

delayed further because the labour troubles are not over. Will the Minister kindly elucidate the position audibly?

DR. K. L. RAO: It is true that I submitted that according to the original plan, it should have been completed in 1971. This is one of the very useful projects which gives plenty of power and had it been completed Kerala would have gained a lot of money, because it is a surplus State and it could have sold it to Tamil Nadu and Mysore and earned a lot of money. But unfortunately I must accept that there has been a certain amount of labour trouble. We have got a review of the project every three months. No other project was paid so much attention as this one. But in spite of that, it has been found that every time there is some trouble or other. There is go slow now. This is very unfortunate, because it is an extremely good project. Government of Kerala is very anxious about it and it is doing its best. I would appeal even now to the various members concerned to see that a little more activity is put in. If that is done, we can do it even before 1974 itself.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Will the Minister be good enough to indicate what has been the extra cost as a result of this delay to the Government of India or Government of Kerala?

DR. K. L. RAO: I would not say extra cost due to the delay. But the extra cost over the revised estimate due to various circumstances like the devaluation, the conflict with Pakistan, the general price rise, etc., is about Rs. 12 crores.

श्री राम कंबर : श्री मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि श्रमिकों की वजह से इस कार्य में बाधा पड़ी। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उन श्रमिकों की समस्या मूल रूप से हल हो गई है जिस में, जैसा आप ने कहा, यह योजना 1975 तक पूरी हो सके ?

DR. K. L. RAO: As I said, the Government of Kerala is very anxious and they are doing their best in this direction. Now of course the monsoon season is there and no work can be done now.

The work will be resumed in October. I feel, as I said, the project could be completed even by 1974 if there is a little more activity.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: The Minister says that the delay in the completion of the project is entirely due to labour trouble. May I know whether there have not been cases of disputes between the contractors and the Government and this has also contributed to the delay in the completion of the project? May I know whether the stubbornness of the Government in not granting to the labour some rise in the wages as a result of the rise in cost of living is also responsible for the delay and this could have been avoided? In one word, I want to know whether the disputes between the contractors and the Government have been a greater contributory factor to the delay in the completion of the project and that the contribution to the delay by the labour is only fractional?

DR. K. L. RAO: I submitted there may be many other factors. But, according to my judgement the major factor was the labour trouble.

Deposits Collected by Maruti Limited

*125. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maruti Limited has collected deposits worth Rs. 4 crores from 200 agents/depositors;

(b) if this figure is not correct, what is the actual figure of the deposits collected;

(c) what is the rate of interest, if any, on these deposits; and

(d) whether permission from Government to collect deposits from would-be agents was given by Government to Maruti Limited?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI DEBARATA BARUA): (a) to (c). The latest balance sheet of Maruti Limited filed with

the Register of Companies, Delhi and Haryana, is as at 31st March, 1972.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: This is July 1973.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: I will explain that.

This balance sheet indicates that, besides secured loans from banks, there were non-interest-bearing unsecured loans from other than banks totalling to Rs. 4,00,000. A further analysis of such unsecured loans is not available in the balance sheet.

(d) The Companies Act, 1956 does not require the company to obtain permission of the Government for accepting deposits from their "would-be agents".

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा प्रश्न क्या है और उस का उत्तर क्या है ? जो आप के नियम हैं उन में कहा गया है कि :

"A question may be asked for the purpose of obtaining information on a matter of public importance."

जो बँलैस शीट आपको, मझको या किसी और को रजिस्ट्रार आफ कंपनीज को एक रुपया दे कर मिल सकती है उस के आधार पर मंत्री महोदय ने प्रश्न का उत्तर दे दिया है। बँलैस शीट प्राप्त करने के बाद एक साल और अप्रैल, मई, जून और जुलाई, चार महीने बीत गये हैं। इस बीच में एक एक सूबे से लगातार मेरे पास जानकारी आ रही है कि वड़ी तेजी से लोगों से डिपॉजिट वसूल विया जा रहा है। यह एजेंसी के लिए है या जैसे दूसरी कम्पनियाँ डिपॉजिट लेती हैं उस तरह है, इस के बारे में कोई जानकारी नहीं मिल रही है। यह तो मेरा प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर है।

अब मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उन को... (ध्यक्षान) क्या मैं बयवस्था का सवाल नहीं उठा सकता हूँ ? (ध्यक्षान) मंत्री महोदय गलत जवाब में तो प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर उठेगा। आप

लोग नियमों से ऊपर नहीं है। (ध्यक्षान) अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप मेरे प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर पर निर्णय दीजिये।

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a point of order. Ask a question. No point of order can arise in the Question Hour.

