

[श्री आनन्द प्रकाश गौतम]

निकट नीमपुरा रेलवे क्रॉसिंग के पास घटित हुई है।

महोदया, वैसे तो दुर्घटनायें देश में बहुत होती रही हैं, मगर जिस तरह से बिजली के तारों से टकरा कर आग लगने से पूरी की पूरी बस धधक उठी और उसके अंदर से लाखों तक नहीं निकाली जा सकीं यह अपने आप में एक बहुत ही गंभीर घटना थी और पूरी मानवता को झकझोर देने वाली घटना थी। प्राप्त सूचना के अनुसार एक यात्री बस, जो टूरिस्ट बस थी, उसमें 72 आदमी सवार थे कलकत्ता बंबई राष्ट्रीय राज मार्ग नंबर छह के नीमपुरा रेलवे-क्रॉसिंग पर हाई वोल्टेज इलेक्ट्रिक लाइन से टकरा कर बिजली के तारों से छूकर उस बस में करण्ट बहने लगा और लगातार करण्ट से 40 लोग उस बस के भीतर ही झूलस गए, मर गए और बाकी लोगों को अस्पताल ले जाया गया, जो कि वहां पर गंभीर से ज़िंदगी और मौत में झूल रहे हैं।

महोदया, मैं कहना चाहता हूं दुर्घटनायें आसमान में चलने वाले यानों पर हुईं, रेलगाड़ियों में हुईं, लेकिन इस दुर्घटना से, बिजली के तारों पर गिरकर बस के 72 आदमी मौत के घाट उतरने को हैं, 50 तो मर ही चुके हैं और बाकी भी मौत और ज़िंदगी के बीच में झूल रहे हैं। सभी को गहरा सदमा पहुंचा है। यह आदमी कहां के थे? पूरे भारतवर्ष के थे, तमाम जगह के थे। इन तमाम बातों की जानकारी सरकार द्वारा ली जानी चाहिए और किन लोगों की लापरवाही के कारण यह दुर्घटना हुई, मैं चाहता हूं कि सरकार इसकी तुरंत जांच करायें और जो व्यक्ति इस दुर्घटना में मारे गए हैं उनके परिवार-जनों को समुचित सहायता दें। साथ ही ऐसे कारणों की जांच कराकर दोषी लोगों को दंडित करने पर सरकार बल दें। भले ही इस प्रकार से दुर्घटनाओं के प्रति जिम्मेदार चाहे बस चलाने वाले लोग हों या बिजली-विभाग के लोग हों, जो भी दोषी हों उनको दंडित किया जाना चाहिए ताकि ऐसी दुर्घटनायें भविष्य में न हों। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपना धन्यवाद करता हूं।

श्री ईश इत्त यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैडम, मैं श्री आनन्द प्रकाश गौतम ने जो यह विशेष उल्लेख इस माननीय सदन में किया है, उससे अपने को संबद्ध करते हुए जिन लोगों की जानें इस दुर्घटना में गई हैं, उनके प्रति संवेदना प्रकट करता हूं और सरकार में मांग करता हूं कि सरकार मृतकों के परिवार-जनों को अधिक से अधिक मुआवजा दे। साथ ही भविष्य में इस तरह की दुर्घटनायें न हों, इसके लिए हर संभव प्रयास किए जायें। धन्यवाद।

BUDGET (GENERAL), 1990-91—(CONTD.)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN
(SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATA-
RAJAN): Now we take up further
discussion on the General Budget.
Mr. Bansal.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR
BANSAL (Punjab) : Madam
Vice-Chairman, it is because of
the confusion that grips the Na-
tional Front Government and
because of some inferiority complex
about their capacity to come to
grips with the task entrusted to it by
the people that we hear the Prime
Minister and the Minister of Finance
repeating *ad nauseam* about their
having inherited empty coffers.
Madam, such talk does no good to
the country, it does no good to the
national cause. That the Government
must bear in mind. This lowers our
credit-worthiness in the international
market. And if my information is
right, a top public sector
undertaking has been declined a
modest amount of loan only because
of these utterances of the
Government, only because the agency
approached felt that the coffers of the
Government of India are empty and
they will not be able to get back their
loan. I am really at pains to
visualise a situation where after
more than 40 years of independence,
we have a Government which wants
to give an impression as if nothing
has happened

in the country for the last 40 years. I agree that a different Party Government has come to power, but that Government must remember that it is the Government of India and a successor of an earlier Government of India, and they must not behave in a manner which lowers our prestige in the world outside.

Madam, I was referring to the failure of the Government to come up to the expectations of the people in its task of macro-economic management of the affairs. I referred to certain statistics which though convincing on the face of it were rather deceptive otherwise. In this context, I want to refer to the announcement of the Government about the waiving of the loans which, in my humble opinion, is again misleading. Madam, at the time of the elections, not knowing that they would come into power, they made a promise to write off the loans. Madam, there is a difference between writing off the loans and waiving the loans. I do not want to take the time of this hon. House in dwelling on that particular part, but I do want to bring it on record that what the Government has done is not writing off of the loans but it is waiving of the loans. This is at variance with their promise on the election eve, promises which they made more in the form of a bribe to the people. And what do they give to the people in actual terms? Firstly, we have it from the hon. Finance Minister coming that the loans of only those people who received loans from the nationalised banks would be waived. Madam, we know that those small borrowers in the rural sector approach the co-operatives

for loans and may not have even seen the face of the nationalised banks. What would be their fate? Also, the Finance Minister says that; loans would be waived irrespective of the land-holdings. Now 100

again I say from experience that such a provision would not help the really needy ones. This would help those people who may be better off, those people who misuse the provisions, who misuse the concessions which the Government announces from time to time. It is not a question whether it is the Congress Government or the National Front Government. There are people who are so ingenious enough to devise means to defraud the Government on any score. That has been happening with the programme of IRDP in the past, and that would again happen if anybody irrespective of the land-holding is entitled for the waiver of the loans. This would only help the rich, and not the poor.

5.00 P.M.

Then, Madam, we have a rider or cause that this would not apply to wilful defaulters. This is, *prima facie*, a good provision. But how would you determine whether a particular person is a wilful defaulter or not? This is where the scope for manipulation again lies. My fear is that if you permit a provision as this, firstly, the Government may not waive the loans of anybody at all. Secondly, the loans of only the favoured ones would be waived. There is enough scope for the officials at the lower level, for the politicians at the lower level, to get together and to use this provision as sort of punishment to those who do not favour them politically and favour to those who are politically liable.

[Sh. Pawan Kumar Bansal]

This provision would be used to harass those who have voted for the Congress. Why I say so is because, it has been my experience that in the last four months this is what this Government has done in the case of providing ration cards to the people in Delhi. The Government said that ration cards would be issued to all *jhuggi-jhonpri* dwellers, but this has not been done. The people who owe allegiance to the Congress have been left out. Similar would be the fate of this scheme. I would like to know whether the Government has formulated schemes only to help those belongings to the National Front, or, the Government has formulated schemes to help the poor people in the country. This is what the Government has to answer. Not only answer. The Government has not only to answer here, in this House, but it has to prove its *bona fides* by ensuring that there is no scope for complaints in the implementation of this scheme.

Then, I would, briefly, like to refer to the burden that the Budget would put on the common man. By raising the administered prices, as I said the other day, and also by enhancing the indirect taxation, it is not the rich whom you are going to tax. It is the people from the lower strata of the society and it is the people belonging to the middle-class who would suffer because they would be paying taxes whereas the rich men would evade taxes.

What do we see in the case of the telephone tariff hike? Quite contrary to the procedure followed in the case of power, quite contrary to the procedure followed in the case of income-tax, what do we see in this is that the people who use the telephone less frequently will have to pay more, or, at least, at the same rate as those who use the telephone for business purposes and who pass on the calls,

with the connivance of the officials, to the unwary subscribers. This is the philosophy that we see, this is the philosophy that is manifest, in this move of the Government.

Madam, it is with a feeling of dismay that I say that the present Budget would hamper growth. It would not help in the expansion of the agricultural sector, as made out by the Government and it would hit hard the industrial sector.

Before concluding, I would like to refer to two or three points in regard to the needs of Chandigarh. Chandigarh, being a Union Territory, has to look to the Centre for every developmental activity. Chandigarh was described as a city of the future, as a city symbolising the hope and the aspirations of the people of the country, by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. But with the kind of bureaucratic setup that we have there, perhaps, the sentiments and the yearnings of the people do not reach the right quarters, immune to what the ordinary people feel. It has, sometimes, been observed that matters that require the immediate attention of the Government are not paid heed to. Like any other city, in Chandigarh—the 'City Beautiful', as it is called,—there are many clusters of *jhuggi-jhonpris*. People there lack even the basic amenities. There are no public conveniences. There is no provision for electricity and water. Over the years, these clusters of *jhuggi-jhonpris* have remained in a state of neglect.

I want to take this opportunity to impress upon the Government to take up the matter with the seriousness that it deserves, so that something is done for those people. There is an immediate need for expansion of a telephone exchange in the city of Chandigarh. Work on the telephone exchange that has to be set up in sector 34 is going on at a snail's pace. I would urge the Government to expedite the work as also take up the work of constructing another

hospital, the need of which has been felt since long but the Government has not taken up the matter so far.

