

के मुत्तलिक अपनी नीति को लिब्रेलाइज कर दिया है, अपनी नीति को उदार कर दिया है, इसीलिए ये लोग इस प्रकार की कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं। उनको ऐसा लगने लग गया है कि पासपोर्ट बनाने के सम्बन्ध में किसी प्रकार की कोई कड़ाई नहीं है। वे समझते हैं कि जब चाहे पासपोर्ट ले सकते हैं या पासपोर्ट छाप सकते हैं। इसलिए मैं आपके जरिए सरकार से कहूंगा कि वह पासपोर्ट के मुत्तलिक अपनी नीति को उदार तो बनायें, लेकिन इस सम्बन्ध में पूरी सतर्कता भी बरतें। जो लोग बाहर जाना चाहते हैं उनके साथ उदाहरता से व्यवहार किया जाना चाहिए, लेकिन साथ-साथ जो छिपे रुस्तम हैं, चाहे वे दिल्ली में हों या हिन्दुस्तान के किसी भी कोने में हों, वे घर नराली पासपोर्ट या बीजा बनाते हैं तो भारत सरकार को उनके साथ किसी प्रकार का नम्रता का व्यवहार नहीं करना चाहिए बल्कि पूरी सख्ती का प्रयोग करके और आइरन डैण्ड इस्तेमाल करके इनको दबाना चाहिए।

REFERENCE TO ALLEGED ATROCITIES ON HARIJANS IN KANJHA-WALA AND MORL KHEDI VILLAGES

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, you will remember that some days ago I brought to the notice of this House the attacks on Harijan agriculturists by the landlords, mostly belonging to the Jat community, in Kanjhawala, not far from here. Sir, after that a demonstration of the landlords took place in front of the Prime Minister's house on the 13th of this month. The demonstration was violent and rightly the Prime Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, was very angry, especially when these landlords demanded that the land allotted to the Harijans should be taken back from them and be restored to the landlords. This matter also found a reference in the Prime Minister's Address to the nation on the Independence Day

from the ramparts of the Red Fort in Delhi. Therefore, Sir, the matter is far too significant for us to overlook. This is the matter which involved the Prime Minister in a violent attack or demonstration and also which evoked his reference to this matter in his speech. Since then, the situation has become still more grave. I urge upon the Government to take some preventive action. Nothing has been done really effective and at the moment, the situation is even more serious than what it was when we first raised this issue in this House.

Sir, last night, a young boy, Subhash by name, a student of Class IX met me and what happened to him, I just tell you. On 21st night in Morkhedi village under Sanpala police station (Rohtak) landlords attacked Harijan Basti with rifles and farsas and killed many Harijans. Subhash, a student of Class IX, wept and narrated the details as to how the landlords suddenly attacked the basti and killed his mother by firing with rifle and killed his father with *farsas*. According to reports, landlords built a wall round the community land around which there are Harijan houses. This wall blocked entry and exit of the Harijans from their houses. Harijans tried to make a passage through the wall for their coming and going. Then the landlords attacked them, resulting in death and injuries to many. In the morning, police visited the spot but the culprits are roaming about. This is the situation in that particular village in (Sanpala police station in the Rohtak district. Now I say this thing because only last night, as I said, the young boy came. He saw his parents being killed in front of him. Somehow or other, he could manage to escape. Sir, I have asked him and those people to contact the Government here and see what remedy they could get. They can never get back, of course, their parents but such is how the landlords are behaving. I have briefly stated this situation and would urge upon the Government to take some action.

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[Shri Bhupesh Gupta.]

Sir, since the 13th of August, a so-called Satyagrah has been started in the village Kanjhawala which I also visited in which a sizeable proportion of Jats from Haryana have been participating. Batches of militant landlords and their hirelings court arrest everyday by trying to seize lands allotted to Harijans and other landless families. Simultaneously, a campaign of vicious propaganda, accompanied by intimidation and threats of violence against the members of the Harijan community has been unleashed in almost every village. Lethal weapons including spears, pick-forks, and axes are being got ready and openly displayed with threats that the same will be used against Harijans in the same way as they were used to destroy the Mulims in 1947-48. In several Jat-dominated villages, Harijans are not being allowed to enter localities inhabited by Jats, fields including common lands and common village pathways.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, are you going to read the whole of the three pages? You have made the special mention.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am making a statement to save time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): How much time will you take?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I could speak extempore . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): I think you have already made the point and probably you are asking the Home Minister to reply. He is already here. So he will help you.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I have given it to him. But you should also know and let others also know. That precaution I have taken. I know that. Sir, let me read this thing. This is being done. The Harijan population is experiencing increasing difficulty

in obtaining water from even their wells. Sir, I am doing in this form so that they could feel their responsibility. As if this was not sufficient to frighten the Harijans, the latter are now being asked to join the so-called 'satyagraha' against allotment of land in Kanjhawala and also to contribute money for running this satyagraha campaign on the pain of loss of their belongings and physical injury. Imagine, this is what they are being asked to do.

In short, an atmosphere of widespread terror, threatening the very life of the members of the Harijan community has been created and from the menacing postures adopted by the landlords it is becoming evident that if it is not stifled here and now, a virtual massacre of Harijans is very likely to occur.

Besides Kanjhawla, the nearby village of Ladpur is also being made the storm-centre of the landlords' nefarious activities. As reports lodged by Sarvashri Pratap Singh and Lehri, Harijans of Ladpur with the Nangloi Police station, would show that the standing crops on lands allotted to them and some others have been destroyed by forcibly grazing the landlords' cattle on the fields.

So long the procession of landlords courting 'satyagraha' did not enter the Harijan bastis. But since 21st August, 1978, these semi-violent processions have started parading Harijan bastis in Kanjhawla. Abusive and provocative slogans are being raised and violent gestures are being made by the processionists while taking out such processions, striking fear and terror among the Harijan women and children. Some Jat ladies have also entered the fray to intimidate Harijan women. (*Time bell rings*). I am cutting it short.

On 21st August, 1978, the only well belonging to the Harijans in the northern outskirts of the village Kanjhawla was rendered unusable by throwing filth and night-soil therein. The Harijan families are going virtually without drinkable water.

There have been complaints from Harijans of several villages, including Ghewra, Neelwal, Ujwa, Majra Dabas, Madanpur (Dabas), Kair, etc. against intimidation and coercion for joining satyagraha and monetary contribution for the same. (*Time bell rings*) Nothing has been done. I am just finishing.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): You can give it to them.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is reported that the Nangloi police is not sympathetic at all. The Nangloi police station people are in collusion with the landlords. They are in fact helping them, the culprits, and so on.

Now, Sir, it is quite clear—I am not mentioning the community etc.—if these policemen are there in the Nangloi police station, nothing is going to happen.

