a great responsibility to prepare the people's minds for that big event. Propaganda should be made from different stations so that the people might know what is going to be done and the way things are going to be done. That should be begun from now and the people's minds should be prepared for it.

Regarding film censorship, I have a grouse against the Board of Film Censors. They approve films as universal release which I think should not be approved at all. These films have no relation to our social life and I say these are against the traditions and customs of our social life. I give my own experience over this thing. A film prepared under the Films Division, called "*Gotama the Buddha*", was being shown in Calcutta. I was invited by the Films Division to see it. Half the film was shown depicting how the Lord prevailed over the forces of evil led by Mara. After that, an interval came, and in the interval parts of foreign films were shown, which were full of huggings, kissings and killings. I called the Films Divi-

[Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya]

sion man and asked, "What is this? Is it a supplement to what we have just seen,—the Lord prevailing over the forces of evil?" He said, "What can we do, Sir? This is under the control of the owners of the Cinema houses. They would do it in spite of all other things".

I give you another example. I had gone to see *Pather Panchali*, a film which was advertised as being specially meant for the school children. The school children were coming in numbers to see it. In fact I had gone there with my own children. Before the film show began, parts of foreign films began to be shown as trailers which contained scenes akin to scenes which are found in the *Bathing Beauty*. I hung down my head in shame. My children were with me. I called a representative of the management and asked, "You advertised that the show was meant specially for children and I came here with my children to see *Pather Panchali*. Why are you showing these things to me? I did not come to see these things." He said, "This is part of our duty that we do. But, if you are offended, you may take it up with the Board of Film Censors." So, I should like to know why they allow such films as universal release.

Recently there has been another children's film in Calcutta and letters have appeared in my own paper stating how the audience reacted to what they saw as trailers to that film. One correspondent stated, "I went there with my mother, and I say I could not see what was being shown there as parts of the trailer." One gentleman says, "I went there with my children and I was expecting to see the children's film. I was scandalised to see what was being shown as trailer." I commented upon it, and the reply came from the House-owners starting—"You do not attack us. If you have anything to say, you take it up with the Board of Film Censors. They allowed this film as universal release and we are free to exhibit it in any

place anywhere that we like". That is a thing which ought not to be done. In the case of *Pather Panchali*, which I mentioned just now, I took it up with the Director of Publicity, Government of West Bengal, and they wrote to different cinema houses saying that so long as *Pather Panchali* was being shown nothing inconsistent with that should be shown in the cinema houses along with that film. Of course the cinema houses had to obey.

So, I would say that in the matter of permitting and approving films for being shown as universal release, much care should be taken so that these do not introduce what we do not tolerate in our own society, what is not current in our own society. Conduct and customs that we do not approve of accept in our own society, should not be exhibited in the films and put before our own people and pervert the younger minds in a way that should not be done.

श्री बजरत्न सिंह : मैं प्रश्न पूछना चाहता हूँ। क्या यह सही है कि देश में लगभग ३० लाख रेडियो रिसेवर हैं और लाइसेंस केवल १३ लाख को दिए जा सके हैं? बाकी १७ लाख के लाइसेंस जारी करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं, जिसमें ३ करोड़ रुपए का राजस्व इकट्ठा किया जा सकता है? रेडियो रिसेवरों की संख्या में उत्तरोत्तर बढ़ती रहने के साथ-साथ क्या सरकार रेडियो रिसेवरों की लाइसेंस-फीस कम करने का विचार कर रही है? आकाशवाणी से . . . . .

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो सवाल की तकरीर बनती जा रही है—स्पीच बनती जा रही है।

श्री बजरत्न सिंह : इस यही एक प्रश्न है। आकाशवाणी से वाइकास्ट किए जाने वाले समाचारों में, जिन के लिए १२ मिलट नियत हैं, निम्न विषयों तक प्रसारण नहीं के विषय में समाचार देने में रुकी हुई

है और क्या यह सही है कि प्रीसतन एक चौकाई और कभी-कभी एक तिहाई तक समय प्रधान मंत्री का भाषण या उनके सम्बन्ध में समाचारों में खर्च किया जाता है ?

**Dr. Keekar:** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to all the hon. Members who have contributed to this debate by making very interesting suggestions and also by criticising the various activities of this Ministry. Criticism is a very useful and essential duty; more especially it is the duty of Members of Parliament to keep the Ministries on the alert and to point out what they consider to be the shortcomings or the defects in the working of any particular Ministry. I hope I am not expected to reply to all the points that have been raised here within the short time at my disposal, because a number of criticisms and points have been made by Members which would require a very detailed reply on my part and the putting forth of statistics, which it is not possible to bring before the House at such short notice. I have noted all the points made here. I will reply to the important points here and as regards the others, I will look into them and let the hon. Members know the facts or counter-facts that might be available regarding the matters that hon. Members have raised here.

I will first take up the most important point which Mr. Kumaran has made, namely, regarding the recommendations of the Press Commission and that is a point which has been repeated by many hon. Members. I will take it up here and briefly point out as to what we have been doing regarding the recommendations of the Press Commission. Last year, during the course of the debate, we had occasion to mention at great length what the Government is doing about the recommendations of the Commission. I did not want to repeat all that, but in view of the fact that charges have been levelled that the Government has not carried out the recommendations of the Commission, it becomes incumbent on me to mention briefly, or rather repeat, what

has been said then with some additional information. There were only about five or six points on which the Commission specifically asked the Government to take action. If hon. Members refer to the report of the Commission, they will find that the Commission has made many recommendations of which only a few were meant for the Government. For example, Mr. Bhakt Darshan and some other Members referred to the question of diffusion of ownership and the monopolistic tendencies in the present day Press. If they read carefully the report of the Commission, they will find that the Commission had expressly written there that this should not be done by the Government directly, but should be arranged after various enquiries have taken place and this is not something about which Government has to pass some legislation and try to do it.

