

in time earlier and could have settled the issue if the Government is really interested in public welfare. But the Government is very much interested in dividing the employees. Even today, I say that victimisation took place by cutting the pay of the poor employees for 9 days. Major sections of employees dealt with this punishment. As per the agreement entered into between the employees and the Government there will be no victimisation of employees and teachers who merely participated in the strike. but those who indulged in intimidation, violence, sabotage and other unlawful activities will be dealt with under the law and Conduct rules. There was no violence, no intimidation or sabotage but still about 50 persons are under suspension. Police cases are also pending against them. About 100 persons were transferred here and there which clearly shows the Government is victimising the employees. Hence my request is, the Central Government should instruct the Governor of Tamil Nadu to consider the issues humanely and to consider the aspects such as to pay the salary of 9 days of striking period for all employees, to revoke the orders of suspension, to withdraw all police cases, to bring back all transferred officers to their original place. This will create a peaceful atmosphere in the public administration. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA): Mr. Narreddy Thulasi Reddy. Absent. Now, we will take up the Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 1988.

APPROPRIATION (NO. 4) BILL, 1988

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GANDHVI): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain

further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1988-89, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The Bill arises out of the Supplementary Appropriation 'Charged' on the Consolidated Fund of India and Demands voted by the Lok Sabha on August 23, 1988. These involve gross additional expenditure of Rs. 1593.18 crores.

For the gross additional expenditure of Rs. 1593.18 crores concerned Ministries/Departments have identified matching savings/increased receipts to the extent of Rs. 925.47 crores leaving the net additional requirement of Rs. 667.71 crores which comprises Rs 518.67 crores for expenditure related to Punjab, Rs. 100 crores for subsidy to new industrial units in selected backward areas, Rs. 30 crores as grant-in-aid to Municipal Corporation of Delhi for maintenance of resettlement colonies in Delhi, Rs. 10.60 crores as grant to the State Government of Haryana for Sutlej-Yamuna-Link Canal, Rs. 5.38 crores for acquisition of Asiatic Properties from DDA/NDMC and Rs. 3.06 crores for other items. The details of the Supplementary Demands are available in the documents laid on the Table of the House on 17th August, 1988.

The question was proposed.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA (Rajasthan): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I wish to express my grave concern about this tendency of coming in repeatedly with supplementary Appropriation Bills. As the hon. Minister has just said, the total amount sought to be spent additionally is of the order of Rs. 1593.18 crores. The Minister has been kind enough to tell us that out of this, Rs. 925.47 crores will be met by savings or augmentation of resources and the gap will be only Rs. 667.71 crores. He has further said what this

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Rs. 667.71 crores would consist of and the items which he has selected, probably, one would not be able to quarrel with because they relate to Punjab, Haryana for the Sutlej-Yamuna Link Canal. But the fallacy of the argument is that out of total Rs. 1593.18 crores if the gap is only Rs 600 crores, there is no way that we can allocate Rs. 667 crores to this particular item. We must see Rs. 1593 crores in its totality and with a little more tightening of our belts, it is possible to entirely do away with the additional requirement of Rs. 600 crores because this amount of Rs. 1593 crores consists of various items like payment of financial institutions totalling Rs. 6 crores, the subsidy of the industrial development department, Rs. 100 crores. There are items which certainly can be looked into and I do not see any justification why there should be a deviation from the Budget figures which has been passed only five months ago. Only five months of the current year have gone. I do not want to sound that I told you so at the time of Budget. That is not the attitude. But the economic parameters, the resources position, the expenditure position belongs to the whole country and we should look at it collectively. It is a very very disturbing trend that first of all, there is a large deficit at the time of the presentation of the Budget and then within five months, we have to come with an additional demand, 40 per cent of which still remains uncovered. Even if we go by the Minister's figures, then how we are going to make this Rs. 667 crores is not known. We can safely assume it will be done by deficit financing which essentially means additional money supply. Now, Sir, I wish to place certain figures before the House. In the first 16 weeks of this year that means 1988-89, from 1st April, the first four months, 16 weeks figures are available. The net Reserve Bank credit to the Central Government has increased by Rs 8171 crores as against only Rs. 3908 crores in the

corresponding period last year. This is widely believed to be an indicator of the real magnitude of the Budgetary deficit. In other words, in the first four months of the year itself, the Budgetary deficit of the order of Rs. 8,000 crores is already looming large on the horizon. With our economy being what it is, and without any any dramatic change in the situation expected in the remaining 8 months of the year, it is not possible to see how we can take these deficits to a reasonable level. The net bank credit to the Central Government and the State Governments, including the incremental credit from all banks, including the Reserve Bank, the increase is of the order of Rs. 10,841 crores against Rs. 6,943 crores last year. Now this again, Sir, is a very disturbing figure and there is no let-up on commercial borrowing. Commercial borrowing from banks has increased by Rs. 3103 crores as against Rs. 1851 crores. So even on that front, the money supply or the total money in circulation, there is no let-up. The net result, Sir, is the seeing the broad basis of money supply in the first four months of this year, it appears that the money supply increase is in the range of Rs. 10,000 crores as against Rs. 7,320 crores increase last year. Sir, we had mentioned while participating in the debate on the Finance Bill that increase in money supply is one of the major causes of inflation. At that time also, friends from the other side did not like our sounding very pessimistic about the outlay during the year but if we have the first four months of the performance to go by and the figures which are official figures, this situation is very very disturbing, to say the least. I will like to mention two more features which have helped in curbing the money supply or the liquidity in spite of this situation. But those two factors, though they have helped to curb the money supply, have got negative repercussions in other ways. The first is the foreign exchange reserves. The foreign exchange reserves have declined in this period of four months by Rs.

1264 crores, a decline of 23.1 per cent as against a decline of Rs. 381 crores last year during the same period. This is a very steep decline. But for this decline, the liquidity or the money supply would have spurted much further. But though this has helped in not allowing the money supply to spurt, this has got other serious negative repercussions. The net liabilities of the banking sector in this period have also gone up by 2860 crores as compared to Rs. 1160 crores last year. All these economic indicators point only to one thing and that is, we are having an overdose of currency in circulation as compared with the state of our economy. Ultimately, inflation has a direct relation with money supply. I will also give some figures on the inflation situation. On 30th June this year, the general index for working class was 433.8. That is, the wholesale price index was 433.8, compared to 401.5 last year. This is an increase of 8.5 per cent which is 32 points compared to only a 5.8 per cent increase last year which was 22 points. Sir, the wholesale price index is the basic indicator and it has an effect on all other indices as we have seen. Even on a conservative basis a one per cent increase in the wholesale price index means 1.5 per cent increase in the retail index. Therefore, the inflation rate is of the order of 13 per cent. Now, Sir, the common man does not go by these figures. Cereals have increased by 13.8 per cent as against 3.7 per cent last year; pulses by 36.7 per cent compared to 6.5 per cent. Sir, the common man ultimately has to pay more for this daily requirements as a result of the fiscal and financial policies that we have been following.

Sir, since the time at my disposal is short, I want to bring particular attention of the House only to two or three aspects. The first is the agricultural sector which is a very important sector. The consumer price index for agricultural sector has also

risen to 661 compared to 572 which is an increase of 15.5 per cent. The only ray of hope in the whole thing is a good monsoon. We read various newspaper articles, various statements, that there is a good monsoon and we are going to have no problems this year. I wish to caution the Finance Minister through you, Sir, that undue complacency because of a good monsoon should not be there. We should be very very vigilant, specially with regard to the money supply position. The exact figure of money supply is available only up to July 15. The increase in money supply is Rs. 8335 crores compared to Rs. 4150 crores last year. Mr. Nani Palkhivala, who is an eminent jurist and economic thinker, has been very harsh on this. He has made a statement in Bombay that counterfeit currency is in circulation. What he meant was that the currency in circulation is far beyond what a prudent economic index would justify. I do not want to use such harsh words. But the fact is that if our currency and money supply, go on at this rate, soon a day will come when we will be caught up in a quagmire and a vicious circle from which we cannot come out. What will happen is, we will have to increase the dearness allowance and wages of workers as a result of inflation. For that we need money. We will get that money again by printing more currency. This will be a circle from which we can never come out. I feel the time has come when the Government should clamp down heavily on all Government expenditure. If Government expenditure is curbed, if we show some austerity, I am sure this Rs. 600 crores can be met. There was talk of a five per cent cut in expenditure in all departments. But we do not hear anything more of it. I request the Finance Minister to immediately ask all the ministries to cut down their expenditure at least by five per cent. That will really help the economy. The other thing is for augmenting the resources the working of public

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sector undertakings needs to be improved—again the only resource left with the Government which is basically the profitability of the public sector undertakings. We do not find a mention in the Appropriation Bill; I would request the Finance Minister to give us a picture how the public undertakings are faring. Under the long-term fiscal policy they were supposed to be generating a large surplus in their plan period. I would request the Finance Minister to tell us whether the public sector undertakings are generating profit or we have still to pay money to them because here you have made an allocation for financial institutions. Of these Rs. 600 crores how much of it is going to NTC and other such white elephants, we must know. If partly this money being raised is to finance the losses of the public sector, then we are going to face a very serious situation. Therefore, I would request there should be a proper debate in Parliament; a white paper from Government on public sector should be published. Unless we augment our resources we cannot meet the situation. And we have to augment interest free resources. You may say we can borrow money. No; borrowing money is not augmenting resources. That is only postponing the problem. Therefore I would request the Finance Minister, even at this stage, there are still seven months to go; going by the indicators of the last four, five, months I shudder to think what will happen to the economy in the next seven, eight months. As I said before, when the economy suffers, it is really the common man who has to pay more, and by the time we wake up to the real situation, it may be too late.

PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR (Bihar): Mr. Vice-Chairman, I must thank you for giving me this opportunity although this is the time when we rush for lunch, for refuelling with a meal. Nevertheless I must respect

your wishes. I rise to support the Appropriation Bill. It is a part of the Government's fiscal exercise that it has to come to the House for supplementary appropriation and this is the beginning of that exercise for this budgetary year. This is also the occasion to take note of the health of the economy, its strength and its weaknesses. I am sorry that I could not sit through the whole of Mr. Morarka's observations. I normally like to listen to him. Towards the end he made some observations to which I would like to make a reference. It is not always the political practice to agree with the speakers from the other side of the front. But in a responsible political management it is a part of the game to take note of what is healthy from the other side of the House also. To the extent that he has alluded to the problem of imbalances in the budgetary planning, particularly the revenue budget, I fully endorse his point. Several Members in the earlier debates have drawn the attention of the Finance Minister that the fiscal situation needs sufficient judicious replanning and whether it is expenditure control or sufficient revenue generation or resource generation, that is part of the necessary exercise and we would like to re-emphasise that. Nevertheless, this is an occasion to take note of the fact that the bad years are behind us and consequences of the sort of dismal drought are no more and the economy is moving in the direction of positive and accelerated growth. Bountiful nature in terms of rains, widespread rains, cross-country, has strengthened the capability of the agricultural sector, whether it has produced raw material or edible food items, it has helped. Now this is also the time to take credit from the Government's side for a very effective drought management. We have provided a base and alertness in the system which we have been able to further consolidate when the weather situation has helped. To particularly illustrate, our kharif and rabi crop strategy has paid off.

And, so, food production is expected to be better than the initial estimates. But it is not to suggest that we are totally out of the woods. The pressure on the prices, whether on the wholesale prices or on the consumer prices, is there and we have not still crossed the danger mark. This, on the whole, is the position now. So far as the Consumer Price Index is concerned, unfortunately, the link is missing, the organic link between the Consumer Price Index and the Wholesale Price Index has long been lost, which needs to be retrieved as far as possible. But, for better or for worse, the economic science accepts that the real health of the economy is indicated by the movement in the Wholesale Price Index rather than the Consumer Price Index because the latter is open to pressures from the supply and demand sides in the day-to-day conditions

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Sir, there is evidence to suggest that the public distribution system is under pressure. We have depleted our food stocks, our buffer stocks, and replenishments through imports and other sources are expected. But I believe that procurement has not been as sufficient as it should have been and to that extent it is likely to exert continuous pressure from the supply end and, ultimately, on the price side, particularly the consumer price side. Perhaps the honourable Minister will take this into consideration and see whether the procurement is to be further strengthened or, if there is a need at this time, whether further import of essential items should be considered.

Now, Sir, in the public distribution system, the question is not one of supply alone. Once you have the supply, how do you handle the release and finally deliver the items to the recipient? There are trade surpluses, and some Press comments have appeared, some economic and financial writers have said, that one of the reasons for the price rise can be the fact that the

trade margins are larger than they should be. Whether they are authorised margins or manipulated margins, it is the consumers who have to pay and this will have to be examined. In any event, the consumer interest must be protected and the overall economic interests through a moderate increase in prices should be protected and, for that, the trade must be under close scrutiny by whatever agency the Government has, whether any existing agency or some agency which has to be created, and it has to be more alert and effective.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): Just now you were talking about the public distribution system and the supplies. I would like to tell the Finance Minister that the Chief Minister of Maharashtra has told me that they have got only two days' stocks. This is the situation now.

PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR: Supply situation is really a problem and that is the point which you are trying to bring to the notice of the Minister.

Now, the point is that to have food stocks is one thing and to have plenty in some areas is quite another. Now a large part of the country, which is relatively difficult to be reached, difficult to be accessible, through the transport network or the road channels, is really the vulnerable sector and it is there at the receiving end that the consumer gets an unfair deal and with all the capability that we have to help him we are not able to do. So, from that point of view, all the elements in that process have to be taken care of. I do realise that this is not within the jurisdiction of the Finance Ministry, but as the presiding Ministry over the economic management of the country, I think, they have all the clout and persuasive power to see that this system is rationalised. Now this raises the question, with regard to economic management, of infrastructure. The Prime

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Minister has been emphasising that we are going to create more infrastructure. It is not that during the last forty years we have not been creating any infrastructure. But it is a good thing that we are now discovering the gaps in the infrastructure which we wanted to create and perhaps the course of correction which the Government is thinking, which the Prime Minister is contemplating, is most welcome and the House will have to strengthen the hands of the Government in the expeditious implementation of a really effective infrastructure network. When we are talking of infrastructure, we are not talking of administrative blocks or units at districts, but we are talking in terms of such infrastructure which involves the lifeline, the artery, of the economy in any country. I have a hobby horse of removal of regional imbalances in infrastructure, coming as I do from a State where the total infrastructure is really crying for a look and help from wherever resources are available. If you look at the population ratio to nation-
2.00 P.M. al highways, Bihar has the least. If you look at the controlled irrigation in terms of acreage to population, Bihar has the least. If you look at the power availability per capita, Bihar has the least. And as a result, when a natural calamity like the earthquake has come it is not the problem; how many die but how many happen to be put to the handicap as a result of the infrastructure not being available. On top of it, the natural calamities come. The capacity to withstand the medium and major national calamities is dependent on the health of the infrastructure. The doctor could be there. The patient could be there. But the doctor could not be reached. The jeep is there but the road is not motorable for the jeep to drive. These are problems which areas like North Bihar are facing. And perhaps in the exercise to develop the infrastructure all these things will have to be put on a

higher pedestal in the agenda of the Government.

In a more detailed way, Mr. Vice-Chairman, if I like to draw the attention of the Government, I would like to put my finger on the balance of payment situation. Now, the balance of payments position is under stress. The reasons are two: One is bunching of the repayment schedule. We have borrowed in the external market. I am not against borrowing because unless you borrow you cannot have the resources for investment and re-cycle. Second reason is that the remittances from non-residents to India have tapered off. They have gone down. The softer buffer is not because the Government planned it, but in spite of the Government it is there because people get crashed out of the country—all kinds of people, not the brain drain category. These people were out to make their livelihood. They developed the capability, went across the border and sent remittances to their families. And this has provided the best foreign exchange support to the economy. And the unpleasant fact is that it has tapered off and is going down alarmingly. With the cessation of hostilities in the Middle East, with the Iran-Iraq War coming to a halt, there is the possibility that the economic re-building programme will be up on the agenda in that region. And there is a promise for us. And there is a vast scope for us to go the whole hog for product exports or other kinds of capability that we have built, which should be mobilized with speed and which would be able to retrieve the situation.

