

(b) The Beedi Workers Welfare Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1981.

4. Discussion on a Motion to be moved by the Minister of Finance regarding India's extended arrangement with the International Monetary Fund.

श्री सन्दर सिंह भण्डारी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, यह सारा बिजनेस अगले हफ्ते के लिये रखा गया है। इसमें जितना काम अगले हफ्ते हो जाय उतना कर लिया जाय और बाकी उसके अगले हफ्ते के लिये रख लिया जाय क्योंकि मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि अगले हफ्ते रात के 12 बजे तक बैठने पर भी हम इस को पूरा नहीं कर पायेंगे।

श्री उपसभापति : यह बाद में देख लिया जायेगा। अब सदन की कार्यवाही पौने तीन बजे तक के लिये स्थगित की जाती है।

The House then adjoured for lunch at eighteen minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at forty-eight minutes past two of the clock, The Vice-Chairman Shri Bishambhar Nath Pande) in the Chair.

MESSAGES FROM THE LOK SHABHA

I. The Marriage Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1981.

II. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1980.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE): Before the House takes up Private Members' Resolutions, I request the Secretary-General to read Messages from Lok Sabha.

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

I

"I am directed to inform Rajya Sabha that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 27th November, 1981, has adopted the following motion extending the time for presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Marriage Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1981:

MOTION

"That this House do extend up-to the first day of the last week of the Budget Session, 1982, the time for presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill further to amend the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 and the Special Marriage Act, 1954."

II

"I am directed to inform Rajya Sabha that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 27th November, 1981, has adopted the following motion further extending the time for presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1980.

MOTION

"That this House do further extend upto the last day of the first week of the Budget Session, 1982, the time for presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1972".

RESOLUTION RE. SCHEME FOR ENVIRONMENT IMPROVEMENT OF URBAN SLUMS

SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS (Karnataka): Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution:

"This House is of opinion that the Central and State Governments

should make concerted efforts to implement the scheme for environmental improvement of urban slums in a ten year time schedule so that the entire slum population of the country totalling about 30 millions is covered and the family planning programme in the slum areas is also accelerated side by side."

SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA (Bihar): You should speak for two hours.

SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS: Now Sir, my humble request to the hon. Members in this august House is that they should give me full support and they should also give their valuable suggestions in this regard.

Sir, this problem is not a problem of any individual. This is the problem of the country as a whole. We have been hearing about this problem of slum clearance and slum improvement since Independence. In the beginning, these slums were created during the British period. These slums have been created due to faulty planning, profit-motivated industrialisation, lack of funds, lack of co-ordination and so on. This problem has arisen due to over-population as well. Because of these reasons, we have not been able to improve the environmental conditions of the slum dwellers.

Now, Sir, when the British came to India, they came to big cities like Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Madras and so on and they established factories, big buildings and other construction works. But they did not provide any facilities to the workers. Because of this, these workers occupied vacant lands and settled in those lands. That is how, these slums have been created.

Sir, our Party, our Government, under the leadership of our great leader, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, is trying its level best to mobilise all the available resources to solve this problem of these slum dwellers. But in spite of our efforts, we have not been

able to reach our goal. In India, the total slum population is 30 million. Out of this, so far, we have been able to improve the conditions of only 6.9 million people. This is only one drop of water in the ocean. A scheme for slum clearance and for slum improvement was formulated in May, 1974, and this was a Centrally sponsored scheme. This scheme continued to remain as such up to 31-3-1977. The idea was that efforts should be made to resettle these slum dwellers as far as possible near their existing sites so that they will not be uprooted from their field of employment. In this connection, I would like to say that the Government of India should stress on providing the minimum services and amenities in the existing slums. Sir, the National Buildings Organisation had estimated that the slum population in 1979 was 25 million. This too was in the urban areas only. This is expected to go up to 30 million in 1985, if this problem is not checked properly. Hence, my humble request to the Government is that they should see that these slum dwellers are provided with the minimum requirements so that they will be able to live as human beings. We have started with the best intention, with the good intention. We wanted to clear the slums. But they were misinterpreted by many vested interests and political parties. This is a national problem and every person of goodwill should co-operate with us and with our Government for better implementation of town planning and slum clearance programmes.

Sir, in this connection. I would like to say that our party and our Government started taking action in this regard in 1974 itself. But unfortunately, there was a change in the Government in 1977 and after 1977, the whole country was drowned in darkness. The good things which had been done by our Government were undone. But we will start again and we will undo the damage which had been done between 1977 and 1979. Our intention is to give these slum dwellers a human living condition. For

[Shrimati Monika Das.]

this purpose, it may be necessary, sometimes, to shift the slum population. Sometimes, this has to be done for better town planning. Sir, a slum is a typical Indian village inhabited by economically backward classes, mostly belonging to the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe communities. They are also economically depressed as almost all of them are labourers and small traders whose daily average income for the whole family does not exceed more than Rs. 5. There is also rampant unemployment which is again an incentive for crime. These typical Indian villages have been transplanted on the urban surroundings. They are almost western in character. But the poor Indian villages transplanted in a western surrounding have become more of an inhuman situation as these urban areas have not natural surroundings of forests or any other vacant land. The daily requirements, that is basic amenities like latrines, light, water and drainage system, are a permanent problem for urban slums as there is no vacant land to absorb it. I have seen big city slum like Dharabi in Bombay. It is surrounded by 'cess-poles'. These slums are created in an urban area due to economic reasons. The unemployed and underemployed landless labourers migrate from villages to cities and get some employment in industries, factories and on construction works. In Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and other big cities many slums are grown next to the five-star hotels and multistoreyed buildings as slum dwellers who came to the city get employed on construction works of these buildings. The birth of slums cannot be avoided but it can be minimised if we take proper action. Sometimes the Government have to take drastic action for this purpose. Even after taking these steps the birth of slums cannot be completely avoided. This is because the right to move freely anywhere in the country has been granted by our Constitution. But then the local law enforcing agencies should see that no more slums are created. Once a slum

is settled and populated, the population cannot be evicted. The slums cannot be removed without causing immense human sufferings. Therefore, my request to the Government is to formulate a comprehensive plan for the clearance of slums in the country. Sufficient funds should be earmarked for this purpose. I am not against five-star hotels, I am not against the Asian Games, I am not against any such things, but side by side our Government should see that the basic amenities, minimum needs, are made available to the poor people—that is most important. Lakhs of people are living in the slums in inhuman conditions. The condition of the slum dwellers is pathetic which should be considered systematically and sympathetically. Efforts should be made for improving the living condition of slum dwellers. For this purpose, the Government should evolve a new national policy on family planning. Due to overpopulation we cannot do any work. Unless the population control programme by family planning method is adopted, the lot of the poor man cannot be improved and poverty cannot be eliminated. It has been found that the population is rising inversely related to the poverty of a society. When a society becomes prosperous, the population growth comes down automatically, and with the increase in poverty the population growth is there. So, my suggestion is that the Government should pay more and more attention to allow some incentives and also impose some disincentives so that people may adopt family planning voluntarily. As a matter of fact, our India is the first country which has taken up the family planning programme to control 3 P.M. population. The family planning programme has reached almost all the village. In spite of that, why are we not succeeding? India was the first country in the world to adopt officially a national family planning programme which reached almost every village. And everybody wants to practice family planning also. Yet why are we not

succeeding? When people do not get adequate food, proper shelter and their minimum needs are not met, how can we expect them to go in for family planning? Before starting the family planning programme, we have to see that the people in the country who are living under inhuman conditions should get the basic amenities and basic minimum needs.

The slum population cannot be evicted; the slums cannot be demolished without causing human suffering. May I request the Government to prepare a contingency plan for the clearance of slums in the country and also methodically go ahead with all the slum in all the States in India? The Government should make a comprehensive plan for clearing slums. Sufficient funds should be earmarked for this purpose. This year the Government has given Rs. 1.51 crores for slum purposes. This amount is nothing for the improvement of slums. Even we cannot give water, light or latrines to the whole country—leave alone houses—within this amount of Rs. 1.51 crores which the Government has sanctioned this time. I would request the Government to give sufficient money for the purpose of slum improvement at the time the budget is made. Last time also, I suggested an amount of Rs. 600 crores for this purpose. It may not be possible to give that amount because our country is poor, but at least 300 crores should be earmarked for this purpose and methodically and systematically if we go ahead, we may be able to succeed at least to the extent of 50 per cent.

Sir, I have said that efforts should be made for improving the living conditions in slums and also the Government should evolve a national policy on family planning. Now I would like to give some suggestions for improvement of slums. All the slums in existence upto a stipulated period should be taken up for im-

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provement. Secondly, all the statistical work should be completed within the stipulated period. After this period, if any new slums have grown, the local law-enforcing authorities and the civic administration of that area should be held responsible and suitable punishment should be given to them. The Government should make a time-bound programme for environmental improvement and clearance of slums. Under no circumstance the slums already established should be demolished without the consent of the inhabitants and without giving alternative accommodation. The Central Government and the State Governments should co-operate with each other in order to solve the problems of slum-dwellers. This has become all the more necessary because in some of the States, there is the Government of other parties. We want cooperation from other States; and the Centre should also cooperate with the other States and see that this work is done expeditiously. Watch-dog committees should be set up which should supervise and keep a watch over the development and clearance of slums all over the country. The Government should take up one city in each State as a pilot project and then methodically go ahead with the clearance of slums in all the States of India. The experience we gather from this pilot project will help us to take further steps in developing slums in the country.