I should only like to know, when the Prime Minister has spoken so strongly in this matter, why is it that the Government machinery has become so ineffective and useless that they cannot look after some Harijans in those villages there? Is it not possible to take preventive action rather than allowing them to go on preparing in this matter and butcher the Harijans, including men and women. I should like the Government to clarify this. Here the Leader of the House, Shri Advani, speaking for the Government, gave an assurance that everything would be done to stop such things. All that we have got during the last few days is a collection of the offensive, of the aggressive behaviour, of the attack, of the violence and spreading of this violence and terror by the jat landlords and others in the adjoining villages and districts, is that the way the Government is going to tackle the situation? Something should be done about it. Therefore, I request you, Sir, to ask the

Government to hold a personal enquiry, the Minister should go there and make a statement on behalf of the Government owning up what they say in this House and giving us a full assurance that action will be taken. What about those 3.00 P.M. people who have killed? They are just roaming about. I was asking one of our colleagues from Haryana, who is a Member of this House whom I shall not name. He said: "Yes, it is there. It is happening in that State in those areas." I do not want to make it a party issue. Far from making it a party issue, I would ask the hon. Members opposite—I have faith in them—let them go and see and tell us what is happening there. Those who are truly secular-minded and do not believe in caste aggression and landlord aggression—I will believe whatever they say.

Finally, may I appeal to the Prime Minister through you that here is a fit case for sending a parliamentary delegation? We had discussed this matter. The matter came up in the meeting that the Prime Minister had with the Opposition leaders. It had been decided that in such cases a parliamentary delegation would go. Sir, it is not very difficult to send a parliamentary delegation, and I think all parties should be associated with it. The delegation should go and bring the report. This area is directly, in a way, under our control. In many ways Kanjhawala is under our control. Therefore, I demand action by the Government. In any case, I wish to stir the conscience of the House. I know how the conscience is stirred. So I want to stir it so that the Government is persuaded to take necessary action.

THE APPROPRIATION (NO. 4) BILL, 1978—Contd.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Shri Mallick.

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK (Orissa): Sir, I want to place on record that in addition to the devastating floods everywhere and also the Chief Ministers now claiming their dues for the different States, another thing that has happened is the recently announced Narmada Award under which the concerned States will deploy their moneys in different projects. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, is it proper when the matters is raised and I ask the hon. Minister to say something over a matter of this kind, he goes away with the file? You asked me to give it to him. For what? I appealed to him to give an assurance.

SHRI KALYAN ROY (West Bengal): He said that after you have spoken, he will say something.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: What about it? In fact, he did not ask for your permission. It is a strange thing. This is happening _____ (*In interruptions*). Kindly sit down. This is happening in the House again and again. The Ministers just go away when they like.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Just a minute, Mr. Gupta. He heard whatever you said and he got a chit. He just wanted to go to the Lok Sabha to make some statement. So he went. He heard you. Perhaps he may come back.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: At what time?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): I do not know. He did not ask me.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You say 'perhaps he may come.'

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR.

RAM KRIPAL SINHA): To keep the record straight, it was only when you asked Mr. Mallick to speak and he started speaking that he left.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): I am quite aware of that. We started with a new Member.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The Government should take every step about the situation at Kanjhawala. You were good enough (*In interruptions*). The situation will be come far graver.

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK: I For that the money has been allocated. Similarly we see that almost all the Departments, when they demand money, demand it legitimately just to manage the affairs of the Central Government. The State Governments are also demanding money for the management of their affairs in the periphery. Therefore, this Appropriation Bill has been very appropriately brought. I really wonder why and how the hon. Members on the other side oppose it. I find that even if it is a good thing they go on opposing although we have not discontinued any of the programmes that had been launched by the outgoing Government. In fact, whenever the question of economy comes up, whenever the question of foreign policy or policy on education comes up, our party has behaved above any political consideration. We consider the nation first and any other thing next. Particularly this Janata Government has been functioning "in right earnest as a government by the people, for the people, and of the people. Let our Opposition Members have a little patience and play their role well. Therefore, the sooner we pass this Appropriation Bill the better for the House and for the country.

With these few words I once again record my support in favour of the Appropriation Bill.

श्री देवराज पाटील (महाराष्ट्र) : उप-सभाध्यक्ष जी, यह जो अप्रोप्रिएशन बिल है, इसमें जिन कार्यों के लिए पैसा मांगा गया है, उनका कामकाज कैसे चलता आया यह देखना चाहिए। फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर ने अपने स्टेट-मेंट में यह कहा था :

"On Mr. Patens assurance that the Government was committed to improve the village life."

और उसके लिए उन्होंने अर्थ-नीति के साथ एक कार्यक्रम बनया था। नीति क्या हो गया? उनके सरकार की जो नीति है, उसका जो कार्यक्रम है, जो पहले भी उन्होंने अपने इन्क्वेशन मैनिफेस्टो में अनाउन्स किया था, उस पर कोई भी विभाग का मन्त्री अपने ब्याल नहीं देता और वह बात अभी साफ हो गयी है। उसमें क्या हो गया है कि खेतिहर मजदूरों की इन्डेब्टेडनेस बढ़ गयी है। मैं इकानामिक रिब्यू से कोट् कलंगा :

"A study has revealed that 66 per cent, of India's agricultural labour households were in debt in 1974-75 which marked a 5 per cent, increase in the incidence of indebtedness compared to 1974-75."

माडर्न अग्रिकल्चर प्राइसेस पर मैं वाद में आऊंगा। जो सबसे महत्वपूर्ण समस्याएं देश के सामने हैं उनमें पहली समस्या यह है कि जो गरीब लोग हैं, दरिद्रता में फंसे लोग हैं, उनको रोटो-रोजी देने की व्यवस्था करने का सवाल है। और इसीलिए एक स्कीम बनायी थी। इसीलिए भूतल्लिगम कमेटी को एक काम दिया गया था और उसके साथ हमने एक प्रोग्राम बनाना था कि दस साल में बेकारी खत्म हो जाएगी और जो गरीब बेकार आदमी है कम से कम सरकार उसको रोजगार की गारण्टी दे। यह पहला काम उसमें दिया था :

"Lower strata of rural people are provided with reasonable employment opportunities."

That was the object.

उनकी संख्या को देखा जाए तो ग्रामीण जनसंख्या का आधा हिस्सा 238.6 मिलियन्स लोग पावर्टी लाईन के नीचे हैं 53 रु० पर मन्थ कंजम्शन उसके लिए तय किया है, उसके नीचे के जो लोग हैं, उनको दरिद्र हम कहते हैं, उसकी भी संख्या 20 मिलियन है। उनके लिए रोजगार और डेलीवेजेज का इन्तजाम करने का कार्यक्रम बनाना चाहिए उनको काम देने का सवाल है। लेकिन उसमें कोई प्रगति नहीं हुई। भूतल्लिगम कमेटी ने सिफारिश की है कि लोगों को सौ रुपया मंथ की वेतन देना चाहिए और उसमें एग्रीकल्चर लेबरर का समावेश भी उन्होंने किया है। महोदय, मैं आपके द्वारा मन्त्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूं कि एग्रीकल्चर लेबरर के लिये हर स्टेट में कानून से उसका वेतन तय किया गया है और उसके वेतन और भूतल्लिगम कमेटी द्वारा सुझाव दिये हुये वेतन में भारी अन्तर है। राज्यों ने जो उनके वेतन तय किये हैं वे इससे ज्यादा हैं और सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने 8 अगस्त, 1973 को इसके बारे में गाइड लाइन्स ईश्यू की थीं जिसमें उनके वेतन के लिये 3 रुपये से 5.50 रुपये तक की सिफारिश की गयी थी। उसके बाद रिवाइज्ड प्रपोजल में 26-8-77 को उनको 5 रुपये से 7 रुपये की सिफारिश की गयी है देहात में काम करने वाले कृषक लोगों को, खेतिहर मजदूरों की मजदूरी तीन रुपये से दृण्ड तिप्पड़ है और उनको जो काम देने का सवाल था उसके बारे में सरकार से कोई सुझाव नहीं आया। उसके लिये प्लानिंग में कोई भी प्राग्राम इम्प्लामेंट नहीं हो रहा है। इसलिये जनता पार्टी जो दस साल के अन्दर बेरोजगारी को दूर करने की बात करती है और जो समाजवादी समाज की स्थापना का लक्ष्य अपने सामने रखती है उसकी इस ओर कोई प्रगति नहीं हुई है।