श्री मधु लिमये : मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर ही नहीं आया है।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : वह लोग हुल्लड़बाजी कर रहे हैं। वह तय करके आये हैं की मारुति पर हुल्लड़बाजी करेंगे। (ध्यक्षान)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Sir, on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: No point of order during the Question Hour. Please sit down.

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, प्रश्न पूछने के पहले मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है आप मुझे प्रोटेक्शन दें। मैं गडई कहूंगा तो यह फिर हल्ला करेंगे इसलिए मैं हुल्लड़बाजी कह रहा हूँ। यह हुल्लड़बाजी बन्द होनी चाहिये।

MR. SPEAKER: I have already warned him about it.

श्री मधु लिमये : हुल्लड़बाजी बन्द हो, शांति स्थापित हो।

MR. SPEAKER: I would request hon. Members not to interrupt him while he is asking a question.... (Interruptions)

SHRI PILOO MODY: Sir, you have first to instruct the Deputy Whip who went around members requesting them to do this.... (interruptions)

श्री मधु लिमये : क्या वजह है कि मारुति का नाम निकलते ही इतनी धबराहट हो जाती है और हुल्लड़बाजी शुरू हो जाती है।

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Those hon. Members who are championing the cause of Maruti Limited are not serving the Prime Minister.

श्री मधु लिमये : क्या मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर आया है, इतना बताइये तब मैं सप्लीमेंटरी पूछता हूँ। अगर आपकी राय में ए बी सी सब को कम्बाइन करके ही उत्तर देना है यह नई पारिपाटी होगी... (इंटररूप्शन) मैं इन से पूछ रहा हूँ। ये अगर कहें कि मैं इसके बारे में सफाई न मांगू तो मैं नहीं मांगूंगा।

MR. SPEAKER: Don't interrupt the House please. Let him ask a question. (Interruptions) What are you doing? If you go on like this, I cannot help it. Shri Limaye.

श्री मधु लिमये : ये लोग मेरा समय ले रहे हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इंटरवेशन का भी कोई मौका होता है। एक चीज चल रही है उसको आप ख्वामख्वाह कम्प्लिकेट कर रहे हैं।

Mr. Limaye, there is no point of order involved. The Minister made it very clear that his reply was upto April, 1972. If that was not in his reply, he could ask a second question. (Interruptions) No point of order during the Question Hour.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You declare the word "Maruti" unparliamentary and all the problems will be solved. (Interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: rose—

MR. SPEAKER: If only you were to sit down, everything will be solved.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: They are collecting Rs. 3 lakhs... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Will you please sit down or not?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I want your observation.

MR. SPEAKER: Every time, you are asking for my observations. Do not make it so Common and Cheap.

Let him put his question. Shri Limaye.

श्री मधु लिमये : मेरा पहला प्रश्न है कि विगत सोलह महीनों में क्या मंत्री महोदय ने इस बात की जानकारी हासिल करने का प्रयास किया है कि क्या डिपाजिट्स के तौर पर चार करोड़ रुपया मारुति लिमिटेड कम्पनी ने अपनी माता जी का दबाव लोगों के ऊपर डाल कर—(इंटररूप्शन) मारुति में या माता जी में अनपार्लियामेंटरी क्या है ?

MR. SPEAKER: I will not be able to protect you if you go on instigating them. You ask a straight question. Don't ask questions in a provocative form.

श्री मधु लिमये : मेरे ऊपर आप न बरसिये। मैं स्टूट पूछ रहा हूँ। हुल्लड़बाजी ये करते हैं आप मेरे ऊपर बरसते हैं। क्या माता जी अनपार्लियामेंटरी है ?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You want to kill Parliament. This is the highest forum. The Prime Minister is doing it. You say, it is wrong. You should be ashamed of yourselves... (Interruptions)

श्री मधु लिमये : आप मुझको क्यों दबा रहे हैं। ये हुल्लड़बाजी कर रहे हैं। आप इनको दबाइये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप को कोई मतलब नहीं कि दूसरों को कहें कि हुल्लड़बाजी कर रहे हैं।

श्री ठुकम चन्द कछवाय : हुल्लड़ ये करेंगे और आप हमें दबायेंगे। यह नहीं होगा।

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member should put a straight question... (Interruptions)

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN: He did not say anything unparliamentary.