It is my feeling that the Government has accorded very low priority to education because no meeting of the National Literacy Mission has been convened in the last four months, no meeting of the Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Human Resource Development has been called. I feel the Government is not taking the education seriously. But we have it from the Minister of State for HRD that there has been an additional allocation on education. What is that additional allocation? it would not even meet the inflationary effects on our economy. Be that as it may, I would again take this opportunity to urge upon the Government to take up the construction of a planetarium in Chandigarh. When we talk of inculcating scientific temperament among the students, when we wish the people to know more about the world around us, the need of a planetarium in Chandigarh is immensely felt and I hope the Government would look into that.

Madam, I have been saying that the retired employees of Punjab University who gave the best of their lives in earning that eminence which Punjab University enjoys today, are themselves passing the evening of their life in a very pathetic condition. The gratuity etc. which they received at the time of retirement, they ate away in two years because of the galloping prices. The Centre and the Punjab Government, both contribute to the finances of Punjab University. If the Government is sincere that good people should come to take up the avocation of teaching, it must rise to the occasion, show some magnanimity and work out some way, some method of providing pensionary relief to those who retired years back. Again, in this context I want to reiterate the demand of the teachers

of the Government and the Government-aided private colleges of Chandigarh. Madam, it is for the first time that we have seen a revision in their pay scales which has worked out to their disadvantage. After the Government made certain changes in their allowances pattern, most of them are losing about Rs. 500 per month. They are not really concerned as to what system you adopt, what other people want, whether they want central pattern or Punjab pattern. What they are concerned with is that any decision of **the** Government should not cost them. In this case, as it has been pointed out by them, if they were to be paid according to the old scheme they would continue to get the salary and allowances which they were getting earlier and I do wish that we do not hear such bureaucratic replies from the Government on this score that other people in Chandigarh are wanting Central scales, **how** come the teachers are entitled to Punjab scales. The service conditions of teachers are not governed by Government rules. They are governed by Panjab University and UGC and in this context it is unfair to deprive them of that amount due to them.

I hope the hon. Minister would get a note of what I have said, as he is again, not present, and respond to it.

Finally, I would say that the Environment Society of Chandigarh has rendered a yeoman's service in the area for promoting awareness among the people by organising various programmes. They want to set up a Centre there. Now in a project like this, assistance of **the** Government is the dire necessity of the people. I wish the Government considers that point because there is no Environment Awareness Centre in that part of the country. The Environment Society of Chandigarh would look to the entire region. All that they require is some help from the Government.

[Sh. Pawan Kumar Bansal]

I hope the Government would consider that and do the needful. Thank you, Madam.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY (Assam) : Madam, I rise to speak a few words in support of the Budget presented by the Finance Minister. It is a welcome move that the new Budget is really tilted in favour of the agricultural sector, giving the much needed thrust to the overall development of that sector.

PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR (Bihar) : There is nothing for Assam in it.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY : I know that. I will speak afterwards about that. I hope the National Front Government will see to that. For forty long years, we had been taking it up with the Congress Government. Now let us hope that we will get something from the new Government.

Madam, the subsidy of Rs. 400 crores for fertiliser is a case in point. I do not want to elaborate the point by quoting the additional allocations earmarked for rural development.

The National Front Government is well aware of its promises and is very clear in the Budget presented by the Socialist Finance Minister. What is the approach of the National Front Government towards the national economic structure is clearly spelt out in the different proposals contained in the Budget. The thrust on the village and khadi industries and the proposed investment subsidy will surely benefit the lower income group people of the country. The debt relief to the tune of Rs. 10,000 for the farmers and artisans is a realistic approach that is visible in the Budget. Government is not aiming at adding more burden

on the already bending backs of the poor people of the country. Here the Government must be cautious so that the wilful defaulters may not get advantage of the benevolence of the Government.

Madam, hon. Members will agree with me that the pattern of taxation clearly shows the socialistic perceptions of the Finance Minister. However, I would like to mention that the hike in petrol prices will surely affect the poor people of the country. But I can feel the constraint of the Finance Minister that in order to curtail the drain on the Finance Minister that in order to foreign exchange and to control the already increasing consumption of petrol, he has to find some way out.

Madam, I feel that a nation survives on the clear vision that a planner can provide. In the beginning year of the Eighth Five Year Plan, the Finance Minister has tried to frame the budget in such a way as to save the economy of the country in the next few years. Here I want to mention that the then Government proposed more growth in the Seventh Plan, but we have seen really what growth we are getting. Even the target earmarked for food production could not be achieved in the Seventh Plan period. The same is the case with power, irrigation and industrial sector. There is not much difficulty in showing a high growth rate in the record books. By changing the figures here and there, one can achieve that.

The supposed rosy picture offered by the Seventh Five Year Plan is a disappointing one. The staggering growth of wealth in the hands of a fly/ on the one hand and the abject misery in which the major section of the people are grovelling on the other is the dismal picture that we get from the Seventh Five Year Plan. To quote Dr. R. Chowdhury :

"The pre-budget survey reveals I that the new Government has inherited a sagging shape of the economy with a vast army of unemployed labour, mourning deficit and heavy inflationary pressure, poor demand-and-supply management, a growing gap between poverty and prosperity, falling foreign exchange reserves, a disproportionately large debt burden and declining economic growth."

Sir, under the framework of this dismal economic condition, the Finance Minister presented his budget with little in his hands to operate smoothly. It is laudable that the Finance Minister is laying much stress on employment generating measures in the budget. What is more helpful and appreciable is that there is an effort to curtail expenditure.

Madam, the tax relief to lower income groups and tax proposals on luxury goods are welcome measures. And, with the withdrawal of the Gold Control Act, I think, black money must be controlled because gold is a source of black money. Moreover, after the presentation of the budget, there is a marked difference in the price of gold in the market.

Madam, it is healthy that the budget deficit has been bogged down by the Finance Minister. It is estimated to be of the order of Rs. 9,165 crores. The unprecedented drive for, additional resource mobilization in direct and indirect taxes at different levels will enable the Finance Minister to bring down the net budget deficit to Rs. 7,206 crores in the budget of 1990-91.

The exemption limit for income tax has been raised from Rs. 18,000 to Rs. 22,000, which gives relief to the low income groups of the country. But I would suggest that the limit

should be raised a little higher so that some more relief can be given to the hard-hit people.

The spectacular trend of the budget is this that the proposed system of tax rebate on gross amount of savings under section 80C of the Income-tax Act will give a proportionate benefit to every earning group in the country.

Madam, the Finance Minister maintains checks and balances in taxation and relief measures which he proposes. He must be given credit for imposing tax on gifts, that too in a different way. He imposes tax on luxury articles like VCRs, colour TV, and spares articles used by the masses. This will surely give relief to the low income groups and poor people in the country.

Judging from the overall perspective the new budget is really aimed at helping the downtrodden people of the country. Here I want to add that there should be a proposal in the budget for wiping out regional imbalances in the country.

Madam, the north-eastern region, including Assam, is connected by a slender corridor with the rest of the country. To improve this region, adequate funds have to be earmarked so that transportation and industrialization are improved which in turn will help this region in its overall development. Moreover, the gas cracker project in Assam is long overdue. In Assam we have got all the natural resources. We have got oil and gas fields in Assam. But from these natural resources the people of that State have not been much benefited. So, I urge the Finance Minister to clear the proposed gas cracker project financially.

Moreover, I shall be glad if there is a provision in the Budget for controlling floods in Assam. Floods are a constant source of sorrow for the people of the State.

[Shrimati Bijoya Chakrevarty]

Moreover this is one of the promises that have been made in the election manifesto. So, I hope that the hon. Finance Minister will make it possible for the State to get relieved of floods.

Lastly, I hope the new Budget will open up new avenues in the domain of the economic structure of the country and will bring great relief to the people in general.

Thank you, Madam.

PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR : Thank you, Madam Vice-Chairman. I rise to respond to the budgetary proposals. I was listening to my friend, Mr. Kamal Morarka, yesterday very carefully. As usual he was eloquent but somewhat confused in view of the company he has at the moment. Madam, I am reminded of an episode in "Alice in the Wonderland." Alice comes to the Red Queen. When they are walking together, she asks : "How come in my kind of land when we walk, we make some progress? But here while we are walking, we are exactly at the same place?" The problem here is that while you are walking, unless the pace of your walk is faster than the things move, you will not make progress. Your walk will continue to keep you where you were. That almost gives the real picture of this Government. There were first 100 days, and now we are in the second spell of 100 days. Is the Government making progress? It is trying to survive, and perhaps it is saying that it is walking. But on hard facts is it making any progress?

In terms of its promises we had the election manifesto, we had the Presidential speech and we had the Prime Minister's action plan. Now we have the Budget. Some people make a clever use of language, and perhaps this Government is making a cleverer use of it from document to document. Words came, pro-

mises came and perhaps some claim of progress is also recorded. But when we looked at the Budget, we thought there will be something different, something more serious.

The other day Mr. Kulkarni was quoting Mrs. Dandavate that her husband is a forgetful person. I think today the nation is discovering that the Finance Minister has forgotten the basics of his promises in economic area. So, for a change, the nation is discovering that the lady in the Finance Minister's house knew her husband better than the nation. The nation is discovering him today. Madam, the promises of the Government are that it will contain the deficit, the budgetary deficit, that it will bring a structural reform in the federal Budget, that it will contain the pace of inflation, that it will bring corrections in the balance of payments situation. It never promised growth, but it did promise somewhat greater equity.