Now, the third area is the export front, another exercise of export promotion. Recent figures are encouraging—19 per cent plus. And that is welcome. But in terms of diversity of direction, in terms of diversity of the product, there is need for further strengthening of that. I cannot put the Ministry of Commerce under blame, because the Ministry of Commerce is a trading body. Unless we

produce good quality products, unless we produce products at a competitive cost, and unless our delivery schedule is such which is acceptable to the international market, we will not be able to make a dent on the export promotion front.

Now, I said three. But I would like, with your permission, to make the fourth point, on the import side. One of the problems in the balance of payments situation is that we have had liberal imports and the payments under external account have been very frequent. In the current quarter there is substantial payment, and this is reflected; this was due. Now, there is scope here to go and try to negotiate re-scheduling of certain payment obligations so that we are able to stretch it. Maybe, in the Government's judgment probably the pressure is not as high as to cause an alarm. I think caution is required, because the debt servicing ratio has crossed the tolerance point of 21 per cent of the basic level. From that point of view, renegotiation is a part of the larger economic diplomacy.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): Only two minutes more. There are one hour and ten minutes for the Congress Party. That is my difficulty. Otherwise, I would have like to give you more time.

PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR: As a fellow Member you know that I have been keeping my counsel to myself throughout the session. I cannot find a more receptive listener than the hon. Minister sitting here. A speaker is tempted by the quality of the audience. From that point of view, I would seek your indulgence. On the economic front, I think the Minister of External Affairs has got a lot of homework to do. The political diplomacy is now being handled at the Prime Minister's level. There is need for redefining of the agenda of the network of our diplomatic services and that should be very demanding. I would like an economic and commercial sense to be forefed in the network of the diplomatic system that

we have. The cost involved in the diplomatic network is not really being offset by the return on the economic front. My test for good external relations, apart from everything else, would be very rigorous. How much is the benefit on the trade side? How much is the benefit on the direct foreign investment side? How much is the benefit on the joint venture side? How much is the benefit on our access to sensitive or the preferred technology of the kind that we are looking forward to? Unless these steps are brought within the framework of the job requirement of the people in the diplomatic services, I am sure we will continue to have our diplomatic service but it will not really be recovering the salary cost of the staff maintained there. So, I am speaking harshly because I have been at this for long through different channels and I don't think the Minister of External Affairs has even taken note of this aspect.

This is also true with regard to our association with multilateral agencies. To give you an illustration, there are multilaterally funded programmes in Bangladesh, in Nepal and in the Asian region worth millions of dollars. Look at our share in those projects. It is just peanut. Our techno economic capabilities apart, there is need for political back-up and diplomatic back-up in order to get a break-through in our share of the multilaterally funded programmes. I think we should go whole hog with all the clouts, political, economic or technological, that we may have. We have had 40 years of post-independence industrialisation and before that too India was not a totally agricultural country. It was not a dark continent. It was a developed country. It had a good industrial network. At this stage when we are entering the fifth decade of our independent life, we should be able to move around with the economic clout in the international market. The problem is that we have put the industry under protective umbrella and now that the

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Government is trying to bring in discreet competition, whether internal competition or external competition, and giving support to technology import of the kind that we need and also giving other kinds of assistance, the economy should be able to reap the benefits of this support in vigorous entrepreneurship, in a kind of killer instinct in the international market where you go and sell and come back with a return for the benefit of the economy.

Now the other area which we are all talking and particularly the Congress Party has been talking much more and repeatedly is on the employment front. At the annual session of the Congress Party in Madras, there was a resolution on that. I think in the field of employment, this country needs a God who will bring jobs, more job and many more jobs. We are going through a desperate situation and the problem is not uniform. There again the problem is concentrated in the rural unorganised sector. There the intensity of unemployment is very severe. It has an economic cost in terms of wasted manpower. It has a social cost in terms of the deviance which demoralises young persons. There is also a political cost of the kind which we have seen in terms of the fissiparous tendencies, regionalism, all kinds of separatist movements based on the different economic needs of different regions of the set of people belonging to that region. Now, I have got with me all the data but I am sure, Sir, you will not allow me to reel off that data. But on the employment promotion side the Government has talked about self-employment strategy which has been launched under the Integrated Rural Development Programme. Now, the concurrent evaluation and all the related data are known. There are leakages. I think, there is also a problem there—adequacy of resource support. Of course, the Seventh Plan has revised some of those things. In

terms of economically viable programmes sufficient resources are made available to a family for a project. But, at the same time, there is a missing link. Whereas on social consideration, we need to go and give resources to those who are the poorest of the poor, unfortunately, in our situation, the poorest of the poor do not have always the capability to take the resources and convert them into an economically worthwhile activity. What is the missing the link? Money is one thing, but the money management is another thing. A person coming from my State of Bihar also needs money, and a person coming from Mr. Morarka's State also need money except that I cannot convert that money from one into ten, but Mr. Morarka can convert one into ten. How to convert a typical Mr. Thakur into a Mr. Morarka is a part of social engineering. That is the TRYSEM part which he talked about. But my quarrel with the Government is that there has been more money spent on the scheme of TRYSEM and less of people capability built to manage money in their own benefit, in the interest of the society. So, the entire programme of skill generation for the vulnerable community where the society is doling out resources to help them to build capability, to use that resource for their benefit, needs to be re-looked and thoroughly re-organised. Who will do it, I do not know. But those who are doing, they are not doing a good job. That is the point I want to bring to the notice of the Government. Maybe, in isolated cases they are doing. But, by and large, that is more an activity devoid of result. And what I want is less of activity and more of results. And then only we will be able to help people.

Sir, on the employment front, when we are talking of infrastructure programme, this itself will generate direct employment. But the multiplier of employment generated through the infrastructure is going to be of much greater promise. So, when we are

building infrastructure, we must think right at the stage of forward linkage. What are these infrastructure being built for? Are all the building blocks ready there so that the day the infrastructure is ready, the next linkage will start work rather than the next Five Year Plan and the next scheme of things? That is where a kind of integrated planning is required.

Sir, the third area in the employment front is that we have large enterprises....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): Last point.

PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR: Nearly last point. Sir, the organised sector is the visible sector of the economy...

AN HON. MEMBER: Sir, give him more time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): I would like to give him even half an hour. But my difficulty is that one hour and ten minute is the time for the Congress Party.

PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR: I think, the Chairman's job is to be the best listener.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): I am listening to you.

AN HON. MEMBER: He is a financial expert.

PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR: And a good friend also.

Sir, the track record of the organised sector on the employment front has not only been dismal but also negative. The net addition to employment through organised sector has been going down. I will not blame them. It is the technological onslaught. The search for economic viability under pressure from market and technology is taking a heavy toll of the jobs in the organised sector. Now the solution is not putting the organised sector on the mat. The solution

is in finding alternatives. And it is there that the small scale sector or the informal sector that we had talked about comes in. But, here, I would like to communicate a message through the Minister concerned to the Department of Industries that in the name of small scale sector, almost every district has an industrial estate which is really a litter of the kind that the Delhi Development Authority has spread in Delhi. It has stalls but no light and no activity. What we need is a revamping of the entire small scale industry which is currently rather creating a kind of eyesores in every district. But not the effective utilisation of the facilities there; not the quantity but the quality also. Then we have great opportunities in the technology missions that the Government has launched, particularly in such of them as those in dairy, or health or education. There is a tremendous scope for employment for the people in the nooks and corners in the villages to take up jobs in voluntary channels, self-employed channels. (Interruptions). I am coming to that. And the new programme of food processing, the best use of the post-harvesting technology and processes is an area of great promise. And since the hon. Health Minister is here, I saw the summary of his speech in the recent conference of food processing units where the Ministry of Health was asked to relax health conditions. I will be the last one man to recommend that the Health Ministry may relax health conditions on food processing units because then they will be creating a vested interest of inefficiency and I would say that even if we have to wait for two years let us wait, but let us not compromise so far as the processing of foods is concerned, their manufacturing, packaging, both. And I would like to compliment Vohraji that he has stood firm and said that there will not be any compromise so far as the health standards are concerned. In this connection, I would like to strengthen his hands. Now the food processing industry needs all the support in terms of

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technology or where other kinds of resources are required, for two reasons, one because it is going to create jobs, and secondly because it is going to change the whole eating habits of the people of this country. Now I go to Delhi University at lunch time. Young boys and girls do not know what to eat. My son goes to university and I give him Rs. 10 but for that money he cannot buy any wholesome food, partly because his eating habits are bad and partly because the food processing industry does not provide wholesome, food at reasonable prices, which is clean and easily available, just like sandwiches or soup or some such thing. Of course, samosas and idli are available, but not of the kind which the younger generation is looking forward to. I am a Professor of Management and my own and my colleagues' managerial skills are put to test, can we manage a good lunch at a reasonable price for students in our faculty and I am making a confession, we have failed, because the industry's support is not there. Here is a segment of the market, here is a segment of the population, which is hungry which has the capacity to spend a certain amount of money and it is for us that we should come out with a package, at a point, at a price, of the quality, which they can sustain. So, there is great scope for changing the food habits and if we are able to process, we will be benefited and we will be able to export the agro-based products to the international market.

Further on the employment front, tourism is another opportunity. We have for good or bad or better or worse, so far identified tourism on two criteria; one the foreign exchange part and the numbers, foreign arrivals, that is neither the beginning, nor the end of tourism. There is such a tremendous market for domestic tourists and tourism related jobs, you will have tremendous job opportunities for guides or smack deliverers or curio sellers or hutment builders where people can have secure and clean stay.

These are the opportunities. Recently I went to these dhams; Lakshman-jhoola, Badri-Kedar, the amount of opportunity for jobs, for the quality of service that the visitors are looking for is so tremendous. You can take a place like Vaishnav Devi, take a place like Tirupathi, where hundreds of people go every day and they come back with one story that there is a lot of nightmare and a lot of problems. Now, here are opportunities for the Tourism Ministry to shift its sight from foreign arrivals, chartered planes and foreign exchange earnings, and instead created enough job opportunities give them scope to invest small amounts of capital in things which people are looking forward to and perhaps life will be better for the area and for the people directly involved and for people like you and me who occasionally find time and resources to visit these places.

So, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, with these words I would like to say that the recent developments like the re-galvanisation of the Tamil Nadu economy under the current arrangement is an area of promise that the contribution of the State economy to the national pool is going to be substantial, better than what we have seen. Things are looking better in Punjab which will help to revitalise the productivity of the Punjab economy, agriculture and agro-related industry and that will also add to the national pool. We have the GNLF accord which will again tone up North Bengal area for productive activity which for the last several years has been on a holiday, or on a reverse gear. That will help, and from that point of view, the ultimate resource through the revenue channel should look better and, perhaps, the resources committed for one or the other programme may yield better results.

With these observations, I support the Bill.

SHRI ASHISH SEN (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, the material which has been placed before us is a

further evidence of how this Government has proved again to be the managers of mismanagement in running the country's economy, as in other fields. Why I say so is because only the other day, two or three months back, we had gone through the process of approving the General Budget, and within this short time, another supplementary budget has come. We do not know whether the next supplementary comes within a few weeks' time, not a few months' time. Last year, when the Prime Minister happened to be the Finance Minister at that time, he said that there will be no repetition of supplementaries, if I remember correctly, though I was not in the House at that time. Now, today, the deficit is around Rs. 8000 crores. How much is being added? Rs. 600 crores. What is the productive purpose for which this money is required? It is all an outcome of wrong planning. What is our position whether in the field of agriculture, or rural development? We have got approximately 40 lakh jute workers, 60 lakh cotton growers, about 30 lakh sugarcane growers, associated with that about 2 lakh jute-mill workers who are affected, and then 11 lakh cotton-mill workers, handloom and powerloom workers to the extent of 83 lakh, and some 3 lakh workers working in the mills. In the agricultural field, we find things are moving in a manner where the total indebtedness of the kisans in our country has been assessed by some economists to the extent of Rs. 15,000 crore. If the indebtedness of the agriculturists is coming to that extent, and then there is no improvement in the life and living of the peasantry and kisans, what is this budget for? What is our economy? What is the management of the economy as regards agriculturists all over the country, particularly in the northern zone and the north-east which are reeling under floods? Every year there is a flood. But there is no planning about preventive measures being taken to halt these floods coming in. Is it that something extraordinary we are ask-

ing for? In the adjoining country, China, the new political power came two years later than ours. What do we find? Such big rivers like Yangtze Kiang, which was actually the instrument of destruction periodically every year, known as the river of sorrow, they have been able to control. But we cannot tame Brahmaputra; we cannot do something for Yamuna and Ganga. Is it so difficult? If there is a proper management of the economy keeping in view the people and the kisans who are living around those areas, it would be good. Now, it is good that in respect of assistance to the States, a sum of Rs. 400 crores has been provided for Punjab. Nobody is objecting to it. Everybody will accept this proposition. But the main question is, how does the Central Government ensure the equitable distribution of the resources among all the States? For this, there has to be a proper economic planning so that equitable economic development can be brought about in all the States. But if the attitude of the Central Government is one of 'My baby; others' baby', it becomes difficult. The question is, are the people of India one or not? If the people of the entire country are one and the Central Government is at the helm of affairs, the Central Government have got to see that there is proper distribution of resources so that one area does not suffer for want of credit, for want of financial resources, while the other areas do not feel the pangs of suffering which the other one feels.

In the field of industrial development, what do we find? There is the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme for industrialisation of backward areas. It is quite good. But which are the places where it is being implemented? Some data must be made available to the Parliament. Simultaneously, there are also established industries. Because of the mismanagement by the industrialists, they are turning sick. Like, for example, the

[Shri Ashish Sen]

Bengal Potteries. There are many such industries. Eight to ten per cent of the total industrial establishments in our country are today either sick or closed down or locked out. You can imagine how many lakhs of workers are involved. Are we doing anything to take care of them?

What about petrochemicals? What happened to the Haldia Petro-Chemicals Project? What is the bottleneck? Why is it not coming up? In regard to power, it is good that something is coming up in U.P. with the assistance of the Soviet Union. But is there not a discrimination made in relation to the Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project in the State of West Bengal? Why should there be such a discriminatory and differential treatment in regard to disbursement of loans we are going to get or we are getting from foreign sources for years together, this shameful feature has been going on with finance in respect of development being mismanaged successfully and tenaciously.

Two lakh jute mill workers have been ruined by their promoters. But funds are being made available to them. I have a Press clipping with me. What is the position? The Nadia Jute Mill, for example. The owners have swindled provident fund money to the extent of Rs. 9 crores 69 lakhs and they owe more than Rs. 3 crores to the banks. Together, the amount comes to nearly Rs. 15 crores. They are going scot-free. There is nobody to take action against them. There is no attempt on the part of the managers of the economy to pull them up who have defrauded the people, who have defrauded the workers.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): You have another two minutes

SHRI ASHISH SEN: There is one gangster, by the name of Dholakia or something like that. This gangs-

ter is to be provided with armed guards and for this provision is made whereas so many people are going without protection in the city of Delhi. I do not know how the Home Ministry is functioning.