SHRI P. K. DEO: We do not know who is the 'Mataji' of Maruti.

MR. SPEAKER: If you instigate the other side and if they raise their voice, I cannot help it. Please put a straight question.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: It is not only Mr. Madhu Limaye who can be charged with provoking anybody, but is it not legitimate for us to expect the Minister to give us full information? The Question-Hour is for eliciting information. Why should the Minister resist it?

श्री मधु लिमये : मेरा सवाल यह है कि क्या सरकारी सत्ता का दुरुपयोग करके चार करोड़ रुपये के डिपॉजिट्स भारी वितरकों से, बुड बि एजेंट्स से बसूले गये हैं और दो करोड़ विना रसीद का बसूला गया है अंडर दी टेबल? (इंटरपोज़) क्या इनकी इच्छा के अनुसार में सप्लीमेंटरी करूँ ?

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: I hope the hon. Member will appreciate the position that in regard to non-government companies we have to proceed under the Company Law....

श्री मधु लिमये : रिजर्व बैंक के रेग्युलेशंस भी हैं ।

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: So far as the Company Law is concerned, there are certain regulations under which the balance sheet has to be filed. And for the filing of the balance-sheet for the year ending 31st March 1973, it has got six months time and then one month for filing the balance-sheet with the Registrar of Companies. So, the time for filing the balance-sheet has not yet come and the company can legitimately say that we have still time and, we have no provision under the law by which we can ask the company to file the balance-sheet now because it is not required under the law.

Secondly, this balance sheet, when filed, our Department goes into whatever is found in it and then we examine the matters. But only on the perusal of the documents as required to be filed under the Companies Act, the Department can ask for further information.

So far we have no information about the agency except what is stated in the balance-sheet where the company has stated that selling arrangements for the distribution of the cars are being made

and that negotiations with some dealers have already been finalised and efforts are being made to appoint further dealers of good repute and sound financial standing to market the products. This is absolutely legal for a company, to have selling agencies. We cannot proceed on the basis that the creation of selling agency or even the taking up of deposits is an unsound business practice. All that we have to say at this stage is that Government has no information about these selling agents as alleged, and once we have the information, as required under the Companies Act, necessary action will be taken and whatever information comes to the Ministry will be processed.

श्री मधु लिमये : मेरे एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में सरकार ने कबूल किया कि जिन जिन बड़े शेयरहोल्डर्स ने मासुति निमिटेड के शेयर लिये हैं, उन को अनाप-शनाप लेटर्स आफ इन्वेन्ट वगैरह दिये गये हैं । (इयवधान) रिजर्व बैंक ने रेग्युलेशंस जारी किये हैं, जिन के तहत जो कंपिटल इश्यूड है, उस के पच्चीस परसेंट तक डिपॉजिट लिये जा सकते हैं । दोनों के डिपॉजिट्स—एजेन्ट्स में लिए हुए डिपॉजिट्स और अन्य डिपॉजिट्स के बारे में पच्चीस परसेंट तक रिजर्व बैंक की सीमा है । केवल कंपनी कानून के तहत यह मामला नहीं आता है । इस सम्बन्ध में रिजर्व बैंक के रेग्युलेशंस भी देखने चाहिए । क्या बैंक ऑफ आने से पहले ही मंत्री महोदय रजिस्ट्रार की मार्फत, या कंपनी एफेयर्स डिपार्टमेंट की जितनी एजेन्सीज हैं, उनमें से किसी एक एजेन्सी की मार्फत, मासुति निमिटेड में यह जानाकारी हासिल करेंगे कि उन्होंने कुल कितने डिपॉजिट्स इकट्ठे किये और बुड बि एजेंट से चार करोड़ रुपया रसीद पर और दो करोड़ रुपया अंडर दी टेबल प्राप्त किया है या नहीं ? क्या वह यह जानकारी हासिल करके सदन को अवगत करायेंगे ।

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: So far as the Reserve Bank regulations are concerned we have gone into this point... (Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Please listen to the Minister.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: Reserve Bank regulations do not apply to the business transactions. (Interruption) I will repeat what I said: The Reserve Bank regulations do not apply to the normal business transactions...