A number of my friends have talked from both the sides. From this side the ex-Finance Minister gave the hard data to show what is happening. Let us go on record, Madam, that this Government took charge of the economy, no matter what Mr. Morarka says, not in bad shape. In fact, there were sound features of a healthy economy. To quote him partly, we find that two Five-Year Plans in succession, the Sixth and the Seventh are the ones of which we have completed the targets. The Indian economy during the Seventh Plan period moved on to a higher growth path. Not only did agriculture show its health particularly when you find that after two successive droughts the magnitude of the foodgrain production has been impressive. The buffer stock was depleted. But the other day it was said that the rice procurement has been stepped up and that over 11 million tonnes had already been brought into the buffer stock.

Where did it come from? Is it because of the wishes of the new Government, or is it because of the efforts of the peasants with the help and infrastructure and the policy support that the previous Government provided?

Then our industrial sector showed tremendous vibrancy. Skilful change in the policy framework and administrative mechanism together with capital market reforms provided growth impulses for the industrial sector of this economy. Madam, the Government must concede that the obsolescence of technology was becoming a handicap to the industrial economy of India. But the pace set and the progress made in terms of technological modernisation substantially changed the pace of the Indian economy. The second policy towards the capital goods sector right from the beginning, from the Second Plan itself laid the foundations of a self-reliant economy in this country. We had somewhat slipped in the modernisation of the capital goods sector recently. But in the last five years we went back to this problem and tried to modernise the capital goods industry which provide the real base for self-reliance. Iron and steel and machine building units received substantial support and its pay-off in terms of cost and quality improvement should soon be evident.

Now, preferences in the industrial scene in terms of support saw the emergence of a technologically modern, competitive and fast growing durable consumer goods sector too. There is one way of looking at it that it was promoting consumerism. But no matter which segment of the industrial economy we were trying to promote it did bring growth. It is true that the consumers were starved in this country, but it is not conspicuous consumption, but the consumer durables which help improve the life and living of the people on the one side and on the other, provide opportunities for the industrial sector to grow, gen-

erate surplus and help reinvestment for the purpose of stepping up the developmental pace. One of the well-known by-products of this growth is that it multiplies the income generating and gainful employment opportunities for the people who work in that sector. By encouraging the modern industries, in the chemical units with the state of art technology forged ahead and expanded in this country. India emerged as a visible industrial nation in the international context in several of these industries. Electronics industries had a very late start, but if you look today at the industrial face of this Country, whether it is the domestic appliances or the software in the offices, you find the penetration of electronics technology which is improving the quality of the products giving not only better products to the consumers, but is also adding to the vigour of the industrial economy.

[The Vice Chairman (Dr. G. Vijaya Mohan Reddy) in the Chair]

Sir, taking into consideration that India is an agricultural economy, we wanted to move from the primary producer of agricultural product, whether they were Consumer products or industrial raw materials, to the processing of the agricultural products. Food processing industry was identified as a priority sector for extended support. Certainly it provided a promise of income, value added, gains to the agriculturists and to a great extent a source of substantial increase in job opportunities. What we have in this Government is they have decided to tax it, the agro-products, jams, jellies and other things have been put to a sort of hardship in terms of additional levies.

Now, if you look at the large industry, it got impetus in terms of modernisation and capacity utilisation and small scale industries received a considerable support with wide range of subsidies, fiscal

[Dr. Vijaya Mohan Reddy]

reliefs, financial accommodation as well as purchase preference of the products.

The emphasis, Mr. Vice-Chairman, throughout was on modernisation, on capacity utilisation and acquiring competitive vigour at all levels. The cumulative effect of that we find at a macro-level, that the capital output ratio, incremental capital output ratio substantially improved.

That shows that the quality of economic management has shown results. However, Mr. Vice-Chairman, if you look at the industrial scene—I would confine most of my remarks to the industrial sector,—if you look at the whole picture, four things happened which need course correction. First, in the industrial economy metal-based industries somewhat suffered compared to the chemical ones. Secondly, the pace of modernisation took a heavy toll of the employment potential of the organised industrial sector of the economy. The capital intensity grew and the labour intensity in the process as a trade-off did not move up; in fact, it deteriorated; and the regional dispersal of industries did not take place to the extent desired. So the industrialised parts continued to grow more and the non-industrialised regions of the country continued to lag behind exceptions have been the Hyderabad region, the Bangalore region, which emerged as new industrial centres. But if you take the well-known non-industrialised sector the picture remained depressed. Even the export performance of the industrial products remained unimpressive. In fact, the entire export front towards the end, showed some resilience and our export growth has been moving up and the trend established during the previous regime has been carried forward. The basic parameters were changed to the advantage of export and the pay-off is very flood. But the fact remain

that in terms of value, in terms of volume, in terms of composition as well as the direction of export, it is still inadequate to sustain the import requirement which this economy at this stage requires. For this we do need first productivity, efficiency in cost, quality and better delivery schedule. Our production system in all segments must improve.

But more than that for export promotion we need a more worthwhile pursuit of economic diplomacy. Even during the previous regime more than once, I have shared my view on the floor of the House that there is a lot to be done in terms of course corrections so far as our external relations are concerned. A much greater and pointed economic content in the international relations is an inescapable requirement to sustain the foreign exchange earnings through exports. We need not only orientation, we need a re-professionalisation and I am emphasising re-professionalisation of the diplomatic services in favour of the economic content, in favour of trade content rather than simple political diplomacy.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, the 1990-91 budget is silent on industrial policy and that in itself is a sad thing. In a written reply to one of the questions, Mr. Ajit Singh has said "Yes, the industrial policy has not been formulated." Now does it mean that you want to dismantle the industrial policy and the programme which were working and which has given so much dividend. If the answer is 'yes', God save the country but if the answer is 'no', then my submission is that while you are still on the design board for the new industrial policy. try to carry the good work being done and if you want to change, then improve in the direction in which it was moving. Otherwise, you will be playing havoc so far as the industrial economy of this country is concerned. The proposal to encourage modernisation of the

indigenous capital goods sector through selected imports and domestic production, is an evidence of this Government's endorsement of the good work that the previous regime was doing and we hope that they will not only stop here but they will carry forward this endorsement in terms of incorporating those things within their own policy frame.

Indian public enterprises constitute one of the most critical sectors of the economy. Over Rs. 70,000 crores have been invested in the Central enterprises and a fairly large amount in the network of the State level public enterprises. The previous Government was trying to bring substantial course corrections in the operational performance of the public enterprises. Not only this, total investment was being stepped up, managerial reforms were on the anvil. We had introduced the MOU, holding companies and the whole range of schemes for modernisation of the public sector technology itself. The intention was to bring competitive environment for their operations and give them a fuller dose of autonomy with corresponding accountability and then let the economy discover the contribution. The Budget is extremely disappointing and disturbing so far as the outlook for the public enterprises is concerned because beyond one thing that it is expected to generate internal resources and borrow from the capital market together to the extent of over Rs. 21,000 crores, there is nothing much which can reassure the country that the public enterprises will be protected, promoted and expected to make their sound contribution to the economy of this country. In fact, if you look at it more specifically, the outlook for the iron and steel units is bleak. The new units have been left high and dry. Much widely talked about modernisation plan of the Indian Iron and Steel Company at Burnpur has received only Rs. 150 crores while the budgetary support for the

rest of the steel plants also appears insufficient. Apart from heavy machine building, iron and steel industries constitute one of the major infrastructural industries. The entire range of metal-based industries depend on that and we emerged as a major producer of steel but over the last several years, stronger support to this industry was required and this was on the anvil but suddenly this Government has put it on a low priority which is not really going to help our economy. Now, in fact, if you look at the allocation for the infrastructural sector, petrol, power, the whole of it, the total allocation is so meagre that one is really baffled how is the

! economy going to sustain the rate of growth which has been registered in the last five years and how on earth this Government is going to improve upon that, because if the infrastructure slippage is there, then the rest of the economy is not likely to be vibrant which we desperately need. Now, there is a promise that 50 per cent of the investment will be for the benefit of the agricultural sector and the federal Budget says that it is being stepped up to 49 per cent and perhaps more in the subsequent Budget—if they are still in the Government for which the chance is touch and go—we only hope your party and others will give it the needed lease of life through all types of support—I am not against the agricultural sector but I am trying to draw the scenario emerging for the non-agricultural sector. Assuming that they stand on their commitments and implement them, then how much is left for the non-agricultural sector? In the non-agricultural sector...In the non-industrial sector, you have seen the fate of public enterprises. I have briefly mentioned about it and I do not want to go into great details about it. If that is the reality, then the Government's dependence on the private sector is going to increase. But the private sector, for good performance, needs support from the buoyant capital market and fiscal reforms. We have seen the

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response of the share market to the Budget. But this is an initial response. This is a preliminary response. This is a response which is against the possibility of a severe dose of taxation that industrialists feel a sense of relief and investments are showing some bullish trends. I only hope it will be sustained and the industrial sector is going to get the benefit of it.

Specifically it seems to me that the excise duty on consumer durables would hurt the growing segment of the industry. The textile package which is emerging may hurt the export potential of the textile industry because the man-made fibre sector was really modern and competitive and it was likely to get much greater penetration in the export market, but to the extent it is handicapped, now, its capacity to export on a more profitable basis is likely to be affected. For the others, if you are going to transfer the excise basis for purposes of tax evasion control, you are going to transfer the entire duty from final cloth to the yarn stage, tax administration will certainly improve. But is it promising a better possibility for cloth for the common man? That is the question I am raising. On the output of the textile sector as such, if you produce the much needed cloth for mass needs at suitable prices, people will have the purchasing power to acquire it. Mr. Vice-Chairman, when we are on the industrial sector, we cannot ignore the incidence of sickness. Over 160,000 units are sick and roughly Rs. 6000 crores are stuck there. A good industrial policy must have a package of revival of this industry and a way to plough back this Rs 6000 crores in order to increase the capital productivity in the economy. The fact that the Budget is silent on it shows that the Government is either clueless or careless. If you want an industrial economy which is moving you,

cannot afford to ignore this kind of a thing.