The other question is regarding the news agencies. The Commission have expressly stipulated that their request is to the news agencies and not to the Government. They have not asked Government to take direct action in this matter and I might inform the House that we consulted legal opinion and there is a grave doubt as to how far the Government can take over or nationalise or in any other way control the news agencies, whatever might be considered desirable. It is quite possible that the recommendations of the Commission are such and we ourselves feel that they are in the right direction, but it is not proper for Government to do anything which would be against the spirit and letter of the Constitution. The Press Commission also has not asked us to do it directly.

**Pandit K. C. Sharma (Hapur):** Government can take a certain attitude.

**Dr. Keekar:** Government has certainly taken a definite attitude and I had occasion to mention during the last two debates what our attitude is.

There are five different important questions about which the Commission expected the Government to take

[Dr. Keskar]

some action directly. The Press Registrar, for example, is a small thing to which reference has been made. We have established a Press Registrar and he is working. No doubt some Members would like the Registrar to have more powers. We do not want to risk in that direction, unless the office of the Registrar is placed on the most stable footing. After he has some experience of the work, after sometime if we find that some useful work regarding the Press might be done by giving the Registrar more powers, then certainly that would be considered. I do not think at this stage, it would be proper for us to equip the Registrar with too many powers. It might lead to resistance and criticism and make the working of this useful office very difficult at the very beginning

Then there is the question of the Working Journalists Act. Many Members have referred very strongly to what I said. It is a fact that the Act is being administered by the Ministry of Labour and therefore, it might be better if the question is raised at length during the course of the debate on the demands relating to the Labour Ministry. That does not mean that I am not interested in the matter; I am certainly interested and we have also some responsibility in the matter, but when another Ministry is having that responsibility and the debate relating to that Ministry is coming up only tomorrow . . .

An Hon. Member: Today.

Dr. Keskar: I am sorry; it is coming up today after this and I think it is better if it is taken up in detail during the course of that debate, rather than I should take upon myself the duty to reply on behalf of the Labour Minister. It is possible that I might say something which might not fit in with what he might have to say. Therefore, I am not at all unreasonable in requesting the House that the question might be better taken up in the course of the debate on the Labour Ministry demands.

Shri Panigrahi (Puri): There is no co-ordination.

Dr. Keskar: There is full co-ordination, but it is not proper that I should reply on behalf of the Labour Minister when he can do it himself.

The other question is regarding the price-page schedule. I know hon. Members have been exercised over this matter. We have passed an Act regarding the price-page schedule. This question has been exercising the mind of the Government very seriously and we are looking into the various conditions which will help in fulfilling the objective for which the Act was passed and when they can be promulgated. I said in reply to a question on the floor of this House last month that in everybody's interest—it is not the interest of proprietors only; but it is a question concerning the future newspapers, their circulation and standing and also, guarding the spirit of competition about which the Press Commission also has referred—we felt that we would not be right in trying to hurry up the thing and that is why we have been considering this matter seriously. I may, however, inform the House that very soon we are going to take a decision regarding this and we will place it before the House.

Much has been said about the Press Council. The Press Council, if hon. Members remember the recommendation of the Press Commission, has been recommended as an advisory body which will pass opinions, without any statutory power of punishing anybody, about journalistic ethics. It is also considered desirable by the Press Commission to empower the Press Council to make an enquiry, for example, into the question of ownership and certain other related matters.

13:29 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

As the House is well aware, we took up the question of having an Act passed regarding the appointment of the Council. A number of difficulties cropped up to which I have referred

before, but I might repeat them here. During the course of the debate on the Act in the Rajya Sabha, we found that the two wings who are concerned in the formation of the Council—the working journalists on the one hand and the proprietors on the other—were both extremely critical, and in fact totally opposed, to our proposals which were practically the same as the proposals of the Press Commission. On the side of the journalists, we were told that they objected to the composition of the Council as recommended by the Press Commission, because they felt that by such a Council, the proprietors will get a majority in the Council, because the editors who were recommended to be given a certain number of seats by the Press Commission were the henchmen of the proprietors and therefore, they cannot be considered to be really hundred per cent. working journalists.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** There are editors who belong to the working journalists' section.

**Dr. Keskar:** I am not quoting myself; I am quoting what I have been told by the Federation. I personally entirely agree with you. But that is what we were told, and the Federation expressed its entire opposition to the legislation, if the composition of the Council is kept as it is. What they suggested was—it was not a specific suggestion; it is probably what they intended—that the editors should be bracketed with the proprietors and the 13 members out of the 25 in the Council, who were to be selected as working journalists, should be entirely working journalists or certified by them as working journalists if they are editors. Be that as it may . . .

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** If I am excused for an interruption, I should say that the Ministry should have consulted the editors' body, the All India Newspaper Editors' Conference. I believe that was not done.