श्री मधु लिमये : डिपॉजिट्स के लिए भी नहीं ? (व्यवधान)

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: It does not apply to the normal business transactions. There is no provision under the law. (Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER: Let him reply.

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): It is no doubt that there are Reserve Bank regulations controlling or regulating the deposits. Those regulations themselves define what is the deposit contemplated for the purpose of those very regulations. Now in that definition itself deposits which are received for the purposes of the business of the company from purchasing/selling and other agencies for the purposes of the business of the company are specifically excluded. I have understood the honourable Member's question. Let me complete the answer. Therefore, even, assuming that under the Reserve Bank regulations, the deposits from selling agents have been accepted, about which, as my colleague has said, we have no authentic or official information, yet, in the absence of the balance sheet for the year ending 31st March, 1973. (Interruptions).

AN HON. MEMBER: It is for the year ending 31st March, 1972.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: It is not 1972 but it is 1973.

Therefore, even assuming that these deposits have been accepted, they will not be covered by the Reserve Bank regulations. That is one part of the question.

The second question is, I believe, with regard to the Companies Act. The question was this.

श्री मधु लिमये : मैंने पूछा है कि कम्पनी एफेयर्ज डिपार्टमेंट की जितनी एजेन्सिज हैं, क्या बलैस शीट का इन्तजार न करते हुए उन की मार्फत मासुति लिमिटेड से जानकारी हासिल करेंगे ?

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: The Company Law Administration is governed by the Companies Act. Therefore, inevitably, we have to go by the Companies Act. The position is this. As my colleague has replied, there is nothing unusual. The latest balance sheet that we have got here is for the year ending 31st March, 1972. The reason is that it is for the subsequent period that an annual general meeting has to be called and the balance sheet and profit and loss account have to be prepared and filed with the Registrar of Companies (Company Law Administration) within the specified time.

As the law which is in existence today— it is not made for this company but it has been there since 1956—there is an obligation on the company to file this within a period of one month after the general body meeting and this period has not expired. Therefore, at that time, the balance sheet and profit and loss account will come. And there is an obligation on the company to file the profit and loss and balance sheet fully disclosing the extent and the nature of the secured and unsecured loans.

As the balance sheet shows to the extent of Rs. 4 lakhs for the period ending 31st March, 1972, the company will have to show the deposits, if taken, of any character, during the financial year ending 31st March, 1973.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Even black money?

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: If you want an answer I may give you whether you are satisfied with it or not. The other question is with regard to the information. The hon. Member said why, without going through the provisions, we can't seek this

information. This provision is also governed by the Companies Act. There are two provisions. One provision is that on the basis of the documents which are required to be filed under the Companies Act and if they are so filed and if any, further information is required, it can be sought. But, that does not apply here because, the documents are yet to be filed. If, for example, there is a *prima facie* material and on the basis of which, a reasonable conclusion can be reached that any transaction, save in respect of accepting the deposits from the agents or others, has been a fraud on creditors or a fraud on other persons having dealings with the companies, then information under that special provision can be sought.

Now, as my colleague said, first of all even assuming that the deposits are accepted, that by itself is not contrary to law and there is no reason to believe that even if these deposits were accepted, if there is any fraud on creditors or depositors, then, under the special provisions, action is there.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: The hon. Minister just now said that if there were adverse comments, within the notice of the Government with regard to a particular company, the Government can seek information from the company under the Act. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact or not that Maruti Limited has been collecting money from the would-be agents and it has been widely published in the press about the adverse comments with regard to Maruti Limited in collecting the money, that is both black and white. If so, what action did the Government take to find out information from that company? If not, the reason thereof?

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: Sir, I have already answered this question. It is true that in a newspaper, something has been published relating to this company and a lot of controversy has been raised about that. If it is based on any motivation, we cannot proceed with that. You cannot act only on the newspaper report. I think the person who has given the loan should make a complaint that there has

been fraud committed on him. A person who has given a loan can complain that there has been a fraud on him; there can be other material on the basis of which a reasonable conclusion can be reached that a fraud has been committed. Even assuming that deposits are accepted, the mere fact that deposits are accepted is not enough for an investigation.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Because he is the Prime Minister's son.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: A very simple question arises, namely whether at the letter of intent stage, when the car has not been tested or certified, one can go in for the recruitment of the selling agents. Does it not on the face of it appear to be somewhat extremely unusual, to use the mildest term possible? Government have not yet decided the model of the car, nor have they approved of it.

