

THE BUDGET (GENERAL), 1985-86—
GENERAL DISCUSSION (contd.)

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SLNGH: The price of kerosene has to be reduced because we do not want our villages to be in dark after sunset. Salt must be made cheaper as it is a must for everyone.

SHRr SURESH KALMADI (Maharashtra); The Finance Minister is not here.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri Ramakrishnanj in the Chair

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN. (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): The Finance Minister has taken the permission of the Chair.

HERI SURESH KALMADI: Rajya Sabha is being given step-motherly treatment. The Budget is being discussed and one of the Finance Ministers must be he

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): Mr. Kalmadi, for your information and for the information of other Members, where the Chair has a specific prior permission to the Finance Minister* or to the Minister of

State for Finance for some business in Lok Sabha or for attending some other important meeting, then the other Cabinet Ministers are equally entitled to act on their behalf.' We have 'one senior Cabinet Minister present here taking dowai notes. He will definitely take down a i them on to the Finance Minister and all the budget points will be answered.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: The EXCISE duty on iwo-wheeler and three-seler scooters should be reduced beca-they are needed by the common man. 'I here is' a genera! price rise of everyday utility goods There are two factors. One is the thike in railway freight on goods and the second is the hike in petroleum nroducLs. Crude petroleum production is 29.3 niillioa, tonnes by the end of this year compared to 11-4-million tonnes at the beginning of the Sixth Plan. The pro-

duction of Bombay High has increased from 4.2 million tonnes in 1979-80 to 20.3 million tonnes this year. The price of crude in the world market is on the decline. Besides this, the Bombay High crude is in demand in the world market for mixing it with other type crude oils. All these factors should be taken into account. I request the Finance Minister to work out some modality whereby the price is contained at a certain level, especially of the daily utility goods. The housewives not only of the salaried classes but of all the other classes which have a fixed income are also facing great hardship today because the cooking gas has risen by 5.90 rupees. There is increase in the prices of foodstuffs and salt. All these imbalances are there in the budget. Unless we can find some modality by which we can contain prices for the ordinary person, it will be difficult. The management in public and private sector undertakings must be improved. Today, management and marketing have become scientific all the world over. We need people who can study the market and who know management and who can wipe out the losses and turn them into profits. The public sector undertakings should have the same attitude as the private sector commercial organisations have. That is, the profit in time good management and better relation with the worker. Otherwise, we will not be able to wipe out the losses in the public sector and we will not be able to lessen the deficits. For example, Sir the NTC mills were taken over and even now they are not working as they should because of the bad management. People who are not good managers should be thrown out and better type of managers should be put in there so that their organisation would turn out into a profit-making organisation. Both the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister have announced a new orientation programme so far as textiles are concerned. And we hope that all aspects to improve will be taken into account. I will give one example. In the central Bombay, there is an NTC mills. Now, if we shift that mill to some other corner and sell away that land, we can earn profits

(Shrimati Pratibha Singh)

to modernise the mill and we can turn those losses into profits. In this way, there are so many things which have to be looked into and should be done.

So far as the import of technology is concerned there also I would like to suggest one thing to the Finance Minister. So far what has been done? Why have we suffered? At the moment, what do we do? Of course, we must do it through global tenders. But while importing the technology, we should not take into account only the lowest price because nobody in the market today is going to sell at a loss and no country is going to sell their best at a loss. And if we want to import, then we have to see that if we have a secondhand technology or an obsolete technology, what the expenses will be on the repairs, on the maintenance and what the position will be if we do not buy at the lowest price but take the best technology available in the world. For example, take the telephone system today. In the PAC, we had questioned the officers. They said, "Everything in the Telephone is wrong. The switch-gear is not working. The other things are not working. Only the cover is there. What can we do? If you do not get the connection, if you get the wrong numbers, if you get the wrong billings, we cannot do anything." This is what they say. Therefore, as the Prime Minister said, we should have a new thinking. When we buy, we should work out the price and the repair and maintenance charges also. If we buy the second-hand material, we should work out the expenses on maintenance and repairs and compare it with the price that one has to pay for the best technology available in the world and see what we save? Similar is the case with so many other things—when we buy defence goods like jeeps, ships, planes for example. Similarly at times the demurrage that we have to pay is more than what we pay at the time we buy coal or iron. So, all these in-built things and manipulations on purchases have to be studied if we want to have a proper financing. A number of questions have been put in this House also in cases of Defence purchases there is

a great scope for the growth in the electronics industry and the Finance Minister has tried to give incentives and benefit to this industry. There is a great scope for the export market. And if we really want to earn foreign exchange, we have to give a lot of boost to the electronic industries: The expenditure on incentives for location of industry in backward area must also now be studied and revalued. If we give incentives without first providing the infra-structure in the backward areas, they become meaningless and worthless. Backward States like Bihar, etc have to be given a little boost. They have to be given some extra over-drafts because raw material is there, water resources are there, but still the development is not there. Petroling on the Indo-Nepal border in Bihar has to be intensified because recently there have been a number of dacoities specially in the temples in India from Janakpur Jaleshwar side of the Indo-Nepal border. The dacoits come and within the last one month four or five dacoities have taken place in the temples on Indian side. They have broken the idols. In most of the pictures it is shown that there are gems and so they break the idols. The customs officers say that they cannot do anything because dacoits go to Nepal side and the police of the other side does not cooperate. Similarly, smuggling on a large scale is going on in these areas because one truck of ganja means a lot of easy money. (*Time bell rings.*)

Then, Sir, we have given a lot of emphasis to the eradication of black money. Now, the question, Sir, is what is black money? This is unaccounted money. Therefore, the question is how to eradicate this black money, how to eradicate this parallel economy from this country? Are raids the only answer? Have we studied what the amount is that we get by these raids? What has been the collection? What has been the harassment.

especially to the women? Has any study *Taeaa* made in this direction? Are always the people who raid better than those who are raided, whether they are business class jwople, whether they are film stars or vjSaether they are any other class of people? So, Sir, in this caw also I would like fo, any to the Government, requeif the Gov-(ar)ment, in the matter of eradication of black money some study of the facts is required. We must take a lesson from the experiences of our past. Twice experi naote were done when the source of. money was not to be disclosed. Once in 1966 for three months *Sad* then again in 1976 perhaps for three months. Now, in three months what was the collection?

In the limited time what was the collection? What has been the collection when schemes like Bearer Bonds were floated? All these things have to be studied. I just do not want to say that this is better car that is better. I want to emphasise only Stat We must have better collection of the funds, better ways and means based on *the* experience over the years. Set the tax evasion has become a national sport in thiscountry and that is why this parallel economy has developed. *{Time bell rings}*. 5b, Sir, the modern fiscal policy pursued by most of the countries to make revenue grow is not by increasing income-tax" rates 'but by making income grow, thereby enlarging the tax base. In other words, the tax revenue must be made self-generating. Between 1972 to 1975 the inflation range was between 10 to 25 per cent and it coincided with the highest maximum marginal rate of income-tax, which was 97.75 per cent which prevailed between 1971—74.

Now, the World Bank has also made ocrtain studies examining the records of 20 countries. They came to the conclo-eion that the rate of growth of gross domestic product was 7.3 per cent in low Gax groups and 1.1 per cent in high tax groups. So, what do these things show? M shows that what the Finance Minister Stag done he is justified in doing it in today's word context. *{Time bell rings}*. In 1979, a progressive country tike Ireland abolished wealth tax. Germany sub-

stantially lowered its taxes. The USA cut down the capital gains tax. Britain reduced its -maximum rate of income-tax. High rates resulted in tax evasion. *{Time bell rings}*. Sir, I again congratulate the Finance Minister for his boldness in bringing forward a Budget which boosts up production, creates a climate for industrialisation, savings and growth. *{Time Bell rings}*. One minute, Sir. So far as this project for Ganga pollution is concerned, they have given Rs. 10 crores which is a very welcome step. Tb* Bhopal Gas leakage has shown us mat we must force industries to provide in-built anti-pollution measures so that these ghastly tragedies do not occur. Apart from that we should ensure that such factories and industries are not permitted in the heart of a city or town. So, Sir, let ^ all try to fulfil me aspirations of the people who have given a massive mandate to the present Government for a better world and brighter future.

Let us not be disheartened by a bit deficit financing of Rs. 39S5 crores compared to Rs. 1773 crores in the Budget. Estimates. Let us fulfil the dreams of onr departed leader, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, whose last wish was that every drop of her blood will be for building and protecting the great nation of India. Thank you. Sir.

SHRI KAMALENDU BHATTACHARJEE (Assam): Respected Vice-Chairman,' I consider myself fortunate for being'able to participate in this year's Budget discussion. The reason is obvious. This budget is the most important Budget since Independence as has rightly been pointed out by Indian Express, Here, I would like to refer to names of two novels of the world-famous novelist Charles Dickens to describe the period following the assassination of our great leader Madam Gandhi. The names of the two novels are: The Hard Times and Great Expectations. It was 'Hard Times' is the sense that we lost a national leaded who dominated the political scene in India for about 18 years, and it was 'Great Expectation' because people of India waited with great expectation because they saw the emergence of a great leader in the¹

[Shri Kamalendu Biiuttacharjee]

person of Shri Rajivji. People voted Congress-I under the leadership of Rajivji to power with a massive mandate and they were waiting eagerly; they expected the new Government to give a new direction to the fiscal and economic policies of the country. Their expectations have not been belied. The Finance Minister and especially this Budget can claim credit for fulfilling the promise of the new Government. Mr. Vice-Chairman it has to be admitted on all hands that this Budget is predominantly growth oriented; it is a balanced Budget. When I call it a balanced Budget, the rationale behind this is clear and compelling. This Budget represents productivity, growth and savings. It is a Budget which gives something to everyone and no section of this vast population of India should feel that they have been neglected. The Finance Minister in his Budget speech has very aptly referred to the famous remark of Madam Indira Gandhi: "No section of our vast and diverse population should be forgotten; their neglect is our prime sin." The Finance Minister has so imaginatively rationalised the fiscal structure that all sections of taxpayers, individual or corporate, derive substantial benefit from this Budget and I would like to put on record that this Budget has received favourable response from all sections of people. This Budget is undoubtedly growth-oriented. The raising of hold from Rs. 20 crores to Rs. 100 crores, delicensing of certain industries, steps to set up merger of industries, fiscal restructuring and reduction of import duty on capital goods should help stimulate economic growth. The Budget has ushered in a new era of pragmatic and it is full of impetus for growth.

The Finance Minister has announced a comprehensive overhaul of the 'J': Hon With an almost contemptuous disregard of fiscal consequences. True indeed it is a very very courageous budget. Some of the Budget proposals aim at untangling the knot of bureaucratic control in industry and aim at removing stagnation nurtured by the permit control raj. This particular step makes this Budget very bold and forward looking. The

President of the National Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs has very rightly said and I quote:

"It is an entrepreneur's dream and a go-ahead Budget."

Sir, before the elections to the Lok Sabha, Rajivji promised to cleanse politics and public life. This Budget contains some proposals which really make honesty a practical proposition. The reduction tax in respect of Hindu Undivided Families, reduction in the rates of wealth and abolition of estate duty; by these three steps, three important causes of black money generation have been tackled. The Government can really claim credit for creating pre-conditions for honesty.

Some hon. Members have tried to project this Budget as an anti-poor Budget, a pro-rich Budget and an elitist Budget, [I boggle my imagination why my learned friends on the Opposition really fail to see the right meaning of the Budget and to see that it is a common man's Budget then, I realise the significance of the very famous saying of Cicero

"If truth were self-evident, eloquence would not be necessary".

this is a cheering Budget for the common man. There is crop insurance for the farmers. There is accident insurance for all kinds of workers. Again, the workers in bankrupt companies will get top priority in recovering their dues. A social security scheme for landless labourers has been introduced. "Bonus limits have been doubled. Pension and gratuity ceiling for Government employees have been raised. Are all these rich people? I would like to ask my learned friends on the Opposition. Are all these rich people or "are they poor? If the hon. Members of Opposition have a different meaning of poor people, well, I am helpless. Their very attitude, reminds me of the famous saying of St. Augustine:

"The power of eloquence so very effective in convincing us of either wrong or right lies open to all. Why then do not find good zealously procure

if that it may serve the truth if the wicked in order to gain unjustifiable and groundless cases, apply it to the advantages of injustice and error.'

Now Sir, I have some suggestion's to make to the hon. Finance Minister. I would like to say that it is a bad news for the common people that there has been a price hike so far as kerosene is concerned. This is a socialistic Government; here under an obligation to see to the needs of the poor people. In many places, Government have not yet been able to provide electricity. In those places, where Government have not yet been able to provide electricity, the price of kerosene should be subsidised. You may remember that some years back, there was a system two types of kerosene, one colour and the other one white. One of these two may be earmarked for fuel and the other may be earmarked for lighting purposes. The kerosene used for lighting purposes should be subsidised. This is a suggestion would like to put forward to the hon. Finance Minister.

Now, since there has been a hike in the crude prices, I would request the Finance Minister to announce an increase in the royalty paid to the Assam crude. At present, it is Rs. 61 per tonne. As decided by the Government of Assam, this should be raised to Rs. 315 per tonne. This will go a long way in building up economy of Assam which is really a backward State. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to give liberal financial assistance to North East Council so that project of Barak Dam could be taken up during the Seventh Five Year Plan. This project, if properly implemented, will solve three very acute problems. There is the problem of power, problem of irrigation and the problem of floods in some districts of Karimganj and Silchar in Assam are concerned.

Through you, respected Vice-Chairman, I would like to request the hon. Education Minister, who is at the moment in the matter, to announce establishment of a Central university in Barak valley to solve many problems relating to education

there. When he was Home Minister he had full knowledge about the situation there in Cachar, *vis-a-vis* the situation in Assam. So, if he declares immediately that a Central university is going to be established there, it will go a long way in solving the problems relating to education in that particular district.

Now I take this opportunity to welcome the Sports Minister's decision to establish a mini stadium, in each of the 420 districts of India. I believe that sports is one of the most important elements to foster the feeling of national integrity. When I see the names of Kapil Dev or Azhafuddia come out, I feel it is a national loss. I do not take it as a cricket game alone but a game of all the Indians. So, when I hear the running commentary, whether it is cricket or football or hockey, it is a national game and thus I feel that sports is a very important element for bringing the feeling of national integrity. In this connection, I have to state that in Silchar, the headquarter of Cachar district in Assam, (here is an incomplete stadium. There is another stadium which has to come up in Karimganj. Money should be sanctioned for their construction).

Now I would like to draw your attention to my own backward district. There are so many problems. Hon. Finance Minister is holding the portfolio of Industry Ministry. Through you, Sir, I would request the concerned authorities to see that the Hindustan Paper Mill in Panchu started production within the target date.