तीसरा सवाल मैं उठाना चाहता हूं। एग्रीकल्चरल प्रोड्यूस की प्राइसेस के सम्बन्ध में। यह खुशी की बात है कि हमारा देश कुछ दिन पहले कपास और अनाज के मामले में स्वावलम्बी हो गया है इसमें कोई दो मत नहीं

[श्री देवराज पाटिल]

हो सकते। जनता पार्टी की सरकार ने किसानों के कल्याण के लिये बहुत दुहाई दी थी। उनके कई स्टेटमेंट हमारे पास हैं लेकिन वास्तव में वह किसानों के हितों की कठोर अवहेलना के अपराधी हैं। सभी जानते हैं कि गन्ना, धान, कपास और तम्बाकू के उचित मूल्य किसानों को नहीं मिलते और दूसरी तरफ उसकी उपज बढ़ाने वाली वस्तुओं की कीमतें तेजी से बढ़ रही हैं और सरकार उनको रोकने में असमर्थ है। किसानों की उपज की कम कीमत का लाभ भी कंज्यूमर्स को नहीं मिल पाता और आवश्यक वस्तुओं की आसमान छूती कीमतों के भार उपभोक्ता को आज पीस रहे हैं और उसका लाभ बिचौलिये और असामाजिक तत्व ही उठा रहे हैं। और यह बात हमने नहीं कही, यह बात हमारे आदरणीय नेता, सी० पी० आर्डी० के नेता डांगे जी ने कही है। सरकार की प्राइसिंग पालिसी क्या है। वह क्या है इसको बताने के पहले जो इकोनामिक रिव्यू है उसकी तरफ माननीय मन्त्री जी का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। यह रिव्यू है अप्रैल का और इसमें दिया है :—

There are two contradictory policies followed in the national economy. Full protection to the industries and complete destruction of the farm economy. In the *Economic Review* it is asserted that a good farm harvest helps to assert the price level. In the industrial sector, more production does not bring down the price level. If prices of farm produce come down, it is a matter of pleasure. If a similar trend is established in the industry, it is treated as a danger of looming depression. In agriculture more production is associated with falling prices while in industry more production with higher units, prices are ensured."

सरकार की जो पालिसी है उसमें इंडस्ट्रियल प्रोड्यूस और अग्रिकल्चरल

प्रोड्यूस की प्राइसेज जो डिस्पैरिटी है उसको खत्म करने के बारे में सुझाव था। उसमें मंत्री महोदय का रिप्लाय था कि डिस्पैरिटी कम हो जाएगी। उसको लिंक किया जाएगा। लेकिन आज कोई प्राइस क्या पालिसी नहीं है। चहे पैड़ी हो, कोटन हो, इटि हो। सपोर्ट प्राइस लास्ट इयर 1977-78 में क्या थी और what was the whole-sale price. इसका भी इंडेक्स हमारे पास है। मार्केट प्राइस, कंज्यूमर प्राइस का भी इंडेक्स मेरे पास है। उससे पता लगता है कि यह जो हमारी सपोर्ट प्राइस है पैड़ी की 74 रु० थी, होलसेल प्राइस डबल थी और कंज्यूमर प्राइस उससे भी डबल हो गई। वही काटन के बारे में है। अमरीकन, पंजाब और एफ-320 की गवर्नमेंट की सपोर्ट प्राइस 255 थी और मार्केटिंग प्राइस हरियाणा, पंजाब में 500 रुपये। 450 से 500 रुपये थी। कपड़े की प्राइस कपास की प्राइस से डबल से ज्यादा हो जाती है। इससे पता लगता है कि जो प्राइसिंग पालिसी है उससे रिम्यूनेरेटिव प्राइस किसान को नहीं मिलती है। रिम्यूनेरेटिव प्राइस, रीजनेबल प्राइस जो मिलनी चाहिए। वह किसान को नहीं मिलती और सपोर्ट प्राइस का फायदा मध्यस्थ को होता है। इसलिए हमारी रिक्वेस्ट है कि हम प्राइस ज्यादा नहीं मांगते। हम नहीं चाहते हैं कि कपास की प्राइस बढ़ाई जाए। हम चाहते हैं कि कपड़े की जो कीमत है, चाहे जो भी कीमत है उसको भी कम करो लेकिन कपड़े की कीमत के साथ हमारे कपास की कीमत जोड़ दो। इसीलिए हमने यह मांग रखी है। लेकिन मंत्री महोदय ने इस बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा। (Time bell rings).

श्रीमन्, आपने घंटी बजाई। मैं एक महत्वपूर्ण सवाल आपके सामने रख देना चाहता हूँ— regarding financial assistance from the Central Government to the Maharashtra Government for procurement of *kapas*.

समापति महोदय, यह स्कीम महाराष्ट्र में 5 साल से चल रही है। ऐक्ट बना, सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने उसको ऐप्रूव कर दिया। पांच साल से वह स्कीम चालू है और पांच साल से सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट रिजर्व बैंक की तरफ से या स्टेट बैंक ऑफ महाराष्ट्र से उसको क्रेडिट देती थी। हमारी स्कीम चली। लेकिन लास्ट इयर केन्द्र से स्कीम पैसा नहीं मिला। लेकिन हमने सुना है कि इस बर्ष महाराष्ट्र गवर्नमेंट ने इस स्कीम को चलाने के लिए अपना इरादा जाहिर कर दिया है। मेरी रिक्वेस्ट यह है कि जैसे प्रोडक्शन को सरकार फाइनेंस करते हैं, वैसे ही प्रोडक्शन के बाद मार्केटिंग के लिए भी उनको फाइनेंस करना चाहिए। ग्रेनर्स को तो इस स्कीम में प्रोटेक्शन दिया है। ग्रेनर्स को गारंटेड प्राइस दी जाता है। दूसरी उसमें एक बात यह है कि कपास मिडिल मैन को नहीं बेची जाती है, मिल आनर्स को बेची जाती है, नेशनल टैक्सटाइल कारपोरेशन को बेची जाती है। इससे किसानों को ज्यादा पैसा मिलता है। यह अच्छी स्कीम है। रिजर्व बैंक से थोड़ा सा पैसा देने की बात है। इसके साथ बैंक से क्रेडिट उपलब्ध कर। अर्थ मंत्री जी इस पर थोड़ा सोच लीजिए और ज्यादा से ज्यादा उनका मदद करने की कोशिश कीजिए। यही मेरी रिक्वेस्ट है।

PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the Appropriation Bill that is before us covers certain items which were taken up in other forms. I would, in spite of what my friend Dr. Mallick, said earlier, draw the attention of the House particularly to the item "Transfers to State and Union Territory Governments" and the amount which have been mentioned here. I feel that in the background of this appropriation, it is necessary once again to highlight the States' demand for greater resources. It is the State Governments which are entrusted with the responsibility of most of the development

works. And, as has been pointed out, their sources of revenue are very inelastic. And, of late, there have been proposals to discontinue whatever meagre sources the States possess. For instance, discontinuance of sales-tax and in lieu of it compensation or allocation of the amount earned by the States, has been proposed by the Finance Minister. This amounts to reducing the sources of the States' revenue. Of course, it is a matter of gratification that currently the Chief Ministers' Committee has taken up this question and the Finance Minister has assured them that he will try to work out a new formula of distribution from the Central divisible pool. This is a very urgent thing. It should not be protracted or prolonged. The decision should be arrived at very soon.

Another aspect to which I would draw the attention of the House is the present Government's line on what is, generally termed free trade, as has been revealed through its policy regarding foodgrains and sugar and, in a way, its textile policy also. It is our apprehension that this policy will benefit the industrialists and the capitalists and 'adversely affect the common man. The textile policy is apparently designed to benefit the small-scale industries and the cottage industries but a responsibility has been entrusted to them by this policy which could have been given to the large scale sector which has unutilised capacity. But instead of doing that the large-scale textile manufacturers have been left free to follow a path which would maximise their profits. This is a policy which deserves a fresh look, a fresh scrutiny and examination. Yesterday a fear was expressed that perhaps in the course of the next few years, people will be left with less and less of per *capita* consumption of cloth. So, that is one aspect. And this is particularly in line with the policies that are being pursued by the present Government.

[Prof. Sourendra Bhattacharjee]

The present Government's attitude towards any control over prices is creating despair in the hearts of the common people, in the hearts of the consumers. The talk of a public distribution system has been going on for quite some time. At the beginning of this session, we were assured that a public distribution system would be announced soon. But that "soon" has not yet come, whereas the decontrol of sugar has taken place. Yesterday the Minister in his statement practically undermined the very basis of the policy of control on prices. We do not know whether that is the general policy of the Government. But in various fields the *ad hoc* policies or the short-term policies and in certain cases long-term policies, show that they are out to give free-play to trade and industry to the detriment of the vast masses of the people. The Minister of Finance himself repeatedly declared in this House that banks which have so long not been nationalised, banks with a capital, paid-up capital, of Rs. 100 crores will not be nationalised because he feels that no useful purpose would be served by their nationalisation in view of the control exercised by the RBI on them. Why should the credit be at the disposal of the private sector? This is beyond imagination. If the policy of the Government is to strengthen the public sector, all the credit facilities should be at the command of the State and mere regulation, control, is not enough, because we have seen how there are so many loopholes in the said system. So I take this opportunity to reiterate the demand—what I consider is the touchstone of the Government policy—for nationalisation of all the banks, including the foreign banks.

There is another aspect which needs mention. Our accumulation of foreign reserves is, in a way, being frittered away. It is not being utilised in planned manner. The panacea for every problem according to the present Government seems to be imports imports

on the strength of the huge accumulation of foreign reserves. Because of this, side by side, further debt is being incurred in the international market, particularly from the World Bank and other international aid-giving agencies which practically amounts to interim-loan from the USA, thus mortgaging this country further and further to the USA. There is an apprehension that we are unable to utilise our foreign exchange reserves in a planned manner. What we expect today is more and more loans from, different international financing agencies. This is an aspect which needs consideration.

I would then draw attention to the new employment potential that should have been created in terms of the promise made by the Prime Minister of the present Government that in 10 years' time unemployment problem would be solved. Now there are only 8-112 years left. We know during the last 18 months unemployment has been further aggravated instead of being eased. And nobody knows when the schemes which are being dangled before us, are going to yield any results. So unemployment problem remains unsolved..

In spite of the Finance Minister's bold assertions, the situation on the rice front is rather unbearable for the common man. Similarly, the price of textiles have increased; the price of sugar has increased; the prices of other essential commodities have also increased. But the Finance Minister emphasizes and re-emphasizes that there has been price stability. If there is price stability, it is at a level which is beyond the reach of the toiling people, beyond the reach of the common man who lives below the subsistence level. But why, even those who are supposedly within the subsistence level, they are also unable to meet the situation, unable to make both ends meet in this situation. I would, therefore, appeal to the Government to reconsider this policy.

Otherwise, the conclusion will be inescapable that this Government has out to serve the interests of the propertied class and vested interests who want to lead this country to ruin.

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा (बिहार) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इससे पहले कि मैं इस एप्रोप्रिएशन बिल का समर्थन करूँ और अपनी सहमती दूँ यह लाजमी हो जाता है कि मंत्री महोदय कुछ बातों की सफाई करें। जिन महकमों के लिए यह पैसा उठाना चाहते हैं, उन महकमों में क्या हो रहा है, कैसे काम हो रहा है। यह जानना हमारा फर्ज हो जाता है। उपासभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप जानते हैं कि यह एप्रोप्रिएशन का सवाल था जिसने संसद को जन्म दिया। संसद की पैदाइश दुनिया में इस सवाल पर हुई। इंग्लैंड के राजा को जब पैसे की जरूरत होती थी तो वह नवाबों और छोटे राजाओं को बुलाता था और पैसे उन लोगों से लेता था। फिर उन लोगों को डिसमिस कर देता था। जब बाद में राजाओं ने देखा कि यह पैसे तो हम से लेता है लेकिन हिसाब नहीं देता है तो उन्होंने हिसाब देने के लिए सोचा कि उसको मजबूर करें। सन् 1215 में तलवार के जोर पर इंग्लैंड के राजा जीन को कहा कि मेगनाकार्टा पर दस्तखत करें। मेगनाकार्टा की पैदाइश, संसद की पैदाइश इस एप्रोप्रिएशन के सवाल को ले कर हुई। इसलिए जब यह पैसा हम लोगों से मांगते हैं, कंसीलीडेटेड फंड से उठाना चाहते हैं, तो उनका फर्ज हो जाता है कि सदन को यह सफाई दें कि इन महकमों में क्या काम हो रहा है। यह कहेंगे कि दूसरे महकमे हैं जिनके बारे में हमें पता नहीं है, हम क्या जवाब देंगे। इसलिए मैं सब से पहले उन्हीं के मंत्रालय यानी फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री से शुरू करना चाहता हूँ जिसके लिए यह 33 करोड़ 94 लाख, 90 हजार रुपये उठाना चाहते हैं। पहला सवाल मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आपने 21 जुलाई को रुपये का अवमूल्यन क्यों किया। फिर दो