Then, there is the question of bank finance for setting up of industries. There is talk all right that finance will be made available for accelerating industrial growth. There are many big nationalised banks like the United Commercial Bank, Union Bank, Central Bank, Punjab National Bank, Indian Bank etc. People are not able to get loans even in respect of amounts like Rs. 2 lakhs, Rs. 10 lakhs, Rs. 40 lakhs etc. A number of applications from small and medium industries for loans remain pending and loans are not granted for years. If this is the position, how do you expect the economic life in the country to improve? How are the Chairmen of banks appointed? In one case, in the case of Chairman of Bank of Travancore, his telephone bill came to Rs. 59,000. What for does he require so many phone calls? The same gentleman has spent about Rs. 1,47,000 for furnishing the flat. I do not know what type of luxury is required by them and there is no check over this. What is the finance Ministry doing about that when these people do all these things? Then, take the case of the Chairman of the United Bank of India. His wife wants to go to the toilet but here is no toilet for ladies in one Orissa branch, called Nampura. The toilet is not there because there is no lady employee. And for this the branch manager is suspended. This is how the banking industry is being managed under the control of the Finance Ministry. (*Time Bell rings*). Just a couple of minutes, beyond that I won't go. Now we are coming to a point of flow of credit from foreign land, it is rising rapidly. The growth has been 18 per cent over 1986 figures. We have got Rs. 9300 crore addition to the figure of Rs. 51000 crores which we add at

the end of 1986 flow of foreign credit. What does it mean? Then, not only this flow of credit that is coming, along with that we are finding that non-residents are also bringing in funds by way of deposits which have got to be repaid whenever they want. The rate of increase is very fast. The debt load is serious. Annual debt increment is enlarging. It is going to be worse because our balance of payments position has sharply deteriorated. Imports have shot up. Shri Morarka has already spoken about it. Simultaneously, our repayment obligations to IMF and others have accumulated. Resultantly, foreign exchange reserves are sharply dwindling. Within three to four months three to four thousand crores have gone down. And if imports go up in the manner in which it is going today, perhaps we may not have sufficient reserves in the next four months. Government may argue that this is due to sudden heavy payments for importing edible oils, fertilisers, etc. but there is no room for complacency because very soon we are going to pay heavily on import of foodgrains. In respect of food stock what is the position today? We are finding incompetence of this Government. Last year food stocks depleted due to severe drought. If the Government had imported foodgrains, at that time in the international market the price was lower, we had to pay less. Now if the Government has got to go in for importing foodgrains, the international price of foodgrains has gone up and naturally our food-import bill is going to be substantial, it is going to have an impact on our economy and the budget that has been talked about. This is how our foreign currency reserves are being, if I may say so, misused by a lack of foresight. With the reserves being what they are and the Government unwilling to trace back its policy of import liberalisation, the country will have to borrow much larger amount from IMF as also from private commercial sources. External debt service charges have already crossed Rs. 2000 crores. The

growth of debts in this order will ultimately lead to serious compromises in our economic sovereignty. Mr. Vice-Chairman, I am emphasizing on this point, it is going to affect our economic sovereignty and political economy *vis-a-vis* the lending imperialist countries. Some of the South American countries like Mexico and Brazil are the pointed examples before us. Should we allow this mismanagement to lead our country to the state of affairs of Mexico and Brazil? As far as internal borrowing is concerned, it is an astounding feature that nearly three-fourth of our borrowings are needed for repayment of the old loans. This is due to the mismanagement of funds. On both counts, external and internal borrowings, the financial management of country's economy by the Government has brought the country to the brink of almost an insolvency.

They are sitting like idols in temples to see that the country is brought to a state of insolvency. Thousands of crores of rupees are reported to be locked up in foreign banks. FERA and all that is going to be changed. Today we found that some people who had been prosecuted are being released from the FERA rules and other things. How many thousand crores are there in the Swiss banks and other banks? It is our country's peoples' money which should be brought back and these people should be forced to bring it back to our country so that it could be utilised to reduce the deficit and for economic growth of the country. Could it not be done? The original budget deficit was to the extent of Rs. 7484 crores. With Supplementary Demands of Rs. 668 crores, it is going to be about Rs. 8000 crores. The Reserve Bank has also said that their credit to the Central Government has sharply increased by more than Rs. 8000 crores in the four months of 1988, while the State Governments' credits have declined by Rs. 67 crores. But during this period what is the difference in the economic climate?

[Shri Ashish Sen]

If we analyse this performance of the Government, we find little interest in giving permission for the Supplementary Grants, as asked for. Can I have one minute, more?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): You have already taken fifteen minutes.

SHRI ASHIS SEN: Just sixty seconds I am asking for. In the industrial field where is the outlook to provide for salvaging small and medium industries from closing down? When thousands of crores are wasted by way of gratuitous relief to monopoly houses in the shape of excise duties, export promotion grants, winking over FERA violations, allowing big industrialists to dodge payments under the Employees State Insurance Scheme, or defrauding Workers' Provident Fund without enforcing law, the Government is adverse to taking over industrial units which can be made viable—for example, I mentioned Bengal Potteries, textile concerns like Mohini Mills and various units of NTC. . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): Don't bring new points now. Please conclude.

SHRI ASHIS SEN: . . . throwing thousands of workers out of jobs. How much funds would have been necessary to allocate for running such industrial establishments in almost all part of the country? Not a big sum compared to the grants to misusers of trust who take away hundreds and thousands of crores of rupees.

So I do not feel like associating myself with passing this Bill and the Supplementary Grants and I stop at that.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR (Bihar): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 1988, which provides for a sum of Rs. 1593.19 crores. Some of our friends have criticised this additional amount required by the Government in a vague and general manner. But

we should look into the various aspects which have been provided for. The major item provided for is Rs. 231.50 crores for the power sector which is the most important infrastructure set-up for us and this will amount to about 15 per cent of the total additional outlay. By this primarily we are going to add Rs. 200 crores to the share capital of the Power Finance Corporation.

(The Vice-Chairman (Shri Satya Prakash Malaviya) in the Chair)

This, in turn, is going to assist and help the various power institutions in different States to augment their power sector, particularly the rural power.

The second major item is payment to financial institutions which amounts to Rs. 627.64 crores. This amount is primarily our additional contribution to the International Monetary Fund which is about 40 per cent of the total amount.

The third major item is transfers to State Governments which comes to about 30 per cent. This payment of Rs. 400 crores is primarily for the State Plan of the State Government of Punjab—Rs. 10 crores for police housing and Rs. 30 crores for the development of the Golden Temple Complex. So about 85 per cent of additional amount is required. You add another six per cent for industrial development. That is also a very important item which caters to the needs of the Central Government subsidy schemes in three parts, that is, the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme, the Transport Subsidy Scheme and the Infrastructural Subsidy Scheme for industrialization of select backward areas. That is Rs. 100 crores which comes to about six per cent. Thereby, 91 per cent of the total outlay will be for four major items, and the remaining nine per cent covers the rest of the items.

We particularly commend the financial management of the Government and I am happy to hear from the honourable Minister that out of this, Rs. 1,593.18 crores will be met out of the additional increase received in savings of Rs. 925.47 crores and the additional requirement will be only about Rs. 667.71 crores. At this stage I would like to say that some friends from the other side have simply, in a general way, criticized the Government's financial management. We should appreciate that last year was a very difficult financial year for the Government when nearly two-thirds of the country was reeling under drought and the other parts under floods and, in spite of that, the Government has been able to have very good financial management. In spite of the constraints on the economy, the overall performance has been excellent.

The second part was about agricultural development about which my friend, Prof. Thakur, spoke. I would simply add that it was good last year. We have been able to maintain the level in spite of all the difficulties in an year of drought. Not a single person suffered for want of food. In the past we have seen how, in many years—prior to Independence—lakhs of people died in Calcutta for want of food. Our agricultural management has been very good and our agriculturists have done very well. Particularly, the last budget had provided for about 40 per cent for additional agricultural inputs. We hope that with the good monsoon this year, we will be able to achieve the target which we have set, and by the end of the Seventh Plan the target of 177 million tonnes which we have set will be achieved and we will be able to meet our requirements.

With regard to industrial development, we are all aware that industry, in spite of constraints on the infra-structural front, particularly power, has done extremely well and the total growth has been of the range of near-

ly nine per cent, which is very substantial. Transport and communications have fared fairly well. Science and technology as you know has done extremely well. In the case of social services, education and health were doing very well. Here I would like to add that there should be additional provision in the sector of health education because they concern human welfare. Therefore, I would urge upon the honourable Minister that these sectors should not suffer for want of funds and, if necessary, additional funds should be provided to meet the increased demands.

About rural development, the Government has been able to maintain the tempo of the Rural Development Programme which is given top priority in Government policy, and I am sure the 20-point programme and other development programmes will be continued and additional funds will be provided for them beyond what has been provided in the last budget.

But there is one thing which is more important and about which I would like to give some suggestions to the honourable Minister. The important part is implementation of the provisions made in the earlier budget and the additional provisions which are being made here. Implementation of the plans on time and proper utilization of funds is one of the most important aspects. The second aspect is, there must be more efficient management, that is, more productivity efficiency should be there and profitability of the public sector undertakings should be increased so that they are able to cater to the needs of the public sector which is in commanding heights, which has top priority in the economy and to which the Prime Minister has given further impetus. During the last few years, particularly during the Seventh Plan, the maximum investment has been made. It is very essential that these public sector undertakings should give good results. Particularly for the public sector undertakings which have not been performing well, it is essential that on

[Shri Rameshwar Thakur]

an individual basis there should be monitoring, and all these public sector undertakings should be brought to strict discipline. There should be maximum savings to the desired degree of profitability so that they are able to help the general budget by their contribution.

The next one is in regard to the Government expenditure. Concern has been expressed, and there has been a suggestion that there should be a decrease of at least 5 per cent of the expenditure. I am sure, the Government, the hon. Minister is taking necessary steps. I think this saving of Rs. 925.47 crores which has been indicated is also partly out of the savings contemplated in the Government expenditure. I would urge very much that in view of the stress and strain on the economy, the maximum efforts should be made to reduce the Government expenditure in a systematic way in almost all the departments. Particularly the non-essential expenses should be reduced.

The other one is the price situation. There has been a very difficult period as far as price is concerned. But in spite of that, the Government has been able to maintain the supply line and the prices, by and large, have been maintained well. I think there has been stress and strain more particularly in regard to essential commodities, and there has been some rise in the case of consumer goods. But, nevertheless, if we take the totality of the situation, I think, the Government deserves compliments for it has been able to contain the price in spite of several adverse factors.

But the more important point is, out of this we will have also to see the contingencies. When we look at the eastern sector, particularly Assam, West Bengal and Bihar, certain areas are now again having this time floods, and those areas need to be catered to and helped.

We had recently an earthquake in Bihar, Sikkim and other parts of the country. It is necessary that the people who have been affected, have to be helped. I was present in Patna when the earthquake took place. It was a very severe earthquake after 1934, and a large number of people, we are aware, have died. But a much larger number of people suffered casualties. But much more, a substantially large number of buildings have been damaged. More than that—now the latest figure is coming—a very large number of houses, 30,000, 40,000 houses have got cracks. This is very important. This aspect has not been highlighted. We have highlighted only those houses which have collapsed or the people who died, but not the casualties, human suffering and cracks in so many buildings in the rural areas as well as the situation particularly in Darbhanga, Madhubani, Jhanyharpur, Munger, Bhagalpur, Saharsa, Khagadia and other districts. These cracks are dangerous, and we have to consider more how they have to be helped. They did not come in any category of help. It is very essential that they should also be looked into, and some Central assistance and State Government assistance should be provided for those houses which have developed cracks, which are unsafe for living for people. This is very essential.

In this entire process, I would like one aspect to be covered. It is that when the Central assistance is being given, the basic policy of planning has been also to remove the regional imbalances. In this process, when there are regional imbalances, when we give Central subsidy for selected backward areas, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what the position of giving the assistance is to the backward areas. For instance, Rs. 100 crore subsidy which has been provided for backward areas, is being given for States like Bihar which is very backward industrially. What other backward States is it being provided for? It is essential that much more funds need to be provided for to remove

the regional imbalances, which is a major aspect of this Plan.

Lastly, I would like to submit very much that it is essential that the people who are implementing the Plan should have some control over the expenditure. We provide for additional funds. The Budget for the current year is one of the largest budgets. So, we have provided for additional funds. These funds must be properly utilised. For this purpose it is essential, as a thrust has been given in this direction by the Prime Minister, that we must be able to ensure people's participation at the grass-roots level. It is very essential that the beneficiaries of this Plan are enabled to take direct part in the implementation of the Plan. They must be consulted. Therefore, as has been directed by the Prime Minister, the Planning should be at the grass-roots level, at the Panchayat level, at the block level and at the district level and we should identify the natural resources also. Human needs should match with them. By having planning at these levels we will be able to have a composite planning. People's participation in the planning process particularly at the implementation stage is essential so that the funds meant for them are properly utilised and they go directly to the weaker sections of the people, tribals and Harijans, who have been suffering for a long time. We must be able to ensure that they get the real benefit and productive assets are created to enable them to raise their standard of living. I am sure the Government will take necessary steps to see that institution of Panchayats is effectively worked and the Government organisations along with the people's support should be able to implement all these plans to ensure that the people get the benefit meant for them.

With these words I support the Appropriation Bill, 1988.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA (Andhra Pradesh): The presentation of the Appropriation Bill is a monumental testi-

mony for the capacity of mismanagement on the part of the present Government. With every succeeding Appropriation Bill they display rare qualities of non-comprehension of the economic situation and the ill-health of the economic situation of the country. I do not understand how the Government proposes to contain several ill-effects of the mismanagement which they have been following for the last four years more particularly and for the last 40 years in general.

We had a Budget in the month of February-March and now we are having the fourth Supplementary Demands for Grants. I was told that the first two referred to the Budget itself. The third one referred to about Rs. 285 crores and the present one will leave a gap of Rs. 669 crores.

As you are aware, when the deficit was presented the deficit was expected to be of the order of Rs. 7,684 crores. If we add at least this Rs. 1,000/- crores which is already added today. I think the Budget will definitely shoot up to more than what it was during the last year. We had cautioned while taking on the Budget that unless you take expeditious steps, unless you avoid certain expenditures, you would not be able to stem the great deficit which the country is now faced with. I do not think they have learnt any lesson. They only tend to be King Canute and they think their whims and fancies they can have control over the phenomena on which actually they don't have any control at all. Sir, only very recently, we had a budget presented for Punjab, I think, a few days back and already there is a provision for Rs. 400 crores to supplement the effort of Punjab. My only question is, could they not think about it? Could it not become part of that? This is a definite game they are playing. They would like to give a slow poisonous death to this country's economy. They want to inject step by step this poison. At the same time, they are afraid of facing the realities. They want to take refuge under such things.

[Prof. C. Lakshmanna]

Having stated this, I would like to prove . . .

SHRI B. K. GADVI: Will you yield for a minute? Perhaps, you are not aware that this was the long-term loan from the Central Government. This was indicated in the Punjab budget. That is why it is reflected in these supplementary demands. The amount was the same in the Punjab budget. It was shown that this was received as a long-term loan from the Centre. Here we come with a supplementary demand for your sanction so that we can give it to Punjab. They are not separate amounts.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Any how, by the time your budget was presented, already Punjab was under President's rule. Therefore, the requirements of Punjab could have been estimated even at that time. The argument on which I am basing my assessment still stands. That is the first point.

What is important is, what are the economic indicators, what are the parameters by which we can judge and measure the health of the economy? I will only pick up a few as per the data that has been given to us only through the Government sources. One is, net foreign exchange assets of banking sector, because money and banking is a very important indicator by which we can assess the way in which the economy is progressing. Here the percentage variation if you take up to the end of March, 1988 over the corresponding period, it is -21.9 per cent and if you take the year, as a whole, the variation is of the order of 9.4 per cent. That means, the banking sector which has to draw upon its reserves in order to become effective instruments of development and social change, will not be able to play that role because of this very difficult situation.

Sir, about the wholesale price index, only the other day, the Minister in

his reply did give as to what is the rise that has taken place in points. If I remember correctly, it was 23 per cent. But none the less there is already an uptrend in prices of rice, jowar, cardamoms and spices, pushed by the index of the food articles. These are the items, which are needed for the society, as a whole, and some of these items for the poorer sections. Therefore, the wholesale price index which has gone up, which is at a peak, during the week ended of the 13th August, as reported is 436.1. Therefore, what is the conclusion we can draw? If you come to the consumer price index, the percentage variation up to the end of March, 1988 over the corresponding period last year is 9.2 per cent especially for food articles and for all commodities, it is 7.9 per cent. Though I may not fully agree with these figures, there are figures to indicate definitely it has crossed double digit. But none the less, if you take what has been given by the sources of the Government, the situation is very grim.