Sir, I feel these problems have to be tackled on a war footing and, to do so, a separate unit, that is, a department headed by a Minister has to be formed, who will be responsible only for the solution of slum problems. This Ministry can be under the Ministry of Works and Housing and the duty of the Minister should be to look after only slum problems relating to basic amenities, clearance, part of the family planning programme, part of education, health and coordination with other Minis-

[Shrimati Monika Das.]

tries. Sir, our intention to give human, civilised living to the slum dwellers is not only a measure of goodwill towards them. I would like to emphasise that the nation and the country is indebted to the pavement dwellers and slum dwellers of urban areas for the growth of national economy. The pavement and slum dwellers of Bombay and other cities supply the majority portion of manpower for the industries and construction works in and around other cities also. It will be a great injustice to them if they cannot share the fruits of development of the country. I have seen that big industrialists and construction contractors bring construction workers to the cities from far-off places. I can tell you that construction workers have been brought from Maharashtra to Karnataka, from Karnataka and Calcutta to Delhi and so on. We are bringing the workers but we are not thinking of dwelling places or anything else for them except taking work from them. This is how slums are created. Our Government is trying and doing whatever it can in the country but there are defects in the machinery to which we are not paying proper attention. I have seen how thousands of workers are brought from far-off places, but they do not have any place to stay. So, wherever they find a vacant plot there they make their huts and live there for one or two years. Of course, I have told the hon. Minister that after a certain time if any slums come up they can be vacated, but then there are those who may be living for 30 or 40 years—for generations together—in the huts—may be they are unauthorised—but do you think they will leave the country if you demolish those huts? They will create slums in other places. So, we should think of that. I can tell you that my own State of Karnataka is better than other States in this respect and even the hon. Minister will agree with me. Karnataka, though a small State, has 1,200 slums but then,

for the slums in our State we have done the maximum work and if only the other States follow our State, they will also be doing better work.

Here I would like to say one thing. We, Members of Parliament, or Members of Assemblies or Legislative Councils, have our own constituencies. If each member takes initiative in the matter of slum improvement in his own constituency, a lot could be done in this respect. In this respect our Opposition friends also should give full support to this because everybody has some responsibility. This is not an individual problem but a national problem; this is everybody's problem. Sometimes we see that the Opposition Members do not give support to us. Just now you can see that very few of them are there. I don't think they are interested in this problem. You can see how many of them are here now. If they are interested in this problem they would have been here. Nobody is here, Sir. I would like to tell my Opposition friends that not many are there on that side

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA (Orissa): How many of them are there on that side?

SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS: You count them.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: Do not try to throw stones when living in a glass house.

SHRI P. N. SUKUL (Uttar Pradesh): The Opposition people do not live in slums; they live in palaces.

SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA (Himachal Pradesh): This is the answer.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: I only see the slum dwellers on the other side.

SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS: You count your own people.

I would like to say one word about the Delhi Administration. Sir, in Delhi the slums department is like

an unwanted child. Neither the Delhi Development Authority nor the Municipal Corporation is willing to take charge of it. It has moved from DDA to MCD. Several times it has been thrown into each other's lap, with the result that slums have continued to remain in the same condition as they were. During the last six months when the department remained with DDA, no work was done. Nearly Rs. 75 lakhs were spent on the establishment, on disbursement of salaries and meeting other expenses. The slum department was given to DDA just before the civic body was superseded and they blamed the Corporation of inefficiency and incapability of taking up this work. They had taken that line. The Corporation is in a state of financial crisis. The Administration had given Rs. 25 crores to DDA to take up work relating to the care of slums, but they spent Rs. 1.5 crores without practically doing any work. Similar conditions prevail everywhere in the States. This is the way of their spending money. What about the allotment by the Central Government every year? They are spending money, but money is not reaching the poor people.

I have given so many suggestions. My friends from the Opposition can also give their suggestions. I welcome my friends from that side and from this side to give their suggestions. After that, I will give my conclusion.

Thank you.

The question was proposed.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: Sir, I must congratulate Mrs. Das for bringing a very important issue before the House. She has been persistent ever since she became a Member of our House in bringing this matter before the House. On an earlier occasion also she had an opportunity of bringing this matter before the House, but unfortunately

her Resolution lapsed because the House was discussing some other Resolution. But ultimately her persistence has paid and again in the ballot she secured the first place. She has brought a very basic problem of this country for discussion before the House, for which she deserves our congratulations. It appears that while she struck the problem, she is a bit resistant about it, probably because of the constraint of her position in the ruling party. Otherwise, she would have come out full throat on the problem of the slum dwellers. According to her, the number of the slum dwellers is 30 million. With the kind of definition she adopted, the number would be more. Of course, taking Karnataka as a scale for which she said that there are 1200 slum dwellers there. I would agree with this figure of 30 million. In neither case is she correct. In fact, India is a country of slum dwellers. More than 95 per cent of the people in this country live in slums. Of course, she has confined her proposition only to urban slum dwellers. They are not 30 million, as she said; they are more than 75 million in this country even according to a conservative estimate. Somebody said, if slum dwellers are not there, how can the urban population live in happiness and prosperity? After all, those people serve them as domestic servants. They supply milk; all the perquisites necessary for our comfort, for comfortable living are supplied by those people who are slum dwellers. Therefore, in the natural process, wherever a city has grown, around it has grown a cluster of slums where innumerable persons live. You will find, Sir, that in each slum 20 to 30 people are huddled up as in a cow-shed or goat-shed, and if you see the way they live, it is not human living conditions. Therefore, in spite of her long speech, I really could not understand what exactly was in her mind when she spoke about environmental improvement. Family planning, of course, I could

[Shri Narasingha Prasad Nanda.] understand and I will come to that a little later. But at this stage I would draw your kind attention to article 43 of the Constitution which is enshrined in the Directive Principles of State Policy. It reads:

"The State shall endeavour to secure, by suitable legislation or economic organisation or in any other way, to all workers, agricultural industrial or otherwise work, a living wage, conditions of work ensuring a decent standard of life and full enjoyment of leisure and social and cultural opportunities and in particular, the State shall endeavour to promote cottage industries on an individual or co-operative basis in rural areas."

so far as the urban areas are concerned, what the Constitution directs the State to do to provide work, to provide a living wage, to provide conditions of work ensuring a decent standard of life and full enjoyment of leisure and social and cultural opportunities. Judges by this standard laid down in our Directive Principles of State Policy, it may be seen how far we have succeeded in tackling the problem of slum dwellers. I personally feel, Sir, that we have so far been tinkering with this problem. We have never gone deep into this problem. The basic reason for the coming up of these slums is economic. When people living in rural areas do not find employment, they come to the urban areas in search of employment and then start developing slums where they live and these slums expand gradually. Therefore, I would submit, Sir, that the Minister if he intervenes in this debate—and I expect him to intervene because he is sitting there listening to the Members, though, three-fourths of my speech he has not heard at all...

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): I am listening with rapt attention.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: I would expect the hon. Minister to explain whether the Government has been able to fulfil the promise made in Article 43 of the Constitution which I just now read: to ensure work, to ensure a living wage, to create conditions of work ensuring a decent standard of living. It necessarily involves environmental improvement and creating situations where full enjoyment of leisure and social and cultural opportunities can be had. I would like the honourable Minister to read out from the Sixth Five Year Plan document in the light of Article 43, and tell me what are the schemes prepared by the Government and being implemented by the Government, to alleviate the living conditions of the slum dwellers. I would like him to tell me the specific programmes being undertaken by the Government to fulfil this commitment to the nation which was made in the Directive Principles of State Policy. The simple point that I am trying to make is: How long are we going to cheat ourselves? Say something and don't try to implement it. The divergence between precept and practice, the wide gap between precept and practice, must be closed. How are you going to close it unless you have got specific programmes of implementation? Mr Minister, please tell me what specific programmes of implementation you have. Somewhere in the name of beautification of cities people undertake inhuman work. Our past experience has been bitter in this regard. Very recently something was attempted in Bombay which was prevented by the judiciary. Unless alternative arrangements were made for those slum dwellers, they could not have been evicted from their places. This is the point indirectly made by Mrs. Das. I do not want to repeat those points. I would like to know from the honourable Minister what the basic thrust is to deal with the problem of slum-dwellers. The statement of Mrs. Das that in ten years we will be able to

remove these slums, I do not accept that statement as correct, because wherever cities are there, slums will be there, because you and I need the services of slum dwellers either as domestic servants or our milk-suppliers or as our *malis*—gardeners—or for doing all kinds of odd jobs. Therefore, wherever there is a city, there must be a slum. It is a process of natural law. The point is so long as slums are there, necessary environment must be created in terms of Article 43.