हफ्ते बाब 15-16 तारीख को कैसे आपने रुपये का अवमूल्यन किया? क्या हमारी मुद्रा प्रणाली अपने बल पर नहीं है? क्या इसमें इतनी ताकत नहीं है कि वह अपने पाँच पर खड़ी रह सके? मैं मानता हूँ कि दुनिया का कोई भी मोनोटरी सिस्टम आइसोलेटेड नहीं है, दूसरों से संबंधित है लेकिन जिस रूप में आपने दो बार सप्ताह में अवमूल्यन किया इससे साबित होता है कि रुपया स्टैरलिज और पॉड का पिछलम्पु है। जैसे-जैसे पॉड नाचता है डालर नाचता है रुपया भी नाचने लगता है। उपासभाध्यक्ष महोदय डालर और पॉड से येन का भी संबंध है, मार्क का भी है, लेकिन उसमें इतना बल है, इतनी ताकत है कि वह अपने पाँच पर खड़े रह सकते हैं। पॉड क्या करता है, डालर क्या करता है, नाचता है, आगे जाता है, पीछे जाता है, इस सब का असर इन पर नहीं पड़ता है लेकिन आपका रुपया नाचने लगता है। जैसे पॉड नाचता है और डालर नाचता है आप नाचने लगते हैं। आप इसका जवाब दें। क्या आपकी मुद्रा प्रणाली में ताकत नहीं है जो आपने दो बार अवमूल्यन किया। ऐसा क्यों किया? अभी यह कहा गया कि हमारी फारेन एक्सचेंज की स्थिति अच्छी है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि अवमूल्यन तब होता है जब फारेन एक्सचेंज की दिक्कत होती है। 1948 में मुझे याद है जब जवाहर लाल नेहरू के टाइम में अवमूल्यन हुआ था। क्यों हुआ था, उसकी एक वजह थी जिसको ले कर अवमूल्यन हुआ। फारेन एक्सचेंज की बात थी जिससे अवमूल्यन किया गया। फिर 1966 में हुआ। इस तरह से जब विदेशी मुद्रा की कमी रहती है तो यह कदम उठाया जाता है और यह बात क्षम्य हो सकती है लेकिन अभी कहा गया कि फारेन एक्सचेंज की हालत अच्छी है और जब हालत अच्छी थी तो अवमूल्यन क्यों किया है?

क्या भारत में रुपया इतना कमजोर है, मैं इस बात की सफाई चाहता हूँ। यदि आप इसकी सफाई नहीं देते तो कंसीलीडेटेड

[श्री शिव चन्द्र झा]

फंड से पैसा मांगने के हकदार नहीं होते हैं। दूसरा सवाल आपके सामने यह है कि 19 अगस्त को यूनिशन स्टेट मिनिस्टर के घर पर जो पैसा बग में लेकर गया था ढाई लाख या 3-4 लाख का एक आदमी जो पकड़ा गया जो सी० बी० आई० को आपने सुपुर्द किया है। यूनिशन स्टेट मिनिस्टर के घर पर, वह क्या बात थी उसमें नागरवाला की बात मालूम होती थी। अढ़ाई तीन लाख रुपया लेकर यूनिशन स्टेट मिनिस्टर के डेरे पर पहुंचा। क्या गड़बड़ घोटाला होने जा रहा है इसके बारे में आप सफाई दें क्योंकि शक होने लगता है। मैं मानता हूं कि आप लोगों की इच्छा नहीं होगी लेकिन ऐसे लोग जिन्होंने नागरवाला केस किया है वे आपको भी फंसाना चाहते हैं आपको शायद पता नहीं है। हम दोनों बराबर हो जायेंगे। हमारे ऊपर नागरवाला है तो इन लोगों के ऊपर कुछ दूसरा। इस बात की आप सफाई दें कि यह क्या बात थी जो स्टेट मिनिस्टर के घर पर पैसा लेकर गया था 19 अगस्त को।

तीसरी बात उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, बाढ़ की बात आ गयी है। फसल की बर्बादी आदि सब। राहत देते हैं लेकिन पहली बात यह है कि वह राहत कितनी दी इसका जवाब दें लेकिन यह एक ऊंची प्रॉब्लम है।

आप इश्योरेंस स्कीम, फसल बीमा स्कीम के बारे में आप कुछ सोचते हैं या नहीं सोचते हैं और स्कीम जैसे लाइफ इश्योरेंस आदि स्कीमों में हैं लेकिन आप इश्योरेंस की स्कीम आज सारे देश में लागू हो फसल बीमा की स्कीम लागू हो। यदि फसल बर्बाद होती है बाढ़ की वजह से, रोग की वजह से या ड्राऊट की वजह से तो ऐसे स्कीम रहे कि खेतिहर और किसानों को घाटा न रहे। वह कम से कम इत्मीनान रखे कि कुछ भी

हो, बाढ़ हो, रोग हो या सुखाड़ हो उसको कुछ मिलेगा। कम से कम यह स्कीम आप चलाने की सोचने हो या नहीं वही तीसरा सवाल है।

चौथा आपकी मिनिस्ट्री के मुतालिक है यह आपकी बड़ी जिम्मेदारी हो जाती है। आप इन सबों का हिसाब बनाकर सरकार को दें, एक नक़्सा रखें कि इतना पैसा है और इतना लगेगा। अनइम्प्लायमेंट को लेकर के कहेंगे कि मेरा काम नहीं है लेकिन पैसा जुटाने का काम आपका है क्या आपने कोई एक क्रेज प्रोग्राम अनइम्प्लायमेंट का या स्कीम बनायी है। मोटे तौर पर ब्लॉक लेवल पर एक हजार लोग इम्प्लायड हो। जैसे रूजवेल्ट ने एक सी०सी०स्कीम खाली, वह मैं तफसील में नहीं जाना चाहता हूं। नौजवान लोग एक हजार ब्लॉक पर कायम हो चार पांच ब्लॉक हैं हिन्दुस्तान में उन सारे ब्लॉक पर कितना पैसा लगेगा। यदि एक हजार नौजवान ब्लॉक का सारा पुल बनाने के लिए ठीक उसी तरह से लग जायेंगे जिस तरह से सी० सी० कैम्प में हुआ था तो कितना पैसा इसमें खर्च होगा। मेरा इतना अनुमान है तीन या चार हजार करोड़ रुपा लगेगा सारे देश में प्रति साल क्या उसमें आपने कोई स्कीम अनइम्प्लायमेंट को दूर करने की बनायी है और बनाकर सरकार के सामने रखी है। मैं मानता हूं उसको पास करना है, लम्बा चौड़ा हिसाब है लेकिन आपने किया है, मंत्रालय ने किया है? नहीं किया है।

पांचवां सवाल यह है कि देश में यह कहा जाता है कि पैसे की कमी है। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं घड़ी देख रहा हूं, आप भी देख रहे हैं, मैं भी देख रहा हूं।