**Dr. Keskar:** I am not prepared to admit that the All India Newspaper Editors' Conference represents either the editors or the proprietors. We

have gone very carefully into the question and we certainly feel that in the two bodies, there are 3, 4 or 5 persons who represent either the proprietors or the Federation, and they have been consulted. That does not mean that we do not pay heed to the recommendations or suggestions of the All India Newspaper Editors Conference. Of the members of the AINEC, some are members of the Federation; some are members of the proprietors. In both the bodies they are represented. Therefore, all the different viewpoints have been before us quite adequately. Now, in view of the fact that the proprietors were already against the legislation saying that there is no need for a statutory council and the working journalists expressing a total opposition to the composition of the Council as it is, when the Bill lapsed and the question of taking it up again during the present Parliament came, we felt on careful consideration that it is not worthwhile for us to pursue the question of a Press Council, unless the differences between both the groups are narrowed down to some extent. After all, what is the Council for? The Council is not going to be armed with statutory powers to punish this man or that man. The Council will have advisory capacity in evolving a code for journalistic profession. If both wings of the journalistic profession feel that this Council is based on wrong premises, it will not be proper for Government, in the face of opposition from both sides, to proceed with the matter. That may not be the opinion of the hon. Members. That is our opinion. We do not feel that it is proper for us to try to say "Well, both of you are wrong; we are right, because we are fortified by what the Press Commission said". There must be—I would not say a "compromise"—some agreement or at least the differences should be within very narrow limits, before we try to proceed with that legislation. Government is not prepared to try to pass a legislation, which is meant for the press world, with which both the wings are in complete disagreement.

**Shri Panigrahi:** Has the Government ignored the idea completely?



**Dr. Keskar:** The Press Council is not Government's idea; it is the Press Commission's idea and we have been thinking of implementing it only in the interests of the press and unless the press wants it, we are not going to take it up. That does not mean that we have dropped it; we are prepared to take it up. As I said last time when the question was posed here, we will certainly try to see that the question of the Council is taken up. Some talk had to be had with both the groups, if possible, and it is possible that after the very important question of the Working Journalists Act and matters connected therewith are dealt with, we might also take up this question with both groups.

The other point to which reference has been made is the news agency. I have already said that the Press Commission's recommendation is not specific. We have got a member of the Press Commission here, who can tell us more about it. It is addressed to the agency, not to the Government. We have passed on the recommendations of the Commission to the agencies concerned. Government felt that the recommendations are in the right lines and the agencies should try to do something about it. But I feel that it will not be proper for us to try to force it on the agencies by any legislation or any other force. As I said, the legality of any such action is itself doubtful. Government, therefore, does not propose to go in that direction. I have noted what has been said about the United Press of India by one or two hon. Members and I will certainly see what can be done about it.

The question of diffusion of ownership also stands in the same category. Hon. Members will see that these are only recommendations with which Government has nothing to do, as far as the Press Commission Report is concerned. It is quite possible that Government has not done as much as the House expected it, or as the Government itself tried to do. So, one

of the accusations of an hon. Member opposite that we have failed, is entirely out of place. Whether we have failed on account of incompetence or because of the conditions prevailing in the press industry is a different matter. But I myself feel that we have tried to do what we could. We have been trying it and we will be trying it. But, at the same time, we do not propose to take up those aspects of the Press Commission's recommendations which the Government should not directly deal with.

Hon. Members want contradictory things to be done by Government at the same time. They want Government to take strong action regarding various press matters. At the same time, they want Government not, shall I say, to influence the press or put any restrictions on the press or do anything which will come in the way of the freedom of the press. Now, we are as jealous of the freedom of the press, as the members opposite. Therefore, I am not prepared to take any step in the direction of control or guidance of the press industry unless I am convinced that it does not infringe on the freedom of the press in any way, and I hope hon. Members will not press Government to do things for which the very next day they will accuse us by saying that we are trying to put pressure on the press for this thing or that.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Do Government propose to take up PTI and UPI so that India can have a first rate national agency when there are first class boys prepared to run it? Or do they propose to allow the newspaper barons to monopolise it as they like?

**Dr. Keskar:** Government is not connected and has nothing to do with PTI. As I said, the agencies are not run by Government. But Government would certainly like to see that these agencies are working well, independently as *bona fide* news agencies and if we can help it, we will certainly help it. If tomorrow Government takes steps in order to regulate those agencies, hon. Members will be the first to come and criticise me on the

floor of the House. So, I have to look to that day.

**Shri Goray:** How do you know that?

**Dr. Keskar:** I know it by experience. I know it already.

The other point made by the hon. Member is about Hindi. Now, I would not refer too much, because when I come to All India Radio, I would like to take it up again.

श्री अक्षय वर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने विज्ञापन अम्बन्धि न तिका जिसका कि मैंने अपने भाषण में उल्लेख किया था, कोई जिक्र नहीं किया है।

**Dr. Keskar:** I will come to that separately. Advertisement also is no doubt something about which the Press Commission has made a few suggestions. It is something which also concerns the other aspects of the Ministry's work. I will take it up separately. There is a tendency to drag in the present linguistic controversy into anything or any subject that comes up. Now, the hon. Member, as also two or three other hon. Members, referred to the question of Hindi and said that we are trying to give special preference to Hindi. We are certainly not doing anything of that kind. There was also the question of taking Hindi as the national language. Now, it is possible that some people in a general and vague way may have mentioned Hindi as a national language. But the official and correct attitude is that it is the recommended language to be the official language of the country; not even the inter-State language of the country.