The other point that she has made was about family planning. I wholeheartedly support her in regard to family planning. In this country we are producing one Australia every year. You will be surprised, Australia is a continent while ours is only a country, and yet the total population of Australia is only 14 million. That means, every year we are producing 14 million babies, we are adding one Australia every year to our country. The difference is Australia is more affluent than us; they have more natural resources, they have got mines, they have got minerals, they have got oils, they have got gold, all kinds of things. It is a most prosperous country. It has God's gift. And yet the population there is only 14 million while every year we are producing 14 million babies in our country. This is, therefore, a gigantic problem. It is not merely confined to slum-dwellers. Slum-dwellers have got no other scope for enjoyment of leisure—they have no scope of enjoyment of social and cultural opportunities—they only know the art of procreation. Poverty, slumdwelling, etc. all these combined also make them live in conditions where they go on producing children like worms. How are you going to deal with this problem? Therefore, the problem is gigantic. I am only sorry that we are not taking up this matter as seriously as we should. This is a national problem. This is not a problem of A, B, C or D. This country will survive only if we are able to control our population ex-

plosion here. We have to create necessary climate for population control. But you cannot control population so long as slum dwellers are allowed to live in their present conditions. Unless you provide them with opportunities as contemplated in Article 43 of the Constitution, how do you expect them to spend their leisure in a useful way? Now the only leisure they get is used for creating babies. The husband and wife meet or stay together and they produce children. This is their only leisure. You therefore see, the poorer the man, the more children he has. The rich people have less children. Only as an accident you can see as IAS officer having more than three children. Normally they do not have. People who are educated, people among the upper middle class, do not have more than three children. Therefore poverty breeds slums and poverty breeds more population. How are you going to remove poverty? By following the economic policies that you pursue now after assuming power 20 months back, do you think you are going to remove poverty? You have reversed all the policies adopted by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. He followed a policy of self-reliance. Of course, it will be widening the scope of the debate and, therefore, I will not go into that question. Mr. Minister, you have given up the policy of self-reliance. You are now going out with a begging bowl. In other words, you are trying down the fortune and future of this country with International Monetary Fund. With this policy how do you expect to remove poverty, to remove slums and control population? You have to attack these problems basically. Therefore, my only submission to you is this: Kindly treat this problem a little more seriously. Give it a more serious thought. It is linked with the problem of unemployment and poverty. It is connected with economic issues. Therefore, the whole problem has to be thought of a little more seriously. In the language of a poet, one step is enough for me. But that should be in the right direction. That would give us a sense of satisfaction. I hope

[Shri Narasingha Prasad Nanda.]
this Government is determined to move in the right direction in a manner to reach the goal, not necessarily today, but some day.

I again congratulate Mrs. Das for giving us this opportunity to discuss the problem of slum dwellers. I would request the Hon. Minister to specifically mention the schemes which are being implemented in the light of Article 43 of the Constitution. Thank you.

श्री पी० एन० सुकुल : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे देश में मलिन बस्तियों की समस्या एक अत्यन्त जटिल समस्या है और एक ऐसी समस्या है जिससे हमारे देश का मस्तिष्क आज भी शर्म से झुक जाता है। हम यह देखते हैं कि ये मलिन बस्तियां ऐसा नहीं हैं कि किसी एक विशेष प्रदेश में या किसी एक विशेष शहर में ही हों, ये बस्तियां दिल्ली से लेकर कलकत्ता तक और बम्बई, मद्रास और बंगलौर तक हर जगह फैली हुई हैं। ये जो मलिन बस्तियां हैं मुख्य रूप से नगरों में ही हैं और हमारे शहरों की कम से कम 40 प्रतिशत आबादी, यह 40 से लेकर 50 प्रतिशत तक हो सकती है, आफिशियल एस्टीमेट है, नेशनल बिल्डिंग आर्गनाइजेशन का कहना है कि इतनी आबादी स्लम्स में रहती है। बम्बई में कहा जाता है कि वहां 10 प्रतिशत लोग स्लम्स में रहते हैं यानी 20 लाख और 25 लाख लोग। कलकत्ता में तीन हजार से ज्यादा मलिन बस्तियां हैं जिनको स्लम कहते हैं। दिल्ली की हालत भी बहुत खराब है। यहां दिल्ली में 70 प्रतिशत मकान ऐसे हैं जिनमें से अधिक से अधिक एक कमरा है और 30 प्रतिशत मकान ऐसे हैं जिनमें दो कमरे या दो से ज्यादा कमरे हैं। 70 प्रतिशत लोग इस प्रकार रहते हैं मान्यवर, सन् 1979 में जो हमारे नौ

बड़े शहर हैं, हिन्दुस्तान के, जिनमें 10 लाख से अधिक की आबादी है उनमें एक करोड़ आदमी इन मलिन बस्तियों में रहते थे, स्लम्स में रहते थे। यह प्रतिशत जो है, स्लम में रहने वालों का नगरों में सबसे कम बंगलौर में 10 प्रतिशत और सबसे ज्यादा कानपुर में 37 प्रतिशत है। कहा जाता है, 1979 के ये आंकड़े हैं और नेशनल बिल्डिंग आर्गनाइजेशन का यह आफिशियल इस्टीमेट है और उनका कहना है कि यह शताब्दी, बीसवीं शताब्दी बीतते बीतते इन मलिन बस्तियों में रहने वालों की संख्या 40 मिलियन हो जायेगी। इस सम्बन्ध में उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मुझे ध्यान आता है नेहरू जी का जिन्हे मलिन बस्तियों को देखकर बहुत चिड़ पैदा होती थी। एक बार नेहरू जी कानपुर गये थे और वहां उन्होंने कानपुर की गंदी बस्तियां देखी तो वे बहुत नाराज हुए। वे इनकी प्लग स्पाट्स कहा करते थे। शहरों के अन्दर ये 'प्लग स्पाट्स' हैं, मलिन बस्तियां और उनका कहना था कि इन नर्क में रहने वाले लोगों का यह हेल होल्स, नारकीय होल, छिद्र है और इनको जला दिया जाना चाहिए ताकि इनमें रहने वाले लोगों के ऊपर जो गन्दे वातावरण में रहते हैं कम से कम खुला आसमान का छत होगा जो साफ होगा। यह नेहरू जी का कहना था। महोदय, मैं कानपुर में रहा हूं। मैंने वहां शिक्षा पाई है और मैंने देखा है कि एक छोटे से कमरे में 16-16 आदमी रहते हैं। यह मैंने स्वयं देखा है। यह शहर जो है यह औद्योगिक शहर है और तमाम उत्तर प्रदेश के, आसपास के गरीब लोग, देहातों से आकर वहां रोजी कमाने के लिये मिलों में, फैक्टरियों में काम करने के लिये आते हैं। मैंने देखा है कि एक छोटे से कमरे में जहां कि केवल दो

तीन चारपाइयां आ सकती हैं उनमें 16-16 आदमी रहते थे और वे शिफ्ट वाइज आते थे । मिलों में दो शिफ्ट होती हैं । एक शिफ्ट के आदमी आकर सोते हैं, उसमें खाना बनाते हैं, धुआं भरे उस कमरे में रहते हैं और उसमें सागी गन्दगी करते हैं और जब वह जाते हैं तो दूसरे लोग आ जाते हैं और वे उसमें उसी हालत में रहते हैं । यह मैंने अपनी आंखों से देखा है और इसीलिये कानपुर के अन्दर अधिक पर-सन्टेज टो० बी० का, तपेदिक का पाया जाता है, हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश में । मैं समझता हूं कि पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में जाँ मैक्सिमम इंसिडेन्स टो० बी० का है यह कानपुर शहर में है । हालांकि आजादी के बाद यह सत्य है कि हमारे प्रदेश की सरकारों ने इंडस्ट्रियल वर्कर्स के लिये, ओद्योगिक कर्मचारियों के लिये, मजदूरों के लिये, कई कालोनियां बनाई हैं लखनऊ में, इलाहाबाद में, कानपुर में, बनारस में, बम्बई में, दिल्ली में, हर जगह बनवाई हैं लेकिन यह संख्या काफी नहीं है । जो ये कालोनियां बनाई हैं, मैं लखनऊ की बात जानता हूं कि वहां पर ऐशवाग इंडस्ट्रियल कालोनियों मलिन बस्तियों में रहने वाले लोगों के लिये बनाई है लेकिन उस कालोनी में किराये पर बड़े बड़े लोग रहते हैं जो कि मजदूर नहीं हैं । तमाम शहरों में इस तरह की स्थिति है । बनाई गई किसी के लिए और रह कोई और रहा है । यही कारण है कि आज हम अपनी इस दुश्शा को समाप्त नहीं कर पा रहे हैं । मैं कानपुर की बात कर रहा था । कानपुर में 1938 में एक लेबर इन्क्वायरी कमेटी बनाई गई थी इन स्लम्स के मजदूरों के रहन-सहन का अध्ययन करने के लिए और उस इन्क्वायरी कमेटी का कहना था :—

“Most of the workers have to live in slums (which are called ‘Ahatas’).