Now, there is a reference in the Budget that large and small units are expected to move to rural depressed regions. But are there corresponding plans for infrastructural improvement in those depressed regions? Do industries move to depressed regions simply because the Budget proposals say so or the Minister for Industries or the Prime Minister expects them? Sir, Only when you demonstrate beyond any shadow of doubt that the necessary support in terms of power, in terms of raw material facility, in terms of sales, in terms of rail, road facilities, market, both backward and forward, linkages, are available, then only the industry will go to that area. And if your total allocation for infrastructure sector is not much to talk about, then how do you expect the investment climate in the depressed regions to become attractive overnight for these large and small industries to respond to the exhortation?

Now, in a resource-constraint situation, we expected some reference to the non-resident Indians who have a large equity in North America and Western Europe. There has been some interest or growing interest among foreign investors so far as the Indian economy was concerned. There should have been some reference to this aspect. If you don't have a policy, at least allude towards the outline of a policy that in days to come, in weeks to come, you are going to come out with a package so that people who have resources and interest in India will start formulating their investment plans in relation to the outlines that you are providing. But there is practically nothing.

Now, about the joint ventures. In India, between the public sector and the private sector, and between the Indian private sector and the foreign investor or between the

Indian public enterprise or the foreign investor, this is a good instrument for growth and we would have expected that a policy design of the kind that will encourage this kind of a sustained experiment will be coming in the Budget document. But nothing has come.

When one is talking of the industrial process, the micro-economic industrial scene apart, the Government has said that it will be interested in equity. Equity has several levels. One is inter-personal equity, the other is inter-sectoral equity and the third is inter-regional equity. We know that the industrial backwardness of the Eastern region, or for that matter, the whole of the Hindi heartland is a fact of life. The neglect of metal-based industries in the Eastern Region has hurt the whole economy. Under the leadership of the earlier Prime Minister, the Industrial Development Bank of India had a plan to industrialise North Bihar and also North Bengal. But, with the change in the Government, has the scheme evaporated or it is going to see the light of day in terms of implementation? Practically there is no reference to it. There was an impressive scheme to develop new entrepreneurs, new entrepreneurs in new centres, first generation entrepreneurs in new centres, because growth requires a vehicle and the entrepreneurs are the agents for growth. And, if you have identified them help them through infrastructure and other kinds of support and then they will deliver the goods. Is there any evidence that something is being done on the lines the previous Government had started or have we given a go-by to it? I do not know whether you are looking for a new group of entrepreneurs. But, for God's sake, keep locating such entrepreneurs and locate them in time and give them the basic support and the location for the industry and ask them to do the job on a time-bounce basis. This will definitely give real support to the

process of industrialisation on a regionally dispersed basis.

Let us now take these case of the oil industry. The Barauni Oil Refinery is the oldest public enterprise in this country and, today, a situation has arisen in which there is not even a reference to its expansion. I am not saying anything against the second oil refinery in Assam—in terms of the Assam Accord. But Barauni needs expansion. But where is the crude going to come? If you ask this question, the Government says that you need an extra pipeline from Haldia Port to Barauni. Is something being done about it? I do not know. We have talked of the possibility of a petrochemical complex around Barauni. Every time it has been said that it is not feasible. Today, the raw material required for the downstream development is internationally available in any quantity and also at a very reasonable price, if we are honest about it, I think we can do something in this regard. I can understand your working overtime to help out the economy of West Bengal and there is nothing against it. West Bengal is a part of India, a solid part of India, and it needs to be developed, its resource being relatively under-utilized and misutilized by the West Bengal Government the course correction that is coming is going to help. But are you going to starve Bihar, because in Bihar also you have to have potential for industries and the resources are there? In the morning, during the Question Hour, the Home Minister said that in Punjab they are going to create employment opportunities in the border districts and in the absence of employment opportunities, they are going to give six hundred rupees per month. Do we have to wait for the whole of Bihar to go on fire and turn to militancy and terrorism to invite the attention of the Government, of India and to tell that something has to be done to prevent the possibility of that happening? You

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cannot do this unless the infra-structural facilities there are improved, unless the industrialisation process starts, unless agricultural modernisation process starts. So, this lip-service to equity, equity as defined in terms of regional balance or less imbalance, is not good. There must be some evidence, concrete evidence, in the programme document.

Now, the previous Government talked and did quite a bit about the housing policy. Housing, addition to the stock of housing, is a basic requirement in this country. Whether it is urban housing or rural housing, everywhere we are totally deficient in terms of housing units. Housing is an employment-oriented industry. The labour component of investment in the housing sector of the whole construction industry is very large. But there is practically no evidence to show that this Government will continue to give added support to the housing sector through policy decisions as well as financial support through banks and the term-lending institutions.

Sir, by and large, the picture is very bleak. There is a great apprehension that the industrial growth is decelerating, that the non-industrial areas will remain neglected, that the incidence of industrial sickness would persist for quite some time and that the industrial infrastructure would suffer and would, in turn, adversely affect the overall growth.

Sir, the consumers should look forward to darker days and they will have to pay a lot more for everything and the whole economy is going to face a very severe inflation because of the deficit which we have now and more when we are going to have a supplementary budget also, a second supplementary budget after some time, when there will be more deficits and/or more administrative prices, and it is a matter of concern to all. As Mr. Chavan

has said, we are in for a double-digit inflation. The risk this year is very much high and it is not going to be an easy thing for us all.

Sir, much of the structural imbalance that we have heard about, for which course correction was expected, is going to be there very much now. The Capital Budget is going to subsidise the Revenue Expenditure. The ratio of indirect to direct taxes has not improved. In fact, if you look at the actual figures, the total amount of indirect taxes is substantially higher. At this stage, I need not bother the House with all the details. Similarly, if you look at 80C provisions, you will agree that 80C was a great source of saving for the middle class, the salaried class. Now, they have changed the whole pattern of the provision so far as 80C is concerned and one of the principal consequences of this change is that roughly over two thousand crores which could have gone normally as savings are now going to be converted into tax revenue. Now, it is elementary economics that if resources are generated through savings, they are diverted towards investment. But, after discouraging saving and diverting the amount to tax revenue, you are raising the Revenue Income relatively to balance in the Revenue Budget. But, certainly, to that extent, correspondingly the resources for development are going to be hurt. So, if the Government were really interested in resources coming to it, then the same could have come with the established pattern of 80C rather than the revised pattern. The only difference would have been that amount would have come as savings and gone towards investment rather than as tax revenue and, in the process, the middle class would have enjoyed the instrument of saving which is not only saving for the country, but which is also a cushion for the post-retirement period so far as the fixed-income category is concerned.

So in the end I would say this Budget promises neither growth nor equity. About growth they are terribly fighting shy. They don't talk about any growth, not for no reason. They are not able to sustain the registered growth, much less improve upon it. So they have started with a blown timid face that we will not talk about growth rate. What about equity ? On several parameters that I have mentioned, the economy is going to be more inequitable than what we had. Mr. Morarka said, that the Budget is prudent. My submission is that on sound data this Budget is neither prudent nor socialist. Much of the professed socialism of the Finance Minister has evaporated on the touchstone of real provisions in the Budget. He is going to hurt all and worse, it is going to cheat the poor, it is going to deceive the poor, it is going to disappoint the relatively underdeveloped and depressed regions of the country. I only hope that this Government rediscovers its economic promises and tries to convert them through suitable modification in the budgetary process so that everybody is better off. Even if some are more better off than others we would not worry so long as the economy keeps on a forward growth path set in by the previous regime.

PROF. (MRS.) ASIMA CHATTERJEE (Nominated) : Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, for giving me an opportunity to speak on the General Budget which was presented by the Finance Minister on the 19th of this month. At the outset I must say that Prof. Madhu Dandavate's had raised high hopes and it was thought that the Budget would really bring out some new propositions, new ideas, new concepts, which would prove beneficial to the common man and would bring relief to them so far as their financial aspects are concerned. But I am sorry to say the present Budget is highly inflationary causing hardship to the lower and middle income groups raising the question of their survival, though

the Budget may not affect, in my opinion, the so called affluent class.

Though a Gandhian socialist, Prof. Dandavate has failed to live up to the National Front's election mani-festo. The imposts on petrol, diesel and tyres together with the rise in railway freight increasing the transport cost besides increase in telecommunication charges will push up the prices of all commodities and have already shown the upward trend. Writing off agricultural loans up to Rs. 10,000 will cost between Rs. 14,000 crores and Rs. 18,000 crores but what will happen, after the loans are written off, to the bankers and the banking industry? It will, therefore, defeat the very purpose of checking inflation which was promised by the National Front during the election. It is really surprising that when the prices of petroleum and petroleum products are decreasing in the international market, we are going on increasing the rates for domestic consumption. The better course for checking the inflation in domestic consumption would be to introduce some sort of rationing about which hint was given by the Prime Minister recently. This will reduce our domestic consumption and also reduce imports which will check a large outflow of foreign exchange and higher overall foreign debt so vital as this will bring economy to our country. The Finance Minister has also increased excise duties on synthetic yarn and various other items. But his proposal to remove excise duty on pickles altogether is just a pittance which

may lend some flavour and spices to the budget but will not help the house-wife to manage her daily expenditure. Coming to the direct taxes, the Finance Minister has reduced the savings incentives under Section 80C and 80CC of the Income-tax Act. and this is reflected in the lower accrual from small savings, etc. of Rs. 5500 crores in 1990-91 as compared to Rs. 7160 crores for 1989-90—revised. The rebate on savings should be increased from 20 per cent proposed in the Budget.