**Shri Jagadish Awasthi:** Are you going to minimise the publication of English books?

**Dr. Keskar:** When I come to books, I will refer to that. I am talking only as far as this Ministry is concerned. And the Government as a whole has made it very clear that Hindi, as in the Constitution, will be the inter-State official language for the Centre. That is all, nothing more.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** In your report for this year, submitted to us,

on page 13 it is stated: "To popularise Hindi, the national language of India....." Is this correct?

**Dr. Keskar:** It means what I have said. Its interpretation is that, but in order to see that no further vagueness or incorrectness arises hereafter, we will refer to it exactly in the way that I have referred now. But let there be no mistake about the intention. There is no intention in fact. One hon. Member said that all the languages are national languages. That is entirely true and if hon. Members were not so prejudiced against All-India Radio, they will see that if there is one body in the country which has done as much as it could to popularise and encourage all the regional languages, it is the All-India Radio, even more than any other institution in any part of the country. I am prepared to show it by facts and figures as to how much different languages, specially some of the languages which had had the misfortune of being backward, have been helped by the radio to come forward because it is the only medium in this country which utilises 95 per cent of its time in languages and not in English. The radio prides itself on the fact that it does not give any important place to English but to the languages. So, there should not be any accusation that we are trying to give too permanent a place to Hindi. Certainly, we do try Hindi to be known in those provinces where it is not known. I think that is as it should be. No doubt, certain hon. Members might not like it, but we feel that when there is a policy laid down in the Constitution, it is our duty to follow it and we shall certainly be doing that. We are not trying to do that at the expense of other languages. We are trying to do that so that other people may come to know Hindi.

I might also mention here that we are trying to bring Hindi people in contact with great works and other things that are in the other languages. This kind of exchange between different Indian languages is being

[Shri Kaskar]

tried on a large scale only by the A.I.R. and I think this kind of having a sort of inter-provincial cultural and literary exchange that we are now having is the first venture of its kind.

There was a mention of the Censor Board. The Censor Board is a much maligned body and I think I must pay a tribute to the very difficult and delicate task that they have to carry out. Hon. Members ought to remember that it is a statutory body and most of its members, except the Chairman and the regional officers, are all respectable and well-known citizens, who are taken from a cross-section of society—from every aspect of every profession.

Shri Radha Raman (Chandni Chowk): That is the pity of it.

Dr. Kaskar: That may be the pity of it, but I think that is the right thing. The hon. Member might not agree, but I think that is the only way in which we can see whether a particular film or films are really according to the general standards prevailing in our country or not. It is possible that the hon. Member or some hon. Members might not agree with a particular film. They might say that this should have been cut and this should not have been there. Well, opinions will always differ. We have tried to come to some lowest common multiple or highest common multiple that should be there. It is possible that most of us might not agree with that particular decision, but there has to be some agreement somewhere and it has to be left to a group of persons, who are objective and who are doing it according to certain lines laid down. The directive which is laid down is very clear. The directive is only about certain things, which according to the Constitution alone the Government can ask the Censor Board to do.

A number of hon. Members want that we should try to cut all undesirable films. If tomorrow the Government begins doing that the first thing

will be a protest on the floor of this House because there must be some definition of what is an undesirable film or what is a vulgar film. Hon. Members ought to remember that the power of Government is limited by Constitutional limitation and there are only four categories of reasonable restrictions which the Government can ask the Censor Board to keep in view. If there had been no such restriction, it would have been possible for us to ask the Censor Board to cut out all undesirable films.

An hon. Member felt that certain films were indecent. There might be various interpretations of what is decency and what is indecency. We have to see that we make a synthesis of the various points of view and try to find out the mean. I myself am not very happy sometimes, but then we have to go by certain rules and keeping that in view we do not have the Constitutional powers to control films as we like. I think on what the Censor Board is doing really it deserves our commendation and not condemnation.

Shri Panigrahi: What are those four kinds of restrictions?

Dr. Kaskar: According to the Constitution, there are only four categories on which reasonable restrictions can be imposed by Government.

Now I will come to the points made by Kumari Vedakumari.

Shri Joachim Alva: I would like to know as to what you intend doing about damaging trailers to which Shri Bhattacharyya referred.

Dr. Kaskar: If I have to cover every point then I may have to leave out the All-India Radio and other important matters. I have to keep to

some time schedule, otherwise the Speaker will pull me up. I have noted all the points.

**Mr. Speaker:** Let the hon. Minister proceed. Let him finish as early as possible.

**Dr. Keskar:** Regarding the point made by Kumari Vedakumari, I can say that she is very much annoyed with All-India Radio and the Ministry. But I think that it was not necessary that she should have quoted wrong facts in order to support her point, whatever annoyance she might have felt about this Ministry. All the facts that she has stated about Programme Assistants are entirely wrong. Hon. Members know, that on the floor of this House year before last and the year before that a very long debate took place during the Budget discussion about the question of Programme Assistants and a very heated exchange took place. Programme Assistants are permanent officials of the All-India Radio. They were originally recruited, as they have been even now, for administrative purposes, when All-India Radio did not have a division of labour because it was just at the beginning of its expansion. They were forced to do all sorts of work like programme production and many other things, which they could or could not do. But my point is that they are all permanent people and it is very wrong on her part to say that these people remain permanently Programme Assistants. In fact, there are a number of Station Directors of the All-India Radio, who had been Programme Assistants. Programme Assistants have been gradually promoted beyond this stage to that of Station Directors and a number of them have risen higher and they are rising higher. In fact, I had told this House last year that we had got a programme cadre scheme for the All-India Radio, which scheme, I am glad to inform you, has already been passed and is in the stage of implementation. Under this scheme the whole cadre will be recruited only at the lowest stage and

by promotion on merit a person will go to the highest stage. This was taking place before also, but naturally some of the officers had to go again before the Public Service Commission for that purpose. The blame that a particular person remained a Programme Assistant and could not go higher should not be put on the Ministry, because up to this time this has been done by the Public Service Commission. Really speaking, it is possibly a reflection on the Commission and not on the Ministry. It is a travesty of facts to say that a Programme Assistant remains a Programme Assistant with all the rules and regulations, which the hon. Member herself knows very well.

I would like to say a few words about the other question of staff artistes to which she referred. I remember the other day Shri Hem Barua raised this question and I think it is right that I clarify the position. I have got every sympathy for staff artistes and the production staff, but we have to remember that the work of the staff artistes and the production staff is of directly producing programmes for the radio. If we want that the programmes remain up to a standard, that they have a variety and that they attract the public, then it is essential to see that the staff artistes produce the programmes as required. Suppose there is a musician. He might be a very good musician. Suppose after five years that musician's form falls off. He is not able to sing or play. If tomorrow we have got a permanent staff of staff artistes, every year, the Ministry will have to recruit a large percentage of new staff of artistes with the old ones still remaining and not being able to go on in the same form as they were doing before. This problem has faced other broadcasting organisations also in the world. It is the rule everywhere that direct producers of programme, whether they are producers or whether they are staff artistes, they are on contract which contract is renewed if their work continues to be good. We have thought over this

[Dr. Keskar]

question very seriously. Though I have every sympathy for the staff artistes and would like to do for them as much as I can, there is no escape from the fact that it is not possible to put the direct producers of programme on a permanent basis. I might tell the hon. House that if tomorrow all the staff artistes or producers of programmes are put on the permanent staff, within two years, not only will the standard of programmes go down, but I do not know what will happen to the structure of the programmes.

**Kumari M. Vedakumari:** May I know whether in renewing the contract after two years or three years, you are taking into account the previous record?

**Dr. Keskar:** Yes, Sir. That is taken into consideration and should be taken into consideration.

**Kumari M. Vedakumari:** More consideration should be given for the good record. Are increments given according to that record?

**Dr. Keskar:** The hon. Member is generalising from a particular case or cases that she might be knowing. If she has any case; let her bring it up.

**Kumari M. Vedakumari:** I am not referring to any particular case. I am speaking about the general problem.

**Dr. Keskar:** This is not the forum for individual cases. I might remind the hon. Member who has been on the staff of the All India Radio.....

**Kumari M. Vedakumari:** He need not refer to my job.....

**Dr. Keskar:** I am only saying because she knows from inside. When she was there, five years back.....

**Kumari M. Vedakumari:** I know the difficulties of the staff artistes. That is why I am asking about that.

**Dr. Keskar:** I have noted all the difficulties. My point is, it is not possible to make them permanent. That is what I am saying.

**Kumari M. Vedakumari:** I am not asking for permanency. I am only asking for amenities.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order; what is the use of going on like this?

**Dr. Keskar:** I am sorry if I have heard wrongly. I think she said about their permanency.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member was there; the hon. Minister is there.

**Dr. Keskar:** What I was driving at was, a few years ago, for the staff artistes, there was no rule, nor any committee to see whether they are on merit or not. We have taken steps to see that regular credential committees see into the work of the staff artistes when the contracts are renewed. Formerly, as the hon. Member knows very well, the staff artistes' contracts were renewed by the Station Director. Now, it is done by the Director General, after going into the record of the artistes. We take steps to see that the artistes are dealt with on merit and not dealt with according to personal whim or humour. Nothing is absolutely fool-proof. It is possible that particular artistes might have some grievance. This is not the forum for ventilating the grievances of individual officers or artistes.

**Kumari M. Vedakumari:** It is not ventilation of individual grievances; it is a general question.

**Dr. Keskar:** The hon. Member made reference to the question of the Parliamentary correspondent here. I am very strong in my view on this matter, that the question whether a particular officer has been selected rightly or wrongly cannot be debated on the floor of the House. This is not the forum in which I am prepared to reply because, otherwise, Members of Parliament will be made into touts or

what I may call recommendators for various persons. This is not a position which I would wish..... (Interruption).

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: That is a bad word.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: That would apply not only to Members but to Ministers also.

Shri Ranga (Tenali): What is the provocation for the hon. Minister for speaking in this vein on this?

Some Hon. Members: 'Touting' is not correct.

Dr. Keskar: I withdraw the word, Sir. My meaning is that Members should not try to take up the question of individual persons.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: We are not taking up the case of individual persons. We are asking for justice in these cases.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I was present when the Lady Member spoke. I do not think she took up a particular case. All that she said was, that the proceedings of Parliament were not reported correctly, it seems somehow the persons—not the old set who were reporting the proceedings, but the present set who are there—there seems to be a change. They even say, the Minister attacked and the other persons responded, this man gave a hit and so on. Hits and attacks are unnecessary. They seem to indicate a particular line, an attitude of partisanship. The other newspapers might do as they like. So far as this is concerned, it is only a factual indication, not his own opinion. That is all that the hon. Lady Member was saying. I do not know how touting and other things come in here.

Dr. Keskar: May I say a few words, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: Yes. What is the hon. Member's speech to which exception is taken by the hon. Minister and the word 'touting' used?

Dr. Keskar: I am prepared to withdraw it if you consider it wrong.

Mr. Speaker: I have no objection. But.....

Dr. P. Subbarayan (Tiruchengode): The use of 'tout' was unfortunate.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Not only unfortunate, but also unparliamentary.

Mr. Speaker: I also felt that there was no provocation in the speech of the hon. Lady Member to have invited all this: hon. Members ought not to be touting for this and that. It is rather unfortunate. Hon. Members are entitled to bring in proper cases. If there is a bad appointment, hon. Members are entitled to say that he is unfit for the job and persons have, without reference to qualifications, appointed such and such big officers. It is in the interests of the public: not because a particular person is interested. Here, of course, in ordinary cases, we are not going into minor details about appointments. But, if a man is not fit for the job and reports improperly, incorrectly and takes a partisan attitude—that is all, I think the hon. Lady Member was referring to. A general accusation that hon. Members ought not to take up or tout does not seem to be quite relevant. The hon. Minister will go on.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: What is your ruling about expunging the word 'tout'? It should be expunged.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has already withdrawn.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Withdrawing is not the same as expunging.

Mr. Speaker: I feel it is stronger for the reason that hereafter nobody will use it. If it is expunged, nobody knows that it is a word which should not be used. If it is withdrawn, it is better.

**Shri Thirumala Rao (Kakinada):** I would like to draw your attention to one thing, Sir. The hon. Minister says that no such cases should be brought up here on the floor of the House and this is not the forum in which these things can be discussed. I should like to draw your attention to what happened in the L.I.C. scandal. So many persons were discussed. It is the right of this House to agitate for any redress of grievances, whether individual or general if it affects the public interest.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am afraid all that is hypothetical. No particular individual has been referred to. His conduct in the matter of reporting has been referred to: not his appointment. The same man may change the method of reporting. There would not be any difficulty. When that matter arises, let me see. I am not accepting the proposition that he ought not to bring in these matters here at all. Proper cases may arise.

**Dr. Keskar:** What I said was, the Member might have a right to refer to any case. I do not contest it. But...

**Shri Feroze Gandhi:** Why don't you apologise to the Lady Member?

**Dr. Keskar:** I am not prepared to give any explanation regarding particular officers on the floor of the House. I did not say that Members have no right. Members have the right to bring up anything they like.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi:** He should apologise for what he said.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is only adding a bit of humour to this.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi:** He is not apologising.

**Dr. Keskar:** Coming to Shri Ansar Harvani, he was raising the question that the A.I.R. was spending too much on administration. Probably, he has taken up the question because, he is looking at the Directorate General of

A.I.R. He quoted some figures. If he totals up all the figures, of all the stations, he will find that we are of course spending a little more than the B.B.C., but our figures are not so high as he made them out to be. For example, we are spending nearly 68 per cent on programmes, 20 per cent on engineering and about 10 or 11 per cent on administration. Certainly, I am one of those who feel that there should be a reduction in the expenditure on administration. But, we are in this country just establishing our broadcasting. Secondly, we have also to remember that the B.B.C. has got one important station which is equal to 10 or 20 stations. We have got to run 20 stations. It is also not possible for us in this country to combine all the stations; otherwise, there will be a hue and cry. Regional stations will have to be there, and therefore, if there is a slightly greater expenditure on administration. I do not think we should consider it as unreasonable.

16 hrs.

I want to refer, though I have taken more time, to one or two important matters which had been mentioned by hon. Members here—the question of a corporation for All India Radio and the appointment of a commission. A number of hon. Members have mentioned this matter. This has come up many times on the floor of the House and we have discussed it quite at length. Broadly speaking, I have nothing new to add to that, but at the same time, in view of the fact that reference has been made again and again, I would like to repeat here very briefly the reasons why I consider that there is no case for making a corporation of the All India Radio today.

There is a misconception in the minds of certain hon. Members who think that because the Government is running this body, it should be taken away. They think that if it

is taken away from the Government, there will be no influence of Government on this, it will be run objectively and impartially. I think there cannot be a greater misconception. After all, if there is a corporation tomorrow, it will be a Government corporation, it will be run by Government, it will be controlled by Government. It would have to be carried out by the Government in most ways. But there is one big difference. Parliament will have nothing to do with it.

**Shri Kumaran:** Ultimate control will be with Parliament.

**Dr. Keskar:** Hon. Members themselves have been preaching on the floor of the House that we should not interfere with the working of autonomous corporations in their day to day activities.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** It is only Government which has said that, not the House.

**Shri Morarka (Jhunjhunu):** If Government is concerned, then automatically Parliament is concerned.

**Dr. Keskar:** It is concerned in this sense that the Government will have always a watch on every corporation, whatever might be its activities. It can control it where it considers it is not going in the right way. That right cannot be taken away because the Government is providing money for the purpose.

My point is, it should not be considered that the AIR by simply being made into a corporation will become something which will be away from Government, and therefore in very objective and impartial hands.

The second point is the objective and impartial people. My hon. friend Shri Goray quoted at length and he gave very interesting statistics regarding the B.E.C. The conditions in England and India are not the same. We cannot repeat what has

been done in England. There is a body of governors who are looking after it there. Here if we appoint the same sort of body, the hon. Member will see that the body will be accused of partisanship, of bias, this and that. Simply because broadcasting, as facts are today, as the position is today, is a very important medium, it can be utilised or used or misused for political purposes, for propaganda purposes, the state of parties being what it is in our country. We are not like England where the parties have got no basic differences. Their differences are not so deep as here where each one thinks that the other party must be finished or thrown out of the country. We differ to such an extent. To consider that we can find a body of men in this country who will be completely objective and impartial, and who will try to run it in an impartial way, is putting too great a burden on Government.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** Out of these 400 million people?

**Dr. Keskar:** Yes, Sir. Why 200—350 millions of people. Naturally, the hon. Member will consider X, Y or Z to be very impartial and objective. The Government might not consider him to be so, and there we are. I think if we keep the conditions in our country in view, the best thing is for the radio to be run directly by Government.

I will put the reasons forward. The reasons are: first of all, even if it is run by Government, it is directly under the control of Parliament. All its day to day activities are controlled by Parliament. Shri Goray was saying if it was a corporation, it would not be misused.

**Shri Goray:** Let me explain my self. I read out a passage in which the Beveridge Committee had said that there are built-in safeguards against the misuse of power. Have you got anything like that? That my question



**Dr. Keskar:** The best weapon is Parliament which will see, and which will bring the Government to book if the Government misuses the radio for any purpose. Even for small things happening on the radio, there are questions in Parliament, and Members take interest, but I am coming to other points. What I mean is that making a thing into a corporation is not liable automatically to make it not possible to be misused. It may be as well misused there, or it can be misused while here. But here, in my opinion, the chances are less, because there is direct control by Parliament on Government, on the working of the All India Radio, and therefore Parliament can on the floor of the House bring up any matter which they feel is being wrongly dealt with by the radio in its day to day activities, while, on the other hand, if it goes away, and only once in a year, for example, you have to discuss the work of the radio, it will not be such a strict control as you can have here.

The other point regarding Shri Goray's thesis about the commission is connected with this. He mentioned that there have been four commissions of inquiry dealing with the BBC. This is entirely true, but there have been commissions for the simple reason that the BBC is an autonomous corporation whose day to day working cannot be looked into by Parliament, and therefore there have to be commissions every two or three years, just as, if the Government wants to appoint, for example, in the LIC or any other corporation, they might appoint a commission of inquiry. But the All India Radio is a department of Government which is being controlled by Parliament directly. There are bodies appointed under the Constitution by Parliament which look regularly and periodically into the working of the All India Radio as they do in the case of other Government

departments—for example, the Estimates Committee and the Public Accounts Committee. Now, hon. Members might have seen that year before last the All India Radio was looked into by the Estimates Committee for four months. They went into the whole working, they appointed various sub-committees to look into the various aspects of radio, and they have presented a very big report, and a detailed report, to this House about the working of the All India Radio. They made more than 75 different recommendations as to what changes or improvements could be brought about.

**Shri Banga:** Is there any consultative committee of Parliament associated with your Ministry?

**Dr. Keskar:** Yes, there is a Programme Advisory Committee, a Central Programme Advisory Committee, which has got more than seven Members of Parliament on it.

My point is a Government department whose working is looked into day to day by Parliament does not need a commission of inquiry going into it, and I do not think it is necessary at all. Certainly, if tomorrow the AIR were to be made into a corporation, I agree with Shri Goray that there will have to be after two or three years a commission of inquiry to suggest ways and means of improving it or making it better. So, I do not think such a commission of inquiry is at all necessary for a body which is a Government department and whose working Parliament is looking into regularly for this purpose.

I do agree that hon. Members opposite especially are very critical because the Government is running the radio. I personally am not very happy that the Government has to run the radio, but as I said, what alternative is there? The alternative is, as I said, to give it to objective and impartial persons. Well, I am

not able to find out a body to which it could be given, because, it is to be remembered that this is a very important organisation, and as Shri Goray has rightly said, we should see that it is not misused. I think in the present conditions we cannot think of any better way than to have it directly day to day under the control and the nose of Parliament to see that it does not run badly, and Members can certainly bring up the matter on the floor of the House.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Minister should conclude now.

**Dr. Keskar:** Only five minutes.

The question of Radio Ceylon and Radio Goa which came up last year, is here again this time. We are told many times that Radio Goa, and more especially Radio Ceylon, is very popular and very powerful and we are not so popular, we are not functioning so well.

First of all, I do not agree with this contention. No doubt, I agree there are a large number of listeners of Radio Ceylon. Such listeners are found in the urban areas. Because we are as much interested that our radio becomes popular as any Member opposite can be, we have made an analysis and find that the largest number of people who want to listen to Radio Ceylon are the adolescents and children in families; the others are not so very fond of it. The main reason being that the advertisement quantum and some of the other bizarre things which have been found in it makes it more attractive to them. Now, I do not think that that should be an argument for us to turn our radio into something of that type in order to make it as popular as some people think it to be.

**An Hon. Member:** You should not do it.

**Dr. Keskar:** But I would submit to hon. Members, and more especially

to my hon. friend, Shri Goray, that the popularity of Radio Ceylon to which so much reference is made is not so great, and is highly exaggerated, because we must remember that large numbers of financial and advertising interests are at the back of it, and day in and day out, from Bombay, Calcutta and some other centres, commercial interests are dinning it into the minds of everybody that Radio Ceylon is very popular. And why? It is because some people want that the radio should be run on commercial lines and by private interests and should not be in the hands of a corporation like the BBC or of Government.

**Shri Goray:** Does the Minister understand me to mean that we should imitate Radio Ceylon? I did not say that.

**Dr. Keskar:** The hon. Member said it is more popular. I do not agree that it is so popular as it is made out. I agree that large numbers of people are listening to it, but the other point regarding Radio Ceylon that we have to remember is whether we want our broadcasts to maintain a certain standard or simply because somewhere else, some other organisations like Radio Ceylon, Radio Luxembourg or Radio Monaco or somebody else puts out stuff of that type or the commercial stations in the USA are also putting out that stuff, we should go on imitating them. I feel, and I am sure my hon. friend Shri Goray will agree with me, that we should try like the BBC, to which he made a reference, to keep up a certain standard and I do not think that we should try to imitate others.

But the problem has been exercising us as to how we can try to cater to the tastes of those of our listeners who want to have an alternative lighter type of programme, because everybody does not want to listen to serious things. But our main difficulty has been equipment, because to have alternative channels we must have large numbers of transmitters

[Dr. Keskar]

We have now been able to get, a few and that is how we have started about six months back the All-India Variety Programme, which already has made a very good start; and I am sure that after the trial and error of the first few months and years we shall be able to build it up on a bigger basis.

Some hon. Member from the South was saying that the All-India Variety Programme is in Hindi. Naturally, there will be a lot of Hindi in the All-India Variety Programme, but we certainly would like to have the southern version of the All-India Variety Programme, southern in the sense of being fully southern. At present, it has got a certain southern quantum. But that will come when we have got more transmitters. There appears to be a wrong impression prevailing in the south as such that the transmitter in Madras, 100 k.w. should be used for this programme. But hon. Members do not realise that an all-India programme of power cannot be put on only one transmitter; it must have two powerful transmitters in two different places; and until we get more transmitters it will not be possible to put through that programme. But I think that is a step in the right direction. And I am sure that we shall find our programmes becoming as popular as hon. Members would like them to be.

Lastly, I would like to draw the attention of hon. Members to the development of the radio at a glance. I make bold to claim that the All India Radio has been progressing steadily, and though it might not be as quick as we would like it to be, its progress has been continuous. For example, I would like hon. Members to see the total number of licences from 1947 to 1957. We began with 75,000, and then went up to 3,18,000. Then 4,08,000, 5,48,000, 6,85,000 and then up to 7,58,000. Every year, there is an increase of a lakh or more, sometimes one and a half lakhs. Of

course, that is not sufficient. Shri Goray was saying that there are seven million sets in the U.K. I agree. But the economic conditions in our country are different; our people cannot afford to have radio sets costing Rs. 200 and Rs. 250; in a country like this where newspapers are not able to have a higher circulation than 100,000 to say that the radio alone should be in millions is too much to ask. Can you tell me of even a cheap paper which sells more than 100,000 copies or so? Why not? Nobody is able to say anything to blame the newspapers, but every blame must be put on the radio for not expanding quickly!

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** The newspapers do not have circulation beyond that figure because of the lack of newsprint.

**Dr. Keskar:** I regret I do not agree with Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya, whatever he may say. I know of newspapers which have got all newsprint at their command, and which are not able to command, I am sorry to say, more circulation.

**Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly):** They are selling it in the blackmarket.

**Dr. Keskar:** But this fact is known to all people that our licences are going up by one lakh or a little more every year. My point is that the radio is the only one which is steadily increasing its licences, and in view of the economic standard in our country, it is not possible to expect it to expand more quickly. I would like to add that probably with cheaper sets it might be possible for use....

**Shri Ranga:** That is the point.

**Dr. Keskar:** . . . to do that, and a move can be made in that direction. If I had more time, I would have said about cheaper radio sets. But I do agree that a cheaper radio set is the direction in which we should go.

in order to see that the radio expands more quickly, and in that way also, have a wider network. I am optimistic in that direction.

**Shri Sonavane (Sholapur—Reserved—Sch. Castes):** We want to know about the reduction of the licence fee and the cheap radio.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well, next year.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** You mean the reply or the reduction of the licence fee?

**Mr. Speaker:** God willing.

**Some Hon. Members:** What about cheap radio sets? What about the other points?

**Mr. Speaker:** There are many things. Some of the things are, of course, allowed to lie over.

I shall now put the cut motions to vote.

*The cut motions were put and negatived.*

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

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 66, 67, 68 and 123 relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.”

*The motion was adopted.*

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

**DEMAND No. 66—MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 12,37,000 be granted to the

President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of ‘Ministry of Information and Broadcasting’.

**DEMAND No. 67—BROADCASTING**

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,67,58,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of ‘Broadcasting’.

**DEMAND No. 68—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,06,27,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of ‘Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting’.”

**DEMAND No. 123—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON BROADCASTING**

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,97,62,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of ‘Capital Outlay on Broadcasting’.”

**MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demands Nos. 72, 73, 74 and 126 relating to the Ministry of Labour and Employment for which 6 hours have been allotted.