Small rooms are let out at exorbitant rates. Most of the ‘ahatas’ are insanitary and overcrowded and lack adequate sunshine and ventilation, not to speak of water, light and conservancy—”

इन मलिन बस्तियों की यह हालत है । हमारी 1971 की जनगणना के अनुसार हमारे देश में 22,981 शहरी इलाके हैं । 1981 की जनगणना के आंकड़ों में अभी नहीं देख पाया । इन इलाकों को अरबन एरियाज या शहरी क्षेत्र कहा जाता है । इन सभी इलाकों में, क्षेत्रों में 142 शहर छोटे-बड़े ऐसे हैं जिनकी आबादी एक लाख या इससे भी ज्यादा है । जितनी हमारी शहरों में रहने वाली टोटल जनसंख्या है उसका 52 प्रतिशत इन 142 शहरों में रहते हैं । 22981 शहरी इलाकों में से 142 शहरों में 52 प्रतिशत आबादी रहती है । इससे आप समझ सकते हैं कि हमारी आबादी का कितना घनत्व हमारे इन इंडस्ट्रियल टाऊंस में है । ज्यादा डेंसिटी की वजह से, ओवर पापुलेशन की वजह से भी यह स्लम्स बहुत कुछ एरिजस्ट कर रहे हैं । उसी जनगणना के अनुसार जो हमारे 9 सबसे बड़े शहर कहे जाते हैं ‘मेट्रो-पोलिटन सिटीज’ जिनकी आबादी 10 लाख या इससे ज्यादा है, ऐसे शहर उस समय 9 थे । इन में 66 प्रतिशत लोग हैं जो एक कमर वाले मकानों में रहते हैं । मेरी समझ में नहीं आता मां, बाप, बीबी, बेटे, बच्चे, कैसे सोते होंगे । मैंने लखनऊ में देखा है । मैं ब्लॉट स्कैवयर में रहता था । मैं नौकरी करने के लिए गया था । यह बात 1956 की है । वहां मैंने देखा कि उस इलाके में उस समय सिंघी और उज्जबी लोग जो आए थे वे रहते थे । एक कमरे में मां भी रह रही, बाप भी रह रहा है

[श्री पी०एन० सुकुल]

उनके तीन बेटे भी रह रहे हैं, उन में से दो की बहुएं भी रह रही हैं, लड़कियां भी रह रही हैं, लड़कियों के पति भी आते जाते रहते हैं। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता था कि यह लोग कैसे एक कमरे में रह सकते हैं, रह रहे हैं और कैसे इन का यह काम चलता होगा या चला पाते होंगे। मद्रास में मैं आपको बताऊं। सन् 1961 में प्रत्येक 4 में से एक आदमी स्लम्स में रहता था। सन् 1971 में प्रत्येक तीन में से एक आदमी स्लम्स में रहने वाला हो गया और इससे तो ऐसा लगता है कि सन् 1981 में शायद आधी आबादी स्लम्स में रहती है, प्रत्येक 2 में से एक आदमी स्लम्स में रहता है। यह हमारे मद्रास में हालत है। कलकत्ता जो हमारी पहले राजधानी थी उसे तो मलिन बस्तियों का नगर कहा जा सकता है। तीन हजार से ज्यादा जहां स्लम्स हों, मलिन बस्तियां हों और यह मलिन बस्तियां भी उतनी ही पुरानी हैं जितना पुराना कलकत्ता शहर है। उस जमाने में इंडस्ट्रीयलाइजेशन तो इतना नहीं था लेकिन राजधानी होने की वजह से और नौकरों-चाकरों के रहने की वजह से, अर्टीजन आदि जो सब लोग थे वहां रहते थे इसलिए यह स्लम्स वहां एग्जिस्ट करते चले आ रहे हैं। कहा जाता है कि इस समय 90 लाख कलकत्ता की आबादी है उस में से 20 लाख लोग कलकत्ता में स्लम्स में रह रहे हैं, इन गन्दी मलिन बस्तियों में रह रहे हैं। वहां इन मलिन बस्तियों का विकास करने की बात सन् 1946 में लोगों के ध्यान में तब आयी जब कुछ दिनों के लिए महात्मा गांधी जी बलाघाट में जाकर रहे थे। गांधी जी, हमेशा हरिजन बस्तियों, मलिन बस्तियों में ही जाकर रहा करते थे ताकि सबका ध्यान उन बस्तियों की

और जाये और वे बस्तियों के विकास और उद्धार के लिए कोशिश कर सकें। सन् 1946 में थोड़ा सा काम हुआ था कलकत्ता में जब गांधी जी वहां रहे थे उसके बाद सन् 1969 तक कलकत्ता में स्लम इम्प्रूवमेंट का कोई काम नहीं हुआ। आप इसी में समझ सकते हैं कि 20 वर्षों में जो कलकत्ता का इम्प्रूवमेंट ट्रस्ट है, उसने स्लम फेमिलीज के लिए वे कहते हैं (अब पता नहीं उसमें रहता कौन है, हरिजन रहते हैं या और कोई रहता है) पांच हजार परिवारों के लिए मकान बनाए। ऐसा कलकत्ता इम्प्रूवमेंट ट्रस्ट का कहना है। उनका दावा है कि सन् 1970 में कलकत्ता में मेट्रोपोलिटन डेवलपमेंट अथारिटी का गठन हुआ। इस कलकत्ता मेट्रोपोलिटन डेवलपमेंट अथारिटी का जो खास काम था वह था इन मलिन बस्तियों में इन्वियरमेंट हाइजीन, वहां की जो परिस्थिति थी उसमें सफाई लाना, उनका उद्धार करना और अब तक कलकत्ता मेट्रोपोलिटन डेवलपमेंट अथारिटी ने 20 करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा खर्च किया है इन बस्तियों के उद्धार करने की दिशा में। काफी काम हुआ है और यह जो 20 करोड़ रुपये की धनराशि खर्च की गयी यह खास तौर से ड्रिंकिंग वाटर फौंसिलिटोज को पहुंचाने पेव्ड रोड, पक्की सड़कों उन बस्तियों तक पहुंचाने, बिजली उपलब्ध कराने और सफाई वाल जो शौचालय हैं उनको बनवाने में विशेष खर्च की गयी। यह इनका विशेष काम रहा। इसके अलावा 15 लाख आबादी वाले 1500 स्लम्स का जीर्णोद्धार कलकत्ता डेवलपमेंट अथारिटी ने किया है। इस अथारिटी का यह कहना है कि सन् 1985 तक हम सारी जो मलिन बस्तियां हैं, उनको खत्म कर देंगे, उनकी पापूलेशन को दूसरी ओर ले आयेंगे।

गुजरात में उपसभापति महोदय, 25 प्रतिशत शहरों की आबादी ऐसी है जिनके पास रेगुलर मकान नहीं हैं रहने के, 1/4 के पास मकान नहीं हैं। वे कहां रहते हैं किस प्रकार से रहते हैं इसकी कल्पना नहीं की जा सकती है।

9 मई, 1930 को हमारे उस समय वे तत्कालीन जो वर्कस एण्ड हाऊसिंग मिनिस्टर श्री पी. सी. सेठी साहब थे उन्होंने जबलपुर में बोलते हुए कहा था कि 9 सौ करोड़ रुपये की जरूरत है पूरे देश में स्लम क्लियरेंस के लिए, इन मलिन बस्तियों के जीर्णोद्धार के लिए, उनकी सफाई करने के लिए और उनको रीहैबिलिटेड करने के लिए। 359 करोड़ रुपये वे वर्ल्ड बैंक से मिलने की आशा करते थे। लेकिन इन मलिन बस्तियों का उद्धार करने में भी बहुत सी समस्याएं पैदा हो जाती हैं। वहां के रहने वाले लोगों को आपने उजाड़ दिया, जैसे दिल्ली में तुंगलकाबाद के लोग हैं, बहुत से लोग हैं दिल्ली में जो दौड़ भाग कर रहे हैं। अभी पर माल तक मुझे मालूम हुआ कि बंगलौर में भी काफी काम हुआ। वनशंकरा वहां का स्लम जो था, वहां लोगों को उजाड़ तो दिया गया लेकिन पिछले वर्ष तक उजाड़े हुए लोगों को बसाने के बारे में कोई काम नहीं किया गया, मैं नहीं जानता इस साल किया गया या नहीं किया गया। इसलिए इनका जीर्णोद्धार करने के लिए या इनका विकास करने के लिए, सफाई लाने के लिए यह आवश्यक है कि हम इस प्रकार से उनकी बस्तियों को न उजाड़ें ताकि लोग बेघर हो जायें। काम उनको शहर में ही करना है, उन्हीं मलों में उन्हीं फैक्ट्रियों में, औद्योगिक स्थानों में करना है, अगर आपने उन्हें उजाड़ दिया तो वे कहां जायेंगे। जैसे दिल्ली में रहने वाले लोग हैं, काम

तो उन्हें दिल्ली में ही करना है, अगर उन्हें उजाड़ा गया तो वे कहां जायेंगे। सड़कों पर रहेंगे, पेवमेंट्स में रहेंगे या इधर उधर रहेंगे और फिर गन्दगी होगी तथा एक नयी समस्या खड़ी होगी।

हमारे स्लम्स का जो विकास हुआ है, जो बढ़े है, हमारे देश में जो फैलाव हुआ है, जैसा कि श्रीमती मोनिका दास जी ने कहा, और यह सच है कि इंडस्ट्रियलाइजेशन, औद्योगीकरण के साथ ही इन स्लम्स का निर्माण हुआ है और औद्योगीकरण के साथ मलों, फैक्ट्रियों में काम करने के लिए लाखों-लाख लोग गांव से, जहां उनके पास आमदनी का जरिया ज्यादा नहीं है, लैंडलैस लेबरर्स, ऐसे मजदूर जिनके पास बेरोजगारी का सलूशन नहीं है, वैसे व्यक्ति बहुत बड़ी संख्या में शहरों की तरफ दौड़ने लगे और शहर में आकर के, चाहे बाबई, मद्रास, कलकत्ता, चाहे कानपुर हो, लाखों-लाख लोग जो बाहर से आए, तो उनके लिए तुरन्त तो मकान बन नहीं सकते थे। आज तक नहीं बन पाये हैं तो ऐसे कैसे बनते।