Sir, in the case of consumer price index with 1960 as the base year for industrial workers, it is in order of 4.2 per cent because from 753 points it has gone up to 782 points. Now if you talk about the foreign trade, the position of balance of payments, the position of exports, re-exports and imports is equally or perhaps more alarming. Sir, during April-May 1988-89, the value of exports and re-exports is Rs. 2938.9 crores which comes to 19.6 per cent and this if you take over the last year, it is coming to 28.7 per cent. That means from 28.7 per cent of last year, the exports and re-exports have come down to 19.6 per cent while the Government have been claiming all the while that they have made all things possible to improve our export position, to improve our re-export position and so on and so forth. On the other hand, import position last year, it was amounting to 11.4 per cent imports of

the value and that has gone up to 29.3 per cent, almost one-third because it is now of the order of Rs. 4273.6 crores. Now, Prof. Thakur, who is a Professor of Management was talking about infrastructure. What is the position of infrastructure? Let us not go by absolute figures. Let us go by the percentages. What has been the amount of re-conversion? What has been the amount of addition in terms of railway lines? What has been the amount of addition in terms of goods traffic, vehicles etc.? If you look at all these, we have not built sufficient infrastructure.

About power also, while there has been a marginal increase, especially in thermal, this has not been sufficient with what has been projected by ourselves as the requirement. Therefore, from the infrastructure point of view also, we have not been able to do much good. Sir, I do not want to go into the debt trap. I do not want to go into the foreign debt which has touched Rs. 55,000 crores as reported today only and I had occasion earlier to tell how the debt servicing almost accounts for 65 per cent of our borrowings. That means a stage will come when we will borrow only to do debt servicing. That is the stage into which the economy is being pushed. I do not want to go into that. One way by which the resource mobilization could take place is through the public sector. Sir, I would like to state here, I am a votary of public sector. I am of the opinion that there have to be commanding heights for public sector and the country's ultimate development will depend on our capacity to give those commanding heights for public sector. But then having stated this, I want to say that this Government is not serious about giving those commanding heights to public sector. They want to give only lip-sympathy. They want to kill public sector so that they could increase the scope for privatization, increase the scope for multi-nationals, increase the scope for

big industrial houses. It is not the occasion for me to go into those things but I can prove that. I am saying this because what is the position with regard to public sector units? Anybody with a little understanding of public sector, or for that matter any industrial organization, will say that unless those who are interested in the nation-building process are in high positions, the health of the organization will not be in order. What is the position with regard to public sector undertakings? Sir, the Public Enterprises Selection Board, as on July 31, had recommended for appointment full-time Chief Executives in the case of 18 public sector undertakings and Functional Directors in the case of 17 public sector undertakings. And till this date the Government has not been able to take a decision on the appointments. I would like to ask the Minister : How do you expect these (18 plus 17) 35 public sector undertakings to work at their full capacity and thereby to be in a position to contribute to your resource mobilisation? I can understand if persons are not available. But here is a case where the Public Enterprises Selection Board has made the selection and has recommended to the Government. The Government is sitting over it. It is not able to act. Even the question of non-availability of persons suitably for appointment cannot be raised by the Minister or by the Government. It only shows the callousness of the Government. It only shows its lack of appreciation of the need for effective management of the public sector. Therefore, you should appoint those persons. You should make persons responsible, accountable, loaded with sufficient authority, autonomy. This is a concept about which we have been talking all the while. You are not doing things which ought to be done in order to promote public sector which, in turn, can contribute to your resource mobilisation. Therefore, it is a failure.

[Prof. C. Lakshmanna]

Then, the second segment of any public sector organization, or any industrial organisation, is the workers. It has been accepted by the Government and everybody that a sense of participation should be created for workers. Have we created that sense of participation? As early as in 1983 December, we sent out a circular that all the public sector undertakings should work for effective workers' participation in management. I had occasions to examine. Not even three or four, out of almost 250—227, to be exact—public sector undertakings, could even talk in terms of creating a place for the workers in management at the board level. Only about 67 or so have been having some sort of programmes or the other for workers' participation in management at the shop-floor level.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): How much more time will you take?

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: I am about to conclude. If the public sector has to be efficient, the second component which is to be encouraged to contribute its mite is the workers. But under the policy dispensations which are available with this Government which is not really interested in the public sector they have not been pushed. On the other hand, the Minister of Industries will say that this is not his problem and that this is the problem of the Minister of Labour. Fortunately, the Minister of Labour is sitting here. He will also say, "I do not have control over all the industries. They are spread out in other Ministries also. Therefore, I am not in a position to implement." I ask: Is this a Government which is working together, knit together? Or is this a Government which is desperate? If this is a Government which has no coordination, no monitoring between one ministry and another, you please come out. In that case you will not be a ministry working, much less,

working faster. Sometimes it is amusing that Ministers have to make such statements on the floor of the House and in other forums where these discussions come up. Therefore, I would like to ask: Are we very serious about it? Then, if there has to be development, if the economy of the country has to be good, there has to be partnership between the Union and the States. Unless the Union and the States together work towards a goal, it will not be possible for us to achieve many of the targets, many of the objectives, many of the aims, of planning, etc. which we have set for ourselves. But what has been the attitude of the Union Government? The Union Government has been continuously eroding into the rights of the States. Shamelessly even in a document they say that they want to have a programme for education for equality of women, and they do not want to implement it through the State Governments. They want to implement it directly. They want to create a parallel organisation. If whatever amount you are asking for today had been given to the States, the States would have brought forth a more coordinated programme for education for equality of women. You do not want to do it. I had occasion earlier to mention how you wanted to build parallel streams through navodaya schools and thereby create islands which are eyesores for the normal working of the educational system. You do not want because you are bent upon eroding what has been the legitimate right of the States. You have been trampling upon the rights of the States for years and years and you have been trying to make the States serfs. Therefore if you really want the economy of the country to be in a sound state, then you have to carry the States with you. That you are not doing. Not only that. Since this is the occasion I must tell you, there are Governments which have been elected by the people through the democratic process which do not necessarily swear by your party's ideals and policies and programmes, and,

therefore, you have no right to deny them what has been their legitimate quest. In this connection I would like to point out how during the last five years when Telugu Desam has been in power in Andhra Pradesh you have not cleared even one project. All that you have cleared is abolition of the second chamber, the Legislative Council, and the single window co-operative scheme. These are the two things which you have cleared. But what has been the effort required by the Andhra Pradesh Government? The same is the case with Karnataka. All of us have here a document given by Karnataka Government showing how many projects are pending. The same is the case with West Bengal. The same is the case with Kerala. Perhaps, maybe, to a lesser extent, it is the case with some of the Congress-I States. I had occasion to meet the present Finance Minister who was the Chief Minister of Maharashtra at that time. I had occasion to quote extensively last time in my speech on the Budget how he proved with irrefutable statistics as he claimed it and which he is not denying even now, the Union Government has been making inroads into the States. Therefore, you do not want to carry people with you, you do not want to carry States with you, you do not want development, you look at every issue through coloured glasses, through jaundiced eyes. Your Government is suffering from jaundice. your Government is suffering from all kinds of diseases....

SHRI B. K. GADHVI: The Health Minister is right beside me; don't worry.

(Interruptions)

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Mr. Health Minister, let us not talk about medicines. Do not provoke me to tell you what the position is with regard to medicines. I would like to bring to your kind notice how people are suffering for want of availability of medicines, and you are talking of administering medicines to the Government.

I was saying this because what is required is a proper understanding. You have to come forward to carry States with you and you have to show that magnanimity of heart which you are not showing at all. On the other hand, you are even not allowing the legitimate things. Therefore, I would like to suggest a few things to you. Firstly, you have to give up this partisan attitude and you have to take a decision to clear all the projects which are pending with you from different States. Then the onerous responsibility will lie with the States to put them on the ground. But, so long as you do not do it, it is not their responsibility and some of them may have to defy you because they cannot wait for you and the cannot go on waiting and make the people suffer. So, in order to alleviate the suffering of the people, the States may have to defy you and that is not good for proper Centre-State relations. The least that you can do is to follow even to the extent to which the Sarkaria Commission has suggested to you. Have discussions; we are not even satisfied with what has been said by the Sarkaria Commission. But even what has been suggested by that Commission goes much against what you have been doing for the last several years. This is number one.

Secondly, you have to build infrastructures and you have to have durable infrastructures. For this you have to have a change in your industrial policy. I know that the moment I mention the Janata experiment, you will all become very touchy. But still I advise you—I am not a part of the Janata and I was not a part of the Janata—to look into the industrial policy with accent on the small-scale and medium scale industries which alone and alone can build the necessary infrastructure in the country and, in so doing, it will also pave the way for larger participation of the people, greater employment, in the development process. So this is the second thing which you should do. I am not

[Prof. C. Lakshmanna]

against heavy industries as such and you also have to think in terms of developing on a large scale this one.

Thirdly, you have to create knowledge and you have to create awareness. Knowledge and awareness cannot be created....

श्री राम चन्द्र विकल (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं व्यवस्था चाहता हूँ, माननीय सदस्य प्रारम्भ से ही मुख भी उधर किये हुए हैं, अंगुली भी उधर किये हुए हैं, संबोधन भी उधर कर रहे हैं। आपको तो देख ही नहीं रहे हैं।

उपसभापति (श्रीसत्य प्रकाश भालवोय) :
नहीं-नहीं, देख रहे हैं।

श्री राम चन्द्र विकल : नहीं-नहीं, कभी नहीं देख रहे हैं। अंगुली भी उधर चल रही है, निशाना भी उधर चल रहा है, बात भी उधर हो रही है, वे आपकी मार्फत कह सकते हैं। थोड़ी कुछ सदन की भी मर्यादा होती है।

प्रो० सी० लक्ष्मन्ना : मैं तो हमेशा देखता रहा हूँ। एक मौका आया, एक ऐसी चीज आई, जो उनको सीधे बताना होगा, तो उनसे कहा (व्यवधान)....
Therefore, I would like to suggest that you have to make alterations with regard to the educational policy also in order to create knowledge and awareness. You have to give more emphasis, not on cosmetic things, not on tokenism, not on ad hocism, but on essential things. You will have to go straight into the problem of universalisation of education, more particularly elementary education and if you do not. . .

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO (Jammu and Kashmir): Where will the *rupya* come from?

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: The people will come forward and give the *rupya*. Don't worry about *rupya*.

Mr. Matto, don't provoke me again. You know some of the expenditures involved can be reduced and I think there is sufficient ground for reducing those expenditures. I think if the honourable Minister sits with me. I can tell him what the expenditures are which he can definitely reduce and then he can find money for those things which are more important.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI: I think you can give the suggestions in writing and send them to me.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: It is only a question of priority.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA (Bihar): But they don't have the will.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: They do not have the political will and the administrative will nor do they have the intention. Anyhow, with these observations I would like to voice my unhappiness with the way in which the economy is being dragged by this Government and I do not want to be a party which takes the country down the drain. I would not like to associate myself with the particular Appropriation Bill.

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to associate myself with this Bill. I rise to support this Bill.

I have been traditionally using the opportunity given to me for speaking on Appropriation Bills to take up various subjects of my choice. I would like to spring a surprise. Usually, it is Bombay. Sometimes it is also the FERA and it has also been other things. I thought it is about time this time that I chose something more topical and, therefore, I am going to confine myself, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, to the public sector. I am going to speak on the Bills of the public sector and the various solutions which I would like to suggest.

If we go back to the public sector when it was first mooted, we find, Sir, that the idea was that the public sector should enter into those areas where others would not be trusted into entering: Essential areas, areas of low return areas of very high investment, essential areas. We find that people were not willing, the average businessman did not have the resources to invest in steel, to invest in Railways or irrigation. These areas were the areas which were specifically chosen by the Government of India as being the forefront of the public sector: Transport, Heavy Transport—high investments, low returns, yet essential for progress.

Sir, what is the scenario today? Today we find, apart from the investment which has already been made in these areas, the technology needs to be updated; it is not yet updated. Our steel mills are running with technologies which are outmoded. The machinery employed, for example, in the extraction of coal is of the last generation. We have not yet been able to upgrade it. Our Railways are now in the process of regeneration. You will remember, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, that it was just two or three years back that the Railways managed to balance their budget. For the first time we thought of regeneration of tracks, etc. Sir, the IDPL is making huge losses. But it is the same IDPL which went in for technology in those areas which no country in the world was willing to take up. For example, we got technology for Re. . . from Russia which is the only country doing it today. Today we find that the technology is outmoded for . . . mycetine. But that does not mean that the IDPL at one time did not perform well. We in Parliament tend to criticize the public sector every year. We talk about its being a drain on our resources. We talk about mismanagement. But we forget that there are whole areas which are subsidised by the public sector. There are many areas in which the operation is done for the sake of pub-

lic good. When we criticise the Indian Airlines or the Vayudoot, do we take into consideration that the Indian Airlines and the Vayudoot are running their services in areas which are uneconomical? Many of our Members of Parliament make representations to the Minister of Transport asking him for Indian Airlines Services to be extended to certain areas or asking him that the Vayudoot Service should be extended to particular areas knowing that they are going to be uneconomical. That don't take that into consideration because they need the services. So, what really needs to be done? In this connection I would like to say that the basic suggestions, the original scenario or the original idea that was mooted still holds good. We find that the public sector today is going into all kinds of trivial areas such as producing bread. I think we have a public sector company which produces bread. There was a time when it was essential. Now there are many other companies making bread. The public sector is running hotels. Now we don't need the public sector in hotels. There was a time when nobody was willing to put up hotels in this country. I remember that in the beginning Ashok Hotel was private hotel. It was taken over by the Government and made into a public sector hotel. Today, hotel industry is not an essential area. Why are you there in hotels? Now the public sector should be involved in higher technology or in areas where no one would like to make an investment. It should be an area which we need. It should be an area of the future. It should be technology of the future in which people are not willing to invest. Public sector should invest in new sources of energy. Public sector should invest in the field of information or steel industry or genetic engineering or bio-engineering. That is where the public sector should be involved in. Those are the essential areas which today require high investment. These areas give a minimal return at the moment. They will give you return later on. These are not the

(Shri Vishjit P. Singh)

areas in which the businessmen are interested. Therefore, the public sector has to be involved in these areas.

We need to realise the basic philosophy behind our public sector and we must implement that philosophy once again. We must take the public sector out of the areas where it is involved, de-invest from there and divert its funds and channelise them into areas which are essential today so that the public sector fulfils its proper function. We have lost sight of that function. It is not a holy cow. You cannot say that it is a public sector company and it will always remain a public sector company. We have got to go into other areas.

After giving you this small background, I would like to chalk out a broad strategy. How are you going to make it accountable? How are you going to make it strong and responsible? It can be done only by allowing it to accept and take responsibility. You have got to stop this interference which goes on. This constant interference which goes on by Government has to be stopped. I would like to emphasise that all that the Government or the Parliament do is nothing but to criticise the public sector. Parliament does nothing but criticise the public sector without understanding what is it all about. What does the Government do? The Government, instead of acting as a watchdog and giving a support system to the public sector—that is what the Government is supposed to do—it acts as a gate-keeper. It says, we are the gate-keeper, we locked the gate, this gate is locked for you and you cannot enter. That is not the function of the Government. The Government has to act in giving support to the public sector. We in Parliament have to understand what the public sector is all about. There is the Board of the public sector. The Chief Executive Officer, for example, of a public sector company ought to be

selected by the recommendation of the Board of the Public Sector. Why should the Bureau of Public Enterprises select the Chief Executive of a public sector corporation? Why should the hon. Minister for Finance say that so and so is going to be the head of the public sector? I don't see that that should be the case. So, the Board itself should be responsible. The Board should select its own Chief Executives. I do not see the reason why vacancies should exist not for months but for years on end in the public sector enterprises. No vacancy should be allowed to exist for more than 90 days. In fact, all vacancies should be filled 90 days in advance before they become vacant. That should be the system. We should not even wait for the post to fall vacant. We should announce it in advance. There should be labour representation on the Board there should be private representation on the Board. Let us get experienced people, knowledgeable people who can tell you what it is all about, and make them all participate in the functioning of the public sector.

Now, Sir, let us take the functioning of the Chief Executive Officer in the Board itself. They must not just work for day to day. They must plan. There must be a proper perspective planning. And this perspective planning ought to be of two different kinds. It should take into consideration the support system, it should take into consideration the political scenario of the policies not just of the Central Government but also of the State Governments where they are functioning. Today, I find various public sector enterprises on a collision course with different State Governments. They must take into account the perspective planning of the State Government itself, the priorities, the political policies of the State Governments, and they gear themselves up accordingly and work so that it creates a healthy, conducive environment. And in that process, they must become more public. There ought to be a strategy business plan of a three year for the future. Make a

strategy business plan of three years and make it public. And the annual operating plan must in any case be made public. And those are the areas which the Parliament should debate. Parliament can sit and debate the strategy business plan of three years and the annual operating plan. Those strategies are the ones which we ought to debate in Parliament and we ought to debate then their performance based on those strategies, how they succeeded or failed. And we are not an audit and accounts executive that we should sit and say why have they made so much profit and why have they made so much loss. That is not our job. We should be involved in a different area.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is our job.