Companies engaged in growing and manufacturing tea in the country will be entitled to a deduction upto 20 per cent of their profits deposited in a special account with the National Bank of Agriculture & Rural Development. It is a cheering news for Assamese in general and for the districts of Cachar and Karimganj in particular because the two districts are predominantly dependent on tea industry. But I would like to suggest, taking this opportunity, that the tax structure meant for the tea industry has got to be rationalised. We cannot afford to finish the duck that lays golden eggs. Moreover, Cachar should be declared as 'Hill district' in tea

[Shri Kamalendu Bliacharjee]

It can get all the benefits for rejuvenation of tea bushes.

With these words I once again lend my support to his Budget

SHRI SURESH KALMADI. Hon. Finance Minister has not yet arrived and Mr. Ashofce Sen has also left the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): Mr. K. C. Pant and Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma are taking down your notes. Instead 61 one Minister, two are now taking down your notes.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: I would like to start with this that it is not fair that the Finance Minister is not here. He is missing from the House for the last one hour.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): I will convey your concern to the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, to make a note that as far as possible they must try to be here, at least one of them.

SHRI K. C. PANT: I would like to say that the budget is being debated in the other House and one will have to have a little consideration...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): Mr. Pant, the Minister of State. Shri Poojari, took my permission because he had to move a Bill in the other House, and Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh was replying to the budget there. That is why both of them are not here. I have said so. But since he is expressing his concern, particularly when he is speaking, I am sure you will convey his points to the Finance Minister" so that they received his consideration.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN). Mr. Kalmadi, to make up for your concern, I will give you more time.

"SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Thank you Sir. I would like to speak mainly with

reference to the defence aspects of the Budget, but I would also like to utilise the opportunity to express my reaction to the budget. And the reaction is one of mixed feelings. I welcome many features of the Budget. I personally feel that many of the measures are growth-oriented, but at the same time I have a feeling that the common man and the middle class have been cheated. They feel that they have been cheated and left in the lurch. Reducing the highest rate of income tax to 50 per cent is definitely a step in the right direction, but at the same time for the middle class you have been so miserly as to increase the tax exemption limit by only Rs. 3,000 from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 18,000. Whereas you are ready to reduce the highest rate of income tax from 70 to 50 per cent, you are ready to scrap the surcharge on income-tax you are ready to exempt them from Estate Duty, you are ready to give them more exemption under Wealth Tax, for the middle class you are being so miserly as to give them only an increase of Rs. 3,000 in the exemption limit of income tax. I cannot understand this. I am sure the Finance Minister will reconsider this and take it to the level of Rs. 25,000 at least.

The worst hit are the non-tax-payers. My Secretary who comes and works far from me and told me: "We do not pay income tax. We are not concerned with all these reliefs given. But I have to come on scooter. Every month my budget has gone up by Rs. 75. Every month my budget has gone up by another Rs. 75 to 100 because on every item the prices have gone up. Kerosene has gone up. cooking gas has gone up on every thing because of a hike in transport charges, I have got to pay more". And he computed that from his salary of about Rs. 1000 which he gets, he will have to pay another Rs. 175. So the worst hit in this budget are the non-tax-payers. I hope the Finance Minister will give some relief to them.

Travel, of course, has become a luxury. I think, it must be the Government's intention that everybody should jog to his place *tit* work so that we save on petrol and keep fit. If for this reason they have increased the duty on petroleum products, may be it is a good idea. Also housebuilding for the middle class is going out of their range. I have got reports that per square feet, the rate has gone up by ten rupees in the last one week. So house-mildvag has become dearer.

Of course, I welcome the companies' donations to political parties. I think this is a step in *the* right direction. It was long overdue. But at the same time you must raise the level of election expenses. Otherwise it will not meet the idea with which it has been brought up and black money will still thrive. Also for companies there should be a deductible expense upto at least 50 per cent. Right now companies

give political donations only from their profits and that too after paying tax, which is just not right. It should be before tax and it should be at least 50 per cent deductible.

Now I come to the amount which has been set aside in the budget for defence. As you are aware, 15 per cent of the total outlay is for defence. About Rs. 7,700 crores have been kept aside for defence. In 1980-81, the defence budget was only Rs. 3,500 crores, whereas in 1985-86 the allocation is Rs. 7,700 crores. We are also aware that as in the last year the revised estimates are always higher by about Rs. 400-500 crores of rupees. This is going to happen this year too. Already we have bought a lot of equipment which is still to come. That also is not reflected in the budget. So, that is going to be another Rs. 400 to 500 crores. Also, the Fourth Pay Commission has to submit its report, and there is no provision in the Defence budget for this. That is also going to cost the Exchequer Rs. 400 to 500 crores. Also, all the hidden expenses which are not there in the Defence budget like, say, the amount for the Border Security Force, the amount for the various other units like Border Roads, etc.,—though it is not Defence budget; it is the budget of the Home Ministry—will be another Rs. 500 crores. In fact, though the budget which

is presented shows Rs. 7,700 crores, India's Defence budget is to a tune of Rs. 10,000 crores. It is a fact that in the budget! Its 10,000 crores is set aside for Defence and so the common man, the tax payer, would like to know how this money is being spent.

Sir, you are aware that our armed forces are the most secretive armed forces in the world. We never come to know what they are doing, where the money is going, and that is why there is a lot of bungling in all our Defence matters, in all our Defence deals. You are aware of the espionage cases, you are aware of the tremendous margins and you are aware of the tremendous amount of Defence peddlars who are in the market today. In the last five years, we have seen so many people peddling Defence goods in view of the margins, and a lot of the tax payer's money is being squandered away in this manner.

Sir, you are aware also of the Mirage deal. We had placed an order for 110 Mirage aircraft out of which 40 aircraft arrived, and the option to manufacture the Mirage was let go. And the Mig-29 brought instead. So, there is a lot of wheeling-dealing going on, such commissions going on and, as a result, the Defence budget has reached Rs. 10,000 crores.

Sir, you are aware also of the wasteful expenditure in the various Defence units, the HAL for example. You are aware that for the single-engine helicopter which was to be made, over the last years they have already spent Rs. 20 crores on this project but they are not able to come out with this helicopter models and only with two wind-tunnel models and one mock-up helicopter and they spent Rs. 12 crores. Similarly they spent money on developing a jet engine—40 per cent result is zero. Similarly they spent money on building a trainer aircraft—the result is zero. You are aware only 40 per cent of the staff in HAL is being utilised; Many times the HAL has written to the Defence Minister that there is gross under-utilisation because there is no work in the HAL and only 40 per cent of the staff is working. And this is adding up to

1 Shri Suresh Kalmadi)

Defence expenditure. We will have to think in terms of how we can save naoney there. I think there is a case for reducing the Defence budget by at least 15 per cent, that is, Rs. 1,500 crores can be brought down if proper Defence management is done and I am sure the Finance Minister will look into this aspect,

Yet another aspect of the budget is that out of the allocation of Rs. 7,700 crores for Defence, for v the Army they have allocated Rs. 4,800 crores, Rs. 1,700 crores for the Air Force and Rs. 600 crores for the Navy. Sir, the Army's -Rs. 4,800 cores works out to 68 per cent. Last year the Army got 65 per cent. This they have got about three per cent more. The Air Fouce has got 24 per cent 4bis year. Last year also they got the same amount. But in this budget file Navy has got only Rs. 600 crores. Their budget has been reduced from 11 per cent to eight cent—which is very very unfair. We have to defend our coastline of 7,000 kometres and we have to face the threat an the Indian Ocean and I am surprised the money for the Navy has been reduced by such a big margin as three per cent .

Sir, I would like to state rurrter that in terms of equipment and sophisticated machinery, the Air Force and the Navy foave to spend much more on this-and so. over the years though the Air Force has been getting 24 per cent and the Navy has been getting 11 per cent, there is a t'efinite case for increasing the percentage of the Air Force from .24 to 30 per cent and for increasing the percentage of the Navy from eight to 15 per cent. The Army's expenditure can be reduced from present 65 per cent to 55 per cent avise the Army is mainly a man-power component. And so, the Air Force and Navy which should have expanded in rapi manner, arc not expanding at that rate today.

Also, Sir, I would like to say that though we are spending Rs. 10,000 crores defence, we are not looking after •tdequately the service conditions of the ained forces personnel, as a result of which we find only last week there have

btен crashes. Four aircraft crashed &» the last week alone. We have lost Rs. 40 crores in the last one week alone. Why is this happening? because the cream, of the youth today in India is not going to the armed forces. This is very very unfortunate. Whereas in ' Pakistan the cream of the youth is going to the armed forces, in India the cream is going to the private sector. They are going to the Indian Administrative Service, to the Indian Foreign Service, and the last Part is- coming to the armed forces. Buy 1 or four Mirages iess, buy "a few equipment

and improve the base. Today the K.se is getting weak. People do not wan* to join tire aimed forces. See the NDA's ^election. People do not want to go tile For technicians who service the aircraft, We are getting only third-class graduates, • which is a shame. A Mirage aircraft costsi Rs. 40 crores. Why can you not treat the pilot as a managing director of a Rs. 40 crore firm and give him all the perks? He livintr hand-to-mouth. When he is flying in the air, he is thinking about his family, how he "can support his family. Are you not going to do something for the armed forces? We hvae Seen taking the maximum out of them over years. Wt-are spending Rs. 10,000 crores. I just said in 1980-S1 the Defence Budget was 500 crores. It has increased so much. How much of it has gone for the raan- element? It is our cream. We to service. We have to feed. On the hand we are getting more and more sophisticated equipment, we are gettinK r.a clear-powered submarines, sophisticated tanks high*powered aircraft, supersonic-aircraft, and" on the other, hand the. mam-PQwe,- which is supposed-to man them. is not up to the mark. This is a matter of great concern. I arh sure, Kapur Saheb will bear'me out on this particular matter. This is a matter of concern. I am sure, the Finance Minister will definitely speak with the. Defence Minister and sort our this particular matter.

I will also go one step further in asking for income-tax exemption to all the armed ' forces personnel because this js a sort of boost which is required to attract the cream. I am sure, because they are getting Rs. 800 flying bounty. Out of that, Rs. 800, Rs. 450 is going in the form

of insurance, in the form of taxation. The person is left with Rs. 350. They do not want more cash. Give them more facilities Give them free housing. Give them ireome-tax exemption. I am sure, the Finance Minister will consider it.

Also, the Fourth Pay Commission is round the corner. I would request the hon. Finance Minster to have a separate cell, a sub-commission, speeilBy for the armed forces personnel.

I would now go to the last part of my speech. And this concerns our technology which is coming into the country in a big manner. Everyone agrees with the need to modernise and to introduce" modern technology. Various technologies have been brought into the country. And in this budget also we have seen that computers are exempt from duties etc. It is a .

it thing. But, I would request the Government not to act blindly. We should not blindly ape the West .because in this country what we have got is manpower, Wg have got cheap manpower, and whatever can be done, industrywise, labour-intensive units must b? given priorities. Of course, whatever is to be exported—it has to be a two-tier system— is to be exported. We must get the best machinery; we must get the latest machinery from outside. That is there for export. But for Indian conditions, I think, we can rely on our technology. We can also make it a labour intensive, because we have five crores of unemployed person-. This aspect should also be considered.

Sir, I am also concerned about the import of technology for the items which we are already having. For example, the Vespa" and "Bajaj scooters are the best in the world. But only last year we have allowed "Piaggio" and "Yamaha" scooters and motor-cycles to be manufactured in u with foreign knowhow. We have the necessary expertise and knowhow to manufacture these vehicles indigenously. I do not know why the Centre had given permission for foreign collaboration.

I would also lite to know why the Indian Government is allowing foreign collaborations for unnecessary luxury goods aad consumer good*, Sir, we know that

Chesterfield and Rothman cigarettes have entered our country. I asked a starred question today to this House at to why the Government are allowing foreign collaboration? The Minister stated that as per foreign collaboration policy foreign brand names are not ordinarily allowed for use or; products for internal sales—although there is no objection to lb; use of products to be exported. Despite this condition for foreign collaboration, I do not know how Chesterfield and Rothman cigarettes have entered our Indian market. The reply D says that'the Godfrey Philips have taken the Government's permission for introducing the foreign brand, name— Chesterfield cigraette in India. It is most surprising that these brands have entered our market without taking the permbsiom from the Government of India The reply also says that no money has been paid for the trade-mark. Then are they doing charity in the country? Whether Chesterfiefij and Rothman have lent their name to cigarettes in this country just for fun? Lot of money is being siphoned off from *this* country. Swiss bank is financing Checferfield and Rothman cigarette companfes. The Hon'ble Finance Minister must be knowing it definitely. I request the Minister to terminate such trade-fflarfca in oar country.

I am also hearing rumours about toft drinks like Coca-cola, etc.. reentering our markets. We have 'thrown out this company once and we should not allow this company to market its product here. Our soil drinks are equally good. I am sure our Government will not waste our precious foreign exchange on importing such luxury goods But I welcome spe ing foreign exchange where technological ds "are required for export, but not for luxury goods. I request the Finanee Minister to look into this aspect.

Since the Vice-Chairman has rung the bell a few times I would not like to take more lime of this House. Finally, I "Would l:ke to say that many aspects of the budget are very good. It is definitely growth oriented in many areas and I congratulate the Finance Minister. But, I feel the common man has been kept aside. The Minister has miseratty increased the taxation limit from Rs. 15,000 to

[Shri Suresh Kalmadi]

Rs. 18,000. I request him to raise it to Rs. 25,000. The non-taxpayer has been hit very badly because of hike in kerosene, gas, etc. The Government must assure all sections of the people that they are doing it for their benefit. The Government should also take the middle-class and common man into confidence.

, With these words, I conclude.

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA (Delhi): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am foing io support the Finance Minister on is excellent budget not only for all the hings that have been stated there but also wcause he has had the courage to have .1 closfe, hard arid fresh look at the budget. It has many element's which are new—

ements tor modernisation of this country; md for taking this country forward in a new direction and for giving impetus to the industries and all the other things which Acre somewhat stagnant for some years.

Si;, i would like to confine my remarks only to a few suggestions that I would like the Finance Minister to consider. Sir. the .20 per cent duty on imported newsprint should be withdrawal since the courts have already given a verdict against this duty. This would help maintain a lower per-copy price of the newspapers to the readers.

The second suggestion that I would like to make to the Finance Minister is that in the present budget, the duty on printing paper has been increased as also the freight, resulting in an increase in the price of paper by about Rs. 500 per tonne, which adversely affects the publishing of books. The 20 per cent rebate in income-tax on publishing of hooks has been withdrawn, although it has been allowed for ship and hotels. I will recommend that this rebate on books under section 80QQ be extended by another period of five year's in order to boost publishing of cheaper books in India.

The third suggestion that I would like - to make to the Finance Minister is that he may be aware that a large proportion of black money is produced in the sale and purchase of properties, land and buildings.

It is not easily possible today to complete a transaction without a proper mix of white and black money for flats, land or buildings. One way to jolve this problem might be by converting the capital gains lax into fixed loans or bonds so that the-person may deposit the money with the Government for a fixed period, say, 10 to 15 years, so that further black money is not generated. This proposal may kindly be considered.