इसी कारण से इन मलिन बस्तियों की संख्या में वृद्धि हुई है। बेरोजगारी जैसे नन्द जी ने कहा, खास बात यह है कि हम आज भी बेरोजगारी की समस्या का समाधान ढूंढ नहीं पाए हैं और यही कारण है कि आज भी गांव से शहरों की ओर लोग भाग रहे हैं। अगर हम चाहते हैं कि मलिन बस्तियों की संख्या में वृद्धि न हो, तो हमें जो दौड़ है गांव से शहर की ओर इसको नियंत्रित करना होगा और यह तभी नियंत्रित हो सकती है, यह भागदौड़ जो गांवों से शहरों की ओर हो रही है, जब हम बड़े-बड़े शहरों के चारों ओर

[श्री पी० एन० सुकुल]

छोटे-छोटे शहर बसा दें, जैसे कलकत्ता के अराउंड ग्रेटर कलकत्ता हम बना दें। यह काम हो रहा है, ऐसा नहीं है कि नहीं हो रहा है। लखनऊ, कानपुर जैसे बड़े शहरों में इस तरह से हो रहा है। हमारी सरकार इस बारे में सचेत है और काम हो रहा है और यही इसका एक मुख्य समाधान भी है कि हम जो बड़े-बड़े शहर हैं, उनके चारों ओर छोटे-छोटे शहरों की ऐसी शृंखला खड़ी कर दें, इंडस्ट्रियल स्थान ऐसे बना दें जहाँ कि गांव जो नई आबादी आए, वह आकर के हमारी दिल्ली में नहीं, दिल्ली से दस, बीस या पच्चीस मील दूर हम टाऊनशिप इवाल्फ करें, वह वहाँ पर रहें, वहाँ पर उनकी रोजगार प्रोवाइड करें और इस तरह से सैटेलाइट टाऊनशिप पैदा हो। तभी जाकर हम इससे लड़ सकते हैं। बेरोजगारी की समस्या से हमें लड़ना होगा। अगर हम बेरोजगारी समाप्त नहीं कर पाते हैं, तो हम मलिन बस्तियों को कभी समाप्त नहीं कर पाएंगे। यह सब से बड़ा काम है और पूर्वकाओं ने प्रमुख कारण जो हैं उसकी ओर सरकार का ध्यान दिलाया है। वह है जनसंख्या में वृद्धि, पापुलेशन एक्सप्लोजन। रोजगार में कमी और जनसंख्या में वृद्धि।

किसी भी देश को दुर्दशा में ले जाने के लिए इससे सरल और कोई उपाय नहीं है। अगर हम चाहते हैं कि हमारी दुर्दशा बनी ही न रहे और बढ़े, तो हम जनसंख्या में वृद्धि होने दें और रोजगार के अवसर कम होने दें और आप देख लेंगे कि इस देश में कितनी बड़ी अव्यवस्था और कष्ट पैदा हो जाएगा और आज हमारी जो मलिन बस्तियों की समस्या है, वह भी इसी कारण है।

संयुक्त राष्ट्र का एक डिवैलपमेंट डिकेड मनाया गया था, 'यूनाइटेड नेशंस' डिवैलपमेंट

डिकेड' और उस समय जो जनवरी 1975 में रिपोर्ट उस टीम की आई थी, जो उसकी फाईंडिंग्स थी, उनका कहना था कि विकासशील देशों में एक-तिहाई आबादी जो शहरों में रहने वाली है, वह स्लम्स में रहती है और यूनाइटेड नेशंस डिवैलपमेंट डिकेड में यह टारगेट रखा गया था कि प्रत्येक एक हजार आबादी पर कम से कम दस नये मकान बनाए जाएंगे। लेकिन अपनी उस रिपोर्ट में उस टीम ने लिखा कि अधिकांश देशों में यह जो छोट, सा टारगेट है कि एक हजार पर दस मकान यह भी पूरा नहीं हो पाया। इसके माने यह है कि विकासशील देश उस समस्या से लड़ने में असमर्थ रहे हैं।

हमारे यहाँ मलिन बस्तियों की स्थिति में जहाँ तक सुधार लाने की बात है, जैसा मिसेज दास कह रही थीं, हमारी सरकार ने सन् 1977 में इस दिशा में थोड़ा काम किया, सन् 1977 तक थोड़ा काम हुआ। सन् 1974-75 में 10 करोड़ रु० इस कार्य के लिए प्रोवाइड किए गये थे लेकिन सन् 1977 के बाद दुर्भाग्यवश—यह केवल कांग्रेस पार्टी का दुर्भाग्य नहीं था यह समस्त देश का दुर्भाग्य था कि एक पुरानी व्यवस्था में परिवर्तन हुआ जिसके कई कारण थे, तात्कालिक कारण थे और उस परिवर्तन के फलस्वरूप विरोधी विचारधाराओं की, तमाम पार्टियों की, जनता सरकारें यहाँ बन गई और उस में कम्युनिस्ट भी थे, कम्युनिस्ट (माक्सिस्ट) पार्टी, बाहर से साथ थी, भारतीय जन संघ के लोग और लोकदल के लोग, बिल्कुल दूसरी विचार-धारा के लोग थे, तो विभिन्न विचारधाराओं की पार्टियाँ जो हैं उन्होंने मिल कर एक चूँचू का मुर्ब्बा बनाया, जनता सरकार के नाम से, और जब सिद्धांत-हीनता को पकड़ कर कोई पार्टी या पार्टियाँ सरकार बनाने चलती हैं तो उनका भविष्य बही होता है जो हमारे यहाँ जनता पार्टी या लोक दल की सरकार का भविष्य हुआ—तो यह जो मलिन बस्तियों के उन्मूलन करने का अभियान प्रारम्भ हुआ

था वह भी उनके जमाने में बहुत काफी पिछड़ा और इस दिशा में हम पीछे रहे। दिल्ली में यहां के जो लेफ्टिनेंट गवर्नर थे, श्री जगमोहन, गत वर्ष की बात है एक स्थान पर बोलते हुए इसी के संबंध में उन्होंने कहा कि 1977 में जब जनता सरकार आई तो दिल्ली के अंदर उसने, जो यह हमारा मलिन बस्तियों में सुधार लाने का कार्य था, इसको बिलकुल पीछे छोड़ दिया, इस पर कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया। मैं समझता हूं, इस तरह से कोई भी सरकार हो, जनता सरकार हो या कांग्रेस की सरकार हो, अगर हमें इन मलिन बस्तियों का उद्धार करना है, उन में रहने वाले लोगों की जो बेसिक नेसेसिटीज हैं, न्यूनतम आवश्यकताएं हैं—पानी की, सड़क की, बिजली की, शौचालयों की, इस प्रकार की जो आवश्यकताएं हैं, हमें उन को सुलभ करना होगा, उपलब्ध करना होगा। इन मलिन बस्तियों में, जैसा मैंने शुरू में बताया कि कानपुर में तपेदिक या यक्ष्मा रोग अधिक व्याप्त है, उसी तरह से मद्रास में एक स्टडी की गई तो उस से पता चला कि इन मलिन बस्तियों में रहने वाले लोगों में जौडिस और लिबर संबंधी जो वटर-बोर्न डिजीजेस हैं गंदे पानी की वजह से, वे सब से ज्यादा पाई जाते हैं। अगर हम अपने देशवासियों को स्वस्थ नहीं रख सकते और अगर हम अपने देशवासियों के लिए रोजगार नहीं दे पाते तो यह सब है कि हमारा देश पिछड़ जाएगा, हमारी बड़ी-बड़ी योजनाएं निर्थक हो जाएंगी। हम बड़ी बड़ी मशीनें, बड़ी-बड़ी फैक्ट्रियां लगाते हैं और उन से हम प्रोडक्शन करने की बात सोचते हैं, ठीक है, लेकिन इस ओर भी हम ध्यान दें, यह हमारा परम कर्तव्य है और इसीलिए महोदय, मैं आपके द्वारा अपनी सरकार से कहना चाहता हूं कि जसा श्रीमती दास ने कहा है कि एक क्लियर-कट कोहीरेंट एण्ड एग्जिस्टिव प्रोग्राम बनाया जाना चाहिए और अपनी प्राथमिकता का पूरा ध्यान रखते हुए सबसे ज्यादा प्राथमिकता के अनुसार देना चाहिए उन मकानों में

रहने वालों को जिनके मकानों की हालत सबसे अधिक खस्ता है, जीर्ण-शीर्ण है।

हर साल बरसात में हम देखते हैं कि लखनऊ हो, कानपुर हो, इलाहाबाद हो, सैकड़ों मकान गिर जाते हैं मलिन बस्तियों में। उनमें रहने वाले पचासों लोग मर जाते हैं क्योंकि मकानों की हालत इतना खस्ता होती है। तो उन को रिहेबिलिटेट करते समय सब से पहली प्रायोरिटी देनी चाहिए उन मकानों को जिन की हालत सब से ज्यादा खस्ता है। जैसा मैंने कहा, सेवा के अवसर, रोजगार के अवसर हम लोगों को प्रदान कर सकें। उन के घरों के नजदीक और उन के अपने गांव और शहर के बीच नये शहर बना कर, नयी बस्तियां बना कर हम इस राष्ट्रव्यापी समस्या से मुक्त हो सकते हैं।