MR. SPEAKER: The main question is about deposits. So, how does the hon. Member's question arise out of this?

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: I am asking whether at the letter of intent stage, when the car has not been tested or approved, one can go in for the recruitment of would-be selling agents, and whether it is not extremely unusual....

MR. SPEAKER: How does it arise out of the main question?...

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: It is an important question and it does arise out of the main question.

MR. SPEAKER: It may be important, but it has to be relevant to the main question.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: It arises legitimately out of this. How can you prevent this question?

Arising out of the answer given by the hon. Minister, may I ask whether Government are empowered or not, whether they are equipped with powers or not to go into the question of securing the money of the public? When the

public has deposited money with certain companies and so on, then is it not the duty of the Government, and are Government not equipped with powers, to see that the people's money is safe, that is, the money deposited is safe and it is being put to right use? ...

MR. SPEAKER: Let him not make speeches, but let him ask his question now.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: I want to know whether Government are equipped with powers or not to see that the money deposited with the company is secure and it is being put to right use.

Thirdly, they secured loans from the banks. Would Government give us the details of the loans secured from the banks and the guarantees offered to the banks against those loans?

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: This is a matter regarding the creation of sales agencies and distribution agencies. These are matters between the would-be distributors and the company. In all non-government companies, when these agencies are started, there is no provision under the law by which we can interfere immediately....

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Does it mean that one can get money from the public and make fraudulent use of it?

SHRI DEBABRATA BARUA: The point is that it is a question of confidence between the agents and the company, and if the agencies deal with the company in a particular manner, we have no reason to interfere as the hon. Member had suggested....

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Even before the car is approved.

MR. SPEAKER: Why should the hon. Member not listen to the answer of the hon. Minister?

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: There is no provision under the company law against the creation of sales agencies or

when distributors agree to make deposits with the company. Unless they make any allegation, we do not go into the matter....

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: My question remains unanswered. I had asked whether Government were empowered under the Act or not to see that people's money was safe. Then, I had asked for information regarding the loans secured from the banks and the guarantees offered against those loans.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: Under section 125 of the Act, any charges created by a company have to be filed with the Registrar of Companies. I do not have all the facts with me at present. But the company has created certain charges in favour of the Punjab National Bank and another bank.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: What is the amount of loan secured from the banks?

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: I take it that the question is with regard to secured loans from the banks. As regards unsecured loans, I have already answered—Rs. 4 lakhs. With regard to secured loans from the banks, they are to the tune of Rs. 11.74 lakhs.

The second question is, which are the banks and what is the security? Now, so far as the banks are concerned, charges are created in favour of (1) the Central Bank of India, and (2) the Punjab National Bank. So far as the Central Bank of India is concerned, the amount taken is Rs. 10 lakhs. The charge was created on 10th January, 1972 and the existing machinery has been the subject matter of the charge. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh more has been taken from the Central Bank of India. That was on 25th January, 1972, for 3 motor buses.

As for the amount taken from the Punjab National Bank, I do not know, but their tool room, plant, machinery etc. has been the subject matter of the charge. (Interruptions).

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Is it not the normal business practice in this country that even before a product is marketed, in the private sector selling agency arrangements are made in advance?

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: Normally, it is for the company which is doing business to decide its business policy. Whether or not the depositors should advance money even before the car has been approved is a matter for the depositors. There is no reason to which that there is any danger to the security. There *prima facie* evidence to think that there is any such danger.

SHRI S. A. KADER: In view of the fact that the Opposition are trying to raise every kind of question about Maruti, does it not appear that they are the advertising agents of Maruti (Private) Limited?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shankar Dayal Singh.

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह: मान्यवर, मैं आप के माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या मारुति के सम्बन्ध में जो प्रश्न पूछे जाते हैं उनका उद्देश्य राजनैतिक नहीं है? * * (व्यवधान)

SHRI P. K. DEO: This is a serious charge.
(Interruptions)

SHRI PILOO MODY: He should be expelled from the House for what he has said.
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not say it. Withdraw your words.
(Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदय: आप ये शब्द वापस लीजिए ।

This will not form part of the proceedings. It will not form part of the proceedings. Withdraw it.