The fourth suggestion would be that with the restructuring of the direct taxes system, it is necessary thate the scheme under section 143(1) of automatic assessment should be extended to returns of incomes up to Rs. 50,000" -instead of Rs. 25,000 as at present. This would make it possible for the tax-payers in that .bracket also to.get easy assessments for > their incmmes.

The fifth suggestion would be that the surcharge on tax on registered firm Id also be abolished. At present, as per the new taxation rates for individi l'tei-g is a great anomaly inasmuch as the incidence of tax on registered nrrhs oh an individual partner, in cases here the 'firm's income is substantial is more than if the business is owned by the individual. suggestion may kindly he considered by the Finance Minister.

The sixth is the introduction of a provision In section 440A(12) whereby fees paid by tax-payers to their counsel for representing their cases before tax authorities is totally disallowed. This should also be reconsidered qnd this may be a'lowed.

Sir, I would not like to take more of your time and the time of the House would ;ike to congratulate the Finance Minister once again and I hope that he will look into the suggestions that I have made.

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE (Assam) Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister, Mr. Vishwanath Paratap Singh. Sir, the budget has been presented -as an effective instrument to

deliver the dynamic package as promised by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to modernise the country and to take the country into the new century. It is also a bold attempt to redeem our promises on the economic front made in the election manifesto, offered by our party and accepted by the people, as reflected in the massive-mandate in the last parliamentary elections. Sir, true to the words of the hon. Finance Minister, the budget does reflect 5 P.M. have reposed in us." For it is the concern for the common man (the "immense trust that the people have placed in the Budget. No doubt agricultural and rural development is the centre of planning and continues to be so. But never in the past has the common man against this backdrop of development received so much attention. This particular fact I would like the honourable critics of the Budget to appreciate and take note of. Man is the measure of things, more so when it is the common man. In the Budget there are ample instances to prove that. I would mention just a few. Crop failure is one of the greatest curses that befall the farmers and it is beyond human power to forestall the vagaries of nature. The proposed comprehensive scheme of crop insurance at low charges and additional benefit of subsidy in the case of marginal and small farmers is a big leap forward in this direction. Can there be a greater relief than this. The same concern for the common man manifests itself again in the proposal for security scheme to cover the risk of death by accident. This is a great relief to the landless labourers, small and marginal farmers, traditional craftsmen and others who are otherwise not covered by any insurance scheme. Again the same concern predominates the proposal to put the legitimate dues of the workers of a sick industry on a par with those of the normal industry in the event of closure of the company. Not only that. Such dues will rank above the dues of Government whereas there has been no provision of law hitherto granting workers' dues a higher priority over the secured loans. Unless the critics willfully keep their eyes shut it is distinctly evident that the common man receives a fair deal in the Budget. And true to the spirit of the late Prime Minister's dictum that "no section

of our vast and diverse population should feel forgotten, their neglect is our enemy less" which is aptly quoted "in the Budget is marked by a mild dose of taxation of Rs. 445 crores—scrapping of the estate duty, abolition of the compulsory deposit scheme, substantial wealth tax concession and reasonable corporate tax deductions which are designed to generate more resources so that modernisation and expansion programme could be taken up by the corporate sector. Not only these concessions and reliefs which percolate to almost all sections of society; the abolition of estate duty which had given rise to innumerable difficulties, disputes and litigations and which had also generated considerable amount of black money will be effectively grappled with. It has long been appreciated by all that the lower the rates of taxation, the better the collection. The thinking of the Wanchoo Committee is not very far from this. In spite of our being convinced of the effectiveness of such a view it has always been put in the cold storage. And it is for the first time that the Fin. Minister has come forward with practical wisdom. And now, having granted these tax concessions and reliefs, the Government has created the precondition of honesty for it has called upon the tax-payer to meet their obligations as citizen

and help it reduce, if not totally eliminate, the generation of black money, and the decision to make the prosecution of tax evaders compulsory removing the much abused discretionary power so long enjoyed by tax authorities tilts the balance further in favour of the more or less honest declaration of income tax and assets by the tax payer. What is, however, more important and significant is not the reliefs and concessions offered by the Budget.

The efficacy of Budgetary exercises is judged by the measures to tune up the economy, and in the context of the economy of the developing countries marked by resource constraints and very often opting for loans from the developed countries, the yardstick of success is the self-reliance injected into the economy. Let us recall what the Prime Minister said while addressing the nation immediately after the election.

[Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique]

Improvement in productivity, absorption of modern technology and fuller utilisation of capacity must acquire the status of a national campaign.

In other words this is the strategy to achieve self reliance whether in agriculture or industry.

The budget reiterates the faith in agricultural and rural development holding the key to our national development. So, the budget relies on the continued application of our agricultural strategy involving structural changes in rural economic relations, greater application of new technology and fertilisers, and increase in the irrigated area.

Thus crop insurance which not only ensures security to the farmer individually, but covering all the major crop loans, is a major policy instrument for spreading the Green Revolution which has been confused so far to irrigated medium and large holdings. Marginal farmers who could have been benefited immensely by adopting green revolution technology package, which is, however, very expensive, were deterred from going in for it due to the risk of crop loss. Now the risk aversion will be overcome by the proposed crop insurance the cost of which will be low and subsidized to the extent of 66 per cent on a matching basis by the Centre and the States. Together with an effective price support programme for oil seeds and pulses, the scheme of crop insurance is expected to trigger off another wave of green revolution. Though it is true that land and tenurial reform and consolidation of land holdings are equally essential for the required change in agricultural development, yet one must admit that crop insurance marks a significant step which will lead to other changes to support a spurt in agricultural growth.

The same accent on self-reliance rules the Industrial front too. While reiterating the national commitment to the philosophy of public sector and other socio-economic policies, the budget envisages structural changes in the economy. For the Government now aims at reducing costs and pri-

ces and improve the competitiveness of our industry, as stated in the budget. This requires bold and hard decisions. In the wake of the budget the Prime Minister while addressing the Conference on engineering export organised by the Association of Indian Engineering Industry only on the 22nd March, a couple of days back stated that a new deal for industry will be announced in the current session of Parliament. The shape of things to come, however, became very clear when he cautioned the industry that "certain industries must die." I quote:

"We cannot pretend that all industries of the last 300 years must carry on into the 22nd century and that from now on it will be very expensive for industry to go sick."

One of the measures to fight industrial sickness has already been spelled out in the budget and I need not go into details. But one must appreciate that it is a far-seeing doctoring. This is a tribute to the Finance Minister because a good doctor is known for his ability to diagnose. It is very often the collusion of the financial institutions, which have vested interests in sickness, and wilful negligence of the owners to get relief and special assistance which are very often diverted to unproductive channels, industrial sickness allowed to come to stay. The situation too is further aggravated by bad management. However, Sir since the much repeated adage that prevention is better than cure still goes strong, I would like to offer a suggestion to the honourable Finance Minister that along with the Board for Finance and Industrial Reconstruction and the Board for periodically inspecting the condition of the industries must be set up so that suitable treatment could be administered on them well in advance before they are beyond redemption. So I would request the honourable Finance Minister to consider this possibility and see whether such a Board for inspecting the industry, periodically could be set up

Sir, a nation, however, cannot live by bread alone, particularly a nation which can rightly boast of great achievements

in science and technology, but is constrained to do enough to break through the shackles of age-old ideas and old ways of thinking to attain to high levels of modernisation. Sir, placed between, the passing of the present century and the advent of the new one which is expected to usher in heights of sophistication and hitherto unsealed, the scientific community of our country has been just awaiting the spark to ignite the process of new thinking and they have had it in the young Prime Minister, 'Shri Rajiv Gandhi, not only to survive, but also to prosper in the new century. For the new Prime Minister has the wisdom to foresee that unless the way is prepared in the remaining years of the parting century: India cannot meet the new kind of challenges that the new century will throw up and compete for a significant place in the front line.

The Budget highlights this aspect. Borrowed technology has reinforced the primary factors assuring a high speed of development. The history of industrialisation in those countries which have the will and determination corroborates this. Thus, with the removal of the Customs duties on supercomputers, 'not indigenously manufactured, and JETBERA] concessions to the electronic industry, the Budget has smoothened the path for the kind of technological transfer that will take the country forward at a more rapid pace.

Before I conclude, I would like to refer to the fear that there would be an inflationary impact because of the tax proposals contained in the Budget. Much has been said about the inflationary impact because of the tax proposals and the huge uncovered deficit of Rs 3,349 crores. It is, however, too early to predict. But if past experiences are any guide or any indication, then we have

seen that in 1984-85, large food stocks and a comfortable foreign exchange position have helped the Government in containing the rate of inflation. Therefore, the 1985-86 Budget deficit would not have any adverse effect on the prices, at least we hope so. After all it must be appreciated that the Government, instead of levying

new taxes let the deficits soar to Rs. 4,500 'crores and has tried to raise new resources so that new investments for development could be promoted and the tempo of development can be maintained. If that can be done, and I am confident, it can be done, I do believe that the inflation could be contained.

With these observations, Sir, I would once more congratulate the honourable Finance Minister for his Budget which is acceptable to all sections of the country. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN): Now, Mrs. M. J. Das.

SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I must congratulate the honourable Finance Minister for his Budget to give relief to all sections.

Sir, the raising of the works limit for bonus from Rs. 750 to Rs. 1,600, the increasing of the ceiling for death-cum-retirement gratuity from Rs. 26,000 to Rs. 50,000 for the Central Government employees, are all welcome measures though the prices of a few articles like gas, kerosene, diesel and petrol have gone up. In spite of that, it is a balanced Budget which should gladden the hearts of almost everyone and displease none. Another corner feature of the Budget is the reduction in the Income-Tax rates and Wealth Tax rates and also the abolition of Estate Duty which would certainly lead to greater tax compliance resulting in higher resources for the Government. A lot of subsidy has been given for so many articles like fertilizers, foodgrains and the rest. A greater economy could have been effected and a great deal of subsidies could be avoided if the Food Corporation of India was able to handle it properly.

Sir so far as agricultural production is concerned our country has progressed. Now we are producing foodgrains thrice a year. Today our country ranks among the leading industrial nations of the world. Five Year Plans have brought about tremendous

[Shrimati] Monika Das] gical ransfon in agriculture and industry and provided a large reservoir of trained manpower. Though the per capita income is not so high, the country is in a position if we compare it what it was in 1974. But still we are unable to solve our problems. The main reason is that 350 millions have been added to the population of the country between 1951 to 1984. More than 50 per cent of the people living below the poverty line. This is, firstly, due to lack of education and secondly I should say, lack of distribution of food grains.

In this connection, I would like to emphasise on more education, which will help to solve many problems. Recently, our hon. Prime Minister has declared free education for girls. Sir, for this purpose Rs. 514 crores has been sanctioned. Now, if we want to remove poverty, we have to give education to rural women and children. The present educational trend in the country is at such an advanced stage of decay that it is doubtful whether such reforms can save it. It is an open fact that without female education we cannot make the desired progress though there has been a great impetus to female education through the country.

Education means job-oriented in every rural and slum area. Education of a girl is more important than that of a boy, because if we educate a boy we simply educate an individual but if we educate a girl we educate a whole family. So in this regard I feel that the educational system has to be spread to every economical weaker section. The examination requires a boost to vocationalisation and practical education in the rural and urban areas. In this regard I would like to say that in the majority of the countries of the world we find female education with female teachers. It is most important in our country, because we find that in the rural areas women never come to male teachers. They feel shy. If we keep women teachers for women, specially in the weaker sections, then I think that the educational system will completely change in our country. It is not surprising because women teachers, with their inborn tendencies

of motherly affection and care, can better mould the tender hearts of young children, then I think that real female education will spread properly and it will be a centre for elderly women. But should be provided quarters near the schools honorarium also. "One who rocks the cradle rules the world" is a famous maxim. So long we had enough primary education and raising status. Now we are sure that women education will reach the poorer sections because our Government has its planning process must assist in creating an environment whereby the people could think ahead. Otherwise whatever we do with good intentions will not succeed without proper implementation. Our country is a country of villages. In the villages, we have to cope for development. Village economy is ideally suited for small scale industries.

Due to unemployment in the villages many people are coming to the cities. Slums are created in this way. I would like to say that in 1981, I moved a Resolution in this House about slum clearance and the Government was kind enough to accept my Resolution. Five years have passed since then, but the Government has not worked out any specific programme. There were 30.5 million slum dwellers in India at that time and I said that their number would increase to 45 million in five years. Today according to the statistics, there are 40.5 million slum dwellers in our country. I request our hon. the Finance Minister that should have some separate allocation for them. These slum dwellers are living below the poverty line. I hope that next year our Finance Minister will think seriously about this problem and see that the slum dwellers are treated better. This is the most important and burning subject for our country. Next year at least he should see that a separate fund is given for slum dwellers so that the money is really used for the improvement of the slum dwellers' condition. Government is giving

money, but that money reaches up to the Corporation level. Slums are increasing, day by day in our country. I feel that in this way our country's slums will increase. There should be vocational and practical education-cum-employment programmes for the rural and urban slum areas. With this, we can solve many problems. We must have family planning programmes for the slum dwellers. These have the problem of dowry deaths and employment. The greatest challenge facing our country is the increase in population, aim is to have a birth rate of 1.6 per thousand per year. Our other aim is to check poverty by controlling a population growth rate

of 5.5 to 6.5 per cent per year. The Seventh Plan is a challenge for our Government and they must fulfil all the responsibilities within the framework of the Constitution. Sir, the scheme that we must should be flexible so that it may reach the district level or block level or village level. We need a dynamic and imaginative office machinery. Innumerable restrictions pose a major problem and hinder the economic development of the country. A new awareness has to be created among the masses. The administrative machinery at different levels has to play a vital role. The policy makers have already taken note of it. The modification and implementation at various levels has to be done. It has been observed that at many State levels the flow of credit from financing institutions is very unsatisfactory. For this purpose, the Centre-State relations is the most important thing. One cannot try to weaken the Centre and then expect it to function efficiently. There should be a Joint Consultative Committee under the leadership of the Prime Minister to monitor the Centre's economy, and to ensure the continuity of our commitment for the upliftment of poor people. These people, should be looked after properly.