[Prof. (Mrs) Asima Chattejee]

Also in order to give immediate relief to the middle class people, it is imperative that the limit of exemption should be increased from Rs. 22,000 to Rs. 30,000 so far as income-tax is concerned. This has been the demand of one of the parties constituting the National Front Government.

6.00 P.M.

The Finance Minister has changed the character of the gift tax in order to control black money. While the new concept of donee-based gift tax is welcome, I doubt how far it will help the generation of additional revenues by preventing evasion of black money. The fact that the Finance Minister has not budgoted for any increase in gift tax collection for the year 1990-91 over the figures of 1989-90 seems to confirm my doubts. I am one with the Finance Minister that Government should take all possible steps to raise more revenue not by price hike but by some other method and also take firm measures so that black money may not be accumulated. The deficit of Rs. 7206 crores plus the addition to market borrowings by around Rs. 600 crores would imply that supply would be directly augmented by nearly Rs. 8000 crores on Government account. If we take the normal money multiplier, the ratio of the extent by which total money expands for any deficit, the overall monetary increase may be of the order of Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 11,000 crores. This would imply an increase in money supply by nearly 12 to 13 per cent, unless the money multiplier is controlled very strictly by the Reserve Bank of India through a credit restriction as part of anti-inflationary package. Even if we assume an increase of 4 per cent in output in 1990-91, there is an inflationary potential of between 6 to 8 per cent built into the Budget. Had the Finance Minister kept the deficit within Rs. 6000 crores and not expanded market borrowings, the over-

all increase in money supply could have been restricted within 8 to 9 per cent.

Now, Sir, I would like to speak a few words on education, health and employment problems in our country. The new education policy as per Government's own statement has not fulfilled the purposes for which it was drawn up. It would, therefore, be in the fitness of things that the entire concept of education should be examined *de novo* and education should be conceived as a part of developmental process of the country rather than regarded as part of social services. In this context, I would refer to the need for development of education on the lines of Mahatma Gandhi's Wardha Scheme of Basic Education under which the children undergoing training would learn their handiwork side by side, so that they could be trained in their own line through practical application. This system has also the advantage of encouraging creativity among children, generation of new ideas and give them self confidence in their field. I am not for a moment suggesting that the higher education based on research and development and computer technology should be discouraged. They should be there so that we do not lag behind in technological and scientific advancement, so vital for self-reliance. But side by side keeping in view that India is an agro-based country and 80 percent of the population is living in rural India, it is the duty of the Government to take care of mass education combined with training in some rural technology so that people in the rural areas may earn money and need not come to cities to earn their livelihood. The Finance Minister has mentioned in his speech that employment is the first priority of the new Government. I understand that the Government is shortly thinking of making the right to employment as a Fundamental Right. I find from the Budget that the Finance Minister has made comprehensive studies about the total

number of the unemployed and the under-employed. We find that the problem of unemployment is of vast magnitude and it is extremely acute ; in the rural sector. The Government should do something to develop the rural industry, particularly the agro-based industries, food processing industries, manufacturing industries such as soap and house construction with the available natural local resources. But it will require sustained labour and effective guidance and liberal financial assistance from the Government so as to turn the dream of assuring employment into a reality. Otherwise, it will be reduced to a mere slogan. In this connection, Government can also think of generating schemes of self-employment by educated unemployed youth because, ultimately, unless education is linked with productivity, the problem of unemployment cannot be solved only by Government creating white-collar jobs for the people.

Coming to the problem of health and family welfare, the Government has announced that health-for-all by 2000 A.D. will be realised by them. In this connection may I say that the problem has got multifarious dimensions and has to be tackled from different angles. For health care, as advocated by WHO, a number of primary centres, sub-centres and community centres should be set up particularly in the rural areas. The indigenous system of medicine like Ayurvedic and Siddha and also Homoeopathic should be given more encouragement for the treatment of common ailments. I would like to mention that all these health centres should be equipped properly with competent doctors and life-saving medicines and also medicines which could be used for the treatment of various ailments. Additional funds should be spent on medical research. It is one of the important rules of the health centres that prevention is better than cure. Therefore there should be greater emphasis

on personal and environmental hygiene, good sanitation and personal health care. These subjects may be taught at the school level.

I won't take much time. I will try to finish as early as possible. I would like to speak a few words about higher education. As I mentioned, if we do not give good training at the university level, it will never percolate from pyramid to the base and the children starting from the pre-school level to the middle school or to the higher education level won't get good education. Therefore, education in the university level should be supported like anything. In particular, the State Governments do not have enough resources to give adequate funds to the universities for proper experimental work and also for training schemes. Therefore, I would appeal to the Finance Minister that more money should be allocated for higher education to the State universities. Seventy-five of the total grant for higher education is paid for the Central universities, for maintenance and development whereas in the case of the State universities, the fund is released only for development.

I would like to conclude by saying that although the Finance Minister's Budget contains some good ideas and ideologies for long-term development, yet to what extent these ideologies can be implemented and give benefit to the common man will ultimately depend on the dedicated and sustained labour and the political will with which the Government can translate these ideologies into practice. So far as the Budget is concerned, I would say that it is encouraging. But the Government should give more consideration for the betterment of the situation prevailing in the country. Thank you, Sir.

कुमारी सईदा खातून (मध्य प्रदेश) :
माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने जो मुझे जनरल बजट पर बोलने का मौका दिया इसके लिए मैं आपकी तहदिल से शुक्रगुजार हूँ । जनरल बजट

[कुमारी सईदा खान]

खाल से आकार और जैम वाला बजट है। इसमें आकार को टेक्स की और जैम पर टेक्स बढ़ा कर यह बजट देश के गरीब लोगों को गुमराह करने वाला बजट बना दिया है। इस बजट में एक बात जो खास गरीबों को और गरीबी के बलबल में ले जाने वाली रही है वह यह है कि इसमें पेट्रोल और डीजल पर भाव बढ़ाये गये हैं। मालूम होना चाहिए कि गरीबी के बलबल में रस्सों का टापू कभी भी पनप नहीं सकता। ये इन्टरस्टेट बिजनेस को पैरासाइट करने वाला बजट है। आप को यह बताना चाहूंगी, मंत्री जी, इस पेट्रोल के रेट्स बढ़ने पर एक स्टेट विल्सी को ही ले लीजिए जहाँ मछली से लेकर हर प्रकार की सब्जियाँ, फल, अनाज और मिनरल्स इत्यादि बाहर स्टेट्स से आते हैं और अब आटोमेटिक उनके रेट्स तो बढ़ेंगे ही और इस देश के गरीबों को जो दो टाइम की रोटी नमक के साथ नसीब होती थी वह भी अब नसीब होना मुश्किल दिख रहा है। क्योंकि मंत्री जी ने सिकके का सिर्फ एक ही पहलू देखा है दूसरा पहलू जिसमें गरीब की तकदीर लिखी है, नहीं देख पाये क्योंकि उसके लिए वे नजरें बाहिरें जो उनके पास बायबद नहीं है। मध्य प्रदेश स्टेट को लीजिए जिसके मूस बिजनेस अनाज, मिनरल्स और तेंदु पत्ता, बांस इत्यादि जंगल की वस्तुएँ हैं। यह बिजनेस का ट्रांसपोर्टेशन ही सरफेस ट्रांसपोर्ट ट्रन्स भाषि से होता है। इसमें अगर आप डीजल, पेट्रोल के टेक्स बढ़ाते हैं तो तेंदु पत्ता से बनने वाली बीड़ी के आटोमेटिक दाम बढ़ जायेंगे हालाँकि आपने बजट में कहा है कि बीड़ी के दाम नहीं बढ़ाये हैं। मिनरल्स से बनने वाला स्टील और दूसरी वस्तुओं के दाम बढ़ जायेंगे। आप देश को विकास की राह पर ले जाने के बजाय बर्त में डालने के लिए तत्पर नजर आ रहे हैं। आप ने जो घोषणायें अपने चुनाव के दिनों में घोषणा पत्र में की थी उनमें से एक तो 10 हजार के जूट भाव की थी जो ऐसा लगता है कि सिर्फ कागज पर रहने वाली ही है। क्योंकि 14 हजार करोड़ की जगह पर

केवल एक हजार करोड़ रखा गया है जो बहुत ही कम है।

औद्योगिक नीति के संशोधन और सरलीकरण का जो प्रावधान किया जा रहा है उस उद्योगीकरण को प्रोत्साहन मिल सकता है। लेकिन ग्रामीण तथा शहरी क्षेत्रों में रोजगार पैदा करने पर होने वाले खर्च में मात्र 30 प्रतिशत बढ़ोतरी कोई संतोषजनक आश्वासन नहीं है। भाव की बेरोजगार की देखते हुए यह एकम पर्याप्त नहीं मानी जा सकती। डीजल के महंगा होने का असर ग्राम जनता पर और खासकर किसानों पर पड़ेगा। इधर एक हाथ से कर्जा माफ भी करेंगे तो दूसरे हाथ से डीजल के भाव बढ़ा कर गरीब जनता की, गरीब किसान से उसके पसीने की कमाई का कुछ भंड आप हथिया भी लेंगे।