आज भी आप बागलपुरी नगर में जायें, आज भी वह गलियों वाला शहर है। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, वहां का ड्रेनेज सिस्टम मुगल काल में बनाया गया था। वह आज तक चेंज नहीं हुआ है। इतना बढ़िया सिस्टम वह था कि वहां पर सीवर लाइन ले जाने की जरूरत आज तक पैदा नहीं हुई, केवल पानी डाला और साफ हो गया। निर्माण करते समय साइंटिफिक ढंग से कालोनियों को बसाना और एनवायरनमेंट हाइजीन पर ध्यान देना नितान्त जरूरी है। मैं श्रीमती मोनिका दास द्वारा लाये गये इस प्रस्ताव का हार्दिक समर्थन करता हूं और अपनी सरकार से यह अनुरोध करता हूं कि इस दिशा में जो वह कदम उठा रही है उन में और तेजी लाने की जरूरत है, खास तौर से इन मलिन बस्तियों को खत्म करने की दिशा में। इस साल 81-82 में भी 151 करोड़ रुपया इस कार्य के लिए रखा गया है। मैं नहीं जानता मंत्री महोदय बता सकते हैं कि इसमें से कितना पैसा खर्च हुआ, कितना नहीं खर्च हुआ, लेकिन इस से अधिक तेज काम किये जाने की आवश्यकता है। मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है कि हमारी सरकार इस दिशा में पूरा काम करेगी। हमारी जो छठी पंचवर्षीय योजना है उस में इस सम्बन्ध में काफी व्यवस्था

[श्री पी० एन० सुकल]

की गयी है। जो सिस्स्थ प्लान का डाकूमेंट है उस में कहा गया है कि 33.1 मिलियन लोग स्लम्स में रहते हैं। अब तक पांच पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में उन में से केवल 6.8 मिलियन लोग यानी 68 लाख लोगों को मदद पहुंचायी जा सकी और उन की स्थिति में सुधार लाया गया। 10 मिलियन लोगों के लिए 150 करोड़ का आउटले रखी गयी है, यानी 150 रुपया पर हैड का प्रोजेक्शन आता है। इसलिए मेरा कहना है कि ऐसा नहीं है कि हमारी सरकार सचेत न है, काफी सचेत है। सिस्स्थ प्लान में इस के लिए जो व्यवस्था की गयी है वह बहुत अच्छी व्यवस्था है। टोटल पूरे प्लान में रखा गया है 12,900 करोड़ इस कार्य के लिए, पब्लिक और प्राइवेट सेक्टर दोनों में। मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है कि हमारी जो योजना है वह सफल होगी, मलिन बस्तियों का जीर्ण उद्धार होगा और हमारे देशवासी जो न्यूनतम आवश्यकताओं से भी वंचित हो कर नारकीय जीवन इन बस्तियों में व्यतीत कर रहे हैं उन की दशा में अपेक्षित सुधार होगा और हमारी जनता का बहुत बड़ा भाग हमारी सरकार को और हमारी पार्टी को साधुवाद करेगी और देश का जो चेहरा आज लज्जा से झुक जाता है औरों के सामने जब स्लम की बात होती है वह ऊंचा होगा और हमारा देश फले-फूलेगा

4 P.M.

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU (Uttar Pradesh). Sir, the problem of slums or urban development is a part of the industrial and urban ethos. People living on the pavements, people living in the slums, people living in places, where even animals would not like to be huddled in, is known to every one of us. Why is it that people still go to the cities? As per the recent Census figures, 50 million people have been added to the cities. There is only one reason for this and this is the force of economic compulsions. This is because these cities are the focal points of economic employment. Can anybody think of either Calcutta or Bombay or even Delhi, if all the per-

sons who are living in slums in these places are to be removed from those places? If such a thing is to happen, what will be the effect on the economy of these places? These persons who have been living under these conditions have not been given their due place, their due share in the economy which they have generated in those industrial places. As per the figures, calculated in a study in 1981, it has been found that people living in slums in unhealthy conditions, these poor men, contribute 60 per cent of the gross product of the city of Calcutta. What is their share in the amenities? I will come to it later on. They got all the filth, living in the most unhygienic conditions, huddled in one room or another, sleeping on the pavements, passing the nights under the sky without water, without privies and without nutrition. Sir, in one of the recent surveys which had been made by Prof. (Mrs.) Purnima Parikh, she had posed the question: Are the slum dwellers necessary for the city life? To this question, she answered that it is hightime the slum dwellers are recognised as the work force of the cities. She asked, why should they be looked upon as encroachers, as lesser citizens, as anti-socials and as eyesores? She could not understand this. As per a survey conducted in 1976, 33 per cent of the slum dwellers provided the labour force in Bombay. Out of this, 42 per cent earned their living by working in the manufacturing sector, 17 per cent worked for traders, in hotels and restaurants. 16.5 per cent were engaged in other services, 4.5 per cent were working in the Central Government. Out of these persons the Scheduled Castes were 10 per cent and 2.7 per cent were the Scheduled Tribes. Rest of them, i.e. 78 per cent, belonged to other castes.

This gives an idea of the wealth that these persons produce to them and what they add to them. Take for instance Delhi. In this Asia you must have seen the number of persons who have come to Delhi on construction activity. They are going to produce buildings and houses for others, while they will be deprived of any living

place for themselves. They have produced the gross product in national wealth but they do not have any share in it. Neither the contractor, nor the Government, nor the NDMC, nor the Ministry of Works and Housing has any care for them. Once they have contributed their might of the labour and enriched the life of Delhi, they will be forgotten. This is the question. They are poor. They cannot afford. So, they must live at a fringe, and after they have lived at a fringe the city grows and the places will be cleared. Then those places will be auctioned. And look at the price at which they will be auctioned. They are auctioned at a phenomenal rate. And who gets them? The smugglers, the blackmarketeers, the anti-social elements, the neo-rich, they thrive at the cost of the poor persons. And what do we do? We shed tears for them. That is all. Simply talk about them. When we talk of the slums we do not think of the magnitude of the problem that they have. We have never thought of what should be the relationship between the rural area and the urban area. We have forgotten Gandhiji. If we had created employment opportunities for these persons in the rural areas, they would have never come and worked and lived under degrading conditions. Have we thought over it? The best way to do away with the slums would be to create conditions of employment in the rural areas. Create those conditions where migration of persons from rural areas to the urban areas is stopped. Give them agro-industries. I need not go into the gamut of the industrial policy, how the agro-industry, the small sector in the village, in the rural area, can electrify and make them a fit human being. Have we done that? All the time migration is taking place. All the time persons are coming into the big cities and all the time we are faced with the problems of congestion, insanitation, public health hazards and lack of water supply. But let me know how the so-called elite are creating those slums. Each garrage when it is let out each small house or a servant quarter when it is let out,

each small shop when it is let out, becomes a slum. Your new colonies are no worse than the slum areas. Go anywhere you like. Just go to the backlane and you will have a slum created within five or ten years, with the same conditions which prevailed in the slums by the railway side or along the nullah.

Who gains from it? That is the question. Why do we allow them. One of the solutions which should be seriously thought of it, an attempt should be made to see that the migration of rural population to the cities is reduced to the minimum.

Secondly, I would like to bring to your notice the type of improvement that is being made. Bombay is one of the most progressive metropolitan towns and what are they going to provide? One tap for 150 persons, one privy for 50 persons and one lamp-post for a thousand persons. What are they going to charge? They are going to charge Rs. 22 per month for the land use of 150 sq. ft. Out of that Rs. 10 will go towards the maintenance of the privy, maintenance of the water tank and the lamp post and Rs. 2 for administrative expenditure and Rs. 10 for resettlement. And what is resettlement? That fund that will be spent so that they will be eventually evicted from that place. That is, Rs. 10 they will add to the coffers of the authority so that they may be evicted. And what is the price of land there? If that 100 sq. ft. place were to change hands at the present rate, another person will have to pay a premium of Rs. 5000 to Rs. 7000 to erect a hut there. These places go on changing hands and this is the price that person has to pay. How do they pay? They get into permanent debt to the persons, the hoodlums. This was called the compensation-cum-service charge. Rs. 9 crores at a particular place were spent. And the revenue that they collected was Rs. 6 crores per annum.

[DR. M. M. S. Siddhu.]

This is the type of slum improvement for the weaker sections of the society that you do! You invest Rs. 9 crores and get a return of Rs. 5 crores per annum. Such a high return is not possible anywhere else except by taxing the poor, the indigent, the persons who are not organised and the persons who do not have a voice,

What is the problem again? It is a colossal problem. According to the Kelkar Committee Report, which has recently been published, about Bombay, to accommodate 450,000 families in 30,000 dilapidated buildings and to provide standard housing for 3.7 million people living in slums today, the cost of the project will amount to Rs. 6,800 crores in the next 12 years. Now how and how can we raise so much of resources? I do not know from where the resources will come, who will pay for them. The Committee has in its own wisdom, thought over the problem. That is, all the land which are nearer the place of work for these labourers & inhabited by them should be taken over and auctioned. And the huge sums of money received in auctions are spent for the creation of open-air theatres, for five-star hotels, for multi-storeyed buildings, and these persons become commuters from a long distance to come and work at their places of work. Then it is at the cost of the poor again that this real building activity will be carried out, according to the Kelkar Committee. In Calcutta, what have they done in the past 25 years? The Improvement Trust has only been able to build tenements for 5,000 slum dwellers, that is, one per cent of Calcutta's slum population. I am giving these figures only to show that the problem as it exists today is a colossal one and unless and until the States and the Centre change their attitude and bring about decentralisation, bring about a change in the economic policy on Gandhian lines, slums cannot be improved, slums cannot be abolished. All that I can say again, Sir, is to bring to the notice of

this House that committees after committees have met, and I would like the hon. Minister to comment upon whether the Report of the Advisory Committee on Slum Clearance—later on, Slum Improvement—and the basic philosophy behind it has ever been accepted. What is the basic philosophy? It is difficult, I agree.