The wheat production this year is likely to achieve the target of 145.6 million. With such a bumper crop, I would request our Finance Minister that, at least for wheat and some other commodities, the prices should be reduced for the common people. For this I would like to give some suggestions. Firstly, the kerosene-oil prices should be reduced.

the urban slums and rural areas do not have light. I can tell you, Sir, that at a distance of 50 KMs from Delhi at a place called Ashok Nagar, people do not have electricity there. They are depending on kerosene oil. If you cannot control the price of kerosene oil, I wonder when I go in a small town, I saw two types of oil. One is of red colour and the other of white colour; one is the crude and the other is the refined oil. If you do not bring down the price of kerosene oil, you see that the price of the crude oil is reduced. And that oil can be used by the poorer sections of the people. I request the Government to look into this aspect.

single problem. Low cost houses should be made available to the common people and the poorer sections of people. The Centre's performance in the housing sector is much below the expectations of the people. I have a suggestion to make in this connection. Last time also I made it. Every year, at least 17 million dwelling units should be provided. And this should be continued for a few years. Then only we can bring down this housing problem. Then, Sir, more care should be taken for installing hand pumps, in the village areas and more water taps in the urban slums, so that the problem of drinking water could be solved. We always tell the poor people that they are dirty and unclean. When they do not get even water for drinking how can we expect cleanliness from them? Therefore, sufficient money should be provided for making the drinking water available in the villages and in the urban slum areas. Drinking water should be provided in all the areas, where the poorer sections live. We are hopeful that with the technological knowledge and also the young Prime Minister's proper guidance in the implementation of the 20-Point programme of our late hon. Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, this country will soon get rid of unemployment and hunger. And, Sir, hunger will become a thing of the past if we take certain steps in implementing the rural development programmes and

[Shrimati Monika Das]

educate our women and children in rural areas and urban slum areas. Our country needs young men and women. All the aspirations and dreams of the nation builders depend on this. We are sure that the Prime Minister who started the works in right earnest would spare no efforts in bringing about the necessary change. If we give earnest support to our Prime Minister we can be able to fulfil our promises to the masses. And in fact, I would like to say that we do not say that we have done more work. As Mr. John Rhode said, "so little done, so much to do."

Thank you, Sir.

SHRI B. V. ABDULLA KOYA (Kerala): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I congratulate the Finance Minister, for imaginative and unambiguous Budget. He has sincerely tried to pace up the progress of nation-building and development. He has adopted a new policy of progress and prosperity of the country by resorting to unconventional methods of development in both industrial and agricultural fields.

Sir, our country is confronted with acute problems like over-population, unemployment, poverty, etc. As such, it is not easy for any Finance Minister to find an effective remedy to all these problems at one stretch. Under the circumstances, I feel that the Finance Minister has made sincere attempts to solve these problems and he has succeeded in many ways. Concessions and tax reliefs have been made in various production stages. Upgrading the capital of small scale industries, introduction of crop insurance and the increment in the subsidies for food and agriculture are really commendable steps.

The Deputy Chairman in the chair

in a country like ours where the private sector still flourishes, we cannot ignore their genuine demands and therefore deserve encouragement.

Madam, enhancement of bonus limits, reduction in income-tax and encouragement to the small investments are some of the measures aiming at social justice. In spite of the above good measures, I think that the highest deficit of Rs. 3349 crores will bring in unprecedented inflation increasing further the cost of living. The Government should, therefore, find some remedial measures instead of hoping for a favourable monsoon.

The high duties on petroleum products, kerosene, cement, paper etc. added to the higher railway charges will surely affect the cost of living of the poor and lower middle classes.

Madam, let me take this opportunity to ventilate some of the long-pending issues of my State, Kerala. Kerala being a deficit State in the matter of rice, it requires at least 1.85 lakh tonnes of rice per month from the Central Government quota to meet the rationing requirements. This rice

should be from Andhra State and the Punjab is not suitable for Kerala. So also 18,000 N.T.S. of kerosene per month are needed to meet the full requirements including those of the fishing boats. Improvement in the all-weather port of Baijapore, construction of a dry dock at Vizhinjam and a fish landing at New Mahe are some of our urgent requirements.

Madam, national highways and new railway lines are quite inadequate in Kerala. Sea erosion is another problem of Kerala.

The present policy of reservation of forests has deprived thousands of families, of Kerala of the legitimate means of livelihood. Therefore, I would suggest that the Government should allow timber imports from foreign countries like Malaysia, South Korea, Central Europe, Africa etc. Madam, I have been to these places recently and I find that many of these people are prepared to send timber and timber logs provided the Government of India allows reduced import duty on these things.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO (Jammu and Kashmir): On timber they have reduced

SHRI B. V. ABDULLA KOYA: There nearly 450 units of timber manufacturers who are suffering and threatened to be wiped out. Import duty on timber should either be abolished or reduced.

The rail line from Shpajur to Manga-lore to be doubled and an overbridge at Francis Road, Calicut, to be urgently constructed. The railways have forgotten that there is a part of north-Kerala where more or less one-third of the Kerala population lives. (*Time bell rings*).

dam, before I conclude let me express my agony over the communal riots arising at various parts of the country under one pretext or the other. Unless a special force is recruited to deal with the riots, the minorities will have no security.

I hope that the Centre is fully aware of the financial crisis KgrMa is facing at present in an unprecedented way. It is the bouriden duty of the Centre to come forward to help this Qjoblem State out of the present difficulties without forcing it to curtail its development programme under the Seventh Five Year Plan. The whole of Kerala is behind this demand of the Kerala Government for help against the fearful deficit of Rs. 1100 crores during the Seventh Plan.

SHRI JERLITE E. TARIANG (Meghalaya): Madam Deputy Chairman, may I, at the outset congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for presenting a new philosophy in the current Budget by bringing in a new era of liberalism instead of the erstwhile permit-licence-raj type which has been experienced for the last three decades or so. Breaking all barriers, the Finance Minister has been able to provide the people with more dynamic and progressive measures which I am sure will be very much appreciated by all sections of this House and even by almost all the critics when these measures are actually implemented.

The Budget shows frankness, honesty and sincerity of purpose. I am sure that the declared objective under the new

dynamic leadership will be greatly achieved through its pragmatism and clear vision for the future.

I would however like to bring to the attention of the Government some of the issues faced by our people in the North-Eastern region, especially the people living in the hill States and Union Territories in the region. Due to lack of proper transport facilities, Shillong and other cities in the Hills have recorded the highest price index, since the goods produced and imported from other States are to be transported only by road transport. I do hope that the Government would give its due consideration as to how the poor and backward hill people could meet their family budgets. Prices of all essential commodities are the highest in the country. We are finding great difficulty in getting scientists, engineers and other teaching staff in our technical institutions from outside the State because most of them are reluctant to go there due to high cost of living and also lack of so many kinds of facilities for a modern living. Our technical institutions do not have adequate number of qualified teaching staff. Our Indian Council of Agricultural Research do not get necessary number of scientists to go and serve there. Therefore, there is a lot of difficulty in the economic development of those areas.

Our educational institutions produce mostly ordinary graduates fit only for white-collar jobs, because the schools and institutions that are being run there, do not get qualified teachers because the teachers there do not get even half the salary of a fourth grade employee of the Government. A teacher in the M.E. and High School in this region gets a pay in the range of Rs. 250 to Rs. 500 only. It is heartening to note that marginal and small farmers of wheat, paddy, oilseeds and pulses will be provided with a coverage of insurance up to 50 per cent of the crop loan in case of crop failure. I would request the Government to extend the same facilities to potato and ginger cultivators of Meghalaya. Potato and ginger are the only major crops of the State. In fact, they are the only source of living of most of our small farmers and cultivators.

[Shri Jertie E. Tariang]

Madam, the North-Eastern Region, especially, the hill States have negligible number of industries, due to transport feottle-ferhaps, electronics and their allied industries would be more economical and suitable to these areas. In this connt'Ctiaa, J would like to congratulate once agMn the Prime Minister for> outlining a new electronics policy, by liberalising imports, reducing, duties as also deltcensed pro' tioa of electronics components. I do hope, the Planning Commission would make more liberal allocations for such schemes •of the State Governments of the Horth-Eastom Region in the Seventh Plan, in order to provide jobs to the educated unemployed and also help in improving cor.omy of these States.

Madam, may I "bring to the notice of the Government the grave problem facing people travelling on the National Highway No. 44, at a portion of the road from Jowai to Badarpur, which is only pint of the National Highway No. 44. The portion .of the road from Jowai to Lata-cheixa, which oa about 127 Kms. falls under Meghalaya. The road was handed over by the then Government of Assam to the Border Roads Development Board in 1972. At present, the road is in a very^l bad condition, especially the portion bet-n Jowai and Khliehriat. whlcn. is a distance of about 30 Kms. It takes three hours to travel by jeep or car from Jowai to Khliehriat. F do hope that the Government may at least hand. over portion between JOWai and Khliehriat to !he State PWD.

I would like to thank the Government for its decision to start a regional medical institute in Shiilong to be known as the Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Medical Sciences. The State Government has luired 300 acres of land for the purpose and I hope, the Hon. Prime Minister would be kind enough to spare hrs valuable time "for laying the foundation stone of *the* proposed Institute at Shiilong at his earliest convenience.

Madam, the Vayudoot is now operating, a daily flight direct between Calcutta and Shiilong. The number of air passengers is

increasing day by day. Except those who avail of the direct flight from Guwahati to Delhi, mo^t n'f them would like _ to ' travel *via* Calcutta. But it is very difficult to avaii of the connecting flight to Delhi by Indian Airlines. Since Shiilong is the headquarters of the North-Eastern_n Council, which comprises of the seven States and Union Territories in the Region, it requires better air services. We have an ,air-field whith can easily be improved. This can Se facilitated by providing refuelling facilities and telecommunication services in the air-field. In this connection, I would also request that there should be two flights tJaii between Calcutta and Shfllong.

Madam, I do not want to take much time. I am new to the House. T just lent with some of the problems we are facing. I do hope, the Government will lake measures to relieve the econon of the people of our Region. It is heartening to note that the present Government is determined out corruption and to bring about prosperity, but if this part of the country retrains backward I do not think we will be an asset to the nation. So, I sincerely appeal ;he Hon. Finance Minister to kindly have our eco- nomic difficulties and to work out a scheme so that the people of our area could be benefited and they could come up to the vtenerar standard of other fellow Indian citizens.

With these words, Madam; I support lire budget.

SHRI VEERSHETTY MOGLAPPA KUSHNOOR (Karnataka); Madam .Deputy Chairman, I whole neartedly support this budget. I also join myself in congratulating the Finance Minister for presenting this kind of budget. There are two types of critics. The one say that this is a rich men's budget alSrthe" other say that this is an anti-poor man's budget. Before answering these questions I would like to quote the remarks of one of the eminent legal luminaries. He is neither a Congressman nor a Congress supporter.

He is a man who has always commented a budget whenever it has been presented. It has been published articles and also addressed meetings on the presentation of the budget. It is the first time that he has appreciated this budget. He is Shri N.A. Paikhiwala who was the Ambassador to the United States during the Janata regime. J quote.

"The Union Budget this year reple

in economic policy and fiscal thinking. The monumental task of redesigning India has begun. The Budget is epoch-making. It is the most significant among the budgets of the last 30 years. It is the biggest economic story of Asia for the current year."

This is the remark offered by an eminent economist of this country. As I have said he is not a Congressman. These are remarks of an economist. So, after seeing this kind of a remark made by an eminent economist, there seem to be no merit in the remarks made by the opposition and others.

Madam, The Finance Minister for the first time, has tried to present a budget in order to remove, what you call, unemployment. Today, if we see the figures, there are 45 million people who are unemployed. There are 25 million people already registered with nearly 664 employment exchanges. Every month, nearly 1.3 lakh people are registering themselves with the employment exchange for employment. What type of a budget can you produce when there is such a huge unemployment in the country? For the last six Plans we have not been able to solve this problem. This time when our Finance Minister has tried to give a new direction to our budget he has succeeded in presenting his kind of budget in order to remove unemployment. I will now narrate the steps one by one, how he has tried to do this. Madam, as you are aware, we have not been getting so much external assistance for development of our country. This is happening for the last two-three years. Even the international banking institutions are refusing to give aid. Even the

and other world bank institutions coming forward to finance our developmental work.

in that situation what is the alternative? It is the Finance Minister. Only, thing' he will have to see is that he saves on internal resources. For that reason only he has given a lot of concessions. First of all is the concession of delicensing the industries. Not only that, he has also given several concessions like he has about the Estate Duty. He has even lifted the limit of exemption from Wealth Tax from Rs. 1,50,000 to Rs. 2,50,000. He has also reduced the corporate tax. By doing all this he has given concessions worth the tune of Rs. 1000 crores. It is not that this amount of Rs. 1000 crores is going to the pockets of industrialists. It is not that this amount is going to be spent on concessions with the hope" that this amount of Rs. 1000 crores given by way of concessions will have to be invested by the industry. It is for that reason that these concessions have been given. Not only that, he has also promised to continue for the coming two years. It is not for this party alone. In the next year also he is going to give these relaxations. For what purpose? So that by this amount we will have industrial growth and increased production, so that those unemployed persons nearly 45 million in number get jobs. It is for that reason that this kind of a budget has been proposed.

Recently we have gone through elections—both Lok Sabha and Assembly elections. Whenever we go to the villages, in every village there are 20, 30, or 40 people who are educated and they have been saying: "These leaders are the people who are not providing work to them". They have been looking at the leaders with contempt. And it is for the first time that this budget has sought to create conditions so that industries are established in the country and people are absorbed in those industries. During the last 30 years we have been able to absorb in these industries nearly 24 million workers. Even if we double the number, it is not possible to absorb all these jobless people in

[Vcershtty Moglappa Kushnour]

these industrfes. For that reason the Finance Minister has taken a correct stand to see that this budget is saving-oriented and from the savings industries will have to be established throughout the country.

To the people who say that this budget is a big man's budget; that all concessions have been given to the big man, I want to say that this is not so. It is a budget for removing unemployment, for giving jobs to the persons who are unemployed in the villages and towns—number is nearly 45 million, as I have already said. The limit of Rs. 20 crores which was there for the MRTP, has been raised to Rs. 100 crores. These MRTP houses will have to invest their money. Earlier they were saying that there was no scope for them to invest their money in the industries because there were a large number of restrictions; and whatever they earned was going in the taxes. Now the Finance Minister has taken a bold decision to raise the limit from Rs. 20 crores to Rs. 100 crores. At the same time even for the small scale industries, the limit which was earlier 20 lakhs for machinery etc. has been raised to Rs. 35 lakhs. This is also going to create a good atmosphere and this is also going to give scope for the small scale industries to invest a lot of money and set up a large number of industries in the coming years. (Time Bell) Madam, you will have to give me a few more minutes more. Kindly bear with me for a few minutes more. It is stated that it is anti-poor-rtan budget. My submission to the critics is that when there used to be drought and floods, the crops of small and marginal farmers were being destroyed. At that time there was no remedy except converting it into a medium-term loan for three years. Now the Government has come forward with the scheme that their crops will have to be insured, that too for 150 per cent of the loan which they have already obtained from the Government. Here 50 per cent more has been given. One hundred per cent will go for the loan and the other 50 per cent will go for livelihood. I think this is the first time that this kind of a budget has been presented.