अन्तर्देशीय पत्रों के दाम 50 से बढ़ाकर जो 75 पैसे कर दिए गए हैं, इसका असर भी ग्राम जनता पर ही पड़ने वाला है क्योंकि छात्र-कल के जमाने में बड़े लोग, जनबान अनुभव अब कागज के पन्ने पर पढ़ नहीं लिखाता यह अब फोन के जरिए मुल्क में ही नहीं एक सेकिड में बिदेशों में भी अपनी खबर फोन के जरिए पहुंचा सकता है। भाव कल गरीब घर की लड़की अपने समुराल में होने वाले जुल्मों की खबर कागज की चिट्ठी में लिख कर अपने बाबूल को पहुंचाती है। गरीब का बेटा अगर किसी दूसरे शहर के कालेज या स्कूल में पढ़ता है अपनी फीस का पैसा मंगाने के लिए अपनी गरीब माँ का चिट्ठी लिखता है जो घर के बर्तन बेच कर उसकी फीस पूरी करती है।

अतः मोर्चा सरकार का यह बजट जिसमें पेट्रोल, डीजल के भाव बढ़े हैं भाव बढ़े हैं और अन्तर्देशीय पत्र की कीमत का सीधा असर इस देश की ग्राम जनता पर ही पड़ने वाला है। एक गरीब देश का आदमी हर वर्ष के बजट पर बड़ी आस से नज़रे लगाए बैठता है कि भावबद हमारी राहत का सामान किसी वर्ष के बजट में ही आ जाये लेकिन आपने ग्राम जनता को निराश ही किया है। आपने 1959 करोड़ के नए करों को

लगाया है। फिर भी आप 7206 करोड़ का आपूर्ति भाटा बताते हैं। वित्त मंत्री ने कोको और उससे बनी वस्तुओं जैसे मुरब्बे और आइसक्रीम पर भी उत्पाद शुल्क लगाकर या बढ़ाकर 26 करोड़ बना लिया है। आइसक्रीम पर अभी तक कोई कर नहीं लगता था। गांवों के बच्चों को आइसक्रीम के जरिये ही थोड़ा दूध का स्वाद मिलता था। वह भी अब महंगा पड़ेगा क्योंकि गरीब बच्चों के घर में फ्रीज नहीं होता जो आइसक्रीम जमा सकें तो आपने जो आइसक्रीम पर उत्पाद शुल्क लगाया है वह आपकी कम-जोरी का सबूत है।

प्रतिरक्षा के लिए जो 15750 करोड़ रुपये बजट में रखे गये हैं, वे स्वागत योग्य हैं। पहले भी हर वर्ष के बजट में प्रतिरक्षा पर अधिक राशि रखी ही जाती रही है। इस बजट में शिक्षा महंगी पड़ेगी। युवाओं और छात्रों की ... (व्यवधान)।

खाद्य और नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्री (श्री नाथू राम मिर्धा) : गरीब बच्चे आइसक्रीम कहाँ खा रहे हैं, जरा यह बताइए। आपने कहा कि गांवों में खाते हैं।

कुमारी सईदा खातून : खाते हैं।

श्री नाथू राम मिर्धा : गांवों में तो आइसक्रीम है ही नहीं।

श्रीमती सत्या बहिन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : आप गरीबों के बच्चों को आइसक्रीम खाने देना नहीं चाहते हैं।

श्री नाथू राम मिर्धा : गांवों में तो धान की रोटी भी नहीं मिलती है। आप ऐसी बातें बनाकर बोल रही हैं ... (व्यवधान)।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Sir, a running commentary is going on. Mr. Nathu Ram Mirdha is replying. It is for Prof. Madhu Dancivante to reply. 100 RS—13.

श्री नाथू राम मिर्धा : वे अपने बच्चा को आइसक्रीम खिलाने के लिए गांव बालों को फंसा रही हैं।
This is all I wanted to say.

श्रीमती सत्या बहिन : गांव वाले भी हमारे ही बच्चे हैं। हम उन गांव के बच्चों को भी अपना ही समझते हैं।

कुमारी सईदा खातून : इस बजट से शिक्षा महंगी पड़ेगी। युवाओं और छात्रों को इस बजट से निराशा हुई है। आपने रोजगार देने के जो वायदे किये थे अब तो इस बजट से रोजगार मिलना तो दरकिनारा उन्हें अब रोजगार के लिए प्रार्थना पत्र भेजने की बड़ी कीमत चुकानी पड़ेगी। इस बजट में आपने महिलाओं को भी कोई खास राहत नहीं दी है। गैस और केरोसीन भले ही आपने भाव नहीं बढ़ाया है तो भी गैस और केरोसीन का फायदा मेरे ख्याल से देश के बहुत कम लोगों को पहुंचाया है। देश के ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में रहने वाली जनता जो करीब 80 प्रतिशत है आज भी लकड़ी, कोयले का ही ऊर्जा के रूप में उपयोग करती है। मैंने फाइनेंस कमिटी की मीटिंग में भी सुझाव दिया था कि आप गांव गांव में गैस एजेंसीज की शुल्कात कर दें और एजेंसी आप बहुत कम लोगों को देते हैं। उस पर से बचत हटाकर ज्यादा से ज्यादा इसका उपयोग बनायें या फिर और फारन कंट्रीज जैसे गैस की पाइप लाइन भारत के हर शहरों में हर सम्पन्न घरों में लगा दें। फूड और सिविल सप्लाय मिनिस्टर बैठे हुए हैं, वे इस पर गौर फरमायें।

श्री नाथू राम मिर्धा : आपकी जानकारी के लिए मैं बात दूँ कि गैस मेरे पास नहीं है, यह पेट्रोलियम मंत्री के पास है।

कुमारी सईदा खातून : फूड तो है।

श्रीमती सत्या बहिन : क्या इसका मतलब यह नहीं है कि आप अपनी मिसेज पर जुल्म ढा रहे हैं और उनको लकड़ी से रोटी बनाने के लिए मजबूर कर रहे हैं?

श्री नाथू राम मिर्धा : मेरा महिलाओं के प्रति बड़ा प्यार है, लेकिन सवाल यह है कि मैं रिजनेबल प्यार ही दिखा सकता हूँ। मैं उनकी बात काट नहीं रहा हूँ। उन्होंने मेरा नाम लिया है।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
Do not quarrel with the lady Member.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Kindly hear me. I am not quarrelling with the lady Member. I am only informing her and the House that I am not the Petroleum Minister. The question of gas agencies concerns the Minister of Petroleum. She took my name. Therefore, I had to reply. Have you followed (*Interruptions*).

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
She thinks that you will become the Minister of Petroleum tomorrow. (*Interruptions*)

कुमारी सईदा खातून : आप भारत के हर शहर में, हर सम्पन्न घर में गैस की आपूर्ति बिछा दें।

श्रीमती सत्या बहिन : आपने तो वाशिंग मशीन पर भी टैक्स लगा दिया है। आप खुद कपड़े धोयें तो तब मालूम पड़ेगा। वाशिंग मशीन विलासिता की चीज नहीं, घरेलू जरूरत की चीज है।

श्री नाथू राम मिर्धा : मैं तो कपड़े धोता ही नहीं हूँ।

श्रीमती सत्या बहिन : आप चाहते हैं कि महिलाएँ सारे दिन काम पर लगी रहें।

श्री जगन्नाथ धी० ठाकुर : मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप मिर्धा जी नहीं हैं, इस सरकार के मंत्री हैं।

कुमारी सईदा खातून : मेरे ब्याल से आप मीर्जा जी हैं।

श्री नाथू राम मिर्धा : मैं मिर्धा जी हूँ।

कुमारी सईदा खातून : ताकि जो गैस सिलेन्डर्स का प्राबलम है वह काफी हद तक दूर हो सके। मुझे खुशी है कि वित्त मंत्री जी ने मेरे गोल्ड कंट्रोल ऐक्ट वाले सुझाव को मानकर अपने बजट में जगह दी। इसके लिए मैं उनकी आभारी हूँ। मैं फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री की कंसल्टेटिव कमेटी की मेंबर हूँ, उसमें मैंने यह सुझाव दिया था। इस बजट में उनको मैंने यह भी सुझाव दिया था कि आप 44ए सी और 206 सी धारा के अन्तर्गत जो बांस के ठेकेदारों पर अग्रिम इनकम टैक्स लगाया है, मैंने उसको हटाने की मांग की थी और यह सुझाव दिया था क्योंकि इस अग्रिम इनकम टैक्स का असर बांस की कीमत पर पड़ेगा और बांस और भी अधिक महंगा हो जायेगा। बांस का उपयोग घनवानों की आराइश के लिये नहीं किया जाता है। अधिकतर इसका उपयोग गरीब किसान जो बांस के टोकने, सूपे बनाकर अपने खेती के काम में इनको लाते हैं। इसका असर उस गरीब किसान पर पड़ेगा जो अपनी छत बांस की बनाता है और अपने तिर पर साया करता है। इस पर मुझे एक शेर याद आता है जो इस प्रकार है :