"Removal of slums is not only a matter of demolishing sordid and insanitary structures and putting up in their places new and sanitary ones. It is a very difficult and complicated operation involving families who unfortunately have to inhabit these areas by force of circumstances. These conditions must necessarily include provision of employment, elementary education, basic sanitary needs, medical attention, environmental hygiene and the minimum of standards according to which any civilised government may expect its citizens to live and work. Unless all these elementary but basic needs of this community of slum dwellers can be met, no scheme of slum clearance or slum improvement can ever be successful."

Now, this is the philosophy. The philosophy is not only change in the environmental conditions. It is to provide them with nutrition, it is to provide them with health care, it is to provide them with educational facilities; it is to be integrated as a whole. Therefore, to think of any scheme which does not cover the total basic needs of a man and his personality including his recreation which is a part of his mental health, which will reduce crime and which will bring in a healthy culture, no slum improvement can be successful.

Then I would like to ask the hon. Minister, what will be the cost of it? Can we do it under the circumstances? Can the low housing scheme and the improved well or piped water supply or the privies do it? I have seen slums being cleared and slums being improved. Whose lands are they? Fifty per cent of the slums in

Uttar Pradesh are the lands of private persons. They are *ahatas*. They are there for long times. The amount of rent that they get is hardly two or three or sometimes ten rupees per month per kothri. The owner is not interested in it, except that it should be pulled down and he should have a chance to sell that land. They are not interested in it because they cannot get money out of it. Therefore, how are you going to invest money in these places, where will you build up community centres with a recreation hall, if the whole space is not taken over? In other words, if you want the slums to be improved and cleaned, the nation should own the land and distribute it among the needy and the poor on the same scale as you are doing it for the Government servants or the Members of Parliament. Why on earth should we get it on a rate which is less than the standard rate and why should a man who works for the nation, who creates wealth, should pay an exorbitant rent to another person? This is the question I would pose. I would say that he should get the same facilities that I am assured of. He is working for the nation as good as I. Without these persons, you will not have clean cities, you will not have domestic servants, you will not have *dhobis*, you will not have industrial workers going to the industry.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: Do you utilize the services of *dhobis* and domestic servants or not? (Interruptions) Sir, I asked him whether he also utilizes the services of these slum dwellers or not.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE): Please stand up and then put the question.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: Sir, I asked him whether he utilizes the services of these slum dwellers such as *dhobis* and domestic servants, or not.

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: Sir, one thing is there. I know that they work

because they do not find any other means of livelihood. If they get another employment, they will not do this job. Their sons do not want to do it. But they are forced to do it and we get cheap labour. You and I may talk here, but we do the same and this is hypocrisy.

Sir, about family planning or family welfare, I would say that to talk of a better standard of life, better nutrition and other facilities before a poor man who has never known what good life is, who has never known what type of living he has, is something which hurts him. He does know the needs, but when he is deprived of all the needs, he gets anger in him and he does not want to co-operate with the Government, he does not want to co-operate with the class to which I belong, the middle class, the bourgeois class, the class which is oppressing him, which is exploiting him. If we were to give him solace, if we were to provide him with better shelter, which we should do so, then he would take up Family Planning.

But I would say again that this Resolution is good in the sense that it opens a dialogue about the problem that exists and I would request the hon. Minister that he should have a scheme to see that after the Asian Games are over the labour which has been brought from Orissa or Rajasthan or Uttar Pradesh is able to settle down, those who want to do so, because I am sure that 20—30 per cent of them are not likely to go out. (Time-bell rings.) Just a minute more.

A word about the measures which one Chief Minister has thought, which with all the force at my command I would like to condemn. And that is, without naming the Chief Minister. I would like to say that in a particular metropolitan city, he removed all the persons from the pavements and put them in the train. Persons from the North were put forcibly in the train and sent to the South and persons from the South were sent to the North. Thanks to the writ in the

[Dr. M. M. S. Siddhu.]

Supreme Court, they were able to return. And a measure was thought of that persons should have a work-permit so that they are able to get into Bombay. This sort of thought, this sort of action, as if Bombay belongs to only one particular State or a particular class of the people, is repugnant to the Constitution. These metropolitan cities belong to the whole country. There shall not be and there should not be any differentiation in opportunities of work between one class of people and another, between residents of one place and another. Therefore, Sir, such actions are against the integration of the country. They are fissiparous tendencies. We have condemned Shiva Sena's mentality. If the Government itself were to do the same thing in another form in the name of slum clearance, in the name of providing better environment, I say, it is a worse day for our country. Thank you.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD MITRA (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, many of the points have already been covered by the previous speakers. The Resolution appears to be divided into two parts. One part speaks of environmental improvement in urban slums and the other part speaks of a family planning programme in the slum areas. I see the Housing Minister present here, but I do not see anyone from the Department of Health and Family Planning.

SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH: I am taking notes for him.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD MITRA: It would be a comedy if in this House the Housing Minister has to reply to a discussion on family planning. Sir, slum clearance and slum improvement are two different things. A line of demarcation has to be maintained between the two.

Slum clearance, it is our common experience, meets with resistance, sometimes violent resistance involving deployment of the police force. Resistance is offered because slum clearance

means displacement of population. And usually accommodation in neighbouring areas is not available. The other problem is that when houses are built, whether they are four-storeyed buildings or multi-storeyed buildings, the rents that these slum dwellers are called upon to pay are much higher than the rents they were previously paying and are beyond their capacities altogether.

In Madras a few years ago, I was literally shown that certain slum areas were cleared, certain multi-storeyed buildings or four-storeyed buildings, I believe, were erected, and there were some vacant spaces outside those buildings. I was informed by the officers of the Madras Government that the original slum-dwellers were living in those vacant lands because they were unable to pay the rents that they were called upon to pay for their apartments and their apartments had been let out to others. That is why I am saying that, pragmatically speaking, in our country, having regard to the situation—circumstances—in which we are placed, slum clearance is a long process, is a time-consuming process, and if work is begun now, when actually it would come to an end, it is difficult to predict. But slum improvement which this Resolution speaks of, appears to be an easier proposition. Slum improvement means, as the CMDA in Calcutta had undertaken in some cases, projects for improvement of roads within the slum area, lighting, sanitation, sinking of tubewells for drinking water, construction of sanitary privies, providing playgrounds for children, etc. These, without much difficulty, can be undertaken almost immediately in all the major cities in India today. And I don't think either the State Governments or the Central Government would meet with any serious resistance. I would request the honourable Minister to apply his mind carefully to both these propositions, and if he feels that in certain areas slum clearance cannot be immediately undertaken, he should at once launch pro-

jects for slum improvement along the lines I have suggested here.

I come now to family planning. Family planning is another difficult proposition. Anyone who has worked in the slum areas as a social worker, would tell you that due to utter illiteracy and ignorance of the persons living in the slum areas, it is very, very, difficult to convince them of the necessity of family planning. They often advance two arguments: One, Reproduction is the only form of enjoyment we possess. Two; If we have more children, for the first few years we may be in difficulty but soon thereafter these children would start earning money and our average family income would increase. These are the two grounds principally on which they offer resistance to family planning. Look at the situation in the country today. Countries which have successfully introduced family planning have a children (under 15) population in urban areas ranging between a little less than 27 per cent and 14 to 17 per cent. In our country, in Kerala among urban population children under 15 were 35 per cent in 1975. In Tamil Nadu and the Punjab, these percentages were 34 and 35 respectively. In 1951 India had a total population of 361 millions. In 1971 it shot up to 548 millions. In 1981 it has come to 684 millions. In terms of absolute increase three-fourths of the population have increased within the last 20 years in our country.

The other grave danger is, which very few people realise, the distribution of the population. This would create serious economic problems in future.

India has 22 States and 9 Union Territories. But of these 22 States and 9 Union Territories, in five States 51 per cent of our population live. In ten States 45 per cent of the population live. In seven States and 9 Union Territories only 4 per cent live.

I went to China in 1954. I was then told by the Chinese economists that population was no problem to them because their economic growth would

be so rapid that they did not bother about population growth. But China, soon thereafter, had to change its population policy. I would come to the Chinese policy a little later. I was educated in the United Kingdom. I was in the United States in 1958. In 1958 I had discussions with United States economists who were very serious about family planning. I said to them: Yours is a vast country with such tremendous wealth and resources. Why are you worried about family planning? The reply was: If we do not worry about family planning now, in years to come we shall be facing the poverty that you are facing today.

In the United Kingdom the growth of population has now practically come to a stop. China, as I have said has changed her policy. It used the Red Triangle. It adopted forced sterilisation. The policy of the present Chinese Government is one-child family and for this target of one-child families, they have launched a country-wide massive programme of persuasion, inducement and education.