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH: Watch-dog job should not be the only job. (Time bell rings) I am just finishing, Sir. Basically, what I am trying to say is that the role and the relationship ought to change. In our role we should not interfere in appointments. I see everyday questions being raised by Members of Parliament where they are saying: Why did you appoint such and such a person to this post or that post? What is his experience for that? That is not the function of Parliament. That is not our function. Our function ought to be on a slightly higher level where we actually get involved in asking: what was the kind of perspective you had when you had put up this or that plant? Why did you make investment in that particular area? That is the kind of perspective with which we ought to function and not the nit-picking of individual appointments. And furthermore, as I have mentioned before, I am going to take two minutes more, what should the Secretary of the Bureau of Public Enterprises, or the Public Enterprises Bureau be doing? They should be reviewing the strategic business plan and the annual operating plan. It should act as in inter-phase between the public sector company and Parliament. They should come in-between us and the public sector company concerned.

They should act as the financiers of the public sector company. They are the ones who should be recommending what kind of finance should be available. They are the ones who should inter-phase between them and the planning Commission and they are the ones who should be inter-phasing for the annual meeting and beyond this they should have no further role. The rest of the role ought to be left to the individual companies themselves.

And, Sir, the major thing which is lacking is public participation. We call it public sector. But how is it a public sector? I think it is only Government sector. It is not a public sector. Which member of the public is involved in the public sector? None at all. It is about time....

AN HON. MEMBER: The President of India.

SHRI VISHVJIT P. SNIGH: The President of India is in name only. That is not the general public. I think that 25 per cent of the public sector shares ought to be sold to the general public. They should be in the hands of the general public itself.

माननीय सदस्य : फिर समाजवाद आयेगा ।

श्री विश्वजित पृथ्वीजित सिंह : हाँ, समाजवाद आयेगा इसी से 25 फीसदी उनकी शेयर होल्डिंग हो ।

AN HON. MEMBER: Which type of public?

श्री विश्वजित पृथ्वीजित सिंह : आप और मैं जो जमीन के स्तर पर चलने वाले हैं, वे सरमायादार नहीं हैं। जो वहाँ पर बैठ कर मसीडीज गाड़ी में घूमते हैं, उनको नहीं, बल्कि जो जमीन पर चलने वाले हैं, उनको बेचने चाहिये। किसी इस्टीमेशन को नहीं, किसी कम्पनी को नहीं, किसी फर्म को नहीं, कतई नहीं। केवल इन्डीविजुअल को और उनको भी एक फीसदी से ज्यादा शेयर्स

[श्री विश्वजित पृथ्वीजित सिंह]

नहीं देने चाहियें। यह बाई-ला, कानून बनना चाहिये कि किसी के हाथ में एक फीसदी से ज्यादा शेयर होल्डिंग नहीं होगी। 25 फीसदी हर पब्लिक सेक्टर कम्पनी के शेयर आम जनता में जाने चाहियें, बिकने चाहियें।

माननीय सदस्य : एम्पलाइज को मिलने चाहियें।

श्री विश्वजित पृथ्वीजित सिंह : मैं पहले कह चुका हूँ कि एम्पलाइज भी बोर्ड के मੈम्बर होने चाहियें। उनको शेयर भी मिल ही जायेंगे। दूसरे यह कि जो शेयर होल्डर्स की मीटिंग हो, वह पब्लिक में होनी चाहिए। अगर यह मीटिंग पब्लिक में होगी तो आम जनता को एक अहसास होगा कि यह हमारी कम्पनी है, यह हमारा पब्लिक सेक्टर है, यह हमारे लिये काम कर रही है, तो हम इसके लिये क्या कर सकते हैं, वह यह सोचेगी।
There should be a certain visibility.
There should be a certain openness.
There should be community awareness.
There should be involvement. And there should be public debate.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय):
आप बड़ी अच्छी हिन्दी बोल रहे हैं।
आप उसी में बोलिये।

श्री विठ्ठलराव माधवराव जाधव (महाराष्ट्र): हिंदी अंग्रेजी से अच्छी बोल लेते हैं।

श्री विश्वजित पृथ्वीजित सिंह : मुझे इतना ज्ञान नहीं है कि मैं अच्छी हिन्दी बोल लेता हूँ। मैं और ज्यादा तो नहीं बोलूंगा। मैं सिर्फ यह कहना चाहता हूँ और दुबारा-दुबारा यह दोहरा रहा हूँ कि प्रोफिट तब होगा, जब आप पब्लिक सेक्टर में यह कहेंगे कि पब्लिक सेक्टर में प्रोफिट होना चाहिये। मैं कहता हूँ कि अगर पब्लिक सेक्टर डबल रोटी बनाने के लिये और होटल चलाने

के लिये है तो उसमें प्रोफिट होना चाहिये। यदि पब्लिक सेक्टर आम जनता के उठाव के लिये है, उन एरियाज में जाने के लिये है जहाँ पर बहुत कम प्रोफिट होता है और आगे चल कर कहीं कोई यह सोचता है कि उससे ज्यादा फायदा होगा तो मैं कहता हूँ कि पब्लिक सेक्टर कोई ज्यादा प्रोफिट नहीं पाती तो कोई फर्क नहीं है।

श्री विठ्ठलराव माधवराव जाधव :
भविष्य की आर्थिक नीति बनाते हैं।

श्री विश्वजित पृथ्वीजित सिंह :
हां, भविष्य की आर्थिक नीति बनाते हैं। उस पब्लिक सेक्टर से प्रोफिट नहीं चाहिये। यदि यह पब्लिक सेक्टर डबल रोटी बनाने के लिये, होटल चलाने के लिये हैं, तो इसे प्रोफिट जरूर दीजिये, उसे खाइये मत। मैं इतना ही कह कर इसको सपोर्ट करता हूँ। धन्यवाद।

श्री कैलाश पति मिश्र : (बिहार) :
उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं प्रारम्भ में ही मंत्री महोदय से एक आग्रह करना चाहता हूँ कि इस समय देश आन्तरिक ऋण से इतना लदा हुआ है और बाह्य ऋण के बोझ से कितना लदा हुआ है, अपने उत्तर में कृपा करके वे इसका उल्लेख करें और बाह्य ऋण का जब उल्लेख करें तो जिन देशों से ऋण लिया गया है उनकी करेन्सी और भारत के रुपये की इस समय जो कीमत है उसका भी एसेसमेंट करके बतायें।

अभी चार महीने भी समय नहीं बीते हैं, हमने बजट पास किया और इन चार महीनों के बाद ही यह एप्रोप्रिएशन नम्बर 4 बिल हमारे सामने आकर खड़ा हो गया है। इससे पता चलता है कि देश की परिस्थिति पर और आर्थिक नियमन पर हमारा काबू कितना समाप्त हो गया है, हमारा नियंत्रण समाप्त हो गया है।

मैं देख रहा था और मुझे बड़ी पीड़ा हो रही थी कि कुछ ऐसे ज्वलन्त सवाल देश के अन्दर उभर कर सामने आ गये हैं कि उनका इसमें कोई उल्लेख नहीं है। क्या सरकार को यह पता नहीं है कि 21 अगस्त को प्रातःकाल नेपाल से भूकम्प का प्रवाह चला और देश के भीतर, खासकर बिहार के अन्दर, जिसने पांच जिले को झकझोर दिया है? तीन जिले तो इतने परेशान हो गये हैं कि अगर आप अपनी आंखों से जाकर देखें, तो आपको वास्तविक स्थिति का पता चलेगा कि भूकम्प का कितना असर हुआ है। 21 अगस्त की प्रातः भूकम्प आया तो मैं और मेरे दल के अखिल भारतीय अध्यक्ष श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी जी 24 अगस्त को मुंगेर पहुंचे। पता चला कि हम लोगों के पहुंचने के पहले प्रधान मंत्री महोदय वहां गये थे। हेली-कोप्टर से उन्होंने भूकम्प पीड़ितों का देखा और पत्रकारों से बात करते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि मैंने ऊंचाई से, ऊपर से देखा है, नीचे उतरकर भूकम्प पीड़ितों को देखा है, अखबार वाले बड़-चढ़ करके भूकम्प की परिस्थिति का वर्णन कर रहे हैं। यह सुनकर हमें आश्चर्य हुआ। उसके बाद हम लोग सबसे पहले अस्पताल गये। वहां पर भूकम्प पीड़ितों को सामान्य रोगियों की भांति रखा हुआ था। न तो उनके लिये समुचित बेड्स थे और न ही बेड शीट्स थीं, न दवा थी, न डाक्टर था और न ही नर्स थीं। सामान्य दिनों में जो अस्पताल की व्यवस्था होती है, उससे एक रत्ती भी अतिरिक्त व्यवस्था उस अस्पताल में दिखाई नहीं दी। वहां से हम लोग गांवों में गये। मैं इस विवाद में नहीं जाना चाहता कि भूकम्प में कितने लोग मरे। जो मरे, वे तो मर गये। जो मकान भूकम्प में ध्वस्त हो गये हैं, जमीन पर चले गये हैं, उनको भी देखा। लेकिन एक लाख के लगभग ऐसे मकान हैं जो क्षतिग्रस्त हो गये हैं, झोंपड़ियां पूरी तरह से बैठ गयी हैं, मकानों की दीवारों में क्रेक आ गये हैं और एक दो दिन या दस पन्द्रह दिनों में ये घर रहने वाले नहीं हैं। इन घरों में रहने वाले परिवार

समझ रहे हैं कि दिन या रात में अगर ये लोग इन घरों में रहें तो उनकी मृत्यु निश्चित है। ऐसी हालत में जायें, तो कहा जायें। ऐसी स्थिति में वे घरों के बाहर खुली जगहों में पड़े हुए हैं। इन्हीं दिनों वहां पर जोरों की वर्षा भी हो रही है। दो महीने, तीन महीने के शिशुओं को गोद में लिये हुए मातायें और 85 वर्ष की बूढ़ी औरतें सब खुले आकाश के नीचे बैठे हुए हैं, वर्षा हो रही है, दिन भर और रात भर भीग रहे हैं, बीमार पड़ रहे हैं, लेकिन प्रधान मंत्री जी को यह सब दिखाई नहीं दिया। मुंगेर के एक दर्जन गांवों में हम गये, तो एक गांव को छोड़कर बाकी गांवों में न तो मुख्य मंत्री गये हैं, न कोई अन्य मंत्री गया है, न कलेक्टर गया है, न बी०डी०ओ० और सी०ओ० गया है, यहां तक कि कोई साधारण प्राणी भी इन गांवों में नहीं गया है कि इन गांवों में क्या हालत दिखाई दे रही है। त्राहि त्राहि मची हुई है। यही हालत दरभंगा जिले की है, यही मधुबनी जिले की है सहरसा और खगड़िया का समाचार बाद में प्राप्त हुआ है। वहां भी भूकम्प से काफी क्षति हुई है। यह सरकार यह भी नहीं कर सकी, जो यह दैवी विपत्ति, प्राकृतिक आपदा आई और जिसमें लाखों परिवार बरबाद हो गये उनके लिये ठीक से राहत की व्यवस्था हो। यह मानवीय संकट है और यह पूरे हिन्दुस्तान के साथ जुड़ा हुआ संकट है। सरकार को यह चाहिये था कि ऐसी परिस्थिति में दौड़ती, भागती और वहां पर सब प्रकार के साधन उपलब्ध कराती और मरने वालों को बचाती। जो मर गये वह तो मर गये लेकिन जो कल मरने वाले हैं या परसों मरने वाले हैं उनको तो बचाया जा सकता है। एक एक ध्वस्त होता चला जा रहा है, उनकी सुरक्षा करते। लेकिन ऐसा इस सरकार ने अभी तक नहीं किया है। आश्चर्य लग रहा है। अभी विश्वजित जी, इस सदन के माननीय सदस्य पब्लिक सेक्टर और प्राइवेट सेक्टर का झगड़ा खड़ा कर रहे थे। महोदय, आज इसी सदन में एक स्टार्ड क्वेश्चन था

[श्री कैलाश पति मिश्र]

जो नीचे होने के कारण नहीं आ सका । वह प्रश्न था दिल्ली के अंदर चलने वाले ट्रामपोर्ट के ऊपर । मैं क्वेश्चन पढ़ दूँ :-

"(a) what was the monthly average income of Delhi Transport Corporation from a private bus before the strike in March last? and

(b) in what manner it compares with that during April and May last, after the strike and the reasons for loss, if any?"

The answer is—

"The average monthly income of DTC from a private bus operating under the kilometre scheme was Rs. 23,537 for the twelve months' period between March 1987 to February, 1988.

After the strike, there was no income for DTC from any private bus as the old kilometre scheme is not operative."

महोदय, डी० टी० सी० कर्मचारियों ने स्ट्राइक की । प्राइवेट बस ओनर्स की कुछ बसें पहले से लगी हुई थीं । हमारी सरकार ने पहला काम यह किया कि सवा तीन हजार कर्मचारियों को बर्खास्त कर दिया । उनकी बर्खास्त करने के बाद सरकार ने क्या किया ? किलोमीटर स्कीम समाप्त कर दी और 40 प्रतिशत बसें प्राइवेट ओनर्स से लेकर लगा दीं । दो हजार बसें, प्राइवेट बसें, प्राइवेट मालिकों की बसें लगायी गई हैं । पहले कांटेक्ट बेसिस पर प्राइवेट बसें थीं और उसका नतीजा यह होता था कि डी० टी० सी० उनसे पैसा वसूल करती थी और वह पैसा सरकारी खजाने में जाता था । (समय की घंटी) ...