Now the workers have been given a lot of incentives. The ceiling for payment of bonus, which was, a month ago Rs. 750, has been raised to Rs. 1,600. In the industry, earlier, if the industry became sick the labourers were thrown out without paying their wages, but this time the hon. Finance Minister has made a provision that their wage bill will have the first priority and their dues, will rank above even the dues to the Government. So, the Government has taken a lot of pains to see that the labourers are also benefited by this kind of a budget.

Because Madam Deputy Chairman is pressed for time, I offer only three suggestions and finish. Here is one thing to which I wanted to draw the attention of the Finance Minister. Here they have provided that Rs. 3,000 will have to be paid in the event of death of any labourer or small or marginal farmer and here the word "accident" has been used. Here I want that the definition of "accident" should include snake bite because most of the small and marginal farmers live and work in villages and many people die due to snake bite. Therefore, snake bite also must be included in the definition of "accident."

Another suggestion which I am going to make is with regard to the National Agricultural Bank for Rural Development—NABARD—for which Rs. 152 crores have been provided. This bank is providing short-term, medium-term and long-term loans to the agriculturists and even small-scale industries. They are providing these three kinds of loans whereas my suggestion is that this bank should also provide loans for the agro-based industries because the TDB and other institutions have a bias against agro-based industries and they do not finance them fully and in their programme there is low priority even for sugar factories and other factories which are agro-based." So, NABARD should provide capital loans for agro-based industries like sugar factories, oil mills and rice mills.

I welcome the Finance Minister's statement in his budget that they are going to give support price to oil seeds and pulses

also. Earlier they were giving support price only for wheat and rice. My suggestion here is that there must be a Commodity Corporation just like Tea Board, Coffee Board, Cardamom Board and Coconut Board which we already have. Such Commodity Corporation will have to be established in order to maintain the price level.

Lastly, what I am going to say before the Finance Minister is, in Karnataka we are having the Vijaynagar Steel Plant project. Unfortunately this project has not been included in the Seventh Plan nor has any amount been provided for it in this budget. This is one of the long overdue projects. The foundation stone for this project was laid by the late Prime Minister. Shrimati Indira Gandhi, way back in 1967, but this project has not been given sufficient funds. Therefore, there is lot of agitation in the minds of the people of Karnataka and I request the Finance Minister that this project should also be included in the Seventh Plan and the necessary money should be provided.

Madam, with these words I support the budget --wholeheartedly.

6 P. M.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU (Orissa): Madam, I rise to support the Budget Demands presented by the Finance Minister....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will complete the list of all the speakers. Every--
fika is sitting in the House will speak.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: ... because this Budget to me is in continuity of the past. With boldness and courage it has been presented before the House. I will be analysing one by one.

There are certain parameters by which a Budget can be judged whether it is good or bad. The fundamental yardstick is how we are going to keep the inflation within the reasonable limit and stabilise the prices because that is where primarily all the people - are concerned with and in that how it promotes savings and investment. The other most important thing is how it generates employment

in the country of such a huge population. The most important thing in the Budget, as stated by the Finance Minister, is that he has tried to promote savings and investment and to create resources from within. He has told in his statement that always to depend upon the outside finance is very dangerous for the economy of any country, and this is the lesson of world. - Whether a country has depended upon the US AID or other aids, the Latin American countries, there terrible inflation has come, and it has ruined the whole economy of the country. So, it is a very timely action... This thinking should have originated much earlier. It actually has been originating since one year back.

Another thing is. Prof. Khusro told of the Budget that one has to look, where agriculture is the prime occupation and 80 per cent of the people depend in agriculture, how the Budget presents incentives for the agriculturists for further growth of production without which the Green Revolution will not be possible. Madam. I think the Crop-Insurance Scheme has been a bold step. It provides the infrastructure for the farmer to survive and usher in Green Revolution. Actually if we see the Indian economy, we find that the farmer is born out of debt and dies in debt. But this crop-insurance will give him motivation and the courage and the capital so that he can go in for further Greener Revolution which is so much cherished in the country, and that is the only way by which we can reasonably check the price-rise of the essential commodities, particularly the foodgrains, with which the common man is concerned.

Now, coming to the other important point which has been focussed in the Budget, I quote from the "Public Financial Express";

"Mrs. Ursula K. Hicks has rightly told that unjust and inefficient taxes set the French Revolution aflame. An important part of the explanation for Germany's failure in the War 1914-18 was her antiquated tax structure—inefficient taxes helped to lose Britain the American colonies."

[Shri Sanlosh Kumar Sahu]

With great emphasis she has told about the antiquated tax structure. So, our tax structure needed certain reform, and the Finance Minister will get all the laurels and credit for the tax reform, "and very boldly he has done it. There is nothing of pseudo-socialist thoughts, to be criticised. If a tax process is cumbersome, if the administrative expenditure of collecting the tax is much more, why have the tax and harass the people? There is no meaning in it.

So, I welcome the measures he has taken on the direct taxes. Madam, priorities should be given for growth, productivity and savings. If you throttle everybody, how can you get the savings, how can you get the resources and how can you create incentives that are fundamental to the economy? Even in the world where people believe in socialist economy, are they not going in for private incentive? Let us see the economic history. At a point they reach the saturation point, and they go in for more private incentives so that more production can be generated. This is the fundamental thinking of h

That, cannot be changed.

The income-tax exemption limit has been raised, It is very

Then, coming to the vexatious thing, the Compulsory Deposit Scheme, it has been abolished. Previously where people were giving a very bad look at this Compulsory Deposit Scheme. It is right that after March 31 this should be given the go-by.

Now, coming to the Estate Duty, the Finance Minister said that Rs. 20 crores was the collection and that the administrative cost was, relatively higher. The Government has taken a bold step in abolishing the licence fee for radio and television sets. We know that people in the village also possess radio and it is not a luxury item now. As regards the television it can educate the students. And it wants to prepare our country to enter into the 21st century, as our Honourable Prime Minister has said, we cannot afford to

see that these people don't get these benefits. So, this policy is well-conceived and will help more and more people.

Now coming to the anti-poverty programme. Of the rural people, the Government has allocated Rs. 870 crores. Out of this scheme nearly 3 million families will derive benefit. The Government has also decided to provide 100 days employment to one landless labourer in a family to eradicate poverty and to raise their income. It is a laudable step, and the Government has taken into account the rural sector.

I humbly submit to the Honourable Finance Minister, one basic question. We do not know as to how much money is percolating to the common man—the labourer who toils in the field. We should see that the money goes to the needy labourers. The public institutions dealing with the district development of the small and marginal farmers: and the landless labourers should be motivated to provide loans to these needy persons. There must be regular pressure on the banks and cooperative institutions to see that the money meant for the landless labourers reaches them at proper time.

I am happy that the budget has taken care of the women and childrens' development in the rural areas. The Government has earmarked a sum of Rs. 5.5 crores.

The Government has taken care of in the budget of setting up district composite rural training technology centres. It is very essential, because I think the traditional handicrafts has undergone a lot of change. After agriculture, hand-loom sector is the greatest employer in the country. Then comes handicrafts. In our age-old society, every village has got certain handicraft centres. The handicraft sector has got a traditional static type of motif. The marketing of its product has lagged in the face of technological development. The D. I. C. which was to look after them had no time because they cannot mix up large sector with the small sector with the handicrafts sector. These Centres will no doubt motivate new designs

so that it can generate employment opportunities. At the same time, it would create markets for its products, I hope, the Government, would consider setting up of such centres in future so that the traditional handicrafts can go for a technological revolution and for better production. This will usher in a new age of development.

Regarding the question of Centre-State financial relations, one honourable Member has commented that the Centre is providing meagre assistance. The Member should know that already 39 per cent increase is there. Of course, the States should find their own resources without which they cannot get the PM's outlays. They should also act in certain spheres.

I congratulate the Finance Minister, for the abolition of export duty on iron-ore, manganese and chromomite. The State of Orissa will be greatly benefited by this incentive. Although the margin is low, it will give a great fillip to the tribal workers who are working in the mines, because the exports there are at a closing point.

By increasing the steel prices and railway passenger and freight charges, we will have certain problems in building up the infrastructure. The transport cost also goes up. Of course, the Finance Minister has today declared some reduction in diesel prices for benefiting the transport industry. I welcome this step. But the railway passenger and freight charges are still very high and this would certainly affect the new price structure.

And that will have a certain effect in the price structure. I would suggest, that the Finance Ministry should evolve a process of monitoring Plan and non-Plan expenditure and especially of the public sector undertakings. There is no meaning in raising the steel cost because you will then have to raise it every year. The cost efficiency ratio and the production per head are not taken into account. It is no solution of the problem if you go on paying it and making the people pay it through their noses. The solution is that

the public sector undertakings in which thousands of crores of rupees have been invested, should be reoriented to produce more and there is a cost ratio for their production, it cannot go sky-high jeopardising the whole economy.

Another point which I have been stressing and which I stressed last year also, is that the economy of backward State* is suffering on account of natural calamities. So these should be considered as national calamities and the Plan assistance of the States should not be allowed to be reduced on account of these calamities. There must be some definite and bold measures so that these calamities do not cut into the Plan outlay of these States, whether it is Andhra or Bengal or Orissa. Even if any State suffers from drought, there must be some mechanism by which the Central Government will give some special assistance for such calamities and not as Plan outlay advances. Otherwise the economy of the State will become poorer day by day.

Another important thing is that the time has now come when the public sector undertaking, in whom we have got a lot of hope, should produce more and the cost ratio must improve. In the last decade we have seen how the costs have gone higher and the losses have been mounting, so that the national exchequer has not been getting anything from them. So there must be some improvement in that respect.

With these words, I again express my gratitude to the Finance Minister for he has maintained continued social justice. He has not abolished it. But he is bold to have a rational tax structure and in the coming days, I hope he will try to contain inflation by constant monitoring and by augmenting the public distribution system. Then people will remember him for all times to come.

श्री ह्यातुल्ला अंसारी (नाम-निर्देशित):
डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहिबा, अभी पेरिस में
एक एडवॉकेट एजुकेशन कांफ्रेंस हुई थी।
वहाँ हमारे एजुकेशन मिनिस्टर ने तकरीर
की। उसमें बहुत अच्छा पॉइंट बयान

(श्री ह्यातुल्ला अंतारी)

किया। उन्होंने कहा दुनिया में जितनी बेकारी है, उतनी ही ताबाद इलिट्रेट आदमी की है, उसके बाद बताया कि इलिट्रेसी का मतलब है, एप्लायमेंट हो जाना। यह किमी हद तक ठीक है। यह मैं आपको बता दूँ कि पंत जी का इनसे बहुत गहरा ताल्लुक है। इनके फादर पहले चीफ-मिनिस्टर होते थे उत्तर प्रदेश में गोविंद वल्लभ पंत जी, जब उन्होंने एक अहदनामा निकाला था आम लोगों के लिए, जिसमें यह था कि मैं यह अहद करता हूँ कि मैं साल में एक सनपड़ को पड़ना-लिखना सिखा दूँगा। मैंने भी दस्तख्त कर दिए और उनका नतीजा यह हुआ कि मैं आज तक इस एडल्ट एजुकेशन में फंसा हुआ हूँ और यह पार्टी मेरी जिंदगी का साथ-साथ चलना हो गया। उस जमाने में एडल्ट एजुकेशन क्या थी? वह मैं थोड़ा सा आपको बता दूँ। जब मुझे शौक हुआ तो बाइसिकल लेकर घूमता हुआ गया कि देखें क्वासेस चल रही हैं, कैसी चल रही हैं। तो क्वासेस में क्या होता था, 3 आदमी होते थे, जबकि 30-35 के नाम होते थे और रह जाते थे 3, लेकिन हाजरी पूरी भरी होती थी। उसके बाद छह महीने क्वासेस चलती थी, उसके बाद टेस्ट होता था और टेस्ट में खजामद करके इधर से उधर बैठा दिया गया और पास कर दिया। वह पास होकर चले गए और हो गया एजुकेशन। उसके बाद कोई अटेंडेंस नहीं होती थी, कोई आता नहीं था। यह कंडीशन थी। तो उस समय बड़ा सवाल यह था कि क्यों भाग जाते हैं? उसको कोई मोटिवेशन नहीं था, मोटिवेशन को बढ़ाया जाए। मोटिवेशन का सबसे बड़ा तरीका था—उपदेश। लेकिन आपको यह मालूम है कि शायद हमारे यहाँ पानी के बाद सबसे सस्ती चीज है, उपदेश। बच्चा जब पैदा होता है, तो उसके बाद से उसे तीन-चार खराके उपदेश की डेली मिलती है और गरीब को भी रोज मिलते हैं उपदेश, जिंदगी भर मिलते हैं। हमारे लोग जाते हैं बड़े लोगों के पास, महात्मा लोगों के पास, उनके उपदेश सुनते हैं और चले

आते हैं। उसके बाद कोई उस पर अमल नहीं करता। तो वहाँ भी उपदेश दिए लेकिन कोई असर नहीं हुआ और वही के वही 30 में से तीन रह गए, तीन दिन बाद। उन्होंने दूसरा तरीका निकाला।

उपसभापती : यही हालत पालियामेंट हाउस की हो रही है, इधर की बेंचज बिलकुल खाली है।

श्री ह्यातुल्ला अंतारी : ठीक कहा आपने। यहाँ भी मोटिवेशन की जरूरत है। मोटिवेशन से जो रास्ता निकाला गया वह बहुत ही अच्छा है। सोचा गया कि इनको ताबेबाने में लगाओ। हारमोनियम, तबला, मजीरे संगायें गये और जितने एडल्ट एजुकेशन के सेन्टर हैं उनकी भेजे गये। जैसा आपने पढ़ा होगा, जब वहस चली चूहों में कि विल्ली को कैसे रोके तो सुझाया गया कि विल्ली के गले में घंटी बांधी जाय। सवाल हुआ कि विल्ली के गले में घंटी कौन बांधे। वैसे ही हमारे एजुकेशन डिपार्टमेंट के लोग बड़े अकलमन्द थे, उन्होंने कह तो दिया कि गाना गाया जाय लेकिन गाये कौन। बाज जगह टीचर ने गाया ऐसा गाया कि स्टूडेंट ही नहीं, मूडल्ले वाले भी भाग गये। बाज जगह ऐसे अच्छे गाने वाले बैठे कि 7 बजे के रात 11-12 बजे बैठे रहे। उस के बाद बुझाये गये गाने वाले सात किस्म के, उन्होंने भजन गाये 15-20 मिनट, जब वे गये तो स्टूडेंट भी उनके साथ चले गये, खाली तबला और मजीरे रह गये। उस के बाद यह स्क्रीम फेल हो गई। बाज कमरों में—मंहुगी चीजें तो गायब हो गई होंगी—फटी-पुरानी चीजें अब भी मिल जायें। मैं लम्बा नहीं कहूँगा। अभी भी जो तजरबा हो रहा है एडल्ट एजुकेशन में वह कम नहीं है। कहते हैं कि उनको प्रोफेशन सिखाओ, मोटिवेशन बढ़ेगा—मोटिवेशन बड़ा टेड़ा शब्द है। उनको प्रोफेशन सिखाया जा रहा है। प्रोफेशन पर बड़ी-बड़ी तकरीरें होती हैं, बड़े-बड़े सेमिनार होते हैं, टेस्ट बक छप गई, बड़ी मोटी-मोटी किताबें। मैंने देखा है कि एक-एक बलास में 18-18 प्रोफेशन के लोग आते हैं। देहात में हरिजन भी आता