Then, there is a world trend in abortion laws. The United States, we were informed in the Chandigarh "Tribune" of the 6th January 1981, has discovered a birth-control pill which had no adverse effect on health. A letter has appeared in a daily paper in Delhi this morning wherein you will find that a lady Doctor has claimed to have performed 605 laparoscopic operations within 11 hours with the help of 4 laparoscopes at Aligarh a fortnight ago. She has claimed that in one month and a half she has performed operations in 7,200 cases and in no case up till now, according to her, there has been any complication at all. Another lady doctor, who was trained in the United Kingdom, and was in Delhi for sometime, has told me in Calcutta a few months ago that in the United Kingdom and in the United States, by minimum surgical interference, by the introduction of an electric wire, fallopian tubes are being disconnected and the patient is being discharged soon after operation and the patient could lead a normal life on the same

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day and if the patient desires to have another child in future, that also can be arranged by another surgical interference. Science has made tremendous progress. How far our scientists and our medical profession are aware of this progress on a total basis. I do not know, because I do not belong to that profession. But, Sir, it is well known that we live in a liberal democracy and family planning in our country must depend on (1) persuasion, (2) inducement, (3) education, and (4) introduction of the latest scientific methods by fully trained medical personnel. Any scheme for family planning in the urban slums also must take these principles as guidelines. Otherwise, Sir, family planning to slum areas, family planning in the country itself, would never, never succeed. I hope, Sir, that effective steps would be taken both by the State and the Central Governments in accordance with the resolution which has been moved today, as expeditiously as possible and in all seriousness, by agencies, uncorrupt and incorruptible. I place emphasis on these two words, 'uncorrupt' and 'incorruptible' because, Sir, our experience of the last 32 years has been that family planning has been left in the hands of those who have not tackled this problem effectively and successfully for reasons which I need not elaborate in this House. And, Sir, up till now, the programme has failed to achieve any appreciable results. Otherwise, Sir, this explosion of population cannot be explained in any other manner.

I do hope—I express my fervent hope, Sir—that the honourable Minister concerned will treat this resolution as a resolution of national importance, treating it as a resolution of national importance, he would see that, real and effective steps are expeditiously taken to tackle this problem. Thank you, Sir.

SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA: Sir, I am very happy to associate myself whole-heartedly with the concern expressed by my colleague, Shrimati Monika Das, about the urgency of

taking effective steps for the implementation of the scheme for environmental improvement of the urban and rural slums at the States and Central levels. Sir, the need for allocation of substantial funds to the tune of Rs. 600 crores, which was demanded by the Planning Commission from the Ministry of Works and Housing should, I think, spell out something at least, if not all, of what we want to do for the slum-dwellers. In supporting the motion placed before the House by my colleague, it is not my intention to be little or devalue the measures already taken by the State Governments, and I think, it was neither the intention of my colleague to do so. I am just wanting to bring to the notice of this House what my hon. friend across the floor said. Mr. Nanda, when he was talking on this Resolution, said that we say something and we do something else. I fail to understand how he came to this conclusion. We had a definite economic policy. We had been moving according to that. We had mirrored the inspirations of the economically backward people or the poorer sections of our society. And this is the reason why we were there for thirty long years, and it was only for two and a half years that people saw and they felt that your Government did not have any economic policy. It was the Congress Party which had the economic policy which spelt out relief for them, some sort of bright future for them. During that period, I would say, there appeared a Bright Star on the horizon of Indian politics who championed the cause of slum-dwellers. He was there for a short time but whatever he contributed to their cause will become a part of history. We all wish that he were here and he would have worked for them along with us. But God willed it otherwise.

One thing more. One of my friends across the Floor said so much on Family Planning that it appears that this is a Resolution on Family Planning. People across the Floor almost have talked only on family planning and nothing else, as it appears. They have

given priority to it. No doubt, it is one of the burning issues, one of the major problems India faces. But when we took it up, when we were in power during the last so many years, it was attacked ruthlessly—this national policy of ours suffered at their hands. They were the ones who tried to misinterpret our intentions. They were the ones who went across to the people to tell them a different story and mislead them. And I am really sorry, and I wish they had not done that. Had they restrained themselves, today the story would have been different.

I think I will get back to my speech which I am supposed to deliver in support of my friend's Resolution. The need for taking up this gigantic task with State Governments arises from the inescapable fact that the problem has assumed national proportions and cannot be tackled only State-wise, particularly in view of the inter-State migrations in unprecedented numbers, when people from the weaker sections of the society cross over into other States. The various States cannot remain isolated from each other, and whatever happens in one State has its echoes in the other States. In dealing with this problem, therefore, the need of the hour is to view it from a national perspective and also cutting across the State boundaries. Then alone will it be possible for us to avoid imbalances that may result from leaving the matter only in the hands of State Governments. We are not in a position to do it from a national perspective if we just leave it in their hands because it has to be a Centre-State combination to tackle this problem. I am sure that every Member of this House is fully aware of the gravity of the problem of growth of slums across the length and breadth of our country, not only in the nine metropolitan cities but also in the cities and towns of lower order.

My friend has already mentioned most of the statistics. I will not go into that and repeat the same. None may also dispute the unpalatable fact that the slums spring up in a society which neglects to improve the lot of

those who live below the poverty line and those who are euphemistically referred to as the weaker sections, although in truth they are the down-trodden, subjugated for generations by a society without conscience. Slums are not an inanimate, lifeless growth. They represent a pitiable attempt by our less fortunate people to provide themselves with a roof over their head and an ineffective shelter to protect themselves and their dear and near ones. It is not merely a problem of physical removal and allotting them land somewhere else. Nor is it a problem that can be solved by demolitions everywhere. Our Government with the best of intentions did its duty to the nation which was misinterpreted. As I have already mentioned, slums are human settlements of people forced to live under sub-human conditions, of people who, because they are denied access to sunshine, turn to subterranean depths of evil and crime. Nothing can be done if we are to approach this problem with a casual attitude.

I need hardly give the details and statistics about the growth of slums, nor do I have to emphasise the horrible conditions under which these people live. Slums constitute a national menace and create law and order problem. This is a nagging problem defying the solutions so far sought to discourage slum cities. Not only the number of such cities is increasing, but also the population in these slums is mounting which can defy any solution. In 1971, the total number living in the urban centres was 20 per cent of our population of 548 millions. In 1981, the Census might well return a figure of 200 millions out of a total population of 700 millions. It is distressing to realise that the target of slum improvement in the standard of living which one would expect, is neutralized by the trend of concentration of the economically backward into the urban centres.

Nobody dare stop this influx because Article 19(E) of the Constitution of

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India, has given every citizen the right not only to travel anywhere within the country but also to live anywhere he or she chooses to do so in our country. The four metropolitan cities, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, continue to attract most of the people seeking avenues of livelihood. Some States like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat have done good work. The over-all poor record has been disturbing during the last decade.

The slum clearance and improvement scheme introduced in the Central Sector in 1956 was transferred to the States in 1969 in the hope of securing better results through greater involvement of the State Governments. Three years later the effort was for improvement of these settlements naming the programme as Environmental Improvement Scheme. My contention is to suggest that plans be drawn up and formulated for the improvement of slums from a National perspective, slum improvement schemes, and implementing them according to a definite time schedule with professionally competent people placed in charge of them. There should be house-improvement, loans extended by the State Governments to enthuse the beneficiaries to upgrade their dwellings and to improve those houses. Employment being the main concern of the people who contribute to this problem, they should be provided with employment and health living in these satellite townships. The endeavour of our Government is to create job opportunities for these people. The plans to implement the schemes for environmental improvement of urban and rural slums should be carefully planned and money properly spent and utilised according to the priorities fixed in a well phased-out programme of ten years. The World Bank and the other international/financial institutions—may be contacted so that the finances are made available. We have also to mobilise every resource that we have in the country and also from abroad without any strings. We should mobilise all

these so that our plans and schemes are expeditiously taken up and implemented to cover a population of 30 million in India.

Sir, our Party and the Government under the dynamic and able stewardship of our beloved Prime Minister Shrimati Indra Gandhi has ceaselessly endeavoured to tackle this colossal problem at the Central and the State level. I think the Government has been trying to grapple with this problem all along. And due to the population explosion this problem has grown out of all proportions. It requires a concerted effort by the Central and the State Governments to give their attention more than ever before. It requires a scientific analysis and formulation of plans involving quite a number of Ministries at the Central and the State levels. I would like to mention that the avenues of livelihood and employment potential in the big cities are the main consideration for the formation of these slums. Therefore, employment and self-employment opportunities should be made available to the people in the rural areas. Schemes of small-scale industries should be made available to them and explained to them. And also vocational training courses be extended to them. Roads which link people together and bring development to these areas could also provide employment to these people. These facilities could prove incentives for the rural population as envisaged by our Government.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE): I think the speaker will take some more time. You may continue next time.

SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA: I think, we have got some more time left.

Sir, our Government has taken up the 20-point programme. It is because the priority that we have given to the solution of the poverty problem which faces our country. And we are trying to implement this economic programme by taking up the problem of slums on a war-footing. And the Resolution which has been moved by

my hon. friend should be one of the priorities which this Government should take up. I feel that if more funds are allocated, that would solve this problem to some extent. But we have to exert more than ever before. The intentions are there. The national urgency is there. But at the same time I feel that the approach by the implementation machinery and also that of the workers all over should be there. And the people's involvement has to be there. Only then we can really spell out some sort of results. Otherwise, with the best of intentions we have not been able to achieve the goals which we had actually cherished all along to wipe every tear from every eye, as was the dream of the father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE): How much time will you take?

SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA: I will take some more time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE): You will then continue next time on the 11th December, 1981.

The House now adjourns to 11 A. M. on 30th November, 1981.

The House then adjourned at one minute past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 30th November, 1981.