यह मैंने पहले भी कहा था इस सदन में कि भारत गरीब नहीं है, भारत की जनता गरीब है और भारत की जनता गरीब नहीं है, भारत की जनता गरीब बनायी गयी

है। भारत में दौलत की कमी नहीं है, पैसे की कमी नहीं है। इसमें दो बातें नहीं हैं, पैसे की कमी नहीं है और जो महकमें हैं वे तो हैं ही। होर्डेड वेल्थ देश में कितनी है? क्या आपने हिसाब लगाया है और उसको मोबिलाईज करने की क्या आपने कोई स्कीम बनायी है। बहुत से महकमे हैं मैंने पहले भी कहा, बार बार दोहराता हूँ। एक छोटा सा इलाका मधुबनी है एक बार वहाँ पर रेड हुआ, उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, एक साधारण परिधाय से जो पैसे का लेन देन करता था लाखों रुपया चांदी का निकला था। क्या हुआ सब पता नहीं है। यह 2-3 साल पहले की बात है, रेड हुआ, छापा मारा गया ऐसे बहुत से इलाके हैं; महकमे हैं जहाँ होर्डेड वेल्थ देश में है और आप यदि इसको ठीक से मोबिलाईज करने की योजना बनायेंगे तो न कोई ज्यादा टैक्स लगाने की जरूरत होगी, डाइरेक्ट या इन्डाइरेक्ट इस तरह के किसी भी टैक्स की जरूरत नहीं होगी, पूरी सम्पत्ति आपको मिल जायगी और जितनी भी स्कीमें हैं मन्दिर, मस्जिद और इन धर्मों की ओर जब आप जाय तब और भी पैसा मिलेगा। मैं व्यक्तिगत रूप से इस बात में हूँ कि उन मदों में जो सम्पत्ति है उसको अपने मातहत लेने की कोशिश करें, यह मेरा व्यक्तिगत ख्याल है। उन सबों में बहुत सा पैसा है। एक समाज में यह पैसा इस्तेमाल हो यह चीज है इसी लिए क्या आपने होर्डेड वेल्थ की इस्तेमाल करने की मोबिलाईज करने की कोई स्कीम बनायी है?

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO (Orissa): Is the hon. Minister able to collect his dues? (Interruptions).

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : वह तो अलग है, वह तो रोज ही होता है। पांचवीं बात है इकनामिक डिसपैरिटी। हमारा घोषणा-पत्र कहता है कि हम एक, बीस की मन्जिल से एक, दस तक जायेंगे, मिनिमम और मैक्सिमम एक, दस तक जायेंगे। इस

डिसपैरिटी को कम करने के लिये आपने प्रधान मंत्री को कौन से सुझाव दिये हैं। वित्त मंत्रालय ने क्या सुझाव दिया है? आप जानते हैं कि सारे मुगल साम्राज्य का वित्त मंत्री एक व्यक्ति था, टोडरमल। शेरशाह की सारी फायनैन्शल अमारत, माली अमारत टोडरमल की बदौलत थी और अकबर ने उसको चलाया। उसकी छाप हुई, सारी जिम्मेदारी हो गई। फैसला अकबर के हाथ में रहता था, लेकिन सारा नकशा टोडरमल के हाथ में रहता था। आप यदि टोडरमल की जगह आना चाहते हैं तो बताएं कि इकनामिक डिसपैरिटी को कम करने के लिये आपने कौन सी स्कीम बनाई है क्योंकि समाज इसे मांग रहा है। जनता पार्टी का घोषणा-पत्र बोल रहा है कि इकनामिक डिसपैरिटी को कम करेंगे और आपकी जिम्मेदारी वित्त मंत्री होने के नाते हो जाती है कि आप नक्शा सरकार के सामने दें। यदि आप नहीं देते तो आप कटघरे में खड़े हैं। आप बरी नहीं हो सकते हैं। यह पांच सवाल आपके मंत्रालय के हैं।

तब और महकमे हैं जिनके लिये आप पैसे मांगने के लिये आते हैं। जैसे एक ही बात, पब्लिक इन्फार्मेशन और पब्लिसिटी में यह कितना पैसा लेना चाहते हैं। तीन लाख पचास हजार, क्योंकि जो हम यहां पर चर्चा करते हैं इसकी भी सही प्रचार-जनता में पी० टी० आई०, यू० एन० आई०, अखबार वाले सही चित्रण रखते हैं। संसद समीक्षा, टुडे इन पार्लियामेंट की रिपोर्ट जाकर देखिये आम बोलते हैं कि इंग्लिश छापू। यह सैन्सेशनलटी की खोज में रहते हैं जैसे गिद्ध मरी चीज की ताक में रहता है। यह रिपोर्टें, अखबार वाले, रेडियो वाले यह सैन्सेशनल न्यूज की ताक में रहते हैं। शिक्षा पर यहां पर बहस हुई थी। बहुत अच्छी बहस हुई थी। मैं नहीं बोला था, यह भी मैं साफ करता हूँ। लेकिन उसका कहीं भी जिक्र अखबार में नहीं था, न रेडियो में था। शिक्षा पर अच्छे विचार आये थे, पर कहीं भी

[श्री शिव चन्द्र झा]

कुछ नहीं आया था। आप पब्लिसिटी में महकमे में क्यों लेंगे जब जो संसद में कार्यवाही होती है उसका भी सही प्रचार आप बाहर नहीं कर सकते। आपको दिशाहीन अटोनामी की जरूरत नहीं है, अटोनामी का मतलब आदर्श-रहित नहीं आदर्शसहित है। आदर्श-रहित अटोनामी में तो और भी बहुत से महकमे हैं। इन सभी की आवश्यकताओं को जब सही तौर पर देंगे तभी मेरा समर्थन है। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपना भाषण खत्म करता हूँ।

श्री कल्पनाथ राय (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय मैं वित्त मंत्री महोदय द्वारा प्रस्तुत एप्रोप्रियेशन बिल का विरोध करने के लिये खड़ा हुआ हूँ। पिछले तीस वर्षों की हुकूमत में आज तक 1100 करोड़ का बजट में घाटा कभी भी प्रस्तुत नहीं किया गया था। आप जानते हैं कि जिस समय जनता सरकार को सत्ता मिली उस जमाने में हिन्दुस्तान की स्टैबिलिटी इतनी कभी नहीं थी जितनी कि 23 मार्च, 1977 को थी। हिन्दुस्तान की अर्थ-व्यवस्था उतनी मजबूत कभी नहीं थी जितनी कि जनता सरकार के आने से पहले हुई। हिन्दुस्तान की अर्थ-व्यवस्था, प्लेड इकानमी की आधारशिला जिसको हमारे देश के नेताओं ने रखा था इतनी मजबूत कभी नहीं थी जितनी कि जनता पार्टी जब पावर में आई। लेकिन इस सरकार ने, माननीय वित्त मंत्री ने आने के साथ साथ 500 करोड़ का घाटे का बजट रखा। जब दूसरा बजट प्रस्तुत किया तो 1100 करोड़ का घाटा प्रस्तुत किया और इस एप्रोप्रियेशन के माध्यम से वित्त मंत्री महोदय 500 करोड़ से ज्यादा रुपया कनमालिडेिटिड फण्ड आफ इण्डिया से लेना चाहते हैं, 430 करोड़ रुपया तो राज्यों को देना चाहते हैं और 34 करोड़ रुपया इण्टरनेशनल मोनेटरी फण्ड को वापिस करना चाहते हैं। 15 करोड़ रुपये इंडस्ट्रियल सेक्टर पर खर्च करना चाहते हैं। उसी तरह

से उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, विभिन्न अयोजन किए गए हैं लेकिन मैं आप से कहना चाहता हूँ कि वर्तमान सरकार की नीतियों के परिणामस्वरूप हिन्दुस्तान की गरीब-जनता और गरीब हो गई, पूँजीवादी ताकतें और संपन्न होती गई और मुल्क में आर्थिक विषमता का साम्राज्य फैलता गया।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप का ध्यान बुनियादी रूप से गांवों की तरफ, किसानों की तरफ ले जाना चाहता हूँ। इस सरकार ने अपने घोषणापत्र में वायदा किया था कि हम किसानों की हुकूमत कायम करेंगे लेकिन नाम तो ग्रामीण विकास का लीजिए, नाम किसानों का लीजिए, और लगातार हिन्दुस्तान के पूँजीपतियों को, मुनाफाखोरो को एक कंसेशन के बाद दूसरा कंसेशन देते चले जाइए। आदरणीय महोदय, मैं वित्त मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ पिछले 16 महीनों के अन्दर हिन्दुस्तान के पूँजीपतियों को जितना टैक्स रिलीफ, एक्साइज रिलीफ और कंसेशंस दिए गए क्या उसके बराबर कंसेशन उससे पिछले 30 वर्षों के भीतर कभी दिए गए? आज हिन्दुस्तान के किसान और ग्रामीण अर्थ-व्यवस्था की रीढ़ टूट रही है और लोगों की रूचि खेती से हटती जा रही है। आज देश की हुकूमत के मालिक वे हैं जो अन्तपादक कार्यों में रुपया लगाना चाहते हैं और उत्पादनकर्ता जो हैं उन पर ध्यान नहीं दे रहे हैं जिससे जीवन के लिए आवश्यक वस्तुओं के दाम लगातार बढ़ते जा रहे हैं। गांवों में चाहे सीमेंट हो, कोयला हो, खेती में प्रयोग होने वाले सामान द्यबबेल हो या पंपिंग सेट हों या डीज़ल हो या ट्रैक्टर हो या लौहा हो, लोहे के औजार हों या फावड़ा हो या कुदाल हो या बैल हो—जितनी भी खेती में इस्तेमाल होने वाली चीजें हैं—उन के दाम लगातार बढ़ते जा रहे हैं। जिन चीजों को किसान खुद अपने इस्तेमाल में लाता है, चीनी है, सीमेंट है, ईंट है, बैल है, बैलों के लिए घास का इंतजाम भी करना पड़ता है, बिजली का, ट्रैक्टर

का, पंपिंग सेट का, नल कूप का—जो कि गांवों की अर्थ-व्यवस्था को मजबूत करने के काम आती है, उन सब चीजों के दाम बढ़ रहे हैं और उसके द्वारा उत्पादित चीजों के के दाम घटते जा रहे हैं। उपसमाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस सरकार की गलत नीतियों के कारण मुल्क कमजोर होगा। सरकार ने कानून बनाया कि 18 एकड़ की सीलिंग होगी। मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ अगर 18 एकड़ की सीलिंग की जमीन का दाम केवल 2 लाख रु० हो यदि कोई व्यक्ति उतनी ही 2 लाख की पूंजी को बैंक में जमा करे तो 30,000 रु० सालाना सुद पैदा करे, यानी कोई भी काम न करे। तो भी वह अगर केवल 2 लाख रु० बैंक में जमा कर दे तो बैठे बैठे इतना सुद मिलेगा। लेकिन अगर कोई किसान 18 एकड़ जमीन में खेती करता है, उस में श्रम करता है, दिन रात मेहनत करता है जाड़ा गर्मी बरसात में, मजदूरों से काम कराता है, फसल बोता है, ट्रैक्टर चलाता है, पंपिंग सेट और बैलों से खेती करता है, सारे के सारे काम करता है लेकिन एक किसान को 18 एकड़ की खेती से 30,000 रु० की प्राप्ति नहीं हो सकती। उपसमाध्यक्ष महोदय 20,000 रु० या 10,000 रु० का भी मुनाफा नहीं होता है। आज किसानों को जिंदगी दिन दूनी रात चौगुनी चोस्ट होती जा रही है वर्तमान सरकार की नीतियों के कारण। तो मैं सरकार से निवेदन करूंगा, आज अगर किसी गाड़ी का एक्सिडेंट हो जाए, कोई कार लड़ जाए तो बीमा करके खर्चा मिलने की व्यवस्था है, अगर कोई ट्रक नष्ट हो जाए या उसमें लगा कोई सामान एक्सिडेंट में नष्ट हो जाए, या कोई ट्रेन में एक्सिडेंट हो जाए, हवाई जहाज का एक्सिडेंट हो जाए तो सब के लिए बीमा होगा, जिंदगी को जितनी चीजें हैं उन का बीमा होगा लेकिन आज बिहार में और उत्तर प्रदेश में जो भयंकर बाढ़ आयी हुई है, उसके कारण करोड़ों और लाखों एकड़ जमीन में फसल नष्ट हो गई है, करोड़ों

लोगों के घर उजड़ गए हैं, पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार की जनता ब्राहि-ब्राहि कर रही है, उनकी फसलें भूना और चारा नष्ट हो गया है, सारी खेती बरबाद हो गई है लेकिन सरकार ने किसान के लिए फसल बीमा योजना को लागू नहीं किया। अगर यह सरकार केवल फसल बीमा योजना को लागू कर देती तो किसानों की फसल की जो बरबादी होती है उसका मुआवजा मिल जाता। जब तक सरकार किसानों के मामले में मदद नहीं करेगी, जब तक हिन्दुस्तान में फसल बीमा योजना को लागू नहीं किया जाता तब तक हिन्दुस्तान में कृषि उत्पादन का कोई भविष्य नहीं है और हिन्दुस्तान का किसान कभी खेती के काम में दिलचस्पी नहीं लेगा। जब तक किसानों के खेतों में पैदा होने वाली चीजों के रेम्पुनरेटिव प्राइसेज नहीं दिए जाएंगे तब तक उसको खेती द्वारा उत्पादन बढ़ाने में दिलचस्पी नहीं बढ़ेगी। अनुत्पादक कामों में जो समाज के नेतागण हैं वह समाज पर हावी हैं। जो स्मगलर्स हैं, जो समाज में ब्लैक मार्केटियर्स हैं, जो समाज में होर्डर्स हैं वह समाज पर हावी हैं। यह लोग उत्पादन नहीं करते हैं चन्द शहरों में रहने वाले लोग मूट्टी भर लोग आज देश के सारे साधनों पर नियंत्रण किये हुए हैं, लेकिन जो गांव का किसान और मजदूर है, जो दिनरात काम करता है उस की खेती में पैदा होने वाली चीजों की कोई कीमत नहीं है। आप जानते हैं, बम्बई में पैदा होने वाली कपास मिट्टी के भाव विकती है। उस से बना कपड़ा मंहगे दामों पर बिकता है। जो कपड़ा चार आने गज तैयार होता है वह 5 रुपये गज बिकता है और उस को बनाने वाली रुई किसानों से मिट्टी के दामों पर खरीदी जाती है। लेकिन कारखानों में बनने के बाद वही कपड़ा मंहगे दामों पर बिकता है। किसानों के खेतों में पैदा होने वाला गन्ना मिट्टी के दामों बिक रहा है और चीनी सोने के दाम बिक रही है। वही हालत जूट की है। जो