थोड़ा बोलने दीजिये । बड़ा सीरियस मामला है । टिकट उसमें डी० टी० सी० का होता था, उसमें कंडक्टर डी० टी० सी० का रहता था । प्राइवेट ओनर का केवल ड्राइवर रहता था अब क्या हो गया है टिकट भी प्राइवेट ओनर्स का, कंडक्टर भी प्राइवेट ओनर्स का । उनके ऊपर कोई प्रतिबंध नहीं रहा । इसके कारण इन दिनों में करोड़ों

रुपये का धाटा सरकारी खजाने को हो गया है । पता तो चले कि यह हुआ कैसे ? मैं जिम्मेदारी के साथ कहना चाहता हूँ कि इसमें यह छूट देने के लिये एक-एक बस वाले से एक एक लाख रुपया घूस ली गई है । 20 करोड़ रुपये की घूस लेकर आज दिल्ली के नागरिकों को, दिल्ली के यात्रियों को तवाह किया जा रहा है । मैं सरकार से कहना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इसकी पूरी छान-बीन कराये । अन्यथा दिल्ली के अंदर इतना बड़ा आंदोलन खड़ा होगा कि भारत सरकार को संभलना मुश्किल हो जायेगा । सरकार की नाक के नीचे, दिल्ली के अंदर अगर बस मालिकों से 20 करोड़ रुपया घूस लेकर जनता के साथ अत्याचार किया जाता है तो यह सरकार संपूर्ण भारत में किस तरह में काम करनी होगी यह सरलता से देखा जा सकता है ।

महोदय, मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि लोग जो दैवी आपदाओं से भर रहे हैं, बाढ़ के कारण भर रहे हैं आपने क्या इसका आकलन किया, उनकी कठिनाइयों को समझा, उनकी दुर्दशा को क्या आपने पहचाना ? जो हमारे यहाँ बजट बन रहा है वह सचमुच में जो भारत की जनता है उसको देख कर के नहीं बनाया जा रहा है मैं यह भी उल्लेख करना चाहूँगा कि हमारे आन्ध्र के भित्त, पश्चिम बंगाल के भित्त और केरल के भित्त सरकार की आलोचना कर रहे हैं कि योजनाएँ स्वीकृत नहीं की जा रही हैं लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह सरकार इतनी निक्कमी और इतनी शिथिल हो गई है कि यह दुर्घटना केवल गैर कांग्रेसी राज्यों के यहाँ नहीं हो रही है कांग्रेस शासित प्रदेशों की और भी दुर्दशा है । कम से कम एक स्थिति है जहाँ कांग्रेस की सरकारें नहीं हैं गैर कांग्रेसी सरकारें जहाँ हैं वहाँ के माननीय सदस्यगण साहम के साथ, हिम्मत के साथ सदन में खड़े हो कर वहाँ की दुर्दशा का तो उल्लेख करते हैं लेकिन जहाँ कांग्रेस मित सरकारें हैं, जहाँ कांग्रेस पार्टी का बहुमत है, सत्ता-रुढ़ दल का है उन माननीय सदस्यों में वह साहस ही नहीं है उन प्रदेशों के अन्दर अगर आपदा है, संकट है, पिछड़ापन है, वहाँ काम आगे नहीं बढ़ रहा है, वहाँ

योजनाएं स्वीकृत नहीं हो रही हैं तो जरा हिम्मत के साथ उसका उल्लेख करें। दर्जनों मिचाई की योजनाएं 20 वर्षों से सेंट्रल वाटर कमीशन के पास पड़ी हुई हैं लेकिन स्वीकृति नहीं मिली है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि पांच वर्ष के अन्दर एक योजना आप वताएँ केन्द्र ने स्वीकृत कर के विहार में चालू कर दी है। अनेक वर्षों तक लड़ते लड़ते पावर की विहार में इतनी कमी हो गई है, न खेत पर बिजली मिल रही है, न कारखानों के लिए बिजली मिल रही है, न कालेज में होस्टल के छात्रों के लिए बिजली मिल रही है और न बाजार में बिजली मिल रही है। लगातार मांग करते-करते एक कहलगांव सुपर थर्मल पावर स्टेशन शुरू हुआ है और एक-एक साल की अलायमेंट देखने से ऐसा लगता है कि वह अगले 100 साल तक भी कम्प्लीट हो सकेगा या नहीं हो सकेगा, यह कहना भी मुश्किल है दर्जनों स्कीम पड़ी हुई हैं। वास्तव में आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि सेंट्रल वाटर कमीशन हो या केन्द्रीय सरकार की ऐसी दूसरी कोई मंस्थाएँ हों जिन योजनाओं की स्वीकृति दे कर राज्यों में काम करने की अनुमति दी जाती है उन योजनाओं की कोई एक निश्चित अवधि होनी चाहिये इस योजना की समाप्ति का कार्यकाल तय होना चाहिये। आज पिछड़े राज्यों में तबाही दिखाई देती है। अगर यही स्थिति चलती रही तो कभी भी पिछड़े हुए राज्य दूसरे राज्यों के सामने खड़े नहीं हो सकेगे। यह हालत आज विहार, उत्तर प्रदेश, मध्य प्रदेश और राजस्थान में दिखाई दे रही है। मैं उन भित्तों से कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप लड़ें हैं जहाँ गैर-कांग्रेसी सरकारें हैं ज़रूर लड़िये न्यायोचित मांग आप उठा रहे हैं लेकिन लड़ाई जी है वह पूरे देश के लिए होनी चाहिये। केन्द्रीय सरकार शिथिल हो गई है। केन्द्रीय सरकार निष्कामी हो गई है इसलिए इस एप्रोप्रियेशन बिल नम्बर 4 को पारित करने की अपनी सहमति प्रकट करना ऐसा लगता है कि इस सरकार को एक मिनट भी टिके रहना बेकार दिखाई देता है, फालतू दिखाई

देता है। यह सरकार जितनी जल्दी इस देश के सिर पर से उतर जाए उतना ही इस देश का कल्याण होगा। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं समाप्त करता हूँ।

SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA (Orissa): Sir, I rise to support the Appropriation Bill, but I would like to submit some of the programmes for the consideration of the Government. In whole of the country, you will see, 300 districts are industrially backward. In my State Orissa, out of 13 districts 8 districts are industrially backward and one district that is Kalahandi is no-industry district. So, Sir, priority must be given to set industries in these districts. Regarding sick industries also, their number is increasing day by day. In my State 15—20 per cent industries are sick, but sufficient amount is not being given to the sick industries out of the margin money scheme which has been constituted by the Government to finance these industries. The per capita income is low in comparison with the national average. Also the Central investment is not coming forth as per the demand of the State.

In order to provide employment to the educated unemployed youth, more public sector undertakings as well as private industries should be set up in the whole of the country so that the unemployment problem could be solved very quickly.

In this connection, I would put forth some of the schemes which are pending before the Central Government which should be cleared immediately.

One scheme that the Government of Orissa has given is for the establishment of a sponge iron plant at Daitari by the Industrial Development Corporation which is pending with the Central Government for clearance. The original proposal for a second steel

[Shri Basudeb Mohapatra]

plant in Orissa had been held up due to constraint of funds. My request is that this sponge iron plant at a cost of about Rs. 600 crores should be cleared immediately because all infrastructural facilities are available at Daitari and the State Government is committed to provide all necessaries for the project.

My second suggestion is that another proposal for the establishment of a nitrogenous fertiliser plant at Paradeep is pending with the Government. When this plant is set up, about 3000 people will get employment. The cost of the project is about Rs. 600 crores and it is proposed to be funded by internal accounts, borrowings and credits. The raw material required for the project is available. Letter of intent should be issued by the concerned Department immediately.

Messrs Himdai Corporation of South Korea's offer for the integrated development of Paradeep port is also pending with the Government. The decision has not been taken. So the steps should be expedited for the implementation of the project so that Paradeep would be an ideal major port in the whole of the country.

As regards the edible oil, I would like to suggest that now we are importing about Rs. 850 crore worth of edible oil every year. The National Seed Corporation which is working for the development of high yielding varieties of paddy and wheat seeds must be advised to develop the oilseed also. We must be self-sufficient in edible oil. More amount should be allocated to the National Seed Corporation to take up this programme.

Priority must be given to completion of irrigation projects which are under execution. More funds should be provided for these projects so that we can achieve our target in food production.

As regards fisheries, I would like to suggest that some projects which could be easily taken up in the coastal belt of Orissa are pending before the Central Government for clearance. Infrastructural facilities are available for the construction of fishing harbours in the coastal belt of the State. Proposals for fishing harbours at Paradeep, Gopalpur and Astaranga are pending with the Central Government which have not been cleared so far. About Rs. 42 crores are required for these projects, which can be released in a phased manner so that the State could fulfil the target in the marine sector. During the Seventh Plan, emphasis has been laid on developing marine fish production from 45,000 tonnes to 1 lakh tonnes in the State of Orissa. Besides these fishing harbours, landing platforms and jetties are to be constructed for the benefit of the fishermen of the State. Suitable sites for jetties are Bandas, Hansne and Talchannan in the district of Cuttack. About Rs. 30 lakhs are required for each jetty. I would request the Government to provide the requisite amount to the State Government for this purpose.

With these words, I support the Appropriation Bill.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): You have replied to Shri Kailash Pati Mishra also you have covered his point.

4.00 P.M.

श्री ईशदत्त यादव (उत्तरप्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, भारत की संवित्ति निधि से धन निकालने के लिए विनियोग (संख्यांक 4) विधेयक, 1988 जो सरकार की ओर से प्रस्तुत किया गया है, मैं इसका जोरदार विरोध करता हूँ।

श्रीमन्, इसका विरोध मैं इसलिए कर रहा हूँ कि यह सरकार 40-41 वर्षों में लगातार हर क्षेत्र में असफल रही है। गरीबी बढ़ी है, बेकारी बढ़ी है, भ्रष्टाचार बढ़ा है, असुरक्षा बढ़ी है, पंजाब की समस्या को यह सरकार हल नहीं कर

सकी और सामानों की कीमतों में दिन-रात बेतहाशा वृद्धि हो रही है।

श्री शांति त्यागी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : और खेती की पैदावार बढ़ी है।

श्री ईश दत्त यादव : आप उसकी चिन्ता न करें, वह मैं बतला रहा हूँ। सबसे गम्भीर स्थिति यह है कि इस देश का पैसा कुछ चंद लोग विदेशी बैंकों में ले जा करके जमा कर रहे हैं और देश के अंदर काला धन बढ़ रहा है, गरीबी और अमीरी का अंतर बढ़ता चला जा रहा है। इसलिए मैं इस विनियोग का विरोध ही नहीं कर रहा हूँ, बल्कि आपके माध्यम से सरकार से कहना चाहूंगा कि इस सरकार को शासन में बने रहने के लिए कोई नैतिक हक नहीं रह गया है।

मान्यवर, सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना लगभग समाप्त होने जा रही है और आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना प्रक्रिया में है, किंतु सरकार गरीबी, बेकारी और भ्रष्टाचार जैसी भयंकर समस्याओं को मिटा नहीं सकी है। वित्तीय वर्ष 1988-89 के बजट में 800 करोड़ रुपये का घाटा था और अब करीब 150 करोड़ रुपये का और घाटा प्रस्तुत किया गया है। यही इस देश की जर्जर स्थिति का द्योतक है और सरकार की नाकामयाबी और असफलता का यह परिचायक है।

तभी माननीय सदस्य कृषि के बारे में कह रहे थे। मैं कृषि के बारे में ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि किसी भी देश की हालत तब तक सुधर नहीं सकती जब तक कि कृषि पर सरकार का ध्यान न हो। खेती का उत्पादन नहीं बढ़ेगा, तो देश उन्नति नहीं कर सकता और 40-41 वर्षों के अंदर इस सरकार ने कृषि की तरफ ध्यान नहीं दिया है।

एडम स्मिथ एक बहुत बड़े अर्थ-शास्त्री हुए हैं। मान्यवर, उन्होंने एक पुस्तक "वेल्थ आफ दी नेशन" लिखी है। उसमें उन्होंने लिखा है कि—

"Agricultural output in its widest

sense is the basic working capital of the nation."

मान्यवर, छठी पंचवर्षीय योजना में कहा गया कि—

"One of the important agricultural strategies was to make agricultural growth not only an instrument of maintaining effective national food security but also a catalyst in income and employment generation in rural areas."

मान्यवर, सरकार ने अगर अपनी इस नीति की ओर ध्यान दिया होता, तो सरकार को और इस मुल्क को न तो विदेशों का मोहताज होना पड़ता, न कर्जदार होना पड़ता और न ही माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी को इस तरह के घाटे का बजट पेश करना पड़ता, जिसमें केवल कर्जा अदायगी की बात माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी करते हैं।

मान्यवर, इस देश की जमीन उर्वरा है, यहाँ के लोग मेहनती हैं, लेकिन सरकार के निष्कर्षण के कारण और सरकार की नेग्लिजेंस की वजह से इस देश का उत्पादन नहीं बढ़ा है। सिंचाई की व्यवस्था प्रमुख चीज थी पर सरकार ने इस ओर ध्यान नहीं दिया और आज स्थिति यह है कि केवल 30 प्रतिशत भूमि पर ही सिंचाई हो पाती है और बाकी 70 फीसदी भूमि ऐसी है जिस पर सिंचाई नहीं हो पाती। 64 परसेंट पानी समुद्र में बहकर चला जा रहा है। सरकार नहरों की व्यवस्था नहीं कर पा रही है, बाध नहीं बनवा पा रही है और किसानों को बिजली नहीं दे पा रही है। अगर सिंचाई और बिजली की व्यवस्था हो जाते तथा सस्ते उर्वरक और बीज की व्यवस्था हो जाती तो खेत का उत्पादन अवश्य बढ़ता। माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने कृषि की ओर ही कहा इसलिए मैं अन्य विषयों को नहीं लेना चाहता, केवल एक उदाहरण प्रस्तुत कर देना चाहता हूँ। 1984 में कुछ देशों के धान के उत्पादन के जो आंकड़े हैं वे

[श्री ईश दत्त यादव]

इस प्रकार से है : 1984 में प्रति हेक्टेयर इंडिया में 2103 के. जी. चाईना में 5274 के. जी., इंडोनेशिया में 3866 के. जी., बर्मा में 3090 के. जी. और वियतनाम में 2743 के. जी., पूरी दुनिया का एवरेज रहा है 2175 के. जी. और आपके हिन्दुस्तान का रहा है 2103 के. जी. और यही लगभग आपके गेहूं के उत्पादन का रहा है। तो मैं कह रहा था कि यदि कृषि की ओर इस सरकार ने ध्यान दिया होता तो आज देश आगे बढ़ गया होता तथा आज कर्ज और घाटे का बजट सरकार को प्रस्तुत नहीं करना पड़ता। मान्यवर, आज अमरीका आपसे 40 गुणा धनी हो गया है, जापान 35 गुणा आगे बढ़ रहा है और 15 अगस्त, 1947 को पाकिस्तान आपके साथ ही आजाद और अलग हुआ था वह तीन गुणा के करीब आपसे आगे जा रहा है आर्थिक स्थिति में और आप घाटे और कर्ज का बजट प्रस्तुत करते हैं और उसके बाद भी संकेत कर रहे हैं कृषि का विवरण देने के लिए। मान्यवर, आज स्थिति यह है कि कृषि के उत्पादन में और कारखाने के उत्पादन में, दोनों के उत्पादित सामानों के मूल्यों में बहुत अन्तर हो गया है। अगर इस अन्तर को यह सरकार कम कर सकती तो शायद इस देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था लुज-पूज नहीं हुई होती। लेकिन मान्यवर, मैं निहायत नम्रता से कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह सरकार तो पूंजीपतियों की सरकार है। कारखानों के अन्दर जो सामान पैदा हो रहा है उसके दाम दिन दुगने और रात चौगुने यह सरकार बढ़ाती चली जा रही है और किसान के खेत में जो उत्पादन हो रहा है, एअर-कंडीशन्ड कमरों में बैठ करके सरकार और सरकार के लोग उसका मूल्य सही नहीं लगा पा रहे हैं। श्रीमन्, सरकार ने गेहूं का रेट 173/- रुपये तय किया, दिल्ली की मार्केट में 300/- रुपये क्विंटल विक रहा है, हरियाणा, पंजाब और उत्तर प्रदेश के अन्दर 250/- रुपये क्विंटल गेहूं विक रहा है। मान्यवर, उत्तर प्रदेश के अन्दर नरेन्द्र देव कृषि विश्वविद्यालय है फैजाबाद

में, वहां के कृषि वैज्ञानिकों ने जब गेहूं का मूल्य निकाला तो गेहूं के उत्पादन में कास्ट जितना पड़ता है, खर्चा जितना आता है किसान का बीज, मेहनत-श्रम, बिजली, खाद सब का रेट निकाला गया तो वह लगभग 200/- रुपये आता है। इस प्रकार यदि किसान 200/- रुपया उत्पादन पर खर्चा करेगा तो यह सरकार उसको 173/- रुपये देगी। इससे अर्थ व्यवस्था लुज-पूज नहीं होगी तो और क्या होगा? हमारे माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी कर्ज और घाटे का बजट प्रस्तुत नहीं करेंगे तो और क्या करेंगे, इनके सामने इसके सिवाय और क्या विकल्प रहेगा? मान्यवर, एक उदाहरण और इसके संबंध में देना चाहता हूँ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय) : अंतिम उदाहरण।

श्री ईश दत्त यादव : मान्यवर, मैं समाप्त कर रहा हूँ, अधिक समय नहीं लूंगा।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय) : आपका समय केवल 4 मिनट था, मैंने घंटी देर से बजाई है। पांच मिनट से ज्यादा समय हो गया है।

श्री ईश दत्त यादव : मान्यवर, मैं समाप्त कर रहा हूँ, कृपा करके केवल दो मिनट और समय चाहिए। मान्यवर, 1967 में अगर किसान ट्रैक्टर खरीदना चाहता था तो 200 क्विंटल अगर गेहूं बेच देता था तो वह ट्रैक्टर खरीद लेता था। अब 1986-87 और 1988 में 550 से ले करके 625 क्विंटल जब किसान गेहूं बेच रहा है तो तब वह किसान ट्रैक्टर खरीद पा रहा है। मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि यह असमानता इस देश के अन्दर क्यों पैदा कर रहे हो और आप खाद का दाम क्यों ज्यादा बढ़ा रहे हैं? महात्मा गांधी ने जो इस देश के लिए अर्थ-नीति दी थी, गांव और किसान के विकास की जो नीति दी थी और स्वर्गीय चौधरी चरण सिंह ने जिस नीति को दोहराया था, अगर माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी उस नीति