है, कोई ऐसा देहात नहीं जहाँ हलवाई नहीं, जहाँ दिए की दुकान नहीं, जहाँ झाड़ू देने वाला नहीं। बाज पेशे में-मैंने एनालाइज किया कि चमड़े में भी 20 पेशे हैं, हड्डी जमा करना और, चमड़ा जमा करना और, चमड़े की बनाना और जूते बनाना हड्डी चल सकता है, पेशा सिखाइये। काश्तकार के 400 पेशे होते हैं, बुनकर के 200 होते हैं। अगर आप अपने टीचर को एक हजार किस्म के पेशों का ट्रेनिंग दे दें तो काम बन जायेगा, लेकिन उस में बीस साल लगे और जब वह ट्रेनिंग ले चुकेगा तो उस को सौ रुपया महीना दोगे वहाँ घंटा पढ़ाने के। यह हमारे डिपार्टमेंट ने सोचा जिसमें बड़े-बड़े अकलमंद बैठे हैं। बड़े-बड़े यूनेस्को-रिटर्न्ड क्या तकरीरें करते हैं देख लीजिए। एडल्ट एजुकेशन के मामले में बिलकुल सफाचट। जो स्कीम बन कर आई है वह बड़ी खूबसूरत है। उस में कहा गया है कि एक सुपरवाइजर तीन क्लास देखेगा। उनका मतलब है कि बाइसिकल पर घूम कर देखेगा। मेरा तजुरबा यह है कि वह हफ्ते में 12 क्लास से ज्यादा नहीं देख सकता। एक दिन में बाइसिकल पर जाकर दो क्लास देख सकता है। वह समझते हैं कि एडल्ट एजुकेशन है जिसे आना हो आ जाय। ऐसा नहीं होता, टीचर भागा-भागा फिरता है। जब थक कर एडल्ट आते हैं तो वह जिस जगह बैठे हैं बैठे हैं बरना नहीं पढ़ेंगे। क्लास को भाग-भाग कर चलाना पड़ता है, क्लास नाचता फिरता है। सौ रुपये रखे गये हैं पार्ट टाइम टीचर के। दिल्ली में स्लम एरिया नहीं मिलते। बड़े काबिल पढ़े-लिखे लोग होते हैं लेकिन इतने थक जाते हैं वह स्टैंड पर खड़े होकर कि पढ़ा नहीं सकते। सौ रुपये में स्टूडेंट मिल जायेगा लेकिन वह चालीस रुपया खर्च करेगा बस पर आने-जाने पर। आपको 100 रुपये में टीचर मिलेगा जबकि यहां 200 रुपये में ट्यूशन होती है। इस स्कीम की बहुत सी खराबियां हैं। मेरा तजुरबा यह है कि सिर्फ 9 महीने पढ़ाई हो सकती है, डेढ़ महीने बरसात में कोई नहीं पढ़ता क्योंकि पानी भर जाता है नालियों में। और जाड़े इतने सख्त होते हैं कि लिहाफ ओढ़कर

लोग चूल्हे के पास बैठे जाते हैं। इसलिए साल में तीन महीने छोड़ने पड़ेंगे। इस स्कीम में इतनी खराबियां हैं कि एडल्ट एजुकेशन चल नहीं पा रही है। एजुकेशन बचपन से लेकर बुढ़ापे तक चलती है।

रटने पर जोर है। उस की कंपेसिटी है या नहीं। रटने में कोई मुश्किल नहीं होती। जब प्रैक्टिस होती है तो कंसंट्रेशन नहीं होता, सिर्फ रटना ही होता है। लेकिन अफसोस है कि हम ने इस पर कभी गौर नहीं किया। तो ऐसे मेथड हो सकते हैं जिस से उन लोगों को रटना न पड़े और एडल्ट एजुकेशन उन पर चल सकती है। 80 फीसदी एडल्ट्स रटने से नफरत करते हैं और बच्चे भी रटने से नफरत करते हैं। जो दुकानदार हैं या दूसरे पेशे वाले हैं वे भी रट नहीं सकते। रटने की काबलियत सिर्फ थोड़े से लोगों में ही होती है। शेक्सपियर थे, कालिदास थे, वे रट नहीं सकते थे। एडल्ट एजुकेशन खराब है, उस का सिस्टम खराब है नहीं तो उस में से कितने ही शेक्सपियर और कालिदास निकल सकते थे। लेकिन वे बन नहीं पा रहे हैं।

मैं अब सिर्फ दो सजेसन दे कर अपनी बात खत्म करूंगा। एक तो आप 40 साल से इस स्कीम को चला रहे हैं। क्या आप को मालूम है कि कितने लोगों ने पढ़ाई पूरी की है। किसी ने इस को धूम कर देखा। आप के पास रिपोर्ट्स आ जाती हैं, लिस्ट आ जाती है और उससे मालूम होता है कि सब पढ़ गये हैं। लेकिन वे सब अनपढ़ ही रहते हैं। मैं अपने मेम्बरों से कहूंगा कि वे अपनी अपनी कांस्टी-ट्यूयेंसी में जा कर देखेंगे। इस काम पर लाखों रुपया खर्च होता है, लेकिन अगर 5000 रुपये खर्च होने के बाद भी एक आदमी पढ़ जाय तो सस्ता है। लेकिन आप को वहां एक आदमी भी पढ़ा हुआ नहीं मिलेगा। इस को देखने का काम तो एजुकेशन डिपार्टमेंट का है। यूनेस्को के एक्सपर्ट्स इन स्कीम्स में हिस्सा लेते हैं। उन का सब्जेक्ट होता है कि हाईली टेक्निकल एजुकेशन कैसे दी जाय। लेकिन यूनेस्को का एक आदमी भी नहीं बता

[श्री ह्यातुला अन्सारी]

सकता कि हमारे यहां की एडल्ट एजुकेशन की प्राबलम क्या है। तो मैं आप से अर्ज करूंगा कि आप जजेज भेज कर पता कराये कि एडल्ट एजुकेशन हो रही है या नहीं। वहां हमारा पैसा बर्बाद हो रहा है। हमारा पैसा बैसे खर्च किया जा रहा है इस को देखना चाहिए। और दूसरी बात कि कोई ऐसा मेथड क्या हो सकता है कि उन को और मोटिव दिया जाये। मैं ने हिन्दुस्तान घूसा है। मैं आदिवासियों के बीच रहा हूं। मैं देहातों में रहा हूं। मुझ को ऐसा कोई नहीं मिला कि जिस को पढ़ने का शौक न रहा हो। आदिवासियों की हालत तो यह है कि अगर कोई पढ़ा लिखा आदमी उन के बीच आ जाता है तो उस को ऊंचे पर बिठाने हैं इस लिये कि वे समझते हैं कि वह आदमी खुदा के करीब है। हिन्दुस्तान में आप को कोई ऐसा आदमी नहीं मिलेगा कि जो पढ़ना लिखना न चाहता हो। लेकिन आप केवल उपदेश देते हैं और उपदेश से और रटने से उन को नफरत है। वे पढ़ना चाहते हैं लेकिन उन को मौका नहीं मिलता है। इस लिये अगर उन को मोटिव दिया जाय तो वे कुछ कर के दिखा सकते हैं और हमारी यह जो बीमारी है वह जल्दी ही दूर हो सकती है।

SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra):
Madam, Deputy Chairman, I rise to support the Budget placed before this House by the Honble Finance Minister. While supporting the Budget, I would like to express my views.

It has been said in this House that the Budget is in favour of the rich and big business houses at the cost of the common man.

They say that it gives a new direction. What they want to say is that the reduction of taxes, direct taxes, is a new direction. Madam Deputy Chairman, I do not think that reduction of the rates in personal taxation is a new direction. But the Finance Minister feels that if the rate structure is lowered, then there is a possibility that those who conceal their income, will come out with their true incomes. I wish this intention comes true. At the

same time, I would like to say that the revenues which you are going to collect by way of taxes should not be at the same level at which you are getting today. You should also get additional revenues because of expansion in the volume of trade, expansion of the industries and expansion of production. Moreover, whatever inflation is there, to that extent also your income or revenue should increase, that is, the revenue which you are getting today plus the revenue on account of the development of industry and expansion in trade and more inflation and rise in prices. If that happens, then I will feel that your scheme of reduction in taxation is right for the exchequer. I would like to request the honourable Finance Minister that after having experimented like this, if he feels that the big business and the industrialists are not showing their correct income, then he should come to this House again and enhance the rates of taxation which he has lowered at present.

As regards the Wealth-tax rate is concerned, I do not see any justification for the reduction in the rates in respect of this tax. Wealth is already disclosed in the return of wealth and it cannot be concealed now, therefore, I do not see any reason for the reduction in the rates of Wealth-Tax in this Budget.

As regard Estate Duty also, we are told that the Estate Duty is abolished or repealed because the cost of collection is very high. I would like to remind the House of one thing. In 1953, when this Act was enacted, the then Finance Minister said that it was not the financial aspect alone that was important, but it was for the removal of disparities in wealth and that was this Act was enacted. If the revenue is less and if the cost of collection or expenditure is more, I would request the honourable Finance Minister that he should see that, as the Income-Tax, the Gift-Tax and the Wealth-Tax and administered by one officer only, the Estate Duty can also be administered by the same officer and if that is done, I do not think that there would be much expenditure on this account. I would, therefore like the Finance Minister to ponder over this suggestion of mine.

So far as the public sector undertakings are concerned we are old that the position is not very happy. But I would like to tell the Honourable Members on the Opposition side—they are not here now—how the public sector is doing and has done in the country. To those who say that the public sector is running at a loss and that it is not doing well, I would like to give some figures to show what we have done in the public sector. So far as the commanding heights of the public sector are concerned, in the year 1950-51, the total investment was only Rs. 260 crores while in 1983-84, it was Rs. 25,681 crores, about a hundred times more. Then, in the year 1978-79, when the Janata Party was ruling this country, the total capital employed was Rs. 10,773 crores while today it is Rs. 25,681 crores. It is twice in five years! What was the Janata Government doing at that time? But now they say that the public sector is not doing well. What did they do at that time? At that time, what was the profit of the public sector undertakings after payment of the corporation tax? I remember when we were discussing the approach to the Seventh Five Year Plan, one of the senior members of the Opposition said that the public sector is running it to losses. As that time I intervened and said: you are not correct, the public sector is making profit. And, Madam, I give the figures. In the year 1982-83 the public sector made a profit of Rs. 680 crores, after paying corporation tax. This year, 1983-84, it is less. But in the year 1979-80 it was a loss of Rs. 75 crores when the Janata Government was in power and they did pay any attention to the public sector. Madam, they are saying: you are going back against the public sector. Madam, we are backing the public sector. We are doing it. That is the policy of our party. And we are going to do it. I would like to say that 21 lakhs people are employed in the public sector. Not only the public sector is making profit but we are getting corporate tax to the extent of Rs. 1239 crores, excise duty Rs. 3455 crores, customs and other duties Rs. 1739 crores and dividend Rs. 133 crores. In total, the public sector gives the Exchequer every year Rs. 6566 crores; This is the

contribution of the public sector. The public sector is not only meant for profit making. The public sector was first thought of, I think, by Jawaharlalji, who told that the public sector is not meant to make profit but it is therefore creating the infrastructure for industrial growth, for power, for irrigation and for goods required for the common man.

Madam, I want to remind the hon. Minister that we had assured during our manifesto that henceforward we shall produce consumer goods in a big way in the public sector. But I am sorry to say that we have not done much in this regard. I would request the hon. Minister that he should allot more funds for consumer industries. In the year 1984-85 Rs. 193 crores were given to consumer industries. In this Budget it is only Rs. 148 crores. I would like to request that this allocation should be increased and many items which are required by the common man should be produced in the public sector, so that those who are in the private sector may not squeeze the masses of this country.

Madam, for housing we have provided only Rs. 38.96 crores. Last year it was Rs. 84 crores. There are many who live in slums. What about them? They are the really poor people. In Bombay, on the Central Government land so many people are staying. No amenities are given to them, whereas on the State Government lands, amenities are given. So I would like special programmes from the Central Government for all the huts on Central Government lands, whether of the Railways, of Defence or of Telephones or Postal Department. They are, after all, human beings. We have to treat them just as other human beings. I would request the hon. Minister to please see that as for this Budget the time was short, at least at the time of the Supplementary Demands, he should please see that this provision for housing is made in a big way. We have told in our manifesto that we shall double our housing allocation. But I am sorry to say that this allocation has been reduced in this budget as compared to last year's. I would like that this should also be taken care of. This is my suggestion as regards the allocation of funds.

[Shri Jagesh Dessai]

Madam, there are very good features in this Budget. This is a new direction. According to me, the new direction in the Budget is the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme and 400 crores have been allocated. Everyone who is a landless labourer will get work at least for 100 days in a year for one member of his family. It is the real programme for wiping out the tears from the eyes of the weakest sections of our people. This is the new direction.

There is free education for girls from 9th to 12th class. Madam, many girls are not able to go in for secondary education because funds are not available. I am happy that this Government has taken care to see that the girls are given free education up to the secondary stage. I compliment the Finance Minister for that.

Rs 298 crores have been provided for rural water supply schemes. We have given a promise in our manifesto that by the end of the Seventh Plan, there will not be a single village in this country where there is no water supply. There will not be a single city where water through pipe will not be available. I am very happy that the Government is trying to fulfil all our promises given in our manifesto.

As regards the working classes, the Government has decided that in the event of closure of mills, the workers' dues will have priority over Government dues. The workers will be paid first and the Government will be paid afterwards. (*Time bell rings.*) I am speaking on this subject only. I don't speak on any other subject.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are so much pressed for time.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Madam, I do not speak on any subject excepting budget.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You are welcome to speak on all the subjects.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: So far as special security scheme is concerned, when a landless labourer or a marginal farmer meets with an accident, then a child or his

maximum relative will be given Rs. 3000. These are the programmes and that is why we feel that we are going in the right direction.