सर छुपाने के लिये साया चाहिये इंसान को

कब तक बैठेगा आदमी आदमी छांव में।

यह धंधा पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में मध्य प्रदेश में सबसे अधिक है और वहां का ठेकेदार तो आपको अग्रिम इनकम टैक्स दे देगा लेकिन वह अपने बांस को दुगुनी कीमत पर बेचेगा। कोई भी इंसान जो धंधा करता है वह 1600 के 1000 नहीं करेगा वित्त मंत्री जी से मेरा अनुरोध है कि आप मेरे इस सुझाव पर कि बांस से अग्रिम इनकम टैक्स हटाया जाय, इस पर विचार करें। बांस को डिम्बर की तरह ही लिया जाय और इस पर भी डिम्बर के कानून लागू किये जायें। वित्त मंत्री जी ने इस बजट में सीमेंट, लोहा

इन सभी चीजों पर भाव बढ़ाकर सामान्य जनता की आवास की समस्या पर मोहर लगा दी है।

मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगी कि वे वित्त मंत्री महोदय तक मेरी यह गुजारिश अवश्य पहुंचा दें कि अन्तर्देशीय पत्र, सीमेंट, पेट्रोल, डीजल और बांस पर लगाये गये उत्पादन कर में कमी करने का कष्ट करें। मेरा एक सुझाव यह भी है कि इस बजट में महिलाओं और खासकर आदिवासी हरिजन महिलायें जो पढ़ी लिखी भी नहीं हैं, वे अपने जीवन यापन के लिये जिन भी वस्तुओं का निर्माण करें तो सरकार उन्हें घर बैठे मार्केट दे और उनके द्वारा उत्पादित वस्तुओं को शहरों तक पहुंचाने में सरकार मदद दे। साथ ही उन्हें घर बैठे रोजगार के अवसर प्रदान करें। कांग्रेस सरकार ने पिछले पांच वर्षों में महिलाओं के विकास और उत्थान के लिए काफी कार्यक्रम चालू किये थे। इस सरकार से भी हम उम्मीद करते हैं कि वित्त मंत्री जी महिलाओं के विकास के लिये और खासतौर से ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों की महिलाओं को रोजगार के अवसर प्रदान कराने के लिये बजट में प्रावधान करेंगे और महिलाओं पर नजरों करम करेंगे। धन्यवाद।

SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA (Orissa): Respected Vice-Chairman, we are discussing the 55th General Budget of the Central Government in this House. The Budget of the Central Government is not merely a statement of receipts and expenditure. It is also a significant statement of Government policy. The Budget reflects the economic life of the country. Keeping this in view, I have gone through this Budget, but I see very little to admire it. First of all, the National Front Government has failed to fulfil the hopes and aspirations of the people that were aroused at the time of elections. This Budget has been received with utter dismay by the very people who voted this Govern-

ment to power only three months ago. A majority of the people, especially the weaker sections of the society, are very pessimistic about the impact of this Budget on their day to day life.

Regarding price rise, the Finance Minister, while presenting the Budget, said that the first task of this Government would be to contain the price rise. But the massive hike in tele-communication rates, rail way fares and freight rates and the increase in the prices of petrol and diesel and postal articles will result in a cumulative effect, not only on the price of essential commodities but also on the general inflation.

Regarding deficit, the Minister has assured the nation that he is going to contain the deficit at the point which he has given in the Budget. Much has been said about the efforts to contain the deficit. However, the deficit reflected in the Budget is, to my mind, totally unrealistic. To quote one example only Rs. 100 crores have been provided for DA when the total value of one instalment alone is three times the figure. An assumption is made that the Ministries will absorb the DA requirement through economy measures. How can it be possible? It will be observed that on the one hand, the Finance Minister has assured the House that he will contain the price rise, while on the other hand he has increased the prices of petrol, diesel and other things which will have an impact on the prices of essential commodities. Kindly look at the contradictions. So, how can the Ministries take economic measures so far as their departmental expenditure is concerned? This is totally illusory and I am sure the Finance Minister will miserably fail to attain this objective.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, as regards the waiver of agricultural loans, in my opinion the National

[Shri Kahnu Charan Lenka]

Government and its allies, the BJP and CPI(M) stand truly exposed on the plank of their election promises. Their budget underlines the philosophy that the promises were meant to be broken. This has been their first lesson to the people of India. Their pompous promise of loan waiving, sorupuloulsy converted into loan relief after the elections, has turned out to be a total fraud on the electorate. In the budget, Rs. 1,000 crores have been provide for debt relief. Perhaps it has been estimated that about Rs. 14 000 crores will be required to waive the agricultural loans in the country.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, in the name of handling over responsibility cooperative loans had been entrusted to the State Governments and, at the beginning, their promise was to waive the loans of small and marginal farmers, landless agricultural labourers and village artisans. Afterwards, on the pressure of their allies, they have come forward now with the proposal to waive the loans of all agriculturists of the country waiving loan up to Rs. 10,000.

Secondly, the Finance Minister has also mentioned that the Government is not going to waive the loans of wilful defaulters. A confusion has been created now. Who are wilful defaulters? Who will identify them? Will the Government machinery do it or will the Reserve Bank or NABARD do it?—because the Reserve Bank and NABARD are the custodians of this money. Sir, as you know, according to NABARD, wilful defaulters are those who do not repay the loan where a crop has been good. If this criterion is applied at the Government level while identifying wilful defaulters, I think there will be a great confusion in the country. It will create chaos when the bureaucracy will deal with is.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am coming to the point of right to work. Though the National Front and its allies at the time of the election have promised that they would introduce this provision of the right to wort in the Fundamental Rights of the Constitution, actually at that, time they did not imagine its impact, its magnitude in the country. That is why in the President's Address they have ignored it. This, the President has not mentioned. After pressure from the electorate they thought over it again and they have assured that they are going to introduce this provision in the Fundamental Rights of the Constitution. But the Budget makes it clear that they have no provision whatever .to implement this provision. At best it would be another gimmick added to the statute book of this National Front Government.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, as regards rural employment, my friend, Prof. Thakur has mentioned many things. But I can say that the Finance Minister was in a state of illusion while placing this Budget in the House. Without having any provision for small-scale industries and medium-scale industries in the rural areas how are they going to employ the labourers in the rural areas, how are they going to eradicate this unemployment problem in the rural sector? This is the burning problem of the country. Sir, much has been said about the allocation towards the rural sector. The Congress Government had already allotted 45 per cent to the rural sector during the previous Budget. The present Government claims that it is going to allocate 49 per cent. But I may point out that this has been achieved by manipulating the figures and adding other items of expenditure and investment which had already existed under the Congress regime. So, in my opinion this Budget will lead to a high inflation and low growth situati®n.

There will be no development in the economy and the burden on the common man will be totally unbearable.

The BJP and the CPM Members in their utterances outside have dissociated themselves from the Budget. The CPM leaders have said so in different ways. Some leaders have said that this is not a growth-oriented Budget. Some others have said that this Budget is anti-poor and pro-rich. One ! Communist leader from the South has said that this is a very very disappointing Budget. But I am surprised to note that while they say so outside the Parliament, here in the House they are supporting it and saying that there is no disagreement in it.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY
(Tamil Nadu): In real democracy, there is freedom of speech. We are not bonded labour.

SHRI KAHNU CHARAN
LENKA: While they talk of freedom of expression and democracy, they are not keeping their promises to the electorate. This is the fault in democracy.

After a long time, I am witnessing a Budget which has evoked anger in all sections of the people in the country.

The inclusion of 'right to work' in our Constitution will not only spoil the spirit of the Constitution and Fundamental Rights, but it will certainly create Chaos in the country unless you provide sufficient funds required for full employment.

Now, I would like to speak on deficit financing. The Finance Minister tried to take credit by keeping the deficit level at Rs. 7,206 crores, which, I say, is quite illusory and is not practicable. It is certain that inflation will cross the double digit during this year.

The employment guarantee scheme will not meet the surface of the problem because it is to be introduced only in the drought-prone areas. You know the previous Congress Government had formulated a number of schemes which were to be implemented in the drought-prone areas and those schemes are still continuing. But as far as the present scheme of employment guarantee is concerned, I certainly hope that while replying the Finance Minister will explain what are the programmes and schemes that he is going to introduce in the drought-prone areas to give employment to the rural unemployed.

Before I conclude, I must say a word" about the Plan objectives. A national consensus is needed on Plan objectives. A number of friends in this House have given, their opinion, but I would like to say only one point. This is the Budget of the first year of the Eighth Five-Year Plan. Plans are continuous and project and schemes are continuous. Are you getting any direction? In this budget which way the country will progress? What the country will achieve during the Eighth Five Year Plan? There is no direction. The newly constituted Planning Commission has prepared its own Approach Paper to the Eighth Five-Year Plan. But what is their plea? The Approach Paper presented by the previous Planning Commission was set aside on the ground that it is necessary to reflect the idea of the new National Front Government. This brings out an essential contradiction between planning as a part of long-term perspective and democratic elections which give rise to a new Government for five years, (Interruptions). There is some consensus already on the objectives of the planning. Those are increasing Gross National Product, equitable distribution of gains from planning, provision of gainful employment

[Sari Kahnu Charan Lenka]

opportunities, raising people living below the poverty line and sustainable development. However, if there is a change of Government and if there is a consensus on broad rules of planning, there may be a basic difference of approach regarding the manner in which the goals are to be accomplished. But unfortunately what happens today is that with the emergence of a new Government, the whole concept of the planning as a long-term exercise has come to a standstill. This Government with different complexions is likely to put down the Plan provisions evolved by the previous Government and the whole concept of continuous long-term planning into jeopardy. When the Janta Government was formed in 1977, the whole concept of planning as a long-term exercise has come under strain. The Five Year Plan was replaced by the Rolling Plan by Mr. Morarji Desai in 1977 where there was no concept of planning or a long-term exercise. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Five Year Planning for people does not mean that it is an exercise in populism. On account of political compulsions, what I see in this budget is abrupt introduction of populist schemes and programmes. The concept of welfare planning has been superseded. This is a matter of great regret. While concluding, Mr. Vice-Chairman, I see regional imbalances in this budget.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY): Will you please conclude?

SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: While concluding, I see there is nothing to reduce the regional imbalances in the country. There are no programmes for backward States. There are no schemes for the economic development of the weaker sections of the people specially Adivasis and Harijans in the country. As regards setting up

of new steel plants, the Janta Dal in Orissa has promised that if they come to power, after 15 days, they will sanction the second steel plant in Orissa. Mr. Biju Patnaik has promised this thing which is a long-pending demand of the State. But hundred days has passed, I am surprised to say that nothing has been provided in this Budget for the second steel plant in Orissa. There is no provision for steel plant in the country. There is a shortage of 22 lakh tonnes of steel in the country. What is the provision in the Budget? I would like to know whether they are going in for new steel plants or would like to upgrade the existing steel plants. The previous Congress Government has made provision to upgrade, to modernise the existing plants in the country. But now there is no provision. So, this Budget is very much disappointing, has no vision, it is not growth-oriented. My friend Mr. Gopalswamy and I were staying in the same flat. We think that his Budget won't bring any prosperity to the country. Thank you.

SHRI KHYOMO LOTHAN (Nagaland) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I take this privilege to participate in the discussion on the General Budget 1990-91 as presented by the National Front Government. Sir, the day the Finance Minister presented the Budget in Lok Sabha, I was also sitting in the gallery and listening to him. His speech was really very attractive. He kept the entire House in suspense and in humour. He tried to mesmerize the whole audience and led them into a dream-land but after speech was over, they woke up to reality and found themselves in a situation what it is now. The people from every nook and corner are complaining including your National Front government's own allies, the BJP, the CPI and the CPI(M). Sir, I come from a North Eastern Hill State. Sir, we know that this country

has unity in diversity. Diversity of what? Diversity of regions, of language, of culture, of traditions but there is diversity in living conditions and diversity in topography also. I was listening to one of the hon. Members from the Treasury Benches, the lady Member from Assam. She was appreciating the Budget. I do not understand. There is a hike of Rs. 1.25 per litre in petrol price. She knows very well that it will very badly affect the North Eastern States and all the hill States in the country. Before she came here... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY : Sir, I am on a point of order. *(Interruption)*. Please allow me, Sir.

SHRI KHYOMO LOTHIA : Before she came here, she was... *(Interruptions)* ... because of petrol ... *(Interruptions)* I am not yielding. She has spoken.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : Kindly yield to a lady Member.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY : Sir, my point of order is this. The hon. Member straightway criticises me that I am praising the Budget. Of course, I am praising. But I have clearly said that this Budget should try to wipe out the regional imbalances which are there in the north-eastern region. I have also mentioned that the resources available there are not fully and properly utilised. I pointedly said these things. Criticising does not mean you have to speak volumes. In one or two sentences you can speak what you want to. *(Interruptions)*.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY) : She is free to hold her own opinions. You say your own points of view.

SHRI KHYOMO LOTHIA : Sir, I am only trying to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the north-eastern region has been fighting for speedy development. North-East also produce petrol and give it to the country. However, the royalty is not being raised. But on the other hand, the petrol price has been raised. So there is regional imbalance. There is discrepancy in budget proposals *(Interruptions)*. Assam is still fighting for hike in the royalty for oil. Naga-land also is demanding it. But the Central Government has not considered that. But, instead, you have effected an increase of Rs. 1.25 per litre in the price of petrol. This is what I am pointing out. In other countries, even in Africa, petrol costs less than Rs. 5/- per litre. But what is happening in our country? In States like Arunachal, there is no railway. In Meghalaya, there is no railway; in Mizoram, there is no railway; in Nagaland, there is no railway. There is only one place which is touched by railway and that is Dimapur. There is no other mode of transport. We do not have any place where we can use three-wheelers, autorikshaws, even rikshaws. We cannot use bicycles. We cannot use bullock-carts. We are entirely dependent on petrol vehicles. Even diesel vehicles are not useful. Big trucks cannot ply everywhere. These are problems peculiar to the north-eastern region of the country. Now, after the presentation of the Budget, after the rise in price of petrol and diesel, the prices of all commodities have risen. And people have started reeling under the weight of this price rise. Now, what are the other things by which you are coming forward to compensate this? You have also raised the prices of tyres and vehicles. Railway freights and fares have been increased. Air fares, flight charges, have been increased. To come to Delhi or to other parts of the country, we have to travel more than 2000 kilometres. The concession given by the Railway Minister to long distance travellers, who travel more than 1000 kilometres,

[Shri Khyomo Lotha]

is nothing. The benefit goes only to the city dwellers. Our Finance Minister has come from a metropolitan city. Railways are there. People can travel by electric trains. THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): I come from a rural constituency where railway is yet to be constructed

SHRI KHYOMO LOTHAS : May be. But your State has far more development than mine. Perhaps, you have not taken into consideration the north-east and the hill stations where you have not visited. With due respect, I am only trying to say that you should have taken into consideration all these diversities. You know that Petroleum Crude oil is extracted from my State in Nagaland, but there is no Refinery there. So, Central Government must consider for setting up an Oil Refinery Project in Nagaland to open up avenues for employment. This must be considered within this *Eighth Five Year Plan*. I strongly demand it.

7.00 P.M.

Then, Sir, in the agricultural sector, you are waiving loans up to ten thousand rupees borrowed by the farmers. Sir, already our friends have mentioned about this. In Nagaland, we have a Co-operative Bank from which small farmers have taken loans. Now this Co-operative Bank is a small one and if this bank is made to waive all these loans, how are you going to compensate or replenish the bank ? Coming to the education and development of human resources, what I find is that you have made very little allocations.

You have raised the allocation for Defence expenditure to Rs. 15,750 crores, whereas for education it is only Rs. 1,463 crores. We know that pen is mightier than sword. And we also know that the majority of people in the country are still illiterate. We want to eradicate this illiteracy, but where is the fund allocation for this purpose? So this

must be reviewed and the fund allocation increased. Also there has been one Central university established in Nagaland, for which money is not being provided. So I request that sufficient money should be provided to start this Central university at Lomami in Nagaland.

Sir, in order to generate power in the State of Nagaland, as we are paying the highest electricity charges in the country because Nagaland is buying electricity from other States like Manipur, from the Loktak Project and from Assam.

The Doyang Hydro project which coming up will generate, when completed, about 75 MW of electricity. Sufficient money must be provided and the work in the project site should be accelerated. This is what I would like to impress upon the Central Government.

Sir, I am coming to my last point which is very important. We know that every Central leader, whether from the Ruling side or from the Opposition; whether from the Congress or from other parties, who has visited north-eastern States and Nagaland, always emphasised on peace and stability in the region. Now what happens, Sir ? We know that peace and stability are prerequisites for speedy development. But, now this National Front Government has already destabilised our economic conditions by this new Budget. In the meantime, they have also destabilised the political situation in the north-east and in Nagaland. I say this with all seriousness because you know that on 19th February there was an attempt on the life of our Chief Minister Mr. S.C. Jamir by certain unidentified gunmen. Bullets were showered upon him and his wife. His bodyguard and driver were shot dead. His wife got bullet injuries. On 19th February, this happened and even the Prime Minister V.P. Singh has condemned that action. But even before one

month had passed before the wound of the Chief Minister's wife healed, the Janata Dal General-Secretary in charge of north-east went to destabilise and overthrow Mr. Jamir's Government. This happened in the first week of March. What is this? It looks as if they were waiting for his death, the death of the Chief Minister, and now they have not even waited for the wound to heal. Even though the Prime Minister condemned the assassination attempt. On the other hand, the party workers went there to destabilise the Congress (I) Government, to topple the Jamir's Ministry. This is unfortunate. The impression of the people on National Front Government could be very bad in Nagaland and you cannot blame them for that. Somebody tried to kill him (the Chief Minister) so that the Congress (I) Government could be destabilized. That was not successful, soon somebody else went there to topple the Government. We know that peace and stability are the prerequisites for economic development and I am sure that you sincerely want the North-East also to develop to catch up with the rest of the country. Then, in that case, don't try to destabilize the Government there. It was through the constitutional process, through elections, that you have come to power here in the Centre and they have also come to power there in the State. You know that you are here because of that process only. So, for God's sake, and for the sake of the country's unity and integrity, do not do something which will harm the peace and stability in that region. Thank you.

MESSAGES FROM THE LOK SABHA

I. The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1990.

II. The Appropriation Bill, 1990.

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir,
I have to report to the House the
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following messages received. from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha :

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"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1990, as passed by the Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 28th March, 1990."

"The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India."

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"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Appropriation Bill, 1990, as passed by the Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 28th March, 1990."

"The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India."

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir,
I lay a copy of each of the Bills on the Table.

THE BUDGET (GENERAL), 1990-91—Contd.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA (Uttar Pradesh) : Sir, the Budget, to my mind, is highly inflationary and, in fact, it has given a rude shock to the masses who expected something else from the Government at least as far as taxes go, as far as prices go and as far as the promises made in the Ruling Party's election manifesto go. The people thought that they would get a better deal from the