पर, उस कार्यक्रम पर चलते तो आज देश आगे बढ़ता क्योंकि दुनिया में कोई ऐसी दौलत नहीं है, मान्यवर, जो पृथ्वी के गर्भ से न निकलती हो, लेकिन हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी और सरकार की नीति है कि कारखाने के अंदर दौलत निकलती है। ऐसा नहीं है बल्कि कारखाने तो शक्ल बदलते हैं। अब जमीन से कपास निकली, कारखाने ने उसको कपड़े की शक्ल दे दी, जमीन से लोहा निकला और कारखाने ने उसको शक्ल दे दी साईकल और घड़ी की या दूसरे सामान की। तो दुनिया में जितना भी समान है, जितनी दौलत है, वह सब पृथ्वी के गर्भ से निकलती है। अगर इस सरकार ने पृथ्वी-माता के गर्भ से इस धन को, इस दौलत को निकालने की कोशिश की होती पिछले 40-41 सालों में तो आज देश की यह जर्जर अवस्था न होती।

मान्यवर, मैं ज्यादा समय नहीं लेना चाहता, केवल आपके माध्यम से सरकार से आग्रह करना चाहता हूँ कि अब से ही ध्यान दे दीजिए गांव और किसान की स्थिति सुधारने की ओर। आपने बजट में और अभी माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने कहा पंजाब के बारे में। आप पंजाब के बारे में। आप पंजाब के बारे में धन लेते चले जा रहे हैं बोर्डर सील करने के लिए और माननीय गृह मंत्री जी ने कई बार अपने बयान में भी कहा। आज भी सरकार असफल है बोर्डर को सील करने में और असफल क्यों नहीं रहेगी, जबकि 600 करोड़ रुपए की नारकोटिक्स की स्मगलिंग हुई है उसी बोर्डर से, हिन्दुस्तान और पाकिस्तान के बोर्डर से और उसमें बड़े-बड़े अधिकारी, कर्मचारी, पुलिस के लोग, तमाम लोग सम्मिलित रहे हैं। फिर यह सरकार उस बोर्डर को सील कैसे करेगी? पंजाब की शांति व्यवस्था को कायम कैसे करेगी?

मान्यवर, अंतिम बात, सरकार ने डाकखाने के बारे में कहा है। मैं यही कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण विषय है। इस सदन में और लोकसभा में भी बार-बार यह प्रश्न उठा है कि यह सरकार टेप करा रही है टेलीफोन बड़े लोगों के, एम० एल० एज० के, एम० पीज० के। इसी सदन में एक पोस्टल बिल आया था, जो आज राष्ट्रपति के पास स्वीकृति के लिए बहुत दिनों से लंबित पड़ा है। मैं तो कहूंगा कि यह सरकार इस देश के लोगों की गोपनीयता भंग करना चाहती है। इस तरह अंधा-धुंध पैसा लेकर के।

मान्यवर, इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं जोरदार ढंग से यह जो विनियोग विधेयक आया है, इसका विरोध कर रहा हूँ।

उपसभ अध्यक्ष (श्री सत्य प्रकाश मल्लवैय): श्री हरि सिंह। अनुपस्थित। श्री अलादी अरुण

SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would like to say a few words on the Appropriation Bill, 1988.

The Bill is supposed to authorise the appropriation of Rs. 1,500 crores for 23 services. Nearly Rs. 440 crores have been allotted for transferring to the States and Rs. 100 crores have been allotted for industrial development. Another major element is Rs. 36 crores for the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Rs. 25 crores for Agriculture. There is no difference of opinion regarding these allocations.

Since I come from Tamil Nadu, I have to say something about the industrial position there. Some friends from the Treasury benches have been repeatedly making allegations that after 1967 there has been no industrial development in Tamil Nadu due to the rule of the Dravidan political parties. I put one question in 1986 in this august House: How many big industries have been set up by the Centre in Tamil Nadu in the public

[Shri Aladi Aruna alias V. Arunachalam]

sector since the year 1967? What are the details, along with the sum of investment, value of production and the number of employees in these industries? The Minister had given reply. After 1967, this Government has started only five new industries up to the end of the year 1985 with a cost of Rs. 336 crores. We can find in the reply of the Minister, for Salem Steel plant Rs. 162.88 crores, Tamil Nadu Pondicherry Limited NTC Rs. 47.23 crores, Ranipettai unit of the BHEL Rs. 44 crores and Seamless Steel Tube plant, Tiruchy Rs. 76 crores and the International Airports Authority Rs. 22 crores have been allotted. These were the new industries they have started. Of course, they have allotted for some expansion of the Plan. That is a different thing. Sir, non-cooperation of the Centre is mostly responsible for this state of affairs. What they are saying in every platform is that the Centre is not at all cooperating for the industrial development of our State. If you go through the Plan assistance from the beginning you can find how the Centre is reluctant in giving assistance to the State. Sir, except the Second Five Year Plan, in all the Five Year Plans, the Central assistance to the State is less than the national average. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister in this connection. In the First Five Year Plan, the national average was Rs. 22.31 but in Tamil Nadu it was Rs. 13.64. Fortunately, in the Second Five Year Plan it was increased to Rs. 29.17, the national average was Rs. 25.41. During the Third Five Year Plan, the national average was Rs. 54.65 but the per capita allotment to Tamil Nadu was Rs. 52.72.

SHRI M. PALANIYANDI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I want to bring to his notice that last year, 1987-88...

SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM: I am dealing with thirty-five years of history and you are mentioning about the last year. In what way it is going to help? . . . (In-

terruptions) . . . I am not yielding. You know very well, Sir, the States are classified as special category, non-special category, Group B & C. As far as Fourth Five Year Plan was concerned, Tamil Nadu's average was Rs. 31. But in 'B' category the average was Rs. 38. As far as Fifth Five Year Plan was concerned, Tamil Nadu was allotted a per capita assistance of Rs. 28 but as far as Group 'B' is concerned, Rs. 39 was allotted. If you add together A, B, C and D, the average is Rs. 24 and Rs. 43 respectively. But our State's average is less than this. If there is lack of assistance from the Centre, how could you expect industrial development? The Centre is mostly responsible for the underdeveloped position in Tamil Nadu.

The Government has enforced the Compulsory Jute Use Act. Actually, we are not against it. We know that it is intended to help the jute farmers and jute manufacturers in West Bengal. In view of the elections this Act was enacted but who has been affected? Tamil Nadu has been seriously affected. We have plastic bag units more than seventy-five. Out of seventy-five, sixty units have already been closed. Not only that, there are more than six hundred units in the country.

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH (Gujarat): There are three hundred units in Gujarat alone and half of them have been closed.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM: What is the policy of the Government? You are strengthening my argument. My point is, due to the enforcement of this policy, neither the farmers have been benefited nor the consumers but the beneficiary is only the jute mill owners. I went through the price of jute. It has been constant for the last ten years. At the same time, in our State, so many small scale industries have been seriously affected. So, on

behalf of the Plastic Industries Association, they have given a memorandum to our hon. Prime Minister to redress their grievances but unfortunately, it has not been looked into. Sir, in every platform, they are repeatedly saying that in Tamil Nadu, 39 per cent of the people are living below poverty line. Not only Mr. P. Chidambaram but I am sorry to mention, even the Governor, Mr. Alexander is also speaking like this. I strongly condemn this attitude of the Governor. *(Interruption)*. I am going to tell the fact. Now you read this document. In 1957-58, when Congress was in power, people who lived below the poverty line was 67.8 per cent in rural areas. But they were thrown out of power in 1966-67 and the percentage was 62.7 per cent. Virtually, within six years, this Government, which is known for its eminence and capacity, reduced the number of people who were below poverty line by 5.1 per cent. But the AIADMK came into power in 1977. In 1977, the number of people who lived below poverty line in rural areas was 41.1 per cent.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): It was the other point. We are losing time.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM: From 1977-78 to 1983-84, it has been reduced by 12.1 per cent. It is a remarkable record in reducing the number of people who lived below poverty line. *... (Interruption) ...* But the reduction is 12.1 per cent. That is more important. Of course, still, it is above the national average. I am not proud of it. We have to take more steps but the reduction of the percentage is more important. Ignoring all these facts, suppressing all these facts, our friends are alleging our Government. Therefore, at least, hereafter Mr. Palaniyandi and others will correct themselves and will know the real figures, real position and will come to the right line. With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI M. PALANIYANDI: Sir, he spoke about industrialisation of Tamil Nadu. *(Interruption)*.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM: But if you want industry *... (Interruptions) ...* There is record. I have got the record. This is false propaganda to misguide the public. I am having the record and I can prove. Please give me ten minutes and I will disprove all your arguments.

SHRI M. PALANIYANDI: Sir, from 1984 onwards, a number of letters of intent have been given to the Tamil Nadu Government. That Government was not in a position to change them into licences.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM: All right. For your information, we have recommended 408 cases but the Centre has cleared 500 cases. This is for the record. You do not know anything.

SHRI M. PALANIYANDI: Sir, in the same august House, the Minister of Industry has given a reply saying that it has given letters of intent, for about 200 factories. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM: They have given for 500. We asked for 800. *(Interruptions)*.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): I have called Mr. Matto. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Aruna, will you please take your seat?

SHRI M. PALANIYANDI: It was third in all-India status. Now it is 16th. This is because of their Government.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): Shri Matto.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I speak on this Appropriation (No. 4) Bill,

[Shri Ghulam Rasool Matto]

1988, with a little heavy heart because it is only four months back that we have passed the Budget and now this Bill has come to us. I have not been able to lay my hands on Appropriation (No. 2) Bill. But, I think, as Prof. Lakshmananna said, there were two Bills with regard to the original Appropriation Bill. One Bill No 3 had already come which envisaged a supplementary demand of Rs. 240 odd crores. (*Interruptions*). Today's Bill asks us for another Rs. 1593 crores.

Sir, I am reminded of the speech made by the hon. Prime Minister last year and the speech made by Shri Tiwari this year. In his speech, Shri N. D. Tiwari has stated:

"Taking into account the additional yield from the modifications proposed in direct and indirect taxes and the revision announced a few days ago in postal tariffs, the year end deficit for the next year is estimated at Rs. 7484 crores. Government reiterates its determination to closely monitor expenditure, maximise collection of revenues and contain the Budgetary deficit."

This was the solemn assurance given by Shri Tiwari. And my friend, Shri Gadhvi, for whom I have extremely great respect, as the Minister of Expenditure, while replying to the discussions on the Appropriation Bill in this House, reiterated that he would not bring a Bill for supplementary expenditure without a proposal along with it giving the details of the corresponding maximum contribution by that Ministry to make that expenditure good. This has not been done. But, here again, I may say that Mr. Gadhvi has not failed in his efforts. In the current Bill for Rs. 1593 crores, he has mopped up Rs. 925 crores but left a deficit of Rs. 667 crores. That is a good thing. But I would request him to

see to it that the deficit of Rs. 7484 crores, in the ultimate analysis, is not exceeded. Already two supplementary Appropriation Bills have come to us. It is very difficult for us to contain the deficit within Rs. 10,000 crores if we continue to come with supplementaries. I would request him that the deficit should be contained within this Rs. 7484 crores. He can do this. In last August or September, he had stated what the income from direct and indirect taxes was during the last four months. I remember vividly, at the fag end of the last Monsoon Session, he had stated that the income from direct and indirect taxes had exceeded by about Rs. 2484 crores during the preceding four or five months. I would like to ask him if he has figures at hand whether the income from direct and indirect taxes has exceeded the target fixed by him compared to last year. The second point I would like to make is with regard to certain expenditures which, to my mind, could easily have been envisaged at the time of the Budget. Why they have not done that at that time, I do know. It can be imputed that they wanted to minimise the deficit figure at the Budget time; but otherwise, I find that there are seven figures sought by them in the supplementary budget which could easily have been envisaged in the Budget. For instance, the Budget itself stated that there would be a Group Insurance Scheme for very poor people and we would have to pay the premium on that. The Budget papers themselves stated it. This was the speech of Mr. Narayan Datt Tiwari when he was telling us what he was proposing for weaker sections. He had categorically stated that Group Insurance Scheme would be implemented. And when he had said that, an automatic corollary of that statement was that a premium had to be paid. In this supplementary budget, Rs. 15 crores have been sought for that. Why could they not have envisaged this at the time of the Budget and sought that

amount then when they had announced that a Group Insurance Scheme was going to be implemented? Similarly I have not been able to understand this supplementary demand for Rs. 627 crores required for additional payment to the International Monetary Fund which became necessary following revaluation of the funds holding of Indian currency. I would like him to elaborate on what this phrase 'revaluation of the funds holding Indian currency' means. Does it mean that the amount that we owe to the International Monetary Fund in terms of Indian rupees has devalued to the extent of Rs. 627 crores? He said no cash outflow will be involved in this and non-interest bearing securities in favour of IMF will be given. But giving security is as good as paying it in cash. I would like to know what is the meaning of the phrase 'revaluation of the funds holding of Indian currency'. This he may kindly elaborate. I think this means that on the borrowing from IMF we have to pay Rs. 627 crores more in Indian rupees to them.

Then, when was it decided to give additional amount to Punjab? I think it was at the time of the Budget but they have come now with this supplementary budget. Rupees ten crores were paid as contingency grant for expenditure on action-plan for Punjab. This was also there at the time of the Budget. Then why could it not be envisaged in the Budget itself?

My fourth point is this. For the Sutlej Link Canal a provision of Rs. 40 crores was made and there is another Rs. 10.60 crores now. I think this too could have been envisaged earlier. I think your idea was to cut down the Budget figure of expenditure. This should be avoided and the true picture should be made known to the nation so that the nation knows where it stands.

Then there is the Commissioner for Welfare of Victims of Bhopal Gas.

We knew it. It was there at the time when the Budget was formulated. You have now come for the expenses of the Commissioner and you want Rs. 1 crore in supplementary Budget.

My point in giving these illustrations is that there are certain expenditures which could have easily been envisaged and envisioned at the time of Budget formulation. Therefore, this sort of supplementary demands should be avoided and any expenditure that could be envisaged at the time of the Budget must be included in the Budget itself. Then there are certain claims. I would request you to give directions to the Ministry that there are at least three or four amounts for which it is stated that there were cases pending for purposes of land acquisition or wage increases etc and the Tribunal and the High Court gave a verdict. From now on, I think, he should request those particular Ministries to make a provision for that purpose because some compensation has to be paid so that they can make this provision for this contingency and the Supplementary Budget is avoided. I think he will give thought to these very important things.

I was saying that Mr. Gadhvi's one good point for which we must compliment him is that when the Members of Parliament make many observations with regard to the other Ministries, Mr. Gadhvi sees to it that he sends them to those Ministries and we get a feedback also from those Ministries. He sees to this. This is a healthy practice and this he should continue. In this connection, I have only one request to make to Mr. Gadhvi. I have come across a very important report from the Institute of International Finance, that is, IIF, which I would like him to go through. I would like to quote a few things:

"India has become the largest debtor in Asia as its total external debt is likely to be pound 60 billion by the end of 1988-89...."

[Shri Ghulam Rasool Matto]

While official creditors would continue to account for the greatest proportion of the debt, the share of commercial bank creditors was also likely to rise to almost 19 per cent from roughly 9 per cent in 1983-84."

It goes on to say:

"The stock of debts has doubled during the last five years and has now exceeded 300 per cent of export of goods and services. . . "India faces a bunching of amortisation payments through the end of the decade and the rising and projected refinancings should help smooth the intractable situations."

The report further says:

"Interest payments would remain a major trend rising to a projected 3.1 billion dollars inclusive of payments to NRI account holders. . . About 700 million dollars are to refinance the existing credits and almost 800 million in repayments."