[श्री कल्प नाथ राय]

किसान जूट पैदा करता है उस को लगातार लास होता है लेकिन उसी जूट से बने हुए सामान मंहगे दामों पर बिकते हैं । जो सामान कारखानों में पैदा होता है वह सोने के दाम बिके और जो सामान किसानों के खेतों में पैदा हो वह मिट्टी के दाम बिके ऐसी अर्थ व्यवस्था से तो इस देश की अर्थ व्यवस्था मजबूत नहीं होगी और लगातार घाटे की अर्थ व्यवस्था से मुल्क का सत्यानाश ही होगा । मार्क्स ने कहा कि जब मुल्क में इंडस्ट्रियलाइजेशन होने लगता है तो सरकार रूरल डवलपमेंट का नाम लेती है, ग्रामीण अर्थ व्यवस्था के विकास का नाम लेती है लेकिन रूरल सेक्टर को एक्सप्लायट कर के इंडस्ट्रियल सेक्टर को मजबूत बनाने की कोशिश करती है और वर्तमान वित्त मंत्री महोदय से मेरा निवेदन है कि उन की नीतियों के कारण हिन्दुस्तान के गांव उजड़ रहे हैं । मुट्ठी भर पूँजीपति, समाज विरोधी, प्रति-क्रियावादी और मल्टीनेशनल्स हैं जो यह कर रहे हैं । तो मैं चाहता हूँ कि वह घाटे की अर्थ व्यवस्था को समाप्त कर हिन्दुस्तान गांवों के विकास के लिये कोई क्लेक्टिव व्यवस्था करने की कृपा करें ।

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): Sir, I find that the practice and the rules of this House are very different from the rules and practices of the other House. In that House, the rules are that the discussion on the Appropriation Bill and so on is confined to the items for which the Minister comes before the House. Here, it seems to me that the discussion ranges wide, covers many subjects. Indeed it covers almost every Ministry, and every Ministry of the Government has been criticised.

[Mr. Deputy Chairman in the Chair]

I think, you will admit, Sir, that my ability to answer for all the Ministries is, perhaps, not as great as the hon.

Members might think. Nevertheless, I will attempt to give answers to as many of the points as have been raised.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: What funds have you recommended for the village development and rural development?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I have not yet begun, Mr. Kalp Nath Rai. I have only just made my initial observations. I will certainly come to that.

Sir, Mr Pranab Mukherjee is not here. But he made a number of points and he painted a very bleak picture of the economy and the current performance of that economy. Now, I would say that his sources of information seemed to be somewhat different from the sources of information that I have. He said that the industrial growth rate which was 10.4 per cent in 1976-77 came down to 4 per cent in 1977-78. He said that in the first quarter of 1977-78, it was 2 per cent. Sir, it seems to me that there is some difference a very major difference because, in the first quarter of this year, the rate of growth of industrial production was actually about 7 per cent and not 2 per cent as he stated. Sir, he also referred to the fall in capacity-utilisation of some industries, particularly aluminium and cement. Shri Raju referred to the shortage of cement. Now, I would like to say that this shortage of cement is not something that arose from the policies that were adopted by this Government. Shortage of cement came to the surface because of certain industrial policies adopted in regard to the expansion of production of cement. If those policies had been undertaken early enough, there might have been no shortage today. As it is, when we came, undertakings had been given for exporting cement.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: There was no shortage.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: It was felt that there was so much of cement in the country. But, when we came, it

became necessary to stop the export of cement and indeed import cement because it was clear that the demand for cement was going up, whereas the production—though it was going up—was not enough to meet the demands of the country. So, to say that these problems, these difficulties, that have arisen in regard to cement are a creation to this Government, is not correct. But, nevertheless, this Government has taken whatever steps it could in order to see that the burden the effect, that the public of this country suffers is as little as possible because of that shortage.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: By increasing the prices.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: If there is shortage of cement and if the production is 'X' and demand is 'X' plus 4, then there is bound to be difficulty. Shortage means increase in price. But increase in price there is still controlled. Therefore, by importing cement, at a price which is higher than the controlled price, inevitably a certain amount of very limited increase in the price of cement has become necessary but it is a controlled increase.

Insofar as aluminium is concerned, it is a question of power supply. Now, power shortage again is not something which came to surface only now because anything that this Government did. Again, it is because of the continuing shortfalls in the execution of power generation projects ever since the First Five year Plan. In every Plan we fell short of whatever target we had set for ourselves with the result that when the last year of the Fifth Five Year Plan arrived we were already short in power generation to the extent of over 30 per cent. Therefore, with such power shortage situation, industries were bound to suffer and the industries which depend more on power would suffer more. Aluminium

production therefore did suffer. That is all that I can say insofar as these particular points are concerned.

There are matters which we cannot help. But we have now undertaken measures to push forward power generation as speedily as possible. Whatever financial allocation can be made in order to assist that process has been made. By putting up new power stations and completing the power stations that were in the process of construction, you can accelerate the process. But that is all that you can do. The shortage will remain for some little time.

Shri Mukherjee referred to the increase in money supply during, the last two or three months. It is quite true that money supply has increased in the last two or three months but this is mainly because of the increase in food credit, due to larger procurement and the decline in the non-monetary liabilities of the banking sector. It is something which the Government views with concern and is taking steps to see that the growth in money supply is restricted. A measure of success has met our efforts in that the rate of growth of money supply at the end of July has come down to 5.3 per cent as compared to 7.5 per cent at the end of June.

Then, there was a reference to time deposits and it was said that time deposits, which is the main component of the non-monetary liabilities of the banking sector, have started coming down. Actually it is quite correct to say that they had shown a tendency to come down; they had in fact gone down but they are now showing a tendency to go up. I have 4 P.M. here the figures which show that mid July, it increased by Rs. 94 crores and the gap which existed before, was reduced by that amount. In the previous fiscal year 1977, that is, March 31 to July 15, time deposits amounted to Rs. 1155 crores but they came down to Rs. 817 crores and this amount of Rs. 817

[Shri H. M. Patel]

crores included the improvement of Rs. 94 crores. In the following two weeks, the position has improved further by Rs. