

Mr. Speaker: Now, I shall put all the cut motions to the vote of the House.

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 Demand Nos.—99, 100 and 137 relating to the Department of Atomic Energy.

The motion was adopted.

(The Motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.)

DEMAND NO. 99—DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,32,000 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 'Department of Atomic Energy'".

DEMAND NO. 100—ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,03,23,000 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 'Atomic Energy Research'".

DEMAND NO. 137—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,75,75,000 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 of the Department of Atomic Energy'".

MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demands Nos. 78, 79 and 127 relating to the Ministry of Rehabilitation for which 5 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.

Hon. Members are already aware of the time-limit for speeches.

Motion moved:—

DEMAND NO. 78—MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 37,08,000 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 Rehabilitation'".

DEMAND NO. 79—EXPENDITURE ON DISPLACED PERSONS AND MINORITIES

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 18,77,56,000 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 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities'".

**DEMAND NO. 127—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF  
THE MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 19,25,00,000 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 of the Ministry of Rehabilitation'".

**Shri Sadhan Gupta** (Calcutta-East): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall confine myself mostly to the problem of East Bengal Refugees, and if I have time I shall have something to say about certain problems of the West Pakistan refugees also.

Sir, I had my roots in East Bengal until the other day, true not my economic roots but a deep sentimental attachment which is natural to one's home, one's village. And, through that connection and frequent visits to my village home I know something of the problem of the present refugees and their psychology.

From my knowledge of their psychology and their problems, I should like to say, with the fullest responsibility, that it is a matter of great regret that the Government lack the essential which is necessary for a satisfactory solution of the problem of rehabilitation. Sir, I am not talking at present of the Government's moral obligation, which no Government of our country can deny to these refugees on account of their great contribution to our struggle for freedom. I am not even referring to the great contribution they have made to the economy of West Bengal after they have come down to West Bengal from their homes. But I am referring to the first essential, the elementary sympathy which is lacking in the Government.

What is necessary, Sir, is a human approach, a sympathetic approach to the problem. Instead of that, we find all kinds of slanders, all kinds of allegations against refugees and

against those who are presumed to guide them in their struggle for rehabilitation.

We, Members of Parliament, are flooded with papers which give ample evidence of the unsympathetic attitude. The papers have said how the refugees have become a burden on West Bengal, how the refugees in camps are being better treated than the average man in our country. figures are given to show that Rs. 125 per month is being spent on a camp refugee family of five units, while the corresponding figure in the case of the average man in India is only Rs. 105. It is also stated how refugees flock to Sealdah Station—allegedly in the hope of earning certain rehabilitation benefits.

Sir, much as my temptation is to refute all these charges in detail, I shall refrain from doing so because I do not have a Minister's time to do it. I do not have even the time to advert to these charges except to deny that these charges are really not true. These charges spring out of a refusal to see the proper things, the refusal to see the proper conditions of the refugees and the proper motives which guide them in their actions.

As an example of the absurdity which these charges imply, I shall only give an illustrative instance of refutation—the question of the refugees in Sealdah. If any one sees the squalor, misery and inhuman conditions in which the Sealdah refugees are living, it would be idle to say that they are there for earning rehabilitation benefits, because no Sealdah refugee even got any benefits and they cannot be expected to have rehabilitation benefits. Yet, they flock to Sealdah from the camps, where they are supposed to be well treated, where Rs. 125 per family is supposed to be given. That they do abandoning all hopes of doles which they are supposed to be so magnanimously given in the camps. That is as much time as I have to refute these slanders against the refugees.

This is the position. There is no sympathy, as we find from the papers circulated to us. Is it any wonder that in the practical application of this attitude disasters occur as far as the rehabilitation of refugees is concerned? What is the attitude adopted? It is somehow to get rid of them, somehow to wash the Government's hands off them by sending them to some places and let rehabilitation take care of itself. Today an agitation is going on in West Bengal against this kind of rehabilitation. The Government is trying to send, for example, the refugees in Bankura District for rehabilitation in Rajasthan. On refusal, they stop their doles. They tell them, in effect, "Go and cultivate lands in Rajasthan or starve here". That is what they say. This is the story in Bankura District. There is a similar story in every other District. Not only for Rajasthan; in some cases it may be Bihar, in some cases Orissa, in some cases Madhya Pradesh and so on.

14.16 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Dandakaranya is also in the offing although it has not yet featured as a rehabilitation site. Against this kind of attitude the agitation proceeds and the Government brands that agitation as political; it ascribes motives to those who lead the agitation against this kind of rehabilitation. I am coming to Dandakaranya later on; but how about the rest of India where rehabilitation is sought to be given—Bihar, Orissa, or Rajasthan for the matter of that?

This idea of rehabilitation outside West Bengal is not a new idea; it has not been mooted for the first time. As a matter of fact, ever since refugees started coming in large numbers the attempt was to send them out of West Bengal. The experience of those days have been woeful. There has been large-scale desertion—let us not forget that. Even in those days when the refugees deserted, it was said that

they deserted because although they had full rehabilitation they did not want to do any work; they deserted on account of certain political motives. Those were the allegations made in those days.

But, after that, in 1954 the problem was thoroughly scrutinised by a Committee of Ministers consisting of the then Finance Minister, Shri C. D. Deshmukh, the then Rehabilitation Minister—who is now the Food Minister—Shri Jain and the Chief Minister of West Bengal, Dr. B. C. Roy. What does the Committee of Ministers say in their report? Sir, I am quoting:

"The rehabilitation of East Bengal displaced persons in States outside West Bengal has presented several difficulties and we are convinced that except in respect of Andamans the efforts in this direction will not yield any substantial results. We have, therefore, to find ways and means of re-settling these persons in West Bengal."

Then the Report adds:

"After some time desertions from Bihar and Orissa have been heavy mainly because of the marked reluctance on the part of displaced persons to be rehabilitated in States outside West Bengal where conditions are different from what they have been used to, and greater effort is necessary to make such schemes a success. Experience has shown that large-scale rehabilitation of East Bengal refugees in these States is not possible. And we do not think the question should be further pursued".

That is the categorical statement of the Committee of Ministers. So, what can be cleared up? It is a complete condemnation of such rehabilitation plans, that is to say, rehabilitation plans which presuppose the sending of refugee population outside West Bengal for rehabilitation. It is a com-

[Shri Sadhan Gupta]

plete vindication of the desertions. It says:

"We are convinced that except in respect of Andamans, efforts in this direction will not yield any substantial results".

It further says:

"Experience has shown that large-scale rehabilitation of East Bengal refugees in those States, that is to say, in the States of Bihar and Orissa, is not possible and we do not think that the question should be further pursued".

Now, if this is the rehabilitation potential in Bihar and Orissa, can the rehabilitation potential in Madhya Pradesh be any better, or, can rehabilitation potential in Rajasthan be any better? If Rajasthan contains so much fertile land that the East Bengal agriculturists can go and eke out their living there, why do gentlemen from Rajasthan come out and spread themselves all over India in search of their fortune and why do some of them try to make their fortunes by selling spurious shares to the Life Insurance Corporation? To this, the reply of the hon. Minister is, "Well, all that was said was said three years ago." Three years have passed today. There are new circumstances. There is considerable influx of displaced persons and all that, and there will be others perhaps. All that may be true; there may be considerable influx, but how does it improve the rehabilitation potential in Bihar, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh or Rajasthan? That is the question. About this has any explanation been given so far?

The Committee of three responsible Ministers had scrutinised it. How does it change owing to these circumstances? How does Rajasthan now become suitable, not to speak of Bihar and Orissa? If large-scale rehabilitation was not possible in Bihar and Orissa it follows that after the influx a lar-

ger-scale rehabilitation is certainly not possible.

Now, I come to the Dandakaranya scheme which is supposed to be a panacea. We and the Ministry are not far from the seat of a once renowned emperor who had schemes of a very peculiar kind—I mean Muhammad Tughlak. This Dandakaranya scheme seems to have all the inspiration of Tughlak in it. All the aspects do not seem to have been considered, and the Government seem to be recklessly hastening into a scheme which does not, in view of what has been said regarding this area, seem to promise any scope for rehabilitation of the refugee agriculturists.

Shri Braj Rai Singh (Firozabad): They are not themselves going there.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: The proposed rehabilitation site in Dandakaranya is a plateau of between 1,500 and 3,000 feet in the Eastern Ghats region. I emphasise the words Eastern Ghats region as I will refer to certain official documents—as Shri Khanna is very fond of official documents—regarding the Eastern Ghats region. The Balimela area has been selected as the initial site for rehabilitation. This place is 140 miles from the nearest rail-head Salur, and the road runs through the heart of a jungle country which is infested with tigers, wild buffaloes and bison. The nearest stream is one and a half miles away. Drinking water has to be collected from a spring behind the forest shed and while collecting drinking water,—please mark that—the villagers blow palm-leaf horns to scare away the wild animals. Surely this is not an ideal rehabilitation site for refugee families. I can understand that adventurous pioneers may be attracted to it; refugee pioneers may be attracted to it but who would consent to take families there with their women and children and expose them to the depredations of wild animals? Surely, you cannot clear all this dense forest in a day and drive away all the wild animals. Our experience is that when a dense forest is removed in a very short time, the wild animals carry

in their depredations inside the villages which are constructed. It is said that official shikarees would be appointed. I wonder what the shikarees can do when so many wild animals are at large.

Then, there are no communications. As I said, the nearest railway is 140 miles away. An all-weather road is proposed to be constructed but unless an all-weather road is cheap and frequent transport facilities are guaranteed, the refugees are not likely to take to it. Who will go to a place from where they cannot come out at all? Even Malkangiri which is the headquarters of the taluk and which is a much bigger town than Balimela is not served by a regular bus service today, and I do not know whether a regular bus service can be provided. Even if it is provided, I do not know whether the fare can be economic enough for the refugees to come and go from that place. Nothing short of a railway can open up that area, and it is not before six years that a railway will come into existence. But apart from this, the value of the site itself is doubtful. I am not carrying on a malicious propaganda. I want to quote chapter and verse from official documents. The other day, Shri Khanna quoted from an official document, a West Bengal document, a press note, obviously motivated by political considerations. But I am quoting some other official documents which Shri Khanna will not perhaps dispute, because he is so fond of official documents.

The Gazetteer of Koraput district which was published in 1941 refers to Malkangiri taluk. It says:

"Generally speaking the soil is of very poor quality and after the forest has been cut out and the natural humus has been subjected to the withering heat of two or three summers, there is very little virtue left in it".

Then, the 1951 Census report of Orissa, Part I, says:

"No information is available regarding the extent of scouring

of the soil, the extent of erosion by action of wind, the loss of tonnage of soil per acre of cultivated area, the acreage of ravine land formed due to erosion" and so on.

Even in the absence of such information, there is no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that soil erosion has been going on on account of such reasons as the formation of fissures and nullahs. Then what follows is important:

"Over-grazing and extension of cultivation, the extraction of stumps and roots and the destruction of forests and scrub jungle done in the interest of intensive cultivation scheme or grow more food campaign expose the bare land to the quick work of water and wind, with the result that the top-soil which is generally fertile is lost".

Now, that is exactly what is going to happen on a larger scale. Stumps will have to be rooted out and the forest will have to be cleared, because it is no longer a mere grow more food scheme. It is a question of settlement of thousands of refugees and tribesmen.

Then the report goes on to mention about the inland division, and particularly the Eastern Ghats region. The Eastern Ghats region is the region where Dandakaranya lies or at least where the site of rehabilitation lies. The reports says:

"The problem, however, is different in the inland division."

It is about the problem of erosion.

"The problem, however, is different in the inland division, particularly in the Eastern Ghats region. Where the steeply inclined hill slopes and the undulating surface soils are subjected to rapid erosion by heavy rainfall and stream activity, this again is aggravated by deforestation".

[Shri Sadhan Gupta]

Deforestation is a very significant phenomenon in Dandakaranya. The Kaya hill tribes there practise shifting cultivation which results in an extensive deforestation. From all this evidence of official reports, it is quite likely that the soil would erode in no time. The top soil would wear away; the fertility would be lost and the result would be that thousands of refugees will have to trek back to West Bengal and cause a much greater waste of public expenditure than has happened now. These things and more do not seem to have been considered by the Government and they are rushing headlong into the scheme, which does not seem to be a feasible scheme so far as agriculture is concerned. Still, if the refugees hesitate and if we stand for them, we are accused of political motives. We can assure the Minister and everyone who thinks that way that our roots among the people of West Bengal are too deep to need any claptrap of that kind. We can say that among the refugees in particular, our roots are very deep because we have not been with them for the first time when they came. We have been with them ever since they have been in East Bengal and therefore, we do not need to win them over by any such device.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Is he concluding? He must conclude if another Member of his party is to speak. Two other Members from his party have expressed their desire to speak. If he is the only speaker, he may continue.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** Mrs. Chakravarty is not here. I am the only speaker.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Mr. Nayar also wanted to speak.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** If there is time left, he may speak. I demand with all the sense of responsibility and with all the emphasis in my command to approach this whole problem with a sympathetic and humane approach. You must understand that it is natural for East Bengal refugees to remain in West Bengal; there is nothing unnatural in that. But they are not averse

to going out of West Bengal if the possibility of rehabilitation in West Bengal is exhausted.

The Committee of Ministers in 1954 recommended emphasis on land reclamation in West Bengal for the purpose of rehabilitation of refugees there. But suddenly in the cool heights of Darjeeling they effected a change to say that the emphasis should be on rehabilitation outside West Bengal. They do not consult the refugees; they do not consult other political parties who are among them or other organisations working among them; they do not consult even this House and they make this change and try to enforce it. What has happened to the recommendation about land reclamation? Why is it not feasible today to abide by that recommendation?

From what I know, there are 10 lakhs acres of land in West Bengal which are uncultivated. We want to know how much of it is available for cultivation of food crops or cash crops. We need not grow only paddy for rehabilitation. We can set up cotton cultivation; we can set up sisal-grass cultivation; we can set up sabai grass cultivation. All that can rehabilitate the refugees. What will be done to carry out the directions of the committee of Ministers? We want a satisfactory answer and not merely an *ipse dixit* saying that it is not possible or it has been found to be impossible. For instance, it has been admitted, I understand, that at least 2 lakhs of acres are available in West Bengal today for cultivation. I understand also that if a proper Kangsabati project is set afoot, that alone would irrigate 250,000 acres in Bankura and Midnapur districts. If even half of this land is utilised, a large portion of the agricultural refugees can be rehabilitated in West Bengal. The other way of rehabilitating them is, of course, by the promotion and development of industries—large-scale, medium-scale, small-scale and cottage industries. What is being done

about it? So far as I know, over Rs. 100 crores have been spent, but what has come out of it? Most of it has gone down the drain through official corruption, nepotism, etc. Loans have been given in many cases to non-refugees. Sometimes loans have been given to refugees in small instalments and by the time the second instalment is given, the first instalment is eaten up. This is the way money is wasted. If you rationalise the spending, you can help in promoting and developing industries of all kinds—small-scale, medium-scale, large-scale and cottage industries and you can create employment for the entire displaced population in camps and perhaps many more can be rehabilitated than are in the camps. What is needed is some seriousness and not an attitude of somehow getting rid of them in Rajasthan or some other place where agricultural conditions are entirely different from what they are used to and then deriving the profound satisfaction that the problem of their rehabilitation has been solved.

If you want to develop Dandakaranya, I feel the only scope of development of Dandakaranya seems to be as an industrial and mining centre and not much as an agricultural centre. But whatever way you want to develop it, do it through volunteers. If displaced persons volunteer, get those volunteers. But do not force them on the point of starvation and ruin to go to Dandakaranya or Rajasthan or to any other place. Explore all avenues of resettlement in West Bengal and if it is found impossible after a genuine attempt, then the refugees themselves would be too glad to go elsewhere where other rehabilitation facilities may be given. If you proceed this way, the solution will be easy. Otherwise, you cannot expect the refugees to accept your dispensations and you cannot accept us, political parties in West Bengal, to look on with equanimity while you send them far away to their destruction.

I have something to say on certain aspects of West Pakistan refugees. There is the question of allotment of houses. I understand that in many cases, the Government are profiteering in the allotment of houses. For instance in the Chembur colony in Bombay, I understand the Government has purchased land at Re. 1 per square yard and now in calculating the value of the property, they are charging Rs. 15 per square yard. This kind of profiteering should not be the Government. Again, the rules providing for the transfer of tenements are absolutely impossible for poor refugees. For example, it is said that they are required to pay 20 per cent of the price cash down and 20 per cent of the arrears of rent. Arrears of rent have accumulated in many cases due principally to the fact that rent has been on many occasions enhanced with retrospective effect. That is the difficulty which the refugees feel. Then, the rest of the money is to be paid in 7 years. Even in the case of low income group people, the price is realised in 20 years, whereas for the refugees who are much worse off, and who are undoubtedly in the low income group, it is realised in 7 years.

Then there is the question of the Faridabad Development Board. In the Faridabad Development Board, I understand that the Chairman and the Secretary of the Board are related to one another and the result is that they administer the Board as they like.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** I certainly object to an insinuation of that nature. I am the Minister in charge and I take full responsibility for every decision taken.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** You can answer.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** That is not proper. The officers cannot defend themselves here. You can say anything about the policy that has been laid down by the Ministry and I take full responsibility for that.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** No reference must be made against the officers as the Minister is here to take responsibility for the decisions taken by the officers.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** I understand that the Faridabad Development Board, in granting the scales of pay and dearness allowance to its employees, follows the principle of "heads I win; tails you lose". Where the Central Government scale of wages is higher than the Punjab Government scale, it gives the Punjab Government scale. If the Punjab Government scale of dearness allowance is higher than the Central Government scale, it gives the Central Government scale. Although they are Government servants, for all practical purposes they do not receive the same scales of pay or dearness allowance. And the greatest anomaly is that the officers pay for their houses 10 per cent or the standard rent, whichever is less. For the ordinary employees, they have to pay the standard rent, although it is more than 10 per cent. Then, in the matter of hire for furniture also, the officers are charged at a lower rate.

Lastly, regarding the allotment of shops in the Sarojini Market, I understand that the excuse given for not allotting the shops to the present allottees is that the land on which it stands belongs to the Works, Housing and Supply Ministry. Is that an excuse? Can't the two Ministries settle it between themselves when it is the same Government? It is certainly possible for the Works, Housing and Supply Ministry to transfer the land to the Rehabilitation Ministry and thereby do justice to the refugees.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri (Nabadwip):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, the Rehabilitation Ministry has done a Herculean job; although bitter criticisms have been levelled against it even in West Bengal recently, yet I will say that lacuna happens in all administrations. Some of the criticisms perhaps may be justified in some cases, but, on the whole, one must say that the Rehabilitation Ministry has done something that is unprecedented in the world, because the number of

refugees that have come to India was also unprecedented. The refugees have fled from East Pakistan to West Bengal, devoid of all. As the previous speaker has stated, they have come devoid of all, therefore, it is bound to create a certain amount of economic problem to Bengal. At the same time, once they have been accepted by Bengal, they have also done something towards the betterment of Bengal. They have established some productive units and improved the economy of Bengal as much as they possibly could.

Just now the speaker opposite has said that sympathy is wanting and that they have been treated as a burden. The Government has not shown any pack there. If you look at the agitation that has gone on in Calcutta and round about Calcutta, what is it that you find? There are 32 lakhs of refugees in Bengal. Out of this, the total number of displaced persons in camps in West Bengal is 2.61 lakhs. Hence, it is not as if all the displaced persons are agitating. Only 2.61 lakhs people are agitating; not all. And I will say as a responsible citizen—I have seen it with my own eyes—that the refugees are being exploited with promises that cannot be fulfilled, because Bengal has reached saturation point, exploited with hopes that this will be done or that will be done if they hold hunger marches, women exploited and made to agitate with their babies in their hands. Who have treated the boys that have died in the heat of the sun or who have caught illness? Not the people who have exploited them, not the people who have incited them. It is the passers-by, it is the people who saw these things happening that came and gave them some relief.

If the refugees do not want to go out of Bengal, there are many reasons. The administration is there; various things have to be settled in these camps. People who have settled there do not want these camps to be dissolved. Then, if the administration is wound up, perhaps, other jobs will have to be found for them.



Having said that the refugees do not want to go, there are one or two things which I want to bring to the notice of the Ministry. The Dandakaranya Scheme is, of course, a good one, although the member opposite has asked: is it the only panacea? Though it is not a panacea, it is certainly some sort of remedy. When saturation point has been reached in regard to land, when refugees cannot be settled there, if you take the refugees to other States, wherever you put them, naturally you will have to displace the other people and consequently their economy will also suffer. The people in those places will say: here are our boys who could not find jobs, but all those refugee boys who come from other places are given employment. But in the Dandakaranya Scheme you will be clearing places, virgin soil where you will hardly have to displace anybody to acquire land for rehabilitation of refugees.

But I find that Shri Fletcher, the Chief Administrator, has said that Dandakaranya Scheme cannot be ready before next October. Till that time, all that is possible must be done for them, because till next October they cannot be left to die. Whatever is possible must be done for them when Shri Fletcher comes to Calcutta and other places to recruit people for the scheme. There is one thing which I would like to point out to the Minister. Our trained boys and young men should be given preference in going to Dandakaranya to do the work, because Shri Fletcher said that he does not wish to have contractors. He wishes to get the work done by co-operative societies. So, here one channel of employment can be found for the refugees at once and I hope this will be considered when the Dandakaranya scheme is taken up.

The problem is a colossal one. There is no doubt about it. Even Dr. R. Norris Wilson from USA, when he saw our refugee problem, said that he has seen nothing like this anywhere else in the world. So, you will

realise that what has to be done has to be done quickly. The agitation that has recently started will not really help the refugees; nor will the heart-burning of the Government help the refugees. We have to get along with the schemes as quickly as possible.

I have personally seen the position in various places, particularly in my own district. I have come to the Minister time and again for many things. I wanted help from the Minister in so many matters. And I have always seen the Minister showing human sympathy in all such matters. I have seen him visiting so many women's camps.

I find from the little booklet that you have circulated that you are giving some aid to the municipalities in West Bengal, particularly in Nadia. But I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the case of the Shantipur and Nabadwip municipalities where there is a large concentration of refugees. I do not think that any grant has been envisaged for Shantipur and Nabadwip. I hope it will be considered when the question of next allotment comes.

There is one thing which I wish to emphasize here.

The border raids have increased lately. In February there have been as many as 36 such raids. It is practically two a day sometimes and people live in a condition of instability and terror, caused by dacoities and thefts. There are refugee concentrations even in the border area of Nadia, as I hope the House knows, and when the refugees are made to feel unstable you can realise the demoralisation and the sense of agitation and fear. Therefore I will say that the first thing to stabilise the atmosphere is to try and put up small industries there as quickly as possible so that the atmosphere for employment and stability may quickly grow. There are refugee colonies there but the main difficulty

[Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri]

is that they have no means of employment. There I will also say that since the main difficulty is the want of employment, there should be no two opinions about the Dandakaranya Scheme because this is the only scheme which is really going to help the refugees to find employment.

About stopping of migration or sealing of borders if there has been such talks I am very sorry because I do not think that any thing has been said about the sealing of borders but there has been more strict visas and permits have not been granted. We have said that henceforth all people who come to India will be treated as people who come from other countries and find rehabilitation for themselves. But can we say so? Can we really take this attitude? Let us put forward the Dandakaranya scheme and that will automatically solve this problem even if more refugees come. Only about four years ago India had to take some responsibility for refugees who migrated from the Central Asian area of the U.S.S.R. So how can India today say that she will not extend her hand to her own brothers? That is not possible and I hope that the Dandakaranya Scheme will really prove a panacea and a real solution.....

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

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: May I have two more minutes? Because it will surely show that that is the only scheme that can really help the refugees and agitation and hunger marches will not. The Dandakaranya Scheme, when it comes through, should be put in such a way that it is made attractive. Shri Fletcher, the Chief Administrator, has himself said that unless all arrangements are ready to take in the refugees, he is not going to take a single person there. There should be no false propaganda about this. That which is unjust can really profit no one, but that which is just can really harm no one. Justice, in every case,

should be tempered with sympathy and human understanding and the Dandakaranya Scheme, when it comes through, will not only be just and tempered with sympathy but it will also mean adventure and all hon. Members of Parliament and the whole Government will be with the refugees who go there. They will not be there alone. They will have adventure and endeavour on their side and the whole country and the Members of Parliament will see to it that their wants are satisfied, the whole cross-section goes there and they do not feel isolated and that a little Bengal is created there so that they may not feel displaced in any way.

There are one or two small grievances, which I would like to bring to the notice of the Ministry. One is that large tracts have been acquired in West Bengal for rehabilitation and for three or four years I had been corresponding in the matter but the Government, if it is going to have watertight compartments, I cannot help it,—has replied that the land was acquired by the Eastern Command. If the Defence Ministry has done this and people have not got compensation or anything for their lands up to now, it is very hard and conditions in Nadia, particularly in Dhololia and Amghata—and there are one or two others, I would bring particularly to the notice of the hon. Minister as compensation has been given only to Carew & Co. and nobody else has got it uptill now.....

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: May I, through you, request the hon. Member to bring it up when the Demands of Defence Ministry come up?

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: I realise that. I have mentioned that myself that if the compartments are watertight, I am helpless. But refugees have been settled there. True, the Defence Ministry acquired the land but the poor peasant does not get anything. I have a letter here to say,

"We get answers to letters, but no money." So, that is one thing which I would request the Ministry to look into and treat the problem with every sympathy and consideration. I am sure that with his help and with his great vision this scheme will go through and the refugees will not suffer.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya** (West Dinajpur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir I am alarmed to find a report in the newspapers today that the Ministry of Rehabilitation is going to be wound up by October next and even a berth has been suggested for the hon. Minister-in-charge. The impression in popular mind will be that the Government takes into consideration only the resettlement of the refugees of West Pakistan and the problem of East Pakistan is not given so much importance, (Interruption).

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member might be allowed to proceed.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** I hope the hon. Minister-in-charge will deny that report and give the much needed reassurance to the people that refugees of East Bengal are going to have his continued attention as long as they require it and as long as the Government is in, a position to extend it to them.

Of course, the question of refugees touches a very delicate chord in all hearts. It is a human problem and a distressing problem. These people are the unfortunate victims of an unexpected reversal of fate and have now become the more unfortunate pawns in the game on a political chessboard. That is my grievance and that is what I deplore.

Sir, There is a saying in Sanskrit:

“मित्रम् व्यसनं सम्पाप्तम्  
स्वस्थानम् परपर्यङ्कितम् ।  
धन्यास्ते ये न पश्यन्ति  
देशभंगम् क्लृप्तम् ॥”

"Blessed are those who do not see their own land turned to foreign domi-

nation, who do not see their near ones suffering from distress, who do not see the breaking up of their country and who do not see the destruction of their race." All these mistortunes have fallen to the lot of these people. Therefore they deserve sympathy, not only sympathy but as I have already stated, continued consideration for as long a period as they may require it.

One thing I would suggest—I take the cue from the previous speaker, Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury—that the boarders of India have got to be kept open for them for an indefinite period. On that point the Government must be clear in its mind and we want to impress it upon them that there must be no question and no thought of sealing the frontiers or taking any step to stop their coming over to India when they find it necessary. That must not be done and this must be accepted as a policy. When they come, they come not as rich beggars but they bring with them human material which, if properly utilised, can add to the national progress and to social progress as well. That is a point which I hope the Ministry will take into consideration. We want them to prosper. We want them to be resettled in the normal social life and to get out of the epithet 'refugee' as early as possible. We want them to be normal social beings with ourselves and not to be characterised as refugees for very long. That is my position. They must become normal citizens of India and not be classified as refugees and put in a certain water-tight compartment. That is a point which also has to be taken into consideration. And what I say, I say with the object of having them resettled in the social life of the country as quickly as possible. That is why I have supported their settlement in the Dandakaranya scheme, and I do support it now.

15.00 hrs.

So far as the question of taking them out of West Bengal is concerned, I

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may say something from my own experience. If I remember aright, as far back as 1952 there was a meeting in the University Institute of Calcutta, organised by the refugee organisations. In that meeting Dr. Syama Prasad was the President and Dr. Meghnad Saha moved the resolution in the interest of the refugees. I was present there. I was called upon to address the meeting. As far back as that time a resolution was adopted by that conference that the refugees who have come to West Bengal might be resettled in areas contiguous to West Bengal. The position was accepted that their resettlement in West Bengal was not wholly possible, therefore they have got to go outside. West Bengal Of course, the limitation was there in the resolution—I remember it even now—that the areas must be contiguous to West Bengal. Whether that is possible or not is to be considered now. In any case the position was accepted at that time, with Dr. Syama Prasad as the President and Dr. Meghnad Saha as the mover of the main resolution, that they might have to go out of West Bengal for their resettlement.

Recently I was present, as a visitor, in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly when the resolution of no confidence in the Ministry was being moved. Dr. P. C. Ghosh, for a long time a Congress leader and also a member of the Working Committee but now a leader of the P.S.P. (*An Hon. Member*: And *ex-Chief Minister*) and also *ex-Chief Minister* of West Bengal, seconded the resolution. And in his speech he made it clear that he was not opposed to the refugees going outside West Bengal. He stated it clearly. It was published in the papers and it may be found in the reports in the newspapers if any one is anxious to find it out. That is the position that has been accepted even by parties in opposition to the Government.

Therefore, my submission is that this question must be considered and decided with a rational mind, with a point of view that should take into consideration the interest of the refugees

as a whole, and not temporary expedients that might suit this party or that party, or that might be in the interest of some party for gaining advantages over the Government in a certain difficult condition.

But the main question, as I have stated in the beginning which I shall repeat, is this that these refugees must be settled in normal life as soon and as quickly as possible; and for that the Government has to accept a liability which, I think, they ought not to try to limit by any way or any process now. They ought to accept it as something like an unlimited liability till this class, which has come to us to be known as refugees, is completely integrated in the society and they become normal social beings as we are and become full-fledged citizens of India as we ourselves are.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadl (Ludhiana):  
Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I shall limit myself to the problems of the displaced persons from West Pakistan. I quite appreciate the enormity of the problem that confronts the Rehabilitation Ministry in regard to the refugees from East Pakistan. But that does not mean that the problem pertaining to the refugees from West Pakistan has been solved. Therefore I take strong exception to what has been stated in the Report for 1957-58 that the rehabilitation problem of the refugees from West Pakistan has been nearly solved.

There must be some tests from which we should judge whether this problem has been solved or not. Obviously, there can be three tests from which we should see the problem: Firstly, whether the refugees from West Pakistan have been given their dues, or what they are entitled to in accordance with the rules of the scheme which the Rehabilitation Ministry has framed; secondly, whether they have been put on avocations where they can have a security of living as every citizen of India is entitled to; and, thirdly, whether they have got a roof to live under.

If from these tests we see the problem of the refugees from West Pakistan, I would submit that this problem is as alive and as active today as it ever was, and it requires all the attention, sympathy and consideration as it was entitled to a few years back. Applying the three tests which I have mentioned, let us look at the figures which the Report gives.

The total number of claimants having verified claims, according to the report, is 4,60,000. And how many have been paid by now? (These figures are up to 31st January, 1958.) Leaving aside the highest priority claimants who have been satisfied to the extent of 82 per cent, or other priority claimants who have been satisfied to the extent of 65 to 67 per cent, we have yet a very large number of claimants in the general category and other claimants who have not been satisfied even to the extent of fifty per cent. In the case of general categories, the total number of claimants is 1,56,000 and a little more, while 70,000 have been paid off, which comes only to about fifty per cent. In the case of the other claimants who are not entitled to any cash payments but who must take property by open auction, out of 2,38,000 only 1,12,000 have been paid off, that is less than fifty per cent. Taking the entire total, it is conceded that there are two lakhs claimants who have to be paid off.

Not only that. The total pool, according to the Rehabilitation Ministry, comprises Rs. 100 crores. According to their own figures, only Rs. 19 crores has been yet auctioned or adjusted against the claims. And that also includes those properties which have been auctioned on competition, at twice or thrice the reserve price. So the Rehabilitation Ministry have got on their hands near-about Rs. 81 crores of accumulated property of the pool which has yet to be distributed to the claimants and given to the displaced persons. This is in relation to the claimants who have verified claims.

Leaving that aside, let us see the conditions of the agriculturist class. According to the report here, again,

we have the figure of the total number of agricultural allottees which is 4:77 lakhs in Punjab. Only 2:49 lakhs, which again comes to nearly 50 per cent have been given permanent rights and half the number are yet to be given permanent rights even in half the number are yet to be given permanent rights even in Punjab. Still, it is said that rehabilitation work is over and the Rehabilitation Ministry, so far as West Pakistan is concerned, should be liquidated.

Taking another figure, only 19,353 rural houses have been allotted. The claimants who have been given land, you will find, are 2:49 lakhs. How many have not been given rural houses, the report does not show. This clearly shows that their number must be very colossal. Because, the latest number is nearly 4½ lakhs and the rural houses that have been allotted,—only a cover or shelter—are only about 20,000. Where do the rest go? What has happened to them?

Taking another figure to which I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Rehabilitation, there are 56,000 persons who have been settled outside Punjab on 5:63 lakh acres of land. Out of them, I find, only 2:38 lakh acres have been permanently settled. Here again, permanent rights have been given to a half and a half remains yet to be given.

I would not like to deal further with this point except to say that this does not include the colossal problem of Kashmir refugees which still faces the Rehabilitation Ministry. About 150,000 people have been displaced from the territories of India which are now in the occupation of Pakistan. These people are not being given any rights, any grants simply because of the plea that that land is still India's land and as such, they are not entitled to any permanent rights. They have spread out. Some of them have been sent to Ganganagar; some have been given land in Kashmir. Most of the land in Kashmir, I am told, is in the occupation of unauthorised persons—land which should have gone to the dis-

[Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi]

placed persons. Only 5,000 families were given economic units of 8 acres of wet land or 12 acres of dry land. Leaving aside these 5,000 families, the rest have been settled only on 1 or 2 acres, which cannot be considered to be an economic unit sufficient for the living of the refugee families which have been settled there. The problem of displaced persons from Kashmir is also as acute and as alive as any other problem. I do not understand why it is not being dealt with in the manner in which the problem of the refugees from West Pakistan has been dealt with. Simply to remain with the idea that some time later, we may be able to have that occupied area to ourselves is a dream. You cannot go to war; you are not going to war; we should not go to war. The problem that pertains to Kashmir should be taken into consideration. I am sure some hon. Member from Kashmir will take up this problem—I hope my sister Shrimati Krishna Mehta will take it up—in all its seriousness with the Minister of Rehabilitation.

Leaving aside the figures which I have mentioned that only Rs. 19 crores worth of property has been distributed and Rs. 81 crores worth still remains to be distributed, let us see the figures regarding composite property which the report itself gives. We have got up to 31-12-57 285,907 composite properties listed for the purpose of examination, besides other claims. Out of this 27,822 were urban properties and 2,44,703 were rural properties. The total figure is 2,85,907 urban and rural properties that have been listed for examination. So far, the Rehabilitation Ministry has decided only 1,22,410 properties that are on the list, leaving half of the work still behind. Besides, you have got more than 22,000 people in the infirmaries and other Homes. How can you say, with all these figures, with all this work that is yet to be done, with all these persons who have to be rehabilitated and provided an avocation, with all these people who have to be given security of living and a roof to live

under, that the rehabilitation problem from West Pakistan is solved? I concede and I do appreciate that the Rehabilitation Ministry has done its best. The refugees are most grateful to the Government of India. They have gone to any extent to help them, to rehabilitate them. My grouse before you is that the problem is not yet solved. It is yet alive and consideration should yet be given.

Coming to another aspect of rehabilitation, four townships were opened for the rehabilitation of refugees. We have got Faridabad near by, where most of the people have come from the North West Frontier Province. We have got Nilo-kheri, Hastinapur and Rajpura. Let us see the conditions in each of the townships. The conditions in these townships can be taken as the criteria to see whether the people have been rehabilitated properly. These are towns which are directly under the Rehabilitation Ministry. Are the people happy there? Each one of these townships is being run at a loss at present. For the last 7 or 8 years, they have not been able to put them on a self-sufficient basis. Leaving that aside, let us see whether the people there are happy and satisfied. I do not want to take the case of the other townships. I shall only refer to Faridabad which is only 18 miles away. Out of the population of 30,000, we consider 7,000 are adults who are employable. I ask the Rehabilitation Ministry, how many have been employed so far. Leaving aside 1,700 who have been employed in the private factories there and 1,300 who have been employed in the Government Offices there and power house and others, you have 3,000 to 4,000 people who are absolutely unemployed, who are brought here daily on trucks and who work here for Rs. 2 or Rs. 1-8-0, not even getting the minimum wage. That is the condition here in Faridabad which is near Delhi. Then, again, those who are in employment here, you are retrenching without giving them alternate employment. I would request the Deputy Minister to see that

these people who are being retrenched are re-employed somewhere either in the Ministries or other services. But more retrenchment is still going on and with very great credit it is stated in the report of the Rehabilitation Ministry that we have reduced expenditure to this extent by retrenchment. At whose cost? At the cost of the refugees who are your liability.

My submission is that the problems of West Pakistan refugees are still there and they need consideration. I know and I very much appreciate that the hon. Minister is very keen to solve them, and he is doing that in the right spirit. I have got full faith that he will solve them. But, he should not say that the problem is solved. He should say, we are trying to solve it, we will solve it, it may take some time before it is solved.

I will try to draw your attention and through you the attention of the House to one or two things which obviously may....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There are no minutes left.

**Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** I will just explain. The most important thing to which the report itself refers is this. The hon. Minister has been pleased to say that there are certain problems which need solution by negotiation with Pakistan. Trust property is one of the items to which he has referred. In 1954, you would recollect, because you were in the Committee then, the trust properties were excluded from taking any compensation from the evacuee pool. The trustees understood that they would be compensated by the Government otherwise. Now where is that commitment? I beg the hon. Minister, who was of course Adviser then, to look into the proceedings then. Does not the Government stand committed to the statement that the trust properties would be duly compensated by the Government but that they would not be given any share out of the pool because the pool was meant for the refugees? And it

was given up. Therefore, my submission is that trust property is a very important problem. You are isolating each of the problems with Pakistan. As I said in my speech in a previous session, unless the problems are made on whole there would not be a settlement, because in isolation the case of Pakistan is: heads I win, tails you lose.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** Is the hon. Member referring to the educational trusts or religious trusts?

**Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Both the trusts. Trusts are excluded.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** I do not deal with religious trusts.

**Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** I would not distinguish between what pertains to the Ministry of Rehabilitation and what pertains to the Ministry of External Affairs. I take them together. So, my submission is that should be decided, a human approach should be made, and the Rehabilitation Ministry should take it into consideration that it is their moral duty to rehabilitate the refugees.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Shri Bimal Ghose. One now and the other next time. The other Ghose also was getting ready.

**Shri Bimal Ghose (Barrackpore):** It is with a sense of deepening frustration and helplessness, if not hopelessness, that one participates in this discussion on the Demands of the Rehabilitation Ministry. This feeling stems from the fact that although years roll by the refugees are as far from being rehabilitated as ever. As you may know—and I refer to East Pakistani refugees only—of the displaced persons who came over, 50 per cent. or somewhat less did not come to the Government for any assistance, and it is these people who have been really rehabilitated. Of the people who sought Government assistance, none has really been rehabilitated. That is not my assessment. The

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First Five Year Plan Review which was published in 1957 states:

"Although four lakh families were settled on land and one lakh in urban colonies and concentrations, their rehabilitation was far from complete. Due to paucity of suitable land, often uneconomic holdings and marginal lands were allotted. In townships and colonies essential amenities could not be provided. Conditions of unemployment continued in their colonies."

And that state of affairs still continues.

So, what is the Minister's explanation? He says that Bengal is saturated, we cannot do anything more in Bengal, the refugees must be taken outside. Now, let us examine this problem. There are two points that arise. The first is the question of further rehabilitation in Bengal. On that question, as the hon. Minister knows, there are differences of opinion. I am told that even the Chief Minister, when the Bettiah refugees came back and saw him on 17th April, last year, stated that if the refugees were to be given agricultural land of only five acres and if further rehabilitation was sought through industrialisation, all the refugees who had come over to Bengal could be settled in Bengal.

The Bastuhara Sammelan which is now organising a sort of demonstration in Calcutta has sent a memorandum to the Prime Minister wherein it is stated that about two lakh acres of land are still available as cultivable waste and further that the Agriculture Minister stated in the West Bengal Assembly during the discussion of the Budget in 1956-57 that cultivable waste land was very much more than that. My point is this, that that may or may not be true. We have all the time told the Government: let us sit down and examine the proposition. There appears to be differences of opinion on this question. Even the Chief Minister in his

recent statement, which the hon. Minister has circulated to us, has stated that although there may be lands, they may not be all available for the refugees and for the refugees there would be only marginal and sub-marginal land. That proposition also deserves to be examined. All that we have stated is: let us sit down, all the parties including the Opposition parties, the representatives of the refugees' organisations and Government representatives, and find out what is the scope for further rehabilitation in West Bengal, as since the time of the late Dr. Meghnad Saha there has always been a disagreement on that question. On the question of sending the refugees outside West Bengal, as Shri Bhattacharya has mentioned, my leader Dr. Ghosh has stated that he is not against any refugees being taken outside Bengal provided certain conditions are fulfilled.

Why do not the refugees want to go outside Bengal? In the statement to which I referred, it is stated:

"The unwillingness of the refugees to move out of West Bengal has grown, not out of any nostalgia for the provincial climate—physical, social and cultural—but has grown out of a bitter sense of frustration induced in them by the Government of West Bengal and the Government of the States where they have been sent out to settle down. The Union Ministry of Rehabilitation also cannot escape responsibility for going back on the promises given to the refugees at the time of sending them outside of West Bengal."

The position is this that the refugees at first had volunteered and were only too anxious if they could be rehabilitated even outside Bengal, but their experience when they were sent out was so bad that they are now frightened to be sent out again.

Then, take the Dandakaranya scheme. In this context as to whether



the refugees should be sent over there or not, I may refer you to a resolution which was passed by the West Bengal Assembly unanimously. The resolution was proposed by a Congress Member, who was the erstwhile secretary of the West Bengal Provincial Congress Committee. While expressing interest in the scheme, the resolution stated:

"The House is of opinion that—

- (a) the West Bengal Government should ascertain from the Government of India the details of the proposed scheme for the development of Dandakaranya;
- (b) thereafter call a conference of the representatives of the different parties and groups in this House and place the scheme before it for consideration; and
- (c) the implementation of a scheme when finally approved should be undertaken by a statutory body in which the West Bengal Government should be adequately represented."

Now, I ask the hon. Minister if these conditions have been fulfilled before the refugees were asked to go to Dandakaranya. The hon. Minister might say that conditions have changed, or that the Congress Party is not insisting. If the Congress Party is not insisting, or is backing out of the resolution which they themselves moved, that is no reason why the Opposition parties which had supported that resolution should also go back on the stand that they had taken. Therefore, it is not quite correct to say that the refugees are unwilling to go.

I had recently been to Calcutta. I met Dr. Ghosh. He stated that the position was this. Dr. Banerjee told him: "What can we do? We told the Government that before refugees are sent to Dandakaranya, we must be assured that they can be rehabilitated there, but the Government does

not do anything of that kind, and they say that they must be sent to Dandakaranya".

Firstly, we want to be satisfied what the position is in West Bengal. If we feel that refugees cannot really be settled in West Bengal, we are then willing that they should be taken out, but before that we should be assured that the conditions in which they are to be rehabilitated are really favourable, and we ourselves want to be sure about that and not just take the word of the Government for that.

Another thing which the hon. Minister says is this. He says that the problem could not be solved because he did not know the size of the problem, refugees were all the time coming along. Thank God, and thank the hon. Prime Minister also, that the hon. Minister is not charged with the Food or Employment Ministries, because I am sure he might have contended that he would not be able to solve the food or employment problem unless the population of the country was frozen and he knew what the size of the problem was. To put it that way it sounds ridiculous and absurd, but the tragedy of the rehabilitation problem is that a similar argument is offered and a lot of reasonable men think that there is a lot of sense in it.

But there is no sense. Even so, I would like to remind the Minister of this that since October, 1956, the position has been tightened up with regard to the issue of migration certificates. What has been the position since October, 1956 up till now? The camp population in January, 1957, in West Bengal was about 2.28 lakhs; at the end of 1957, I find it was about 2.12 lakhs or 2.11 lakhs. Where has there been any improvement? The Minister knew the size of the problem since October, 1956, because he himself—by 'he' I mean Government—was not issuing migration certificates. But there has been no improvement since then. Even the inmates of homes and infirmaries continue to be about

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the same, that is, about sixty thousand. So, where is the improvement that the Minister has been talking about?

Apart from rehabilitation, there is another problem to which I really wanted to devote myself this evening, and that is the question of relief and rehabilitation benefits to future migrants. I hope the Minister will not say that that is a subject with which he is not directly concerned, because I am sure that he himself had taken the initiative in the matter. In answer to a question asked last month, it was stated that Government had come to a decision that relief and rehabilitation benefits would not be given to any future migrants, except in special cases. You may remember that last session Shrimati Renu Chakravartty and myself had brought in an adjournment motion on this subject, and the Prime Minister reacted rather curiously.....

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Furiously.

Shri Bimal Ghose: Furiously and curiously also.

He lost his temper; and he used also intemperate language. And you may be almost sure that whenever he does any of those things, he has a weak case. Otherwise, he never loses temper or uses intemperate language.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I do not think these conclusions are very fair.

Shri Bimal Ghose: This raises a moral question also. I stated at that time that at the time of Partition, the Government here, or the Congress leaders here, had given an assurance to the Hindus and to the members of the minority community left in East Pakistan that their future would be looked after. I would like to refresh your memory in that regard as to what was stated on many occasions.

On 15th August, 1947, the Prime Minister stated:

"We think also of our brothers and sisters who have been cut off from us by the political boundaries and who unhappily cannot share at present in the freedom that has come. They are of us and will remain of us, whatever may happen, and we shall be sharers in their good and ill fortune alike."

There was no question of time-limit here. But the Prime Minister wanted to insinuate last session that we could not shoulder this burden indefinitely. He might have changed his position today, but in August, 1947, there was no question of time-limit.

Sardar Patel stated at that time:

"But let not our brethren across the frontier feel that they are neglected and forgotten. Their welfare will claim our vigilance, and we shall follow their future in full hope and confidence that sooner than later we shall be united in common allegiance to our country."

Sardar Patel had also sent a message to a convention which was held in August, 1947, at the Calcutta University Institute Hall and which was presided over by the late lamented Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, in which he stated:

"We cannot fully enjoy the freedom that we have got until and unless we can share it with the Hindus of North and East Bengal. How can we forget the sufferings and sacrifices which they cheerfully endured for freeing our motherland and from foreign domination? Their future welfare must engage the most careful consideration of the Government and the people of the Indian Union in the light of Development that may take place hereafter."

So, there is no question of any time-limit here.

It may be said that things have changed. But let us come even to 1950. When there was a discussion on the Nehru-Liaquat Ali Pact in the Provisional Parliament, the Prime Minister stated:

"To the people of East and West Bengal and Assam, I would make a special appeal, for they have suffered most from these tragic upheavals. The whole of India has not only sympathised with them but has shown that sympathy in many ways. Their cause has become the cause of the whole country. So far as refugees are concerned, the Government of India has undertaken unlimited responsibility for their welfare."

The words are 'unlimited responsibility for their welfare'.

"...But while we shall undoubtedly look after to the best of our ability those unhappy persons who come as refugees, and try to rehabilitate them...."

So, it is not merely unlimited responsibility for those who had come over to India, but also for those who come as refugees.

"...it is clear that this is no satisfactory solution of this great problem. The only solution is to produce proper conditions to live in their homelands, wherever they may be."

I agree. But he also pointed out in that very statement the reason why the East Bengal Hindus were coming away. He said:

"They leave everything they possess and go to distant places rather than live always with fear and insecurity as their companions. Unless this fear and insecurity are removed completely and normal civilised conditions of life prevail, this problem will not be solved in spite of all agreement."

Now, I want to ask the Minister whether it is his contention that there is no fear and insecurity in East Bengal for the Hindus there. Although the Prime Minister himself admitted that he did not feel that this problem would be ever solved unless satisfactory conditions were created, yet from the speech which he delivered only yesterday, I do not think we can conclude that those conditions had been created in East Bengal today. So, if it is proved first that those conditions have not been created, and if as a result they have to come over, and if as the Prime Minister said that as long as they come the Government of India should be responsible for them, then why is it that today they are going back on it?

I had stated on that occasion when we wanted to move the adjournment motion, that we had incurred a debt of honour. I ask the Minister, 'Was it or was it not a debt of honour? Are we discharging that debt today? If not, why not? What are the conditions that have changed?'. We must also realise that these East Bengal Hindus who have come over, who are coming over, and who were forced to come over here were doughty fighters in our independence fight and were also helping to develop the economy of West Bengal. I am reminded of what the late lamented Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, stated at the time of his resignation on 19th April, 1950, in the Provisional Parliament:

"Let us not forget that the Hindus of East Bengal are entitled to the protection of India, not on humanitarian considerations alone, but by virtue of their sufferings and sacrifices made cheerfully for generations, not for advancing their own parochial interests but for laying the foundation of India's political freedom and intellectual progress."

We seem to be forgetting all that.

[Shri Bimal Ghose]

One of the reasons advanced as to why there should be a change in policy is that it is too big a burden and we have not financial resources. When the Second Five Year Plan was formulated, we had provided finances for refugee rehabilitation. Are we going beyond those provisions?

It was stated in the annual report of this Ministry for 1956-57, that:

"The programme for the rehabilitation of East Pakistan displaced persons under the Second Plan was prepared on the assumption that about 1.71 lakhs families remained to be rehabilitated at the beginning of 1956-57, and that the annual migration during the Second Plan period would be of the order of 20,000 families."

It is true that in 1956, a lot of refugees came in, about 1.81 lakhs or so. But take 1956 and 1957 together. It is much less than 20,000 families per year.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Take 1955 and 1956 together.

Shri Bimal Ghose: I am talking of the Second Plan period and not 1955. The estimate was for the Second Plan period. Certain provisions were made. Certain assumptions were made. Then the migration certificate procedure has been tightened up and there is no immediate prospect of a large-scale migration to India. Then what has happened having provided, all that, to justify our going back today upon the position that we had taken up at the beginning of the Second Plan period? Not only that. It had been agreed that the financial provision for the rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan should be reviewed in the third year of the Plan—that is of the Second Plan—in the light of the then prevailing conditions, provision of additional funds being made, if needed

at that stage. In the third year of the Plan, we should have reviewed to find out if we needed more money. But what is being done is that no benefit should be given to future migrants. I do not understand what has happened to justify this attitude. Looked at from the point of the moral liability and looked at from the point of view of financial liabilities that we said we would take up, I find no reason why there should be a change in this policy. It is really very depressing that the future refugees—people now in Pakistan—should now be faced with this position, because refugees draw the conclusion that this Government is unsympathetic, that this is the attitude to those displaced persons coming from East Pakistan.

Now, I read also in the papers today that the Ministry is going to be wound up. I do not understand this. The hon. Minister is a friend of mine. I do not mind his becoming the Governor of Orissa or Punjab or anywhere else or even, as somebody has suggested, the President of India. If he is made that, I have no objection. But do not wind up the Rehabilitation Ministry. I want an assurance on that point.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: Let him be made the Governor of Dandakaranya.

Shri Bimal Ghose: The Rehabilitation Ministry, whether he presides over it or not, should not be wound up.

I will conclude by saying that I have been greatly distressed by the speeches made by the hon. Minister during the last few days in the other House and in this House. It appeared to me that he was trying to emulate my good friend in the other House, Shri Bhupesh Gupta, but it is a field where I am very much afraid he will never be able to excel him.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The following are the 45 selected cut motions relating to various Demands under the Ministry of Rehabilitation which will be treated as having been moved, subject to their being otherwise admissible:—

**Demand No.                      No. of Cut Motion**  
(Disapproval of Policy)

78	1501, 1502.
	(Token)
	167, 1498, 1505, 1506, 1507, 1508, 1540, 1541, 1542, 1543, 1544, 1545, 1546, 1547, 1548, 1549, 1592, 1593, 1594, 1595, 1596, 1597.
79	168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 1499, 1500, 1509, 1510, 1511, 1512, 1513, 1514, 1515, 1516.

*Sending of East Bengal refugees to Dandakaranya, in the name of rehabilitation*

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced to Re. 1.

*Sending of East Bengal refugees out of West Bengal without exploiting the rehabilitation potential in West Bengal.*

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced to Re. 1.

*Failure to remove corruption in the administration of the Rehabilitation Department*

**Shri Ghosal:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to regularise all the so-called 'Squatters' Colonies' in and around Calcutta*

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Inadequate hospital facilities for the refugees in West Bengal.*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to instal medium-size industries for refugees in Taherpur, Ranaghat and Gayaspur in West Bengal*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to implement scheme for establishing mills and factories to rehabilitate refugees in Taherpur and Gayaspur in West Bengal*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to provide jobs for refugees in various Townships in West Bengal*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Dandakaranya Scheme*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Condition of refugees in various camps outside the State of West Bengal*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to rehabilitate majority of refugees from East Pakistan*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Absence of a comprehensive policy of rehabilitation*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Condition of refugees in Tinneh Camp in West Bengal*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Condition of refugees in Rabindra-nagar Colony in West Bengal*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Condition of refugees in Coopers Camp in West Bengal*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Condition of refugees in Sealdah Station, Calcutta*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Condition of refugees in various Permanent Liability Camps in West Bengal*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Treatment by the Officers in various Permanent Liability Camps in West Bengal*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to solve the problems of refugees from East Bengal*

**Shri Assar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to demand land from Pakistan to rehabilitate refugees from East Pakistan*

**Shri Assar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to fulfil the demands of refugees about the payment of instalments on government loans in 20 years*

**Shri Assar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Need for an enquiry into the Sindhu Resettlement Corporation's administration*

**Shri Assar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Profiteering by the Government in Housing Scheme for refugees*

**Shri Assar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to solve difficulties of Punjabi and Sindhi Refugees of Punjab, Gandhidham, Kalyan, Chembur and other colonies*

**Shri Assar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to liquidate the camps of refugees from Eastern Pakistan*

**Shri Ghosal:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to provide shelter to the refugees of Sealdah Station, West Bengal*

**Shri Ghosal:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to remove grievances of refugees of Charbatia camp of Orissa*

**Shri Ghosal:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to give training to the refugees for acclimatising them to the industrial avocation*

**Shri Ghosal:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to employ refugees in Steel Plants of Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur*

**Shri Ghosal:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to provide building material in lieu of house-building loans*

**Shri Ghosal:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to raise confidence regarding Dandakaranya Scheme*

**Shri Ghosal:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to rehabilitate Eastern Pakistan refugees to industries of West Bengal*

**Shri Ghosal:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to supply adequate medical facilities in the refugee camps of West Bengal*

**Shri Ghosal:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Tendency to attribute political colour to all sorts of refugee movements*

**Shri Ghosal:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to check the grabbing of share by the middlemen in the loans granted to the refugees*

**Shri Ghosal:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to prevent the wastage of money voted by Parliament for Rehabilitation purposes*

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Failure to prevent the grant of loans to non-refugees and to undeserving persons resulting in deprivation of genuine East Bengal refugees*

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Need for proper medical facilities for various refugee camps and colonies in West Bengal*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Scanty arrangement for the treatment of T.B. patients amongst the refugees in West Bengal*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Need for more homes and infirmaries for the displaced women and children in West Bengal*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Need for amenities in various refugee camps in West Bengal*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Need for sanitary arrangements in various refugee camps in West Bengal*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Working of the Department of Rehabilitation Finance*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Harassment of refugees in securing loans*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

*Delay in giving loans to refugees*

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

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

The list indicating the selected cut motions will be put on the notice board and also circulated to members tonight for their information.

**Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat):** The problem of rehabilitation can now be clearly divided into two broad divisions, one of which has almost come to an end. That is about the West Pakistan refugees. I know there are yet some problems about their compensation and some problems about the Kashmir refugees. But the main problem with which this Ministry is now concerned is about the rehabilitation of the East Bengal refugees, and this problem has now practically boiled down to two main issues. One is the rehabilitation of the refugees, particularly the camp refugees outside West Bengal, and the other is



[Shri A. C. Guha]

of putting a target date for future migrants.

On the first point, this is not the first time, but repeatedly, on many occasions even among the refugees themselves, that I have categorically mentioned that the refugees must be prepared to go outside West Bengal. There is no other alternative. There may be some marginal land in West Bengal, but such rehabilitation schemes have almost failed. It is now almost admitted even by the West Bengal Government that 19 lakhs of refugees, who were claimed to have been rehabilitated in West Bengal, really have not been properly rehabilitated. I think only a few months ago, the Minister in charge of Rehabilitation in West Bengal himself stated that further assistance would be needed if these 19 lakh people were to be rehabilitated properly.

Why have these rehabilitation schemes failed? I know there are some administrative lapses and administrative defects, but most of these schemes have failed because of the bad sites available for rehabilitation. In many cases, I have been trying for years to get some agricultural land for some agricultural refugee colonies. My hon. friend, Shrimati Renuka Ray, was then the Minister. On one occasion, she almost implored me to be excused for her inability to procure the agricultural land in spite of her best attempts. I could realise her difficulties. So I know it is not possible to find proper land in West Bengal for the rehabilitation of refugees now awaiting rehabilitation. They must be prepared to go outside West Bengal. If political parties have been organising demonstrations, I think they are not helping the refugees, they are not helping the economy of West Bengal and they are not helping the orderly development of West Bengal. But that does not absolve the Government of their responsibility. It is the responsibility of the Government who have

taken charge of these refugees to make them properly rehabilitated.

I was rather surprised when the hon. Minister made a plea in the other House in regard to the Sealdah situation. Last year also he made a similar plea here that some assurance from the political parties would be necessary, that there won't be any more squatting at Sealdah platform and then only it would be possible for Government to clear up the Sealdah platform. I do not think this Government should take up such an attitude. They are not so weak that they can function and discharge their duties only on the sufferance of the Opposition parties. Irrespective of what the Opposition parties may do, they should carry on their duty. Rather, they should be prepared for it, as in a political situation the Opposition parties will naturally take advantage of the administrative defects and failures of the Government. It is no use abusing them or blaming them. So the Government should take the responsibility of rehabilitating the refugees outside West Bengal.

I am also a Bengali and I have not any less feeling about the solidarity and integrity of Bengalis than anybody sitting on any side of this House. I would not suggest any measure which would ultimately mean a sort of diaspora of the Bengalis. But I would surely suggest that good, well-planned schemes should be set up in consolidated areas where Bengali refugees can be settled in large numbers. From that point of view, Dandakaranya should be welcomed. I think there are enough potentialities there. It is no use quoting some Imperial Gazetteer or some Administration Report about that land. I think in these days of scientific progress it is not impossible for the Government to develop Dandakaranya. It is not a desert. Even deserts can now be made habitable and cultivable. I have nothing to object to providing also industrial and other rehabilitation schemes in Dandakaranya.

I do not know why the Andamans scheme has been slowed down. In 1957, I think, not a single family has been sent to the Andamans. Last year, on this occasion, I categorically said that it is not true that the East Bengal refugees were averse to going outside West Bengal. If there has been any aversion, that is due to wrong schemes and defective schemes. They have suffered because of these defective schemes. But, they have taken to the Andamans schemes and readily and the Andaman Scheme has been rather popular with the East Bengal refugees. And I hope.....

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** May I tell the hon. Member that my Ministry is not concerned with the Andamans scheme. It is a colonisation scheme of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I know that; but when I am dealing with rehabilitation, I should also mention that as an alternative. That is another possibility, where the East Bengal refugees could be rehabilitated. I think it is the duty of the Minister in-charge of Rehabilitation to take up the matter with the concerned Ministry.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Minister only fears that he may not be able to make a reply to it.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** But he can take it up; he can take up the issue with the other Ministry concerned with this and make it possible for the refugees to be sent in larger numbers there.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** Eighty per cent of the refugees of East Bengal are taking part in that colonisation scheme. Eighty per cent of the quota is going to West Bengal. What else do you want?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I do not mind 80 per cent or 50 per cent. I do mind the numbers. If out of 10, you give 80 per cent, it is only 8; but, if out of 10 lakhs you give 50 per cent. I will be quite happy. It is the number and not the proportion that I want, I think

the hon. Minister is intelligent enough. I am not concerned with the proportion; I am concerned with the number.

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** You cannot have it to the detriment of the local population.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** It is not to the detriment of the local population.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Let this remain as a debate.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I think there have been some schemes in Rajasthan. As far as I know these things are quite acceptable. And, there should be no opposition from anywhere, from any side, to refugees being sent to Rajasthan. But, I would not suggest any scheme in Saurashtra; and I think nothing should also be attempted in Mysore. Saurashtra has left a very bad taste with the refugees. They have suffered very badly from some previous Saurashtra scheme. And, Mysore is also too far and the number that can be settled there may not be large. So Mysore scheme may be abandoned. But, Rajasthan has got enough potentialities and Dandakaranya has got enough potentialities and the Andamans also has got enough potentialities. These three schemes with whatever may be possible in Bihar and Orissa—I do not suggest contiguous areas; that is not possible; but whatever may be possible—may also be taken up.

I would like to make it quite clear that refugees must be ready to go outside West Bengal and anybody hampering that is doing harm to the cause of the refugees and to their economic development and the social and ordinary batterment of West Bengal.

Then, about the fixing of the target date. I think there is no case for fixing the target date. My hon. friend, Shri Bimal Ghose has quoted a number of cases from old statements. I would like to make another quotation wherein the Prime Minister stated...

**Shri Sohan Gupta:** Is it an old statement or a new statement?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** It is an old statement of April 1951.

"But if terror-stricken people come to us for refuge, we cannot say no to them or refuse to give them the help that they stand in need. India and Pakistan may have become two different countries, politically and otherwise separate from each other. But large numbers of people live in each country, who have intimate associations and often relationship with people in the other country, and if they are in trouble, they look to this friendship and relationship."

He has taken that responsibility. It is not a political responsibility. It is not even a question of humanitarian consideration. It is a moral obligation that this Government and that this nation have taken. It is not a party question. The entire nation has taken this moral obligation of giving help and succour to the terror-stricken from East Bengal or of any territory of Pakistan.

I hope the hon. Minister being in-charge of minority affairs also is quite conversant with the situation at present prevailing in East Bengal. What has been going on there has been termed the closed-door operations of the military. I do not want to make any horrible description of that thing here. I think the hon. Minister is quite aware of the situation. I am sure he cannot give us this assurance that the people there are not terror-stricken at present. As the Prime Minister put it if these terror-stricken people now come for shelter and refuge, will Government say, 'No' to them? That will be a violation of the solemn moral pledge which this Government and this nation took for themselves. I do not say it is a pledge given to the minorities of East Bengal; it is a moral pledge we gave to ourselves, this nation gave to itself. I

think there is no case at all to say 'No', to these people and to stop migration at all.

In this report I find that during the whole of 1956 only 2781 migration certificates have been issued. I do not know how many of these were issued on the condition that they would not get any rehabilitation loan.

**An Hon. Member:** Only 8,000 people?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Yes, 8,000.

It has been contended that the migration applications have also come down. But, why? Because they know that migration certificates are not given, and because also they have made the conditions so difficult. They have to submit along with the migration certificate application certain photographs. They have to present the applications in person at some district headquarters. They have to attach two or three photographs of each member of the family which an ordinary villager cannot afford easily. They have made the conditions so difficult even to make an application for a migration certificate. Certainly, they cannot say that the urge for migration has gone down. That is not the real case. Let us not delude ourselves; let us not live under any illusion.

Only one more point. Now, I come to Sealdah. I am sorry if on any occasion I have to contradict the statement made by the Prime Minister. On two occasions he has stated on the floor of this House that all the people at Sealdah station have not come from East Bengal at all. First he said that on 18th March, 1956. There was some interruption and he had made it clear that about 54 per cent or 52 per cent have not come from East Pakistan. He has also said that Sealdah station was cleared in last November. I wish the Prime Minister could have been properly briefed in this matter. He repeated this statement twice last time, I think, on the 8th April, only two days ago. He said that

Sealdah had been cleared in last November but it was cleared in November 1956 and as regards the composition of the families of the persons in Sealdah station, we have got a note circulated by the Rehabilitation Ministry wherein we find that out of 6846 persons, 3,138 are without any documents. That does not mean that they have not come from East Bengal. An overwhelming majority of these 3,138 persons did come from East Bengal. They cannot have migration certificates because they must have crossed over the border without migration certificates due to the strictness in issuing the certificates. The figure of 2700 migration certificates, I think, is also technically correct. Really speaking, the hon. Minister cannot say that there have not been fairly widespread migrations without certificate through the open frontiers of East Bengal and West Bengal and East Bengal and Assam, in different parts of Cooch-Behar and Dinajpur and in 24 Parganas, and in Murshidabad because of the strictness in issuing the migration certificates.

16.00 hrs.

The problem is there. It is no use being blind to that. Again with regard to Sealdah station, it is no good making a mathematical calculation, I would invite you to go to the Sealdah station and visit the place yourself. Any man with a human sense, will say that this is a horrible place to see. The hon. Minister himself will say so. It is a shame on our administration that this situation has been allowed to continue. I would not like to take any of these mathematical calculations as to how these 6800 had been composed or how many of them have migration certificates or how many of them have migrated from other places. I have myself gone to the Sealdah station. It is very close to my house and I have myself inspected the place and I have talked with them. Many of them have deserted after two or three years because they were rehabilitated on their own cost. Sealdah must be cleared irrespective of any assurance

being given or not given by any political party. It is a slur on the national honour. They may take necessary steps so that there will not be any subsequent squatting on the Sealdah platform. They should take that step also, I think. But it must be cleared of this filth and dirt. A number of them are suffering from infectious diseases, small-pox, cholera and the like. With these words I again appeal to him to do the needful.

श्री अशित राम (पटियाला): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, हम इस मसले को दस बरसों से डिसकस करते आ रहे हैं। रिहैबिलिटेशन के शायद यह चौथे मिनिस्टर हैं और पाचवें पता नहीं कब आयेंगे। पहले जब यह कहा जाता था कि यह मसला हल हो गया है तो हम को यह बुरा लगता था और हम कहते थे कि आप ऐसी बात क्यों कहते हैं। अब वह आवाज आती है एक वैस्ट पाकिस्तान से आये हुए रिफयजीस का मसला हल हो गया है और मैं आपको यकीन दिलाता हूँ कि अगर यह हल हो गया है तो इसमें ज्यादा और खुशी की कोई बात नहीं हो सकती है। अगर ऐसी बातें हैं तो अगर डिपार्टमेंट बन्द भः हो जाता है तो कोई भी आदमी ऐसा नहीं होगा जिसको इससे खुशी नहीं होगी। इसमें किसी को खुशी नहीं है कि यह बन्द न हों। लेकिन मैं यह अवश्य कहूँगा कि आज दस बरस के बाद हम जरूर यह कहने की स्थिति में हो गये हैं कि हमने सिचुएशन को कंट्रोल कर लिया—यह तो हम नहीं कह सकते हैं कि इसको बिल्कुल ही अपने कंट्रोल में कर लिया है—लेकिन बहुत हद तक हम जस्टिफाइड होंगे अगर हम कहें कि इस मसले को हमने कंट्रोल कर लिया है। लेकिन अगर कोई कहता है कि मिनिस्ट्री जारी रहे तो वह यह इसलिए कहता है कि उसको दुःख है, उसको तकलीफ है। उसका काम हो जाना चाहिये और फिर चाहे मिनिस्ट्री बन्द हो जावे, उसको कोई रंज नहीं है। आपने यह कही है कि वैस्ट

### [श्री अशित राय]

पाकिस्तान से जो नार्डि प्राये हैं और ईस्ट बंगाल से प्राये हैं और उससे जो सिबुरेशन पैदा हो गई थी, उसको कुछ हद तक कंट्रोल कर लिया है। हम यह भी कह सकते हैं कि और भी रिफ्यूजी ईस्ट पाकिस्तान से आने के लिए तैयार हैं लेकिन उनको माइग्रेशन सर्टिफिकेट्स की दिक्कत पड़ रही है। लेकिन इन तमाम बातों के बावजूद इस बयान को हम तसलीम करेंगे कि सिबुरेशन कंट्रोल में है।

ईस्ट बंगाल के मुतालिक जब मैं सोचता हूँ तो मैं पाता हूँ कि तमाम पार्टीस के अंदर एजिमेंट है कि बंगाल के जो रिफ्यूजी हैं वे बाहर जा सकते हैं। कोई भी आदमी यह नहीं कहता है कि वे बाहर नहीं जा सकते हैं। मुखालिफ ग्रुप वाले भी और इस ग्रुप वाले भी यही बात कहते हैं। लेकिन वह हो क्या रहा है? वहाँ पर इतनी एजिमेंटेशन चल रही है। कि हजारों की तादाद में आदमी गिरफ्तार किये जा रहे हैं। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता है कि यह हो क्या रहा है, कहां पर नुकस है या कहां पर कमी है। आपके पास रुपये की कमी नहीं है। खस्रा माहब के आने से पहले हो सकता है रुपये की कमी रही हो लेकिन अब तो रुपये की कोई कमी नहीं है। पहले अगर इस तरह की शिकायत की जाती तो मैं मान सकता था लेकिन आज मैं इस बात को नहीं मान सकता हूँ। रुपये की न कमी रही है और न है। आपने दंडकारण्य स्कीम शुरू की है और कोई भी उसके खिलाफ हो ऐसा जान नहीं पड़ता है। कोई जाहिरा तौर पर इस तरह की बात नहीं कहता है। मैं तो कहूंगा कि ३०,००० स्कोवेयर मील बंगाल का रकबा है और ८०,००० वर्ग मील दंडकारण्य का रकबा होगा और आपने एक न्यू एंड ग्रेटर बंगाल फाइंड आउट कर लिया है। बंगाल में इतनी फसिलिटीस होते हुए भी जो एजिमेंटेशन चल रही है, उसका कारण क्या है? इसके

बारे में जब यहां पर बहुत हुई थी उस वक्त मैं यहां पर हाजिर नहीं था। आपका जो स्पीच ईस्ट बंगाल रिफ्यूजीस के बारे में थी, उसको मैंने पढ़ा है। यह मांग की गई थी कि एक कमेटी बनाई जाए। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि आप कमेटी ही बनायें। आप कमेटी न बनायें। इसके बारे में कोई सीक्रिट बात नहीं हो सकती है। आप तो साफ-साफ बात कते हैं। आप क्यों नहीं सब पार्टियों के प्रादमियों को दावत देते, उनके साथ बातचीत करते, उनको वहां ले चलते और उनको स्थिति से परिचित कराते और जो ठीक है वह करते? बंगाल के बारे में रेजोल्पशन पास हुआ है कि सबकी मर्जी से काम हो। इसके बारे में सभी एक मत हैं। जब ऐसी बात है तो आप हिचकचाते क्यों हैं और क्यों नहीं आप वे आउट बूढ़ते हैं? अगर आपने ऐसा किया तो इससे सबको सैटिसफैकशन होगा। मैं जानता हूँ कि आप नेकी करना चाहते हैं और कर भी रहे हैं, लेकिन यह सबको मालूम होना चाहिये कि आप नेकी ही कर रहे हैं बदी नहीं। आज तो ऐसा ही मालूम हो रहा है कि आप बदी कर रहे हैं, नेकी नहीं कर रहे हैं। हजारों की तादाद में आदमी जेलों में जा रहे हैं, ऐसी हालत में कैसे किसी को यकीन हो सकता है कि आप नेकी कर रहे हैं। यह एक सीरियस मामला है और मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप इस पर सीरियसली गौर करें। आप देखें कि वहां की पब्लिक क्यों खिलाफ हो रही है और क्यों वे लोग जेलों में जा रहे हैं। उन लोगों के लिए आपने कैम्प खोले हैं, उनको रिट्रैबिलिटेट करने की हर कोशिश की है, बस्तियां बसाई हैं और करोड़ों रुपया खर्च किया है, ये सब किस काम आयेगा अगर लोग ही संतुष्ट नहीं होते हैं। यह मामला विचारणीय है और मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप इस पर सीरियसली गौर करें और इसका कोई हल निकालें। आप स्पीच देने में बहुत तेज हैं। सरदार

पेटम और पंडित नेहरू भी स्पीचों में इनकी बहुत दुहाई देते थे और देते हैं लेकिन आप तो उनसे भी स्पीच देने में बड़ कर हैं और उनसे भी बड़ी स्पीच देने वाले हैं। आपसे बड़ कर और कौन स्पीच दे सकता है। लेकिन यह स्पीच देने की बात नहीं है। आपमें ताकत में बहुत है। मैं यह भी जानता हूँ कि आपके दिल में दर्द है। मैं यह भी मानता हूँ कि आप यह भी नहीं चाहते हैं कि वहाँ कम्युनिज्म फैले, भोग तंग हों और आप मजा देखें। इस काम का मैं खयाल तक नहीं कर सकता हूँ कि आप ऐसा चाहेंगे। अगर आपने कोई टारगेट डेट फिक्स की है तो उसको आप एडजस्ट कर सकते हैं और सबको तसल्ली होनी चाहिये कि कोई ऐसी बैसिंग बात नहीं है। मैं जानता हूँ कि आप वहाँ के नाल-मुस्लिम को तकलीफ़ हो, इसको बदरित नहीं कर सकते हैं एक सैफिड के लिए भी। आप इतना रुपया खर्च कर रहे हैं, इतना कुछ कर रहे हैं और मैं जानता हूँ कि आप करेंगे भी लेकिन जो बाबेला उठ रहा है, उसकी तरफ भी आपका ध्यान जाना चाहिये और उन लोगों को तसल्ली कराई जानी चाहिये। आप कोई न कोई रास्ता निकाल ही सकते हैं। आप लोगों को इकट्ठा करके उनको कह सकते हैं कि कोई ऐसी बैसिंग बात नहीं है और अगर आपने उनको ठीक तरह से समझा दिया तो कोर्ट वजह नहीं है कि उनको तसल्ली न हो। इनना ही मैं ईस्ट बंगाल के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ।

अब मैं वेस्ट पाकिस्तान की तरफ आता हूँ। आप कई बार कह चुके हैं कि काम बन्द होने वाला है। जब आप में पहले के मिनिस्टर साहिबान कहते थे कि काम बन्द होने वाला है तो मैं बुरा मनाया करता था। लेकिन आज जब आप कहते हैं तो मुझे खुशी होती है कि आपके दिल में तसल्ली हो गई है कि काम कुछ बन गया है और

अगर बन्द भी हो जाए तो कोई बात नहीं है। लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि आप भी इसको खबर करते हैं कि वह अभी खत्म नहीं हुआ है। आप हंसी से बात करते हैं कि एक तरफ तो आप कहते हैं कि मिनिस्ट्री बन्द न हो और दूसरी तरफ कहते हैं कि क्लेम जल्दी-जल्दी से निपटार्ये जायें, ये दोनों बातें कैसे हो सकती हैं। अगर काम वाकई खत्म हो गया हो तो आप कहें कि मिनिस्ट्री को बन्द कर दो तब तो ठीक है अगर खत्म न हुआ हो तो आप कहें कि बन्द कर दो तो बात समझ में नहीं आती है। गवर्नर फव्वर बनाने की बात की जाती है। मैं तो कहूँगा कि यू शुड रिप्यूज टू बी ए गवर्नर और न ही आपको यह आफर की जानी चाहिये। आपको कोई लालच तो है नहीं आप तो यहाँ पर मिशनरी काम करने के लिए बैठे हैं। हाँ अगर यह कहा जाए कि आपको फुल-फ्लैज्ड कैबिनेट मिनिस्टर बना दिया जाए तब तो बात समझ में आ सकती है। गवर्नर फव्वर की बात समझ में नहीं आती है। -

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : यह एडवाइस मेम्बर साहब प्राइवेटली मिनिस्टर साहब को दे सकते हैं।

श्री अशित राम : आपकी बसातिन से ही देता हूँ। हमारे जो मिनिस्टर सिविलियन के हैं उनके बारे में हम कहें कि बड़ा अन्ध्रा उन्होंने काम किया है, उसमें हमें बड़ी खुशी है, और उनकी कैबिनेट मिनिस्टर बना दिया जाए। गवर्नरशिप न तो आफर की जानी चाहिये और न ही इनको कबूल करनी चाहिये। जबतक एक भी आदमी बचा है जो रिप्यूजी है, जो रोटी के बर्गर है, जो कपड़े के बर्गर है और दुखी है तब तक इनको उनकी फिक्क होनी चाहिये।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : मैंने कहा है कि मेम्बर साहब प्राइवेटली प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब को कह दें जो उनकी राय हो। अगर वह

### [उत्पाध्यस महोदय]

मुझ से उम्मीद रखते हैं कि मैं कहूँ, तो मैं झुंकार करता हूँ और मैं उन तक इस बात को नहीं पहुँचाऊँगा।

श्री भवित राव : मुझे आप से बहुत उम्मीदें हैं और मिनिस्टर साहब से भी हैं। मैं इनसे एक सवाल पूछता हूँ। आप कहते हैं कि आपने सब मसने हल कर दिये हैं। काश्मीर से जो डेढ़ लाख के करीब रिपयूजी आये हैं क्या आपकी भात्मा गवाही देती है कि आपने उनको बसा दिया है? आज उनको कम्पेंशन नहीं मिला है, कुछ नहीं दिया गया है। वेस्ट पाकिस्तान से जो लोग आए उनको आपने रुपये में से तीन आने या दो आने दे दिये हैं। पाँच अरब की पहले बात थी, बाद में वह एक अरब हुई और ८० करोड़ आपने मिलाया और कुछ तो उनको दिया, तीस परसेंट या कुछ कम दिया। लेकिन इनके वास्ते आपने क्या किया है? इनके साथ आपने कौन सा इन्साफ किया है? Just put this question to yourself कि आप अपने फंडस में उनको रिट्रैबिलिटेयान बैनिफिट दे? आप मानते हैं कि जो लोग इस तरफ छोड़ कर गये हैं रिपयूजी वगैरह उनकी जमीनें भी उनको नहीं मिली हैं For any reason I do not want to enter into. वे उनको मिली नहीं हैं। क्लेम उनके आप लेते नहीं, किराया उनसे मांगते हैं। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता है कि यह कौन सा इन्साफ है। आपके अन्दर ड्राइविंग फोर्स थी और आपने रिपयूजी प्रावलैम को हल किया जो अभी कुछ बाकी है और बिना ड्राइव के कुछ नहीं हो सकता था। अगर यही ड्राइव आज भी आपके अन्दर है तो आपको नींद नहीं आ सकती है। उनकी प्रापर्टी का कुछ भी हुआ है, उनको क्लेम मिलना चाहिये। आप कहते हैं कि मुल्क हमारा है और हमें वापिस मिलना चाहिये।

आपको मुल्क छोड़ने का हक तो नहीं है, आप उसको छोड़ नहीं सकते हैं तो ऐसी हालत में क्या आपको क्लेम देने का हक नहीं है? आप इनकी सिक्वोरिटी क्लेम एप्लीकेशंस इनवाइट कर सकते हैं और इनवाइट की जानी चाहिये। जब मुल्क आपको मिल जाएगा, हम जायदाद ले लेंगे। उस वक्त आप प्रापर्टी सम्भाल सकते हैं। इसका मैं समझता हूँ आप कोई न कोई हल निकाल ही सकते हैं। मैं सर्वेस्ट करूँगा कि आप सिक्वोरिटी क्लेम एप्लीकेशंस इनवाइट करें। उनकी सिक्वोरिटी होंगी और बाद में आप इसको वापिस कर सकते हैं। डेढ़ लाख आदमी हैं, ३०,००० क्लेम होंगे, १०,००० या इसके करीब आप दे सकते हैं और यह तीन करोड़ की रकम बनेगी। आप करोड़ों रुपया खर्च करते हैं और इन पर भी आप कुछ खर्च कर सकते हैं। इनको भी कुछ तसल्ली आप दिला सकते हैं। ये लोग भी देशभक्त हैं, इन लोगों ने भी अपनी जानें खोई हैं और वहाँ से यहाँ आये हैं।

अब मैं वेस्ट पाकिस्तान के रिपयूजीयों की बात कहता हूँ। उनको आपने राई आना या तीन आना रुपये में दिया है और आपको गान्ति मिली है। आप कानूनों को तथा कायदों को छोड़ दें। मैं आपसे पूछता हूँ कि आपका दिल क्या कहता है? इन रूल क्लेमेट्स के बारे में आप क्या सोचते हैं? मैं समझ सकता हूँ कि पहले थोड़े बाजी इन्होंने की होगी, मकान भी सम्भाल लिया गावों के अन्दर और साथ ही अपने क्लेम भी ले लिए। अब मैं पूछता हूँ कि क्या आज दस बरस के बाद आप यह पता नहीं लगा सकते हैं कि किस किस आदमी ने जमीन पर कब्जा किया है और किस किस ने नहीं किया है? उससे फायदा उठाता है या नहीं आपने फायदा रक्खा था कि जिसका कोई जमीन

का क्लेम नहीं होगा उसका क्लेम माना जायेगा। आपको साफ पता लग सकता है कि जो ८० हजार, ६० हजार, या ५० हजार आदमी हैं उन आदमियों ने जमीन पर कब्जा किया है या नहीं, उनको जमान ऐलाट हुई है या नहीं। आपको पता लग सकता है कि फर्जा आदमी जमीन के पंजेशन में है या नहीं। जो जमीन के पंजेशन में नहीं है, उसको क्लेम दिया जाय। आपको किसी तरह यकीन तो होना चाहिये। ऐसे भी लोग हैं जिन्होंने दख्खिस्तें दीं लेकिन वह जमीन नहीं ले सके। आप मिनिस्टर हैं, आपमें कहा जाय कि आपको ५० एकड़ जमीन दी जाती है, आप उस पर हल चलाइये। ना क्या आप उस पर जा कर हल चलायेंगे आप वहाँ पर कब्जा नहीं करेंगे? हमें तरह में उन लोगों का गुआह है कि वह लोग जमान पर कब्जा नहीं कर सके। इसलिए उनको क्लेम न दिया जाय यह इन्माफ नहीं। इस तरह से आप लोगों को शानि नहीं मिल सकती और...

**उपाध्यक्ष महोदय :** आप मिनिस्टर साहब को न गवर्नरी पर जाने देने हैं न हल चलाने देने हैं, उनको यहाँ ही जकड़ कर रखना चाहते हैं?

**श्री अचिंत राम :** न वादना है कि वह थोड़ी देर यहाँ पर काम करे और उनकी तसल्ली कर के फिर जायें। इस वास्ते आपको चाहिये, मैं कोई लिमिट मुकर्रर नहीं करना, आप खुद तसल्ली कर लें कि हाँ यह आदमी है, इसका जमान नहीं मिली है न वह जमान पर गया है। उसके मकान थे, दो मकान थे, तीन मकान थे, चार मकान थे, अब आखिर वह आवे क्या? इसलिए आप तसल्ली कर लीजिये अगर आप को तसल्ली है तो मुझे भी तसल्ली है।

दूसरी बात मार्केटम वगैरह के बारे में है, छोटी बातें हैं, कमला मार्केट है, सरोजनी मार्केट है। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि

एक तरफ तो गवर्नमेंट को रुपये भी जरूरत है, दूसरी तरफ लोग रुपये बेते हैं तो वह बेती नहीं है। एक तरफ कहते हैं कि पया हमारे पास नहीं है। दूसरी तरफ जब कहा जाता है कि पया हम से लो, तो कहते हैं कि हम नहीं लेते। फिर कहते हैं कि यहाँ तमाम मास्टर प्लैन बनेगी। मिसाल के तौर पर कनला मार्केट का मामला ले लीजिये। कमला मार्केट इस वास्ते नहीं दी जा सकती कि यह मास्टर प्लैन में है। जिन्होंने दिल्ली का देखा है उनको मालूम होगा कि कमला मार्केट के साथ हरिहर टेम्पल है, उसका साथ मस्जिद है। मैं कहता हूँ कि अगर हिन्दुस्तान की गवर्नमेंट मास्टर प्लैन पर अमल करने के लिये हरिहर टेम्पल को गिराती है, मस्जिद को गिराती है तो कमला मार्केट को भी गिरा सकता है, इनमें कौन सा अन्वेष है, कौन सी बात है? इसलिए उसके वास्ते यह कहना कि ग्रानि बेल्ट में आती है, यह ठीक नहीं है। फिर ग्रानि बेल्ट वहाँ है या नहीं, वह दूर है। वह लोग कहते हैं कि रुपया हममें ले लीजिये, अगर आप को हिनाना है हाँगा हमको, ना देखा जायेगा। मकान दे दिये जायें, गायम दे दी जायें, वह वहाँ चले जायेंगे। आप इस बात के लिये तैयार हैं, तो कौन सा दिक्कत है? हम जानते हैं कि उनका वहाँ कोई जमान देने का तैयार नहीं था पंडित जो इस हाल में भाग खड़े थे, मैंने कहा: पंडित जी! आप कह क्या रहे हैं, आप किनकी आँखों से देखते हैं, किन के कानों से सुनते हैं? उन्होंने फोरन कैबला किया कि वह जमान मिलेगी। कहते हैं कि हमने ऐंभिमेंट किया था। मैं पूछना हूँ रेडी साहब से, हाउसिंग मिनिस्टर से, कि ऐंभिमेंट दिखावाओ वह कहाँ है। वह कहते हैं कि हमें छोड़ो, हम लेना नहीं चाहते। वह? कानों को लेना नहीं चाहते, हम देना नहीं चाहते, लेकिन ऐंभिमेंट किया है। हमारे पास कोई ऐंभिमेंट नहीं है। लेने वाले लेते नहीं हैं।



[श्री अचिंत राम]

मेरी समझ में नहीं आता ऐसा कौन प्राधनो हो सकता है जो न ले। जहां करा साहब ने इतना बड़ा काम किया है, वहां बाड़ा धोर करे। यह सराजनों मार्केट है। वहां के लोगों के पास कोई प्रापटी नहीं है, उन्होंने सब प्रापटी सरेंडर कर दी।

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** I think there is some misunderstanding.

जिस वक्त हमने फ्लैट्स बनाये दूकानों के ऊपर तो हम फ्लैट्स दूसरे लोगों को एलाट करने लगे थे। यह मेरे पास पढ़ें तो मेरे यह कहा कि अगर आप फ्लैट लेते हैं अपना रिहाइश के लिये और आपके साथ कोई दूसरी रहने की जगह है तो वह दे दीजिये और फ्लैट ले लीजिये। यह बात है। यह नहीं, कि क्लेम रद्द किया गया या उनमें कोई बाज ले ली गई। क्योंकि हम मल्टिलपल एलाटमेंट के हक में नहीं हैं।

**पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव (हिंसा):** अगर आपके कहने का मतलब यह कि उन्होंने फ्लैट सरेंडर कर दिये और मकानात सरेंडर करके ले लिये, तो आपके लिये ठीक नहीं है कि आप उनको फ्लैट्स न दें।

**श्री अचिंत राम :** मैं अर्ज कर रहा मा कि यह छोटी छोटी बातें हैं। आखिर इसमें कौन सी बात है? कमला मार्केट की बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आती। कोई मुझे समझा दे। वहां मन्दिर है, मस्जिद है, हरिद्व टेम्पल है। कोई वजह तो बतलाइये कि मैं वहां क्यों नहीं देते हूँ। लोग रुपया देने को तैयार हैं आप उनको मकान दीजिये। इस वास्ते मैं अर्ज कर रहा हूँ जैसे कदमर के बारे में कहा

Are you satisfied in your mind that you have rehabilitated all the people?

उसी तरह से मैं पूछता हूँ :  
Do you feel satisfied that all the displaced persons have got gainful occupation?

मैं नहीं कहता कि आपने बुरा काम किया है। आई मस्ट ऐडमिट इट कि आपने बहुत से मामले हल किये। लेकिन अभी तक सैटिस्फैक्शन नहीं हो सका। इसलिये मैं कहूंगा कि इस मामले को भी वैसे ही निबटाइये कि लोगों को गेनफुन आकुपेशन मिल जाये। आज यहां पर शरणार्थियों की बेकारी का जो स्टैंडर्ड है वह इस वास्ते हुआ कि पार्टीशन ने उनको बेकार किया। इस वास्ते उनकी पोजीशन मुल्निफ है। डोन्ट पुट दैम आन दैट लेवल।

बाकी रही क्लेम की बात। मुझे इस बात का दुख है कि मेरे पास विधवायें आती हैं और कहती हैं कि हमको कुछ नहीं मिला। मैं कहता हूँ कि आपका नम्बर नौ प्रायरीटी पर था। ढाई हजार प्रायरीटीज पडो हूँ। मैं अर्ज करूंगा कि आप और कामों को छोड़ कर जरा इस तरफ तवज्जह दें। जिनको आपने प्रायरीटी केटेगरी में रक्खा था उनको तो कुछ दें। दस हजार रुपये के क्लेमों वाले करीब आये लोग पडें हूँ, उनको ही कुछ दे दीजिये, लेकिन प्रायरीटी इन लोगों में शुरू कीजिये। आज आपके पता है कि लोगों की क्या हालत है? पहले तो आपने रुपये में तीन आने दिये, मार्केट में वह डेढ़ आने में बिकता है, डेढ़ आने का उनको नुकसान होता है। आज दस बरस बाद कुछ मामला हल हुआ। मैं अर्ज करूंगा, मैं अभी नहीं करूंगा क्योंकि आपके दिल में तो उनके लिये काफी हमदर्दी है, हमारा फर्ज है कि हम उनकी तरफ ध्यान दें। जब लोग कहते हैं कि हमें यकीन नहीं होता। लेकिन जब यकीन होता है तो आप से कहते हैं। इस वास्ते मेरी आपसे प्रार्थना है कि यह छोटी छोटी बातें हैं, गंगानगर का छोटा सा मामला है, काश्मीर वालों के लिये मीटिंग में जाने हूँ और हम कुछ महायता मांगते हैं तो आप कहते हैं कि हम रुपया नहीं दे सकते, ऐक्ट नहीं है। आप ऐक्ट लाइये,

हम सपोर्ट करेंगे। क्या बजह है कि प्राज उनको लोन नहीं मिलता ? जमीन उनको मिलती नहीं, लोन उनको मिलना नहीं, बनेम उनकी मिलता नहीं, तो आखिर वह कहाँ जायें ? मैं कहूँगा कि किसी की बात आप सुनें या न सुनें, आप अपनी सुन कर जो फैसला कोजियेगा, वह हमें मंजूर है।

**Shri Sanganna (Koraput-Reserved-Sch. Tribes):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me a chance to participate in this debate and say a few things about the Dandakaranya Scheme. When I met the hon. Minister at Bhubaneswar in the month of November last, I made a request to him to visit the Dandakaranya Scheme. He was kind enough to say that he would be visiting the same very soon, but I do not know whether he would be able to do it, because from the news today it seems that the Department will be wound up and he is going to be appointed as Governor of Orissa. If that proposal materialises, I am sure that he will give his experience and also advice about the implementation of the Scheme.

From the Report given by the Government, it seems that about 32 lakhs of people from East Bengal have been accommodated already and the remaining people have to be accommodated in other States—it seems those who have been accommodated already have been given accommodation in Assam, Tripura and other adjoining places. But from experience I see that the men who have been accommodated in Orissa are not sticking to the soil. It may be due to the fact that the people who have been accommodated are not given the vocation that is suitable for them, or, the people who have been dealing with them may not have been fair in their dealings. For instance, at Amrada Road, the refugees have been staying there for a long time, but after sometime there has been some disturbance and they vacated the place once for all. So in order to accommodate these people, the persons who are kept in charge of

the camps must be very co-operative and at the same time very friendly. Unless the refugees are tackled in a friendly way, I am afraid that they cannot be accommodated in a place which may be quite new to them and also foreign.

In Orissa also there are other camps where the people are very happy. For instance, in the district of Phulbani, there is a camp where the people are well accommodated and they have taken to the vocation of the local people there. So far as the Bengali population is concerned, there is not much difference between the Oriyas and the Bengalis. As a matter of fact, there is sweet relationship between the Bengalis and the Oriyas. So, as Shri Guha has said, if the refugees are accommodated in Orissa, I think there will be no difficulty. So far as the refugees from East Bengal are concerned, most of them are agriculturists. If these people are to be accommodated in Orissa, I think it could be done very easily, because the land in Orissa is quite suitable for the cultivation by these agriculturists coming from East Pakistan. Moreover some of them are artisans. They can be accommodated in the industrial programme of the Orissa State. They can be accommodated in the industrial areas like Hirakud project and the Rourkela plant project. If these people are absorbed there, I think there will be no complaint from them as to the way of life they are to lead. At the same time, if the people go there, they must have a sense of equality. If they have to impose themselves upon the people who are already residing there to the detriment of their interests, I think there will be trouble. For instance, if the people go there and create some political disturbance, I think there will be friction between the local people and the new arrivals. So, in order to have a cordial relationship there must be some co-ordinating authority so that there can be no difference of opinion between the people who are to be rehabilitated there and the people who already live there.

{Shri Sanganna}

So far as the Dandakaranya scheme is concerned, I think the Government have stated that the scheme has to be implemented not only for the displaced persons but also for the uplift of the Adibasis. So, if this scheme is to be implemented with that object also in view, I welcome it. But some critics from the Opposition have said that if these persons are rehabilitated in the Dandakaranya scheme they will be affected in every way. I assure the House that there will be no such difficulty, because the persons who sponsored the scheme are very efficient ICS officers. Shri S. V. Ramamurthi and Shri V. S. Hejmadi are able administrators and they have got first-hand knowledge. So, unless these people have been thoroughly satisfied, they could not have recommended this area for the settlement of the displaced persons. As a matter of fact, Shri Ramamurthy is a person who hails from the very State near this area where the Dandakaranya scheme is to be implemented, and so he must be more conversant with the local conditions there, where these persons are to be rehabilitated.

When the hon. Minister visited Orissa to acquaint himself with the facts of the State, he had a long discussion with the concerned Minister there and the Chief Minister of Orissa. In that discussion he has stated that in order to improve the arrangements in respect of the Dandakaranya scheme, he is out to do anything that is possible within the resources of the Government of India. If the Rehabilitation Ministry is to be wound up, I think the other Ministries must come to the rescue. Unless they come to the help of the Government of Orissa, it is not possible to implement the scheme.

From the report given by the Government of India it seems that they want some contribution from the State concerned, because there is the question of the development of roads. I hope the Government of India will not

be strict in this respect, because the Government of Orissa has very limited resources. As a matter of fact, the Government of Orissa is troubled so much about the filling up of its deficit that is coming up in the Second Five Year Plan. They have been adopting so many methods which are of course congenial to the spirit of the welfare State. Even then, if the Government of India want some contribution, I request them to realise that it is not possible for the Orissa Government to give any financial contribution. I think even the other States will also not be in a position to contribute.

So far as the Government of Orissa is concerned, the area in which the Dandakaranya scheme is located is very fertile and at the same time it is full of minerals. When the Government of Orissa is going to part with this tract of land, I think no better contribution is necessary. The area is full of the fauna and flora. I think it is a good place for development into a natural sanctuary. When the Government of Orissa is going to give up this entire plot of land I think no further or no better contribution is necessary. Moreover, in the matter of implementing the Dandakaranya scheme, communications play an important part. The hon. Minister may not of course have a first-hand knowledge about it, but, at the same time, he must have found out from the facts and figures the actual position. In order to approach the Dandakaranya area, communication from all sides must be developed. From the report I have seen that there is a proposal for constructing a railway line from Raipur through Kotpad, through Jeypore and Koraput to Vizianagaram. Of course this may not be adequate. If this line is extended to Malkangiri where the Dandakaranya scheme is to be located, I think the line must start from Rajnandgaon on the Nagpur-Howrah line—a place between Gondia and Bhilai. I think if the line is constructed from that place, the whole of Jagdalpur area and the whole of Koraput district will be connected very safely.

At the same time, the Government of Orissa as well as the Andhra Government are facing the problem of rehabilitating the people who have been displaced by the Machkund hydro-electric project. They have been striving hard to rehabilitate these people. On account of the difficulty of communications they are not able to do it. I think if the schemes that have been taken up by the Government of Orissa and the Andhra Government are integrated with the Dandakaranya scheme, it will be good, and I hope the amount that they are going to spend in rehabilitating those people will be available also for the implementation of the Dandakaranya scheme.

Moreover, the people who are in charge of the project are not given any special allowance or protection. I do not know about the Government of India, but in regard to the other States, I think their servants are not given any special allowance just as is given in the case of special projects like the Rourkela steel project and the Hirakud dam project and other steel projects of the Government of India. Unless these people are given some special allowance, it is not possible for the authorities to implement the scheme with zeal. So, in order to have the scheme implemented successfully, I think the officers there must be given all kinds of protection. We have seen that they are very much isolated from one place to another. It is very risky because it is so much infested with wild animals and unless the people have some special protection, they cannot implement the Dandakaranya scheme and at the same time, their lives also will be risky.

About the improvement of communications, an air strip is also necessary. It seems the Government of India is going to have one air strip at Koraput and if necessary, they may also construct other air strips. In this connection, I may suggest the location of the second air strip at Rayagada, a place between Visakhapatnam and

Nagpur. I think if Rayagada is taken up as the second air strip, the area adjacent to that air strip is Kalahandi and the whole area will be benefited. I think the whole area can be surveyed at close quarters and there will be no difficulty of communications. From Koraput, it can be approached that way.

So far as the other transport facilities are concerned I can suggest a steam-launch route from Rajahmundry to Kunavaram across the river Godavari. If the steam-launch is extended up to Motu, I think the materials that will be required at the preliminary stages for the implementation of the Dandakaranya scheme can be transported easily at less cost than transporting materials to Motu in the rainy season by primitive methods. I think if the suggestion is taken into consideration, the Dandakaranya area will be connected even by water from Motu to Rajahmundry and from there extend the transport by the mainline. This has also been stated by me at the time of my giving evidence before the Inland Water Transport Commission and they appeared to have appreciated my idea. So, I request the hon. Minister to take up the matter with the Inland Water Transport Commission before he goes out for something big.

Of course the hon. Minister has got much sympathy towards Orissa, because whenever I represented the difficulties of the refugees in Orissa, he was very much appreciative of the difficulties and he said that he would be in a position to do as much help as was possible within the resources of the Government of India. In order to safeguard the interests of the adivasis, the hon. Minister will be kind enough to protect them, because when the implementation of the scheme takes place, I think there will be so much temptation from the plains people to exploit the adivasis. So, in order to prevent the adivasis from being exploited, he must make a special arrangement. The adivasis are so sensitive and they are very much

[Shri Sanganna]

afraid of the plains people, because they have been under exploitation for centuries together. I think that unless the Government comes to their rescue, the methods that have been adopted so far may not be sufficient.

With these words, I conclude.

**Shri Subiman Ghose (Burdwan):**  
In venturing to discuss the problem of the refugees, I touch a delicate subject. It has been made all the more delicate, because when we from this opposition side, particularly from West Bengal, speak something, it is our misfortune that some motive is ascribed to us or some political game is seen through it; Our Rehabilitation Minister is never tired of repeating the Bettiah episode. Of course, it is an exploded theory and everybody now is able to see the game, namely, that the Rehabilitation Minister wanted a handy weapon to kick up a row to cover his defects and he has got it.

I would not have minded this, but another misfortunate is that our Prime Minister is also thinking on the same lines. In his reply to the budget speeches, as Finance Minister, he said:

"It was fantastic that any political party, whether it was the communist or the praja-socialist party, should encourage people to make the demand that they should not be rehabilitated outside West Bengal. Such a demand made their rehabilitation impossible."

He then discusses the condition of Sealdah Station and ultimately comes to the conclusion:

"Thus rehabilitation question has been made a political question."

When this charge has been levelled by the Prime Minister, I think it requires careful examination. I shall refer to one book by name *The Great Challenge* published by the West Bengal Government on 22nd April

1957. In this book, we find the writing of the Chief Minister of West Bengal, the Rehabilitation Minister of West Bengal and also the writing of our Rehabilitation Minister. The headline seems to be a very courageous one: "Unprecedented Challenge" and most probably it is in consonance with the gallantry that is being exhibited by our Rehabilitation Minister. He says; that 40 lakhs of refugees have arrived in West Bengal and more than 30 lakhs are concentrated in the State of West Bengal alone. I do not know what is the meaning of "concentrated". It means perhaps that they are remaining in West Bengal.

In this connection, I want to point the writing of the previous Rehabilitation Minister of West Bengal. She says:

"To plan in any satisfactory manner when the future is unknown is difficult and almost impossible. Yet, to the extent possible, plans have been made and are under implementation in West Bengal to create new avenues of employment and to turn waste lands and marginal and waterlogged areas into homesteads and cultivable land."

This has been written on 22nd April, 1957. Now, as a matter of fact, the refugees want to know the quantum of the wasteland, marginal and waterlogged lands, that have been reclaimed since 22nd April, 1957 and how many refugees have been rehabilitated on these lands and how many houses have been erected. That the refugees want to know, because if this gives an indication, it indicates that wastelands, marginal and waterlogged lands are still available in West Bengal.

In the Delhi Edition of the *Hindustan Standard* today, I find there is an editorial beginning with the heading "Good Augury". It says:

"Dr. Roy is understood to have assured the Advisory Committee that unwilling refugees would not

be coerced by the Government to leave West Bengal for purposes of rehabilitation; and secondly, distribution of doles to many of the camp refugees who had declined to go outside the State would be restored."

Lower down, it says:

"Hitherto the Government policy for drafting refugees outside West Bengal for resettlement had been based on the ground of non-availability of surplus land inside the State. Dr. Roy is understood to have made it clear to the Committee that agricultural land for cultivation was still very scarce in the State; nevertheless, the Government had now been able to secure some waste land, about 1·37 lac acres. In West Bengal for those refugees who would agree to be resettled there."

Perhaps, had I not disclosed that it is the name of Dr. Roy that is connected with this, the hon. Rehabilitation Minister would have thought that it is the voice of the leftist parties. The Chief Minister of West Bengal said that he does not want to take them outside Bengal. They are not our words; he says that in view of the fact that there is availability of waste land and marginal and water-locked areas. So, it cannot be said that we are playing a political game in not asking the refugees to go outside Bengal. It is absolutely wrong. It is not our political game. It is said by everybody and it is also said by the hon. Chief Minister of West Bengal.

Then I come to another point. On 12th August, 1957 when I spoke on the Rehabilitation budget, I spoke something regarding Purulia and I did refer to Dandakaranya. My misfortune was that without understanding my viewpoint, the Rehabilitation Minister found a peculiar delight in hitting me below the belt. Purulia has come to West Bengal before that.

Here I want to point out one fallacy. In the hand-out that was given to us yesterday it is stated that in West Bengal the population per square mile is 1,000. I submit that the theory is fallacious. If you exclude Calcutta and the industrial belt, what will be the population per square mile? I can give one concrete example. In Purulia which has come after the States Re-organisation the square miles is 3,200 and the population is 11 lakhs. It comes to about 340 per square mile. The population of the adjoining district of Burdwan may also be taken into account. Before the influx of the refugees, population per square mile was 750 or a little more than that. Its square mile is 2,600. Its population was about 19 lakhs to 20 lakhs. Even after this, Burdwan has accepted two lakhs of refugee population. While considering this, I fail to understand why 5 lakhs of refugees cannot be rehabilitated in Purulia, because when the population is taken into consideration, you will see that a vast tract of land is lying fallow there in which the refugees can be rehabilitated. My offence was I told that in order that a compact body may be set up some portion of Manbhum or Santhal Farganas may be taken....

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** How can it be taken?

**Shri Subiman Ghose:** At once the Rehabilitation Minister saw that I am after a States re-organisation. But did I claim an inch of Bihar to Bengal? Did I say that for the rehabilitation of refugees Bihar should give some areas to Bengal? I did not say that. Bihar is a part of India and if some portion is required, I do not know where is the harm.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** You make a proposal to the refugees if you are a revolutionary.

**Shri Subiman Ghose:** The difficulty is that my voice will be a voice in the

[Shri Subiman Ghose]

wilderness. I refer to the hon. Minister again "The Great Challenge" in which it has been written:

"In selecting States for resettlement care is now being taken to get areas as near as possible so that they may preserve their own community life and not feel lost in a place where climatic and social conditions differ materially from their own."

It is for this reason that I said that if some portion is required, it might be taken. But I think it has put out of temper one of my hon. friends. I might also be charged....

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I have not gone out of temper. I have real sympathy for the East Bengal refugees and, as a matter of fact, for all the refugees. But I would like my revolutionary friend to suggest that to those refugees and turn them into revolutionaries to fight their case in East Bengal, rather than dumping them on other parts. You may put suggestions to employ their energy.

Shri Subiman Ghose: Again my hon. friend says that he is not out of temper. But he is calling me a revolutionary. I do not know. I welcome that anyway. Anyway, I give up that contention. But what is the harm in rehabilitating the refugees in South of Purulia, where seven lakhs of people can be rehabilitated? Where is the harm?

But, without any thought being given to that, motive was ascribed to me by the hon. Minister. He did not answer why rehabilitation cannot take place within Purulia. In this connection, I again refer to "The Great Challenge". All sorts of statistics have been given there—what is the total square miles, what is the population, what is the number of refugees there in all the districts etc. But Purulia has been left out. I fail to understand why this Government, as also the West Bengal Government, will not take into consideration this Purulia

question. Several lakhs of people can be rehabilitated there. This is not a political game of the opposition parties. It is a political game of the Government, because they are afraid that Purulia being a border district, the refugees should not be rehabilitated there.

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

Shri Subiman Ghose: I will conclude now. Otherwise, I would have discussed many more matters. I now come to Dandakaranya. Much was said last year in the hand out. The Rehabilitation Minister gave us to understand that it will take three years, the scheme will take three years to gain momentum. Then he gave us a hand-out this year, painting a very rosy picture, saying he is out to construct the second paradise at Dandakaranya....

An Hon. Member: Where is the first paradise?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Will the paradise be on the border of Bihar or where?

Shri Subiman Ghose: If you are afraid of Bihar, I do not want Bihar. Even in Bengal if you apply your mind, you will find sufficient land. In answer to S.Q. No. 893 on 4th March, the hon. Minister stated that the areas suitable for the rehabilitation of displaced persons in the vast tract have yet to be determined after a detailed survey. Even then he will say that the Dandakaranya is ready for rehabilitation. In the last budget speech, he said "after the monsoons I am going to shift 500 families to Malkangiri taluka". May I respectfully ask the hon. Minister: is the monsoon over? Have 500 families been rehabilitated there?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Monsoon has not started!

Shri Subiman Ghose: That is the protection that you can take. Another protection you can take. The monsoon of which year, he has not said. Sir, I would like to remind him of what the poet, Wordsworth, had said: "Wisdom often comes nearer when we stoop than when we soar".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member wants to end with that, I think.

Shri Subiman Ghose: One last point I wanted to touch was about the future immigrants, whether near-about a crore of people left in East Bengal will be received as refugees or not. Now the Government wants to say, "Oh, they should not be accepted". But I would remind them of the writing of Gandhiji and the speech of our Prime Minister—my friend, Shri Bimal Ghose, has left out the emotional portion of our Prime Minister's speech—because the Prime Minister said, "We shall be ever with you". If it means anything, then that "ever" has not yet been exhausted and a dead-line has not been drawn 'thus far and no farther you will be accepted'. It will be absolutely cruel on the part of the Government not to accept these persons.

श्रीश्री कृष्ण मेहता (जम्मू तथा काश्मीर) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष जी, पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान से आये हुये लाखों शरणार्थियों को बसाने का जो काम भारत सरकार ने किया है वह एक शानदार मिसाल है, जिससे किमी का इन्कार नहीं होना चाहिये। यह एक देखने की बात थी कि जब वह लोग अपना सब कुछ खोकर यहाँ शिविरों में आकर रहे थे तो उनको कितनी बातों की आसानियां पहुंचाई गईं। लेकिन जो अपना धन जन खा कर आते हैं चाहे उनके लिये लाख करो पर उन्हें तमल्ला नहीं होता। और तसल्ली हो भी कैसे, क्योंकि जो दरजा उनसे छीना गया है वह उनको मिलता नहीं। मिले भी कैसे। यह बड़ी दिक्कत की बात

है। मैं मंत्री जी को क्या कहूँ। यह तो खुद जानते हैं। पुनर्वासि मंत्रालय ने इन लोगों के लिये काफी किया, बस्तियां बनाई, उपनगर बनाये, शिक्षा का प्रबन्ध किया, उद्योगों का किया। फिर भी छोटी छोटी मांगें उनके पास आती रहती हैं। वे मांगें होतीं तो छोटी हैं परन्तु मनुष्य के जीवन से उनका क्या सम्बन्ध होता है। कहीं पानी नहीं है, कहीं बिजली नहीं है, कहीं कारोबार नहीं है। ऐसी बहुत सी चीजें हैं जो उनको तंग करती हैं और मिनिस्ट्री के लिये भी यह प्रति दिन की दिक्कत है। इन चीजों को तरफ जल्दी से जल्दी ध्यान देना चाहिये। मैंने देखा है कि जहाँ कहीं भी उनके उपनगर और बस्तियां हैं वहाँ पर वे लोग ज्यादा से ज्यादा उद्योग चाहते हैं। क्योंकि अगर उनके पास काम नहीं होता तो घटी हुई घटनायें उनके दिमाग में चक्कर लगाती रहती हैं। दूसरे परिवार का प्रत्येक सदस्य चाहता है कि वह ज्यादा से ज्यादा मेहनत करके आगे का अपना जीवन बदले।

मुझे गत वर्ष पलवल, पंजाब, जाने का मौका मिला था। मैंने वहाँ के बसे हुये शरणार्थियों का देखा। उनके पास कोई उद्योग नहीं था। वे बड़ी कठिनाई में थे। यहाँ तक कि पानी की भी उनको बड़ी दिक्कत थी। चाहे हम कितना भी कहें तो भी पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान से आये हुये शरणार्थी टिकाने लग चुके हैं। अब पूर्वी बंगाल से आये हुये शरणार्थियों के लिये आप सब कुछ कर रहे हैं। मैं कहूँगी कि आप उन्हें हर तरह की आसानियां दें, परन्तु साथ साथ ही कोई उद्योग भी होना चाहिये ताकि वे अपने पर भरोसा कर सकें और उससे पुनर्वासि मंत्रालय को भी आसानी हो जायेंगी। जैसा मध्यम दर्जे के उद्योगों का विस्तार करने के लिये २० योजनायें स्वीकृत हो गई हैं और १० अन्य योजनायें विचाराधीन हैं। छोटे पैमाने के कुटीर उद्योग शुरू करने के लिये सन् १९५३-५८ में कई लाख रुपये की लागत की १९ योजनायें स्वीकृत की गई हैं। इस तरह



### [श्रीमती कृष्णा मेहता]

पुनर्वासि मंत्रालय ने जो काम किया है उससे बड़ी आसानीयां हो जायेंगी। मैं कहूंगी कि जल्दी से जल्दी यह सब कुछ होना चाहिये।

अब मैं उन शरणार्थियों का जिक्र करना चाहती हूँ जो कि काश्मीर के उस हिस्से से आये हैं जो भारत का अंग है और जिस पर पाकिस्तान ने हमला करके लाखों लोगों को बेघर बना दिया है। काश्मीर के लोगों की मुक्ति की भाँड़ में काश्मीर की मुष्ठी जनता को उखाड़ कर आज भी आक्रमणकारी की हैसियत से वह अपना ताजायज कब्जा जमाये बैठा है और मंगला बांध का निर्माण करके लाखों लोगों को उजाड़ने की कोशिश कर रहा है। जो लोग उस हिस्से से भारत की शरण में आये हैं उनके लिये बहुत कुछ किया गया है। इसमें कोई इन्कार नहीं कर सकता। परन्तु जब तक उजड़े तृये के लिये पूरी तरह से ठिकाना न हो, चाहे लाख सहायता दी जाये वह नहीं के बराबर है। जो शरणार्थी आये हैं वे अधिकतर व्यापारी वर्ग के हैं। करोड़ों की सम्पत्ति उनकी वहाँ रह गई। यहाँ तक कि जो डाकखानों में उनका रुपया था वह भी उनको नहीं मिल पाया, हात्नाकि उनके पास कितने हैं। परन्तु बेकार। किसी को अगर मिला होगा तो उसकी हांशियारी से या उसके रसूख से। आज भी बहुत सी कठिनाइयां उनकी बनी हुई हैं।

बहुत से जम्मू काश्मीर में बसा दिये गये हैं। वहाँ भी आपकी कृपा से अच्छा प्रबन्ध हो गया है। राज्य सरकार ने काफी मेहनत की है तथा हमदर्दी दिखाई है। लेकिन अभी भी उनकी कुछ दिक्कतें हैं। जो दिल्ली में तथा भारत के अन्य हिस्सों में हैं उनकी भी अभी भी कुछ कठिनाइयां हैं। अभी दिल्ली में भी बहुत से रजिस्टर तक नहीं हुये हैं। और भी बहुत से उन्हें दिक्कतें हैं। उनसे इसने वहाँ का मकानों का किराया छाया

सात किस्तों में मांगा जा रहा है। इसलिये कि बं लोग गैर दाबदार हैं। ठीक है जो दे सकते हैं वे दें मगर उनसे इन्साफ़ मे लिया जाये। परन्तु मैं नहीं समझ सकती कि वह कैसे दंगे। १५० रुपया वेतन पाने वाला जिसके परिवार में ५ आदमी खाने वाले हैं और दो उनमें अनाथ होंगे क्योंकि जिनके मां बाप वहाँ मारे गये हैं वे भी अपने रिश्तेदारों के पास ही रहते हैं। बं कैसे रुपया दंगे, कहाँ से लायेंगे। इन में कुछ विधवा स्त्रियां भी हैं। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि यह कैसे होगा। माननीय मंत्री जो उन पर कुछ रहम करे और उनके लिये कुछ माँचें, कुछ रिलीफ़ का प्रबन्ध करे। जो मात किस्तें आप कह रहे हैं उनको १४ कर दीजिये तां भी कुछ आसानी हो जायेगी।

कुछ शरणार्थी देहरादून में जा कर बसे हैं। उनके कोई ५०० परिवार वहाँ होंगे। वे यंग कॅम्प में थे। उनको कुछ रुपया दे कर वह कॅम्प बन्द कर दिया गया था। उनसे अब वह रकम नीटाने का कहा जा रहा है। वे कहाँ से दे सकते हैं। उन में से अधिकतर विधवायें हैं। कम से कम आपको यह करना चाहिये कि आप उनकी आमदनी देखें कि किमके पास है और जिमके पास हो उसमें लें।

राजस्थान के गंगानगर इलाके में भी कुछ रहते हैं। उनको थोड़ी सी जमीन दी गई थी। वह उसका मालिया और आबियाना बराबर देते हैं। लेकिन अब सन् १९५२ से आज तक का मालिकाना उनसे मांग रहे हैं जो काफी रकम बनती है। उन्होंने बंजर जमीन को बड़ी मेहनत से काफ़त के लायक बनाया है। ये बड़ी झमेले की बातें हैं। जब तक व गैर दाबदार हूँ ता उनमें मालिकाना क्या लिया जा रहा है। उनको जमीन के आधे पास जो जमीन है वह भी औरों को दे रहे हैं। उनको जो जमीन दी गई है वह

उनके लिये काफी नहीं है। अगर उनको प्राप्तपास की जमीन भी बिक जायेगी तो वे उस थोड़ी सी जमीन में क्या करेंगे। आपको कुछ सोचना चाहिये इन सब के लिये वे लोग अपना सब कुछ छोड़ कर भागें हैं। वे लोग काफी जमीनों के मालिक थे। जब तक इनका इलाका इनको नहीं मिलता तब तक इनके लिये कुछ ठोस प्रबन्ध होना चाहिये। उस इलाके के लिये काश्मीर की जनता बेचैन है। मैं कहूँगी कि आप उनके लिये कमेटी बनाइये जिसमें काश्मीर के कुछ सदस्य भी शामिल हों। वह कमेटी जा कर इस बात की जांच करे कि किसके पास क्या आमदनी है। अगर यह कुछ नहीं होना है और उन बेचारों का हम प्रकार से निकाला जाता है और उनमें रुपयों की मांग की जाती है, तो मैं कहूँगी कि यह तो उनको फिर से उजाड़ना होगा। इस पर जरूर ध्यान देना चाहिये। जब वे लोग आकर फरियाद करते हैं तो बड़ी बंवेनी होती है। मेहरबानी करके आप इस पर जरूर गौर कीजिये और उनकी जो दिक्कतें हैं उनको दूर करने का कोई ठोस कदम उठाइये ताकि वे लोग फिर से कह सकें कि हमने आपकी मेहरबानी से इतना कुछ पाया।

17-00 hrs.

#### CLOSURE OF TEA GARDENS IN ASSAM

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The House will now take up Half-an-hour discussion regarding the closure of tea gardens in Assam.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Sasaram):** This half-an-hour discussion has been raised due to the inadequate and unsatisfactory reply given by the hon. Deputy Minister in reply to Question No. 1025 on the 18th March, 1958. The question specifically asked was whether Government will make any efforts to save those gardens from closing so that the labourers employed in them may not starve consequent to the

closure of those gardens and the reply given was that details were being ascertained. The hon. Deputy Minister further admitted that six tea gardens were on the point of closing, and according to the information of the Government of Assam, which had been furnished to the Central Government, about 1,500 workers were likely to be thrown out of their jobs. He further admitted that these gardens were going to be closed because of lack of finance, mismanagement and lack of replantation and so on.

I think that it is a very serious matter when mismanagement exists in our tea gardens because the plantation industry is one of the biggest organised industry in India, which employs over one million workers, who are primarily agricultural workers and on whom depend about five million other persons. About Rs. 75 crores have been invested in this industry and it has made over three million acres of land accessible which were previously inaccessible. There are about eight lakh acres of land on which tea is grown and that land is such where nothing else can be grown. Besides, due to this tea plantation industry, some help is also given to the plywood and transport industry and these two industries also employ a large number of workers. If those workers are allowed to be thrown out of work in that way, a serious situation will be created not only in Assam and in South India, where those workers are employed, but in other parts of the country also because in Assam this industry comes to about 49 per cent. in West Bengal to about 25 per cent. and to about 26 per cent. in other parts of the country, particularly in South India. It will create a situation in that way particularly in Assam.

According to the information, which was supplied here on the 18th March, already two gardens have been closed and that information was supplied by the Government of Assam to the Government of India about six months ago. Over two thousand workers became