As regards the tax proposals, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to some 4 or 5 aspects. The Public Provident Fund will complete 15 years on 31st March, 1985. After 1st of April, 1985, the account holders are entitled to withdraw their full amount. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether a provision for this withdrawal has been made in this budget. If it has not been made, then you will have to come out with some other scheme. Otherwise, our deficit will be very high. If it is not from March 1985 and if it is from next year, then I stand corrected. I feel that a new savings scheme should be introduced by the Government. Your Six-Year National Saving Certificates have been a success. I can tell you if I had been a Commission Agent. I would have earned thousands of rupees because I advise my clients to put their money in that scheme. Similarly a new scheme should be initiated. You may fix the figure at 20,000 or 10,000 rupees at only 7 or 8 per cent interest. But that amount should be allowed in full for deduction in income-tax. You can do that instead of reducing the rates of income-tax. I would have preferred if this kind of saving scheme would have been brought by the Government. You could have got savings and also the tax that you wanted. I would request the Minister of Finance to examine whether it is feasible or not. In my view, instead of reducing the tax rate you should give more incentives for savings. At least the employees who are having an income of Rs. 30,000 would deposit in such schemes and escape from Income-tax. Secondly, I would again say—last time also I mentioned it—that the standard deduction which is at present Rs. 6,000 should be increased to Rs. 9,000. And instead of 25 per cent, it should be 35 per cent so that those who are paying at present the full and correct tax, they can get some solace. If a loan is taken for building a house or for purchasing a vehicle, then the difference of rate of interest which the Government gives or the Company gives was taken as a perquisite,

Last time also, I made a suggestion. And I am happy that you have deleted this. This kind *at amenity*—it should not be called *amenity* but a concession—which was taken away has been again restored.

(Time bell rings).

Madam, I will make only one Or two points. As regards Section 146—re-opening of assessment—last time I mentioned about that. Madam, previously every officer had to complete the assessment within two years. They sleep for two years. And in the month of March, when the case is to be time-barred, at that time they call the *assessee*s. Many cannot come. They pass the *ex parte* assessments. The officer had the powers earlier to open that assessment later if a letter was written. Now that power of the officer has been taken away. And you have to go in appeal. And that appellate officer has again to get acquainted with the facts. And they know it that they passed a wrong assessment. So, I again pray that this Section 146' which has been deleted should be restored and the power of re-opening should be given to the income-tax officers so that much litigation can be avoided and the *assessee*s can get justice.

Madam, you have reviewed the rate of taxation. But then loopholes should be plugged. All the loopholes should be plugged. One or two are-plugged regarding Section 273A regarding the powers of the Commissioner for waiver or reduction of penalty. After a raid, if the assets are disclosed, they will get a reduction in penalty. You have done that good thing. So those who are dishonest cannot get away. At the same time, I would again urge—one hon. Member has already said it—that the deemed income should not be taken at -all. I want to say very emphatically that that provision must remain. On the contrary, when the incomes are divided by various modes, you have to plug it. I feel that the business income of the individual, spouse and minor child should be clubbed together because in the business income they can play mischief. They can put my wife as a partner. She gets income. And that income is not

taxable. She is free. That is being done. So, I want to say that the business income should be taken into account. If you want professional income, you can do IP, I do not mind. I want to say that in the case of business income, if my wife wants to become a partner in my firm, she, has to become a chartered accountant. Otherwise, she cannot become a partner in a Chartered accountant firm. Share of business income from a firm of individual, spouse and minor children should be clubbed together. If that is not done, this kind of dividing the income will continue. Similarly, the share of the co-partner in the HUF should also be clubbed in the income of the individual. Madam, these are my broad thoughts which I want to share with you. And I am sure you will try to give your thought to this. And if feasible, you must come with an enacting Act so that when we have reduced the rate structure we should see that the incomes are not divided and the new revenue to the exchequer is not lost. Thank you. Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Gobind Das Richaria—not here; Sal Sushila Rohatgi—not here; Prof. B. Ram--chandi?i Rao to speak.

PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Madam Deputy Chairman, I rise to support the Budget which, perhaps, is a land mark and milestone in the progress of the country towards its cherished objectives. The Budget departs from the beaten track and has shown bold initiatives and introduced new innovations. [THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL) in the Chair]. In my view a budget can be supported and judged on the following four criteria. The first one is equity and social justice the second one is all-round efficiency and the third criteria is self-sufficiency and self-reliance and the last one is economic progress, particularly in agriculture and industry.

Madam, I will view the Budget and give my comments in the light of these four criteria. The first criteria is equalit/ and social justice. I am rather surprised that the poor man is taxed unnecessarily in certain common items like kerosene, and even *bidis*. like transport which will

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certainly go up and many small items which could have been spared. Sir, I welcome the Government's proposal to introduce the social security scheme to cover the risk of death by accident—and I think 'accident' should be defined of any member of a poor family comprising landless labourers, small and marginal farmers, traditional craftsmen and others who are not covered by any insurance scheme. Under this scheme a sum of Rs. 3000 will be paid to the dependants of the deceased. The scheme is supposed to be introduced only in 100 districts in the country selected in consultation with the States. I think this will introduce a great disparity. While welcoming this, I do not understand why the scheme could not be extended to all the districts. Secondly, will the Government include fishermen community in this scheme although they are covered by the group insurance scheme? There are two reasons for asking this question. Firstly, I understand from statistical figures that only one-third of the fishermen are covered under the group insurance scheme whereas two-thirds of them are not covered. Secondly, some States like Andhra Pradesh did not accept the scheme for implementation. In the light of these two reasons I would like to know whether fishermen would be covered under this scheme. I am very happy that I.R.D.P., the National Rural Employment Programme and the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Project for self-employed and educated unemployed is receiving due attention. But I find from the papers that there was no increase in the budget at all. Fisheries in particular has not received adequate attention. The Budget for 1984-85 was Rs. 34 crores; whereas for 1985-86 it is only Rs. 36 crores. The traditional fishermen are particularly neglected. Is it due to the fact that the Government finds that the State Governments are not responding to the various schemes that have been suggested? I would like also to ask a question regarding fishermen community in general, the National Fishermen Welfare Board, in particular which has recently been constituted—I think in July 1984—and which is doing good work. Is this scheme being continued and whether addi-

tiona) provision has been made in the current Budget for this purpose?

Now I will come to the second point. In regard to the all-round efficiency what has the Budget to give. As regards this factor, I do hope that Industries, particularly the large-scale industries which have been benefited by this Budget, which have, I think, received a big boost in many ways, will contribute to the efficiency in many ways. Firstly, I would like to know whether the employers will provide more amenities to the employees.

Whether the efficiency of the industries, could be increased by providing for better training, better welfare measures like medical aid, schools and such other welfare measures, and whether the industries will take up this issue. Growth of industry in Japan is due to the fact that the industrialists treat their employees as more or less like a family.

The most inefficient system we have in our country is the educational system, barring a few institutions. I would like to know whether the industrialists would be encouraged to set up training institutions to cover up the gap of lack of trained man-power in the country. The universities and colleges and also most of the technical institutions are cut away from the industries and as such training imparted is most inadequate. What steps has the Government taken in this Budget to increase interaction and whether in-schools or polytechnics, as is done in industrialists could start their own technical Germany, particularly West Germany and whether such investment will be exempted from taxes.

I am happy that the Government has taken stringent steps to avoid sickness in industry and also they have taken very laudable step of taking the labour dues as part of the dues for the industry. They have also raised bonus limit from Rs. 750 to Rs. 1600, which is a welcome measure.

I also welcome the new textile policy, liberalisation of duties on import of components and raw materials, particularly in the electronics industry which will help growth of entertainment electronics and computer*.

The third criterion which I have laid down is to examine Budget in terms of self-sufficiency and self-reliance and to what extent it contributes, if we as a nation have to achieve self-sufficiency and self-reliance and enter the 21st century as a modern industrialised country. Today we are, perhaps, 25th or 30th among the industrialised nations. At one time we used to be the tenth industrialised country in the world. If we have to progress as an industrialised country and not continuously depend on foreign knowhow and if we have to develop proper manpower planning, I would like to know what steps are being taken. This is a sadly neglected feature in our planning perspective. Long-term planning coupled with manpower needs has to be carried out. This has not been done for a long time. The first mention of manpower planning came in the third Plan Budget. There is always a lag of 4 to 5 years between training and the needs of the country. How to make this up? A total lack of manpower planning has led to major deficiencies in certain specialised areas. For example, computer hardware and software management expertise, process control—engineering, reliability engineering industrial engineering, instrumentation and automation are some of the areas in which we do not have enough number of personnel. But educational institutions are not looking into it. It needs planning five years ahead. This is possible only if the Industry Ministry and Education Ministry work together and plan manpower requirements for achieving self-sufficiency and self-reliance.

We must also mobilise our intellectual and skilled manpower resources to our best advantage. In order to achieve this, we have to take a close look at our scientific and engineering, research laboratories. How they are functioning and what encouragements, rewards or recognition are being given to our bright creative talented youngmen. Continuously, our creative scientists are being drained out of the country. Mostly, the beneficial effects of this brain drain are received by advanced countries like the U.S.A. What have we done to reverse this brain drain, and preserve the rich heritage of our intellec-

tual wealth in the country? I think, enough attention has not been given.

The last point I would like to mention is, a Budget is judged by the economic progress, particularly in industry and agriculture, I am glad the Finance Minister has made many innovations in this regard, I would like, specially, to refer to the steel sector. (*Time bell rings*) I will take two minutes. The Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, for instance, was started with certain targets. The targets are continuously revised. Adequate funds and allocation of money was not made. I do not think, at the present rate of inputs, you will be able to achieve the first phase by 1986 and the second phase by 1990.

While I understand the new emphasis on electronics and the additional outlays on power which has increased by 50 per cent from the beginning of the Sixth Plan to the end of the Sixth Plan, I do not understand why greater emphasis has not been given to non-conventional energy sources. I think, the amount provided for this purpose is not adequate. Smokeless Chilians, bio-gas, wind energy, solar panels, solar power plants, solar heating and cooling systems need a special thrust in our Plan. These are very cost effective and pollution free. Our Budget has not provided adequate attention to this, by providing more subsidies and more allocations. On the other hand, wind energy devices are encouraged to be imported and with customs duty reduction. There is a shortfall on this account of Rs. 7.54 crores. But wind energy technology is very well known in Allahabad in Bangalore and many places. Wind mills were built with indigenous technology and they need to be encouraged.

Emphasis on forestry is in the right direction. But all the vacant land, particularly Banjar land, should be distributed to the landless poor. In case, full *pallets* cannot be given, as some States have done tree *pottos* can be given. An allocation of Rs. 25 or Rs. 50 crores can

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be made for this purpose. The amount provided for this sector is not adequate even to cover the extensive deforestation which has been taking place. To replenish the forest which are being destroyed, a massive plan has to be embarked upon. Those paper industries which are dependent upon forests, which are being continuously cut, can be encouraged to grow their own trees. They must have their own lands where they can grow the trees required.

The last Point which I would like to mention is about export promotion. Iron-ore. Manganese-ore. C10-mite, Manganese Dioxide, Sillimanite: so many minerals are exported. I would like to caution here. After ten or fifteen or twenty years, when we have our own technology available, we will not have the minerals to exploit them. It is time, we give greater emphasis for renewable materials like fish products, like paper, like cotton and so on, rather than for nonrenewable materials like iron ore, manganese ore, which are being exported at throw-away prices. After ten years, we may have to import the same minerals at ten times the present price.

Sir, I am also happy that customs duty exemption has been given for life-saving drugs and special medical instruments. Let me finally congratulate the Finance Minister for presenting an exceedingly innovative Budget, which I hope, will be a fore-runner for all progressive Budgets. Thank you very much.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Budget proposals presented by our Finance Minister. I hope you will bear with me a little more because I am a new Member and this is my first speech. At the outset, would like to congratulate the Finance Minister for his bold, dynamic, pragmatic, growth and productivity-oriented package of measures designed to take the country on the road to modernism and on the road to self-sufficiency and prepare it for the 21st Century. It is a departure from other budgets in the sense that it takes a long-term view of things. After

the great mandate received by our young Prime Minister from all sections, there were great expectations and naturally he has given relief to almost all sections of the society' including the poor, the unemployed, the landless, the fixed income groups, the workers and the corporate sectors. A baseless charge is being made in certain newspapers as well as by the opposition that this budget is pro-elite or pro-rich or anti-poor. I must as an ordinary member of the Congress say, that the charge is completely baseless. Mr. Gandhi's commitment is for self-reliance for the poor, and also giving the public sector the commanding heights of economy. There is absolutely no deviation from, this policy. Our commitment to the poor stands. I will give you a few examples of the measures that have been taken for the poor and for the unemployed. As you know, massive subsidies have been given for cloth and foodgrains besides fertilizers, As you know, Rs. 2500 crores are budgetted for subsidies. Then, there is crop insurance scheme and 2|3rd sub- . sidy is to be paid by the Centre. There are 400 million new mandays to be created under the rural landless guarantee programme. Other schemes are, IRDP and NREP schemes and also one for the unemployed educated youth.

As we all know, the target of priority sector advances from banks has this year exceeded by 40 per cent target. It was only 15 per cent or 16 per cent in 1969. For the workers also a number of schemes have been announced. There is a social security scheme. This is to cover the risk of death by accident for small or marginal farmer, landless labour and craftsmen. In case of a death of a bread earner by accident, the next of the kin *i* gets a sum of Rs. 3000. Secondly, the dues of workers will rang at *pini passu* with banks and rank above government dues in case of clearance of dues. Thirdly, compensation on retrenchment compensation has been raised from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000. Salary limit for calculating *bonu*. has been raised from Rs. 750 to Rs. 1600. Some relief has been given to fixed income group in regard to income tax. The election pledge of CDS

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 abolition has been fulfilled. The exemption limit has been increased. The slabs have been reduced and some more measures have been taken. Surcharge has been withdrawn. Some more measures have been taken, but if you go through the budget you will find that all this concession in Income-tax means only a loss of Rs. 200 crores for the Exchequer which will be met through better collections. In fact, I must say that a due recognition has been given to the honest tax-payer and now honesty is a practical proposition. Here I have to make a suggestion that standard deduction should be increased from Rs. 6000 to Rs. 10000 and for the fixed income group, which always suffers, at least the exemption limit should be raised to Rs. 20,000. Here while talking about the fixed income group I must say that for professional groups also the Government should do something as far as social security is concerned. Something should be done for the lawyers, for the doctors and for the journalists. As you know, the Palekar Tribunal was appointed for journalists but implementation of its award or its recommendations have been more observed in breach than in compliance, as most of the newspapers in the country have not yet implemented it though official figures may say something else. The official figures are incorrect. For Wrong figures have been supplied to the Government by the owners of the newspapers and the Government must go deeply into the problems of journalists. As a journalist of 37 years standing, as one who has practical experience of all these things, I must say that the journalists fight the cause of every one except themselves. It is high time Government looks into their problems and a Wage Board must be appointed without any delay and an interim relief of 200 to 300 rupees should be immediately announced.

As far as pension is concerned, Kerala Government has already granted pension to the journalists. Some such scheme should be enforced by the Central Government also. They should hold tripartite talks with journalists as well as em-II RS—15

plovers and some kind of a formula should be worked out in which they can be given pension. About lawyers also, some kind of a pension should be given to them at the end of their career.