SHRI P. K. DEO: He should apologise to the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. I am sorry. The Question Hour is over now.

SHRI P. K. DEO: He was making a serious charge against the Opposition. He will have to apologise.

MR. SPEAKER: I have asked him to withdraw it. I think he has withdrawn it... (Interruption).

AN HON. MEMBER: He did not.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you withdrawing it? Please withdraw it.

वह हिस्सा जो एनराज वाला है, उसको वापस ले लीजिए ।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह: मैंने किसी सदस्य के बारे में नहीं कहा है। मैंने कहा है कि इस तरह की लाबी काम कर रही है... (व्यवधान)... कार्मैन्स्यूफेक्चरर्स की लाबी काम कर रही है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: लेकिन मैं आप से कह रहा हूँ कि उस हिस्से को वापस ले लीजिए ।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह: मैं आप से अनुरोध करता हूँ जो लाबी काम कर रही है, उसको ये विद्वष्टा करें ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: लाबी करना ग़ौरवान है, लेकिन जो आप ने कहा है उसको आप वापस ले लीजिए । क्या आप वापस ले रहे हैं ?

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह: मैंने यह किसी सदस्य के बारे में नहीं कहा है....

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: So many supplementaries are put, for instance, by Shri Piloo Mody. They put supplementaries, charging the Prime Minister. What is wrong about this question is that it is politically motivated. He is within his rights to put a supplementary, but not with such motivation.

MR. SPEAKER: That is not parliamentary. That is deleted now. Shri Sat Pal Kapur.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our position is this. Just like any other company, Maruti also can be subjected to supplementaries. But the Opposition has asked not simple, pure questions, but naughty and personal questions, and so, we have also a right to put the relevant supplementaries to put the thing in proper perspective. Why should we not? He has only said that a lobby is being created against this company. We repeat this charge again because other car manufacturing companies are trying to sabotage the efforts of this new project.

(Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Short-term and Long-term measures taken to fight the Flood Ravages in the Country

*121. **SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE:** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state the short-term and long-term measures taken to fight the flood ravages in the different parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): A National flood control programme was launched in 1954 with the object of providing protection to the areas affected by floods. The area prone to floods in the country has been assessed as about 20 million ha.

Since the launching of the programme in 1954, the work done so far as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Length of embankments | .. 7375 km. |
| 2. Length of drainage channels | .. 11134 km. |
| 3. Town protection scheme | .. 197 |
| 4. Villages raised | .. 4585 |

In addition, existing embankments in many regions have been raised and strengthened. Flood reservoirs such as the Hirakud dam in Mahanadi in Orissa, the Panchet and Maithon dam in the Damodar basin and the Ukai dam on the Tapi in Gujarat have been constructed. Also the turbulent and wondering Kosi river of Bihar has been tamed by the construction of barrage and embankments. Steps have been taken to protect areas threatened by severe erosion such as at Dibrugarh in Assam, at Mansi in Bihar etc.

The total area that has been protected so far is about a third of the flood prone area.

Further works include the proper maintenance of the works already completed and implementation of new schemes. The new schemes include emergent works or those that can be completed in a short period termed as short term measures and others termed as long term.

After the heavy floods of 1971, a number of works have been undertaken as emergent works and these are under various stages of implementation. These include the embankments on the right bank of Ganga from Buxur to Koelwar, raising and strengthening of existing embankments along Ganga, construction of embankments and protection works on the Gandak and the Mahananda embankment in Bihar, Rengali dam in Orissa, flood protection and anti erosion schemes near Chitauni and on the right bank of the Gandak below Chitauni, anti erosion measures on the Ganga and the Ghagra particularly in Ballia district, Lucknow town protection scheme and Azamgarh town protection scheme in Uttar Pradesh, Mahananda embankment scheme, Lower Damodar flood control and drainage scheme, Dubda drainage scheme, Mograhat drainage scheme and the Karala diversion scheme in West Bengal.

Storage reservoirs which will moderate the peak discharges of a river generally take a long time. The construction of a storage reservoir on the Pagladiya in Assam has been taken up. Storage reservoirs which have been contemplated and for which investigations have been carried out are the Barak dam in Assam, Bhim-