The report ends by saying:

"Relentless increase in recurrent Government expenditure has become a "structural problem" that poses serious risks for inflation and the fulfilment of the Seventh Plan targets. While agriculture continued to corner significant resources, it has contributed little in tax revenues leaving industry to bear the burden."

Sir, what I feel is—do not say this as a matter of criticism—that by way of introspection also we have to take cognizance of what others feel about our economy and I would only request the honourable Minister to take, while taking into consideration the other points, into account what others say about us and whatever remedial measures can be taken must be taken. The Economic Task Force in the Ministry of Finance must attend to

these points and do whatever is possible.

Sir, there is one very bad thing which has come out in the papers.

Personally I feel that it is wrong and it needs to be rebutted. It is about the differences between the Union Finance Ministry and the Reserve Bank of India. I would like to quote from a newspaper:

"The differences between the Union Finance Ministry and the RBI have sharpened over several economic and banking issues during the past few weeks."

It says further:

"Deposit growth has been more than Rs. 7,000 crores in June and July. But the RBI would like to siphon away all the liquidity arising from the deposit growth. The RBI's view is that there are no takers for the money and the bank credit portfolio is stagnant. But the industry is going on complaining about the paucity of funds. A major irritant between the Government and the Reserve Bank of India is the credit authorisation scheme under which all major bank credit borrowers have to seek RBI's clearance for any increase in their borrowings. The Finance Ministry thinks that the cost of credit and interest rates would have to be brought down."

"Some element of competition has to be infused on this front so that banks can be kept on their toes and try to cut their costs. The RBI feels that lending rates can be brought down if there is a corresponding reduction in deposit interest rates. . . . The general feeling at the RBI is that the moral of public sector banks is rather low and the finance ministry is to be blamed for it. Too much governmental inter-

ference is the bane of the banking system."

These are the reports. I am not saying this. I reiterate, Sir, that these should not be taken in a spirit of criticism. What I want to say is that they should take note of such criticism and try to rectify things wherever possible.

With these observations, I support the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): The Minister will now reply.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to all the Members who have participated in this discussion and furnished very valuable suggestions. Of course, Sir, this Appropriation Bill which I have brought before the House consists of a small amount, but the areas traversed by the hon. Members on economy are of a much global complexion, because they have touched the money supply, the balance of payments, the export performance, the import augmentation, the expenditure, the revenue deficit and so many others. Some of the Members also pointed out to us the role which should be assigned to the public sector, the constraints being suffered by the public sector, the constraints in the area of infrastructure and so many other things. As many of the matters were pertaining to policy, I could have raised a point of order that the policies are not to be discussed. But we always welcome good suggestions or any analytical approach to the economy so as to make ourselves more knowledgeable and make our introspection deeper and sharper. And therefore, with rapt attention I have heard the Members.

No doubt, in our country when we have got natural calamities like last year's drought and floods and this year's earthquake, etc., the economy

has a greater responsibility to discharge, and it cannot be said that it is not having any strain at all. The economy, with the pressure of population growth in the country and demands for so many things by the people, demands in very many areas of development, has a strain on it. But we should be proud, all of us, that despite their being very many strains and the pressures on our economy, it has shown the strength and resilience. A single example I would like to cite. It is an undeniable fact that last year we had the severest drought of the century. But if we go through the villages and rural areas, as some of my friends Mr. Thakur and others have said, there was not a single death due to starvation. Nobody felt the impact of the drought. Nobody felt that it was the severest drought of the century. It was because of a very efficient and appropriate management of the drought situation by the States as well as by the Centre. Our economy had also shown resilience to meet the expenditure on drought. Therefore, if we compare the drought which we had in 1979 on a very small scale, the inflation rates was quite under control. The price rise was also under control. Therefore, I say that our economy has got an inbuilt strength to withstand the rigours and pressures. The credit goes to the farmers of this country also. The economy of this country is based on agriculture. The farmers of this country brought the green revolution. In the recent years, we never went to any other country with a begging bowl for food.

When the Members are discussing the entire gamut of our economy, I would wish to place on record that in the last budget the Government has tried to allocate the maximum for our farming sector so that more development can take place in the farming and agricultural sector. It would also open new avenues for employment mostly in the unorganised sector and

[Shri B. K. Gadhi]

check the thrust of inflation and price rise in the rural areas.

My friend, Mr. Yadav, when he was speaking, advised me that we should follow the path of late Shri Chaudhary Singh. We cannot afford to do so for the simple reason that we would not like our farmers to burn their fields of sugarcane for want of remunerative prices. Sir, Mr. Morarka, who initiated the discussion, naturally spoke about money supply and other things. I do know that the money supply has increased a little. If you look at the three-year average, the money circulation was about 17 per cent. I can safely presume and submit before the House that we shall endeavour to keep it within 17 per cent so that there is no need to be apprehensive about it. We have taken a number of measures. Cash reserve ratio has been increased and selective credit control is being exercised. We have taken other steps also. This year, the higher growth of money supply is mainly attributed to both higher growth of demand and deposits in financial institutions. It has been 7.5 per cent as compared to 5.2 per cent recorded during the same period last year. This year, the growth is more and the money circulation has also gone up a little. We are quite aware of it and we are having a constant watch on it. So, there is no question of being very pessimistic about it. Sir, Prof. Thakur and Shri Ashis Sen spoke about foreign trade and the balance of payment, etc. We know that the balance of payment position and our foreign exchange reserves position need to be constantly monitored. We have augmented our exports. I do not wish to take more time; I can give all the figures and everything. But, I think, better we finish this and start with the other business because these figures are known to everybody. We augmented our exports and it has shown results quite conspicuous results. On the import side, there is a little rise. But

as the hon. Members say, if we have to make our technology up-to-date and updated, and if we have to be competitive in the international market for augmenting our exports on a larger scale then, imports also—project imports, new technology imports and other imports—are needed. If you do not have that, then, perhaps, you cannot be competitive in the world. And today in the fast changing time and circumstances in the international market, the constraints also we suffer for our exports, just, for example, more competition from the other nations, protectionism and quality competition which is basic. So, with a view to striking a balance between the growth of our indigenous industries and export-oriented industries and export performance, and with a view to updating and upgrading our industry on both the import and export areas, I would say that this year, based on the provisional trade data released by the Minister of Commerce, a substantial increase of 25.3 per cent was there in 1987-88. And it was followed by a healthy increase of 15.4 per cent in the previous year. So, you can compare it. Imports on the other hand were slower at 2.8 per cent in 1986-87. And as a result of this, the trade deficit was lower by 11.3 billion in 1986-87 as compared to 1985-86, and fell by a further 10.1 billion in 1987-88. In the first two months of 1988-89, the exports have continued with a buoyancy, and the increase is 19.6 per cent. But as I stated earlier, the imports have shown a little higher increase, and the trade deficit because of that has gone up a little. But we are hopeful that we will be in a position to further augment our exports and thereby the trade deficit would be narrowed down. So, on this area also I would say that we have no reason to be alarmist. But so far as the foreign exchange position is concerned, if I give you the history, in 1987-88, there was a net increase in the inflow in non-resident deposit accounts, and disbursement of external assistance was higher, and the trade deficit was also lower during

this year. In spite of these positive developments, overall foreign exchange reserve declined by 4.6 million. We know that it was a little difficult situation for us. And that pressure has continued. But now we try that it should not further go down. But the main reasons for this decline, I would say, are there on a number of counts just like a factor like a lower aid disbursement, higher repayment to International Monetary Fund, bunching of POL and edible oils and higher international price for metals and oils. But you would see that there has been a considerable, significant, improvement in the foreign currency assets since early August and our foreign currency assets excluding gold and SDRs which had amounted to Rs. 5480 crores at the end of July have increased to Rs. 5623 crores on the 19th of August, 1988. And we are closely watching the balance of payments position. As I initially stated, we cannot say that there is no strain, of course there is a strain in the economy, but the resilience is there to withstand the strain and that is a very significant feature.

Sir, Mr. Matto raised a very technical problem about the IMF evaluation and other things. For his benefit I would like to explain to him that the International Monetary Fund's holdings of currencies of member countries are expressed in terms of SDRs.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): Mr. Matto, the Minister is replying to your points.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI: That is the special drawing rights and the holdings are revalued every year in April and May and the member countries are required to make additional payments to the IMF to the extent that there is depreciation vis-a-vis SDRs and this is called maintenance of value payment.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: My apprehension is right that our

currency i.e. Indian rupee vis-a-vis the SDRs has devalued to the extent of Rs. 627 crores during the year under consideration.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI: That is why we augment our exports to earn more foreign exchange. Otherwise our reserves would come down. That is why we all are making this effort. We know it. Rupee value in terms of SDRs has to be viewed in April and May. We do it, although there is no cash outgo. You wanted me to tell you what is the revaluation. That is what I am telling you.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: That is what exactly I apprehended.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI: This is very crystal clear I cannot conceal this fact. This is known to everybody. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI ASHIS SEN: It is not simply adjustment. It is a question of further erosion of our foreign earnings.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI: I say that we are trying to enhance the rupee value in the international market and the rupee value vis-a-vis the currencies of the international market, which, as a basket, you appreciate that they are volatile. Sometimes the dollar was cheaper than the sterling and deutsche mark and yen and other things. Its volatility is there, throughout, constantly it goes up and comes down. For you to think that it is constant is not a real approach to the problem. Real approach to the problem is to have a better growth, to have more exports, to earn more and make the economy more vibrant and viable and that is what the Government policy is for. Now many of the members and Mr. Vishvijit Singh and others stated about the public sector and other things. I do not want to comment much and speak more on those areas. But, Sir, it is our policy that public sector undertakings must continue to have the commanding heights in the economy.

[Shri B. K. Gadhavi]

Some of the areas which were highlighted are that there should be a line drawn that in this area the public sector should not go and in this area it should go. Now, it is quite understandable and you would appreciate that when initially the concept of public sector was implemented, the industrial complexion of the country was totally different than what it is today. In those days if any entrepreneur from India would have been asked to invest Rs. 500 crores, then perhaps there was none available to. So, when the complexion of the country in the industrial sphere goes on changing then naturally the approach also to the industrialisation goes on changing. But we believe that public sector undertakings have to play a greater role in contribution to the exchequer. They are to be more productive and more responsive to the needs of the people and we also believe that with a view to improving the management of the public sector, the Government should give them greater autonomy. 5.00 P.M. And that is precisely we are trying to do. Government has already assured the Parliament that we are going to bring forth a White Paper on public sector which will come.

So far as the labour participation in the management is concerned, that concept has also been accepted. So there is no question of the public sector being given a go-by or privatisation being on the increase. Of course we want our own entrepreneurs and technocrats to come in the field of industrialisation in the country and it would be a very happy day when we have the mushroom growth of industry in all areas and sectors so that need for dependence on foreign industries would be very much minimised.

Mr. Aladi Aruna raised the point about gradual lesser investment in Tamil Nadu. He has run away probably. Now, Mr. Aladi Aruna should know that it is our national policy

to have a balanced development and, therefore, the special category States which are in the remote areas, like the North-East, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal and others are bound to receive something more; otherwise how can there be a balanced development? Tamil Nadu and other states were much ahead in development compared to certain other States. Therefore, I would say that it is totally wrong to say that Centre has got any antipathy to Tamil Nadu or any other State. I would also like to make it clear that we do not have any discriminatory approach towards the States, whether it is a Congress-I ruled State or a non-Congress-I ruled State. Even Members from Congress-I ruled States like Bihar, Gujarat and other States raised the issue that some of their projects have not been cleared. I would say that it is none of the Government of India's intention to withhold any viable and justified project. But projects scrutiny is to be done from all angles, including environmental and ecological. Therefore, if there is not as higher a speed as you expect, Centre cannot be blamed.

SHRI ASHIS SEN: Does it apply to Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project? It is a very plain statement you are making.

SHRI B. K. GADHAVI: With regard to individual projects, I would not be in a position to answer right now. But I can assure you that whatever specific points you have raised, they would be addressed to the respective concerned Ministries and the Government of India would certainly take into consideration all the points which have been raised, which have validity and justification.

Then there was a point about Punjab. Prof. Lakshmana said why we could not visualise it while we formulated the budget, for assistance to Punjab. Punjab plan itself was not finalised till the Budget

was presented. The Punjab plan was finalised on 14th March 1988, and this long-term loan which we are giving to Punjab is to meet their plan expenditure for their annual plan. Therefore, when the Budget was presented, Punjab plan was not finalised. The amount was not foreseen and it was also not foreseen whether Punjab would be in a position to augment its own resources or not. Now we are in a better grip of the situation and we understand that for them to raise additional ARM there is a difficulty.

Mr. Morarka and Mr. Sen and others also raised the point about the price and inflation. Now, I would say that during the current financial year 1988-89 there has been a noticeable deceleration in the price rise. During the twenty weeks up to 13th August, 1988, WPI has recorded an increase of 4.2 per cent which is the lowest ever recorded in the last decade in the same period. The rate of inflation in terms of WPI came down from 10.6 per cent at the end of March, 1988, to 6.1 per cent as on 13th August, 1988. Therefore, you will appreciate. The measures taken by the Government with a view to containing the price rise with a view to containing inflation, are bearing fruit.

I do not blame the friends sitting opposite. They have expressed pessimism about the financial management, about the economic management, by the Government. What else can they do? After all, they have totally lost the vision of objectivity and surrendered to subjectivity. I could not have expected anything more than this from them.

Sir, once again, I thank all Members who have participated in the debate and given their valuable suggestions. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA):
Now, the question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain

further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1988-89, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be returned."

The question was proposed.

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH:
Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, this is a financial matter and this concerns his Ministry.

The Chief Minister of Gujarat has addressed a letter to the Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas wherein he has requested the Government of India to release a sum of Rs. 200 crores urgently in view of the critical financial position with the clear understanding that it will be adjusted against the arrears of royalty on crude oil admissible to the State on account of revision of royalty with effect from 1st April, 1987.

The State Government has also submitted a supplementary memorandum to the Government of India on 'Scarcity-1988-89' in May, 1988, wherein it has been pointed out that from April, 1988, the State Government has been frequently on overdraft and also continuously on RBI's Ways and Means Advance. The memorandum further states that the Government of India should revise the ceiling of expenditure upwards to Rs. 512.19 crores for the period January, 1988, to March, 1988, and to Rs. 416.61 crores for the period April, 1988, to July, 1988 and release additional Central assistance to the State Government accordingly.

[Shri Raoof Valiullah] 1

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to consider the request of the Government of Gujarat and immediately release the sum of Rs. 200 crores asked for in view of the critical financial position of the State. Sir, since the matter is known to the hon. Minister who also hails from Gujarat, I would request him to give his reaction now because this concerns his Ministry and he knows about it. I would request the hon. Minister to reply.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI: I have noted the point.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): The question is:

"That the Bill be returned."

The motion was adopted.

MOTOR VEHICLES BILL, 1983— Contd.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): Now we resume further discussion on the Motor Vehicles Bill. Shri Yashwant to continue his speech.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Till what time have we to sit?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): We have to sit up to six and then it will be up to the House to decide.

श्री बी० सत्यनारायण रेड्डी: मालूम तो हो कि 7 बजे तक बैठेंगे या 8 बजे तक बैठेंगे ?

जल-पुल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री राजेश पायलट): पहले चलने तो दो ।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): At 6.00 O'clock hon. Vice-Chairman will take the sense of the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): It is only 5.10 now. Generally, the House sits upto six.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: So, again at 6 O'clock we have to rise and ask. It is better we decide now itself.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV (Maharashtra): The Business Advisory Committee has already decided to sit late, after six. Hon. Member, Shri Reddy, was there in the Business Advisory Committee.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): Now he is bringing it to the notice of the House.

SHRI M. M. JACOB: The Business Advisory Committee in the last meeting decided to skip lunch hour and also to sit late to finish Government business.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: But up to what time? Are we going to sit up to 9.00 p.m. or 10.00 p.m.?

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: We have decided to sit beyond six.

SHRI M. M. JACOB: Mr. Reddy, you have not followed me. I have said that at six hon. Chair will take the sense of the House.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: That means, again at six we have to rise and ask. Why can't you decide now?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): It has been circulated in the Bulletin.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: (Andhra Pradesh): That is true, but normally the business hours of the House are up to 5.00 p.m. So, at this hour we can decide up to what time we have to sit.