Incié has been a lot of talk and alarm expressed at the uncovered deficit of Rs. 3349 crores. I think it should be possible to absorb it with a comfortable foreign exchange reserve. We have 21 million tonnes of buffer stock with us. That means it is worth Rs. 4500 crores. And the deficit is Rs. 3349 crores. With a good monsoon and assets like this and with a good credit policy and timely imports, we should be able to overcome this problem. Inflation in the wholesale prices was reduced from 10 to 5.2 per cent in one year ending in January 1985 and that as far as consumer price index, inflation was 4.4 per cent as against 13.2 per cent in January 1984. I hope that the Government will do something about controlling prices. No doubt prices of petroleum products have been increased. But this is mainly because of the fact that US \$1000 crores had to be paid *mora* because of strengthening of the dollar. So this money had to go and there was no option but to either increase the deficit or pass it on to the consumer. Still I must say that Government will have to do something for controlling prices because that is what is hitting the common man—particularly of kerosene, soap, vegetable oil and other things. In regard to petrol, some mechanism has to be found to police the increase in prices. Some unscrupulous retail dealers have tried to increase and some have in fact increased the price—So some method must be found to police it and retailers who do not behave must be dealt with sternly by the Government. If (here is cooperation between the State Governments and the Central Government on that score, the results will not be too bad. All sections must cooperate to bring down the prices and not allow them to go up. If the private sector does not behave and does not cooperate with us in the matter of controlling prices, we should consider withdrawing the incentives and concessions given to them. But private sector has a place in a mixed

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economy. Those who are saying that we are pro-private sector are completely wrong. Look at China, a communist country. It is now allowing private sector investment from abroad. It is allowing even multi-nationals. The other Communist countries are also allowing private property. So private sector has a place and a chance has been given to them to modernise itself, to expand itself, because basically we are pragmatic people, our methods are pragmatic, we want production to increase, more wealth to be created. Otherwise inflation will not come down; otherwise prices will not come down. So that is the main point that inflation will not come down much and to a very great extent unless there is more production. So, the main strategy is to increase production. So a good chance has been given to the private sector to increase production. I hope it cooperates and doesn't play tricks with the people as it is playing in terms of industrial sickness, declaring their units sick.

I am glad that a Board has been formed for financial and industrial reconstruction. Now, when 50 per cent of net worth of a company is eroded, fresh mandates from shareholders will have to be taken and when 100 per cent is gone the management will have nothing to do with it and no assistance will be given to it, even for its new units. I think that is not enough. There should be constant monitoring; there should be some kind of a technological audit so that we keep track on what is really happening and not believe what the employer is telling.

There has been a lot of criticism about the Plan size, that it has been increased from only Rs. 17,351 crores to Rs 18,500 crores. But we must remember that there were only two alternatives open to the Finance Minister: One was indefinite expansion and the other was consolidation. He has chosen the second alternative of consolidation and reaping the fruits of the old schemes, the ongoing schemes instead of starting new ventures*.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: The State Plan has been increased from Rs. 4,000 crores to Rs. 6,500 crores.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: The State Plan assistance has been increased and my colleague is right. In fact, Rs. 6,000 crores have been given to the States which is about 39 per cent. Now it is for the State Governments to act in this matter. I think the Sixth Plan is a big success as there has been a 5.2 per cent of growth rate. There has been a lot of criticism about non-Plan expenditure also but it must be remembered that 70 per cent goes to Defence, subsidies and interest payments. As I said, Rs. 2,500 crores have been given for subsidies. How can you reduce Defence expenditure or subsidies for foodgrains and fertilizers and interest payments? And 30 per cent has gone, as you know, for essential maintenance, social and community services and grants to States. Of course, nobody is suggesting that non-Plan expenditure should increase. Government itself is concerned about it. We should try to reduce it.

I am thankful to you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. Only one point remains and that is black money. The Prime Minister has promised to put curbs on it. As the budget shows, there will be special courts for trying cases of tax evasion. In itself, the income tax relief, wealth tax and estate duty abolition, etc., will help in checking black money. So will also the provision for donations to political parties out of profits by the employers. I am sure all these will help in curbing the evil of black money but the most important task is adequate policing. If there is adequate policing, I think this evil can be checked to some extent. The Government can think of measures and I hope it will take it up after the Budget Session because the Prime Minister has promised that he will do something to curb this parallel economy, to end this evil of black money.

Sir, once again I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

श्री धूलेश्वर मोषा (राजस्थान) :

आदरणीय वाइस चेयरमैन साहब, अपनी प्रेजेंट में आपको इस चेयर पर पहली बार देख रहा हूँ इस के लिए बहुत-बहुत बधाई। वित्त मंत्री जी को भी मैं इस बात के लिए धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने इस प्रकार का बजट पेश किया है कि संसद के दोनों सदनों में ही नहीं बल्कि विरोधी पार्टियों और सदन के बाहर भी सभी सेक्शनस के लोगों ने इस का मुक्त कंठ से स्वागत किया है। इस बारे में हमारे पूर्व वक्ताओं ने दोनों सदनों में बहुत अच्छी तरह से अपने विचार जाहिर किये हैं। मैं बहुत ज्यादा विस्तार में नहीं जाना चाहूँगा क्योंकि समय बहुत ज्यादा हो गया है और पुजारी जी का भी इस तरह का इशारा है कि जल्दी ही खत्म करो। मेरे ख्याल से मैं आज का आखिरी वक्ता हूँ इस लिये मैं बहुत ही थोड़े में आप का ध्यान सुझाव के तौर पर कुछ प्वाइंट्स की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

सब से पहले सरकारी कर्मचारी इस बात का विचार करता है कि हमें नये बजट में क्या रिलीफ मिलता है। तो आपने इनकम टैक्स में जो रिलीफ देते हैं, उसकी सीमा बढ़ा कर 15000 से 18000 जो कर दी गयी है और 18 हजार से 25 हजार तक जो 25 परसेंट टैक्स लगाया गया है यह उस के लिये एक बहुत बड़ी रिलीफ है। वेल्थ टैक्स में भी आप ने काफी रिलीफ दी है और दो लाख के मकान के लिये भी छूट दी गयी है। इन सारी बातों को हमारे पूर्व वक्ताओं ने बहुत विचार से कहा है। मैं आप का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि इस बजट ने खास तौर से धनी और मध्यम वर्ग के लोगों को राहत दी है, लेकिन हमें एक कदम और आगे बढ़कर गांवों तक पहुँचना चाहिये कि जहाँ गरीब आदमी रहता है, किसान और आदिवासी रहता है, हरिजन और डाउन ट्रोडेन रहते हैं। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि सरकार वहाँ नहीं पहुँची है, लेकिन वास्तविक तौर पर वहाँ पहुँचने में कुछ और समय लगेगा। उदाहरण के तौर पर सबसे पहले आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूँगा कि गांवों से निकल

कर जो बच्चे शहरों में आते हैं वे शहरों के लिये प्राबलम बन जाते हैं। उन्हें किस प्रकार गांवों से जोड़ा जाय और उन के पढ़ने और शिक्षित होने का गांवों को कैसे फायदा मिले इस बारे में कोई प्रोग्राम सरकार को हाथ में लेना चाहिये। ऐसा होने पर ही हमारे गांवों की समस्या और शहरों की समस्या और शिक्षित बेकारों की समस्या मुलझेगी। गांवों में आज सबसे बड़ी समस्या यह है कि किसान के पास पूरे सिंचाई के साधन नहीं हैं। यदि वे साधन सरकार से किसान को मिल जाते हैं तो उसे अपने बच्चों को बाहर भेजने की जरूरत नहीं पड़ेगी। अपनी रोजी रोटी के लिये वह अपने बच्चों को पढ़ाता है और उसके बाद उन को नौकरी के लिये मोहताज होना पड़ता है। तो इन बातों का सरकार को ध्यान रखना चाहिये। मेरा सुझाव है कि इस के लिये छोटी छोटी योजनायें बनायी जायें। नदियों और नालों को बांधा जाय और इस तरह से हर किसान को पानी दिया जाय सिंचाई के लिये। मैं राजस्थान के पहाड़ी एरिया का रहने वाला हूँ। वहाँ किसानों के पास एक, दो या चार बीघा खेती होती है। आप अन्दाजा लगा सकते हैं कि वह इसमें कैसे अपने परिवार का पेट भर सकता है। सरकार छोटी योजनाओं को अपने हाथ में और राज्य सरकारों को इसके लिये उचित आदेश दे ताकि वहाँ के किसान खुशहाल हो सकें, और अपने पढ़े लिखे बच्चों को अपने ही काम में लगा सकें।

दूसरे, आज गांवों में हालत यह है कि गांव के हरिजन आदिवासी या गरीब तबके के लोग जो पढ़ लिख कर होशियार हो जाते हैं वे गांव में रह कर कोई काम करना नहीं चाहते। आज गांव की हालत यह है कि किसी डिस्पेंसरी या अस्पताल में डॉक्टर नहीं होता। वहाँ कंपाउंडर भी नहीं होता और अग्रर कंपाउंडर होता है तो दवाईयां नहीं होती। आज समस्या यह है क बड़े बड़े अस्पताल हैं लेकिन उन में दवाईयां नहीं हैं। परेशान हो कर लोग आस पास के अस्पतालों में जाते हैं और उन को वहाँ भी कोई सुविधा नहीं मिलती। आज मेडिकल ऐड भी पैसा देने पर ही

[श्री धूलेश्वर मीणा]
मिलती है। जिस डाक्टर को पैसा देते हैं वहीं देखता है। गरीब लोग चूँकि पैसा नहीं दे सकते इस लिये इलाज और दवाईयों से वंचित रह जाते हैं।

मेरा निवेदन यह है कि इस प्रकार की जो हेल्थ स्कीम आपने चलाई है, उनके लिये हालांकि पैसा सफिशियेंट नहीं है, किन्तु इन स्कीमों पर ज्यादा ध्यान देना चाहिये।

तीसरी बात मैं आपसे यह निवेदन करना चाहूँगा कि आधे दिन किसानों के खेतों में पानी पहुंचाने में कठिनाई होती है। जब से हम गांव में पानी पहुंचाने के लिए बिजली ले गए हैं, गांवों में तो क्या शहरों में भी वक्त पर बिजली नहीं मिलती है। मैंने कई बार हाउस में भी कहा है कि राजस्थान में अणुशक्ति, पावर स्टेशन जो कोटा में है वह आधे दिन बन्द रहता है और एक घंटे भी बिजली बन्द होती है तो सभी कारखानों पर असर पड़ता है, उत्पादन पर भी पड़ता है। इसी प्रकार किसानों के खेतों में पानी नहीं पहुंच पाता है। एक घंटा बिजली बंद होने से तीन चार दिन का फर्क पड़ जाता है क्योंकि तब दूसरे का नंबर आ जाता है और फिराई बाकी रह जाती है। तो बिजली में कुछ एफिशियेंसी लानी चाहिए और इस प्रकार के कामों पर ध्यान देना चाहिए।

मेरा एक और आपसे निवेदन है कि सरकार पैसा देती है गरीबों की भलाई के कामों के लिए, विकास कार्यों के लिए लेकिन जो काम किए जाते हैं उनको देखने के लिए कोई ऐसी कमेटी स्टेट लेवल पर या डिस्ट्रिक्ट लेवल पर नहीं

है ताकि सरकारी पैसे का ठीक ढंग से उपयोग हो रहा है कि नहीं, यह देखा जा सके। जैसे रिलीफ का काम आपने हाथ में लिया, सड़कों पर धूल डाल दी, वर्षा होने से वह बह गई, फिर दूसरे साल उसको बनाया। तो ऐसे काम आपको दोबारा करने पड़ते हैं और उन पर पैसा दुबारा लगाना पड़ता है और यह समस्या सत्य नहीं होती। तो सरकार के पैसे की निगरानी के लिए एक कमेटी होनी चाहिए।

सोशल सेक्यूरिटी में आपने जो प्रावधान किया है यह बहुत ही अच्छा है। इससे गांवों के लोगों को पेंशन मिलती है। लेकिन जैसा कि हमारे माननीय सदस्य बोल रहे थे, सर्प के काटने से जो आदमी मरता है, उसको भी ऐक्सीडेंट में मान लेना चाहिए। मैं गांव का रहने वाला हूँ, मैं जानता हूँ, कि गांव में बिजली रात को जाती है और रात में खेत में पिराई करने लोग जाते हैं तो सर्प काट लेता है। तो आधे दिन कोई न कोई मौत होती रहती है। तो यह भी मान लिया जाए तो बहुत बड़ी मेहरबानी होगी।

अन्त में मैं आपका ध्यान एक महत्वपूर्ण समस्या की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ। अभी लोक सभा और एसेम्बलियों के चुनाव में जब हम लोग गांवों में गए तो यह समस्या हमारे सामने आई। यह आपको लिखने वाले थे, लेकिन उसके पहले ही आपने उसके लिए प्रावधान कर दिया है कि अनाज की फसल का बीमा किया जाए। जहां कभी सोच भी नहीं सकते थे वहां भी फसलों का नुकसान हो जाता है। जब पाला पड़ जाता है, सरदी जोर से पड़ जाती है तो खड़ी की खड़ी फसल सूख

जाती है या फूलड़ आ जाता है तो अनाज की फसल बढ़ जाती है। तो इस प्रकार फसल सहस्र नहस होकर अनाज खराब हो जाता है। इन प्रकार की फसल बीमा योजना के लिए जो आपने प्रावधान किया है वह बधाई की चीज है।

एक बात खासकर पीने के पानी के लिए कहना चाहता हूँ। राजस्थान में इंदिरा गांधी नहर जो निकल रही है उसको पूरा कर दिया जाए तो उससे काफी अनाज पैदा हो जाता है और पीने का पानी भी मिल सकता है। लेकिन पूर्वी राजस्थान को छोड़कर और जगह हिला एरिया है, वहाँ पीने के पानी की सुविधाएँ नहीं हैं, उस ओर भी ध्यान दें। हैन्ड-पम्प लगा दिये जाते हैं व दो-तीन महीने तो चलते हैं लेकिन बाद में उनमें पानी आ हो जाता है, वे सूख जाते

हैं। इस तरह से पीने के पानी की समस्या को सुलझाना चाहिए। इसमें आपको काफी ध्यान देना पड़ेगा तब ही इस प्रकार की समस्याएँ हल होंगी।

मैं ज्यादा न कह कर वित्त मंत्री जी का ध्यान इन कुछ प्वाइंट्स की ओर ले जाना चाहता हूँ जिस पर मैंने बोलना है। मैं चाहूँगा आप इस पर गौर करें और लोगों की तकलीफ को दूर करने की कृपा करें। इसी के साथ मैं इस फाइनेंस बिल का सपोर्ट करता हूँ और वित्त मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): The House stands adjourned till 11 a.m. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at twenty-six minutes past seven of the clock, till eleven of the clock, on Tuesday, the 26th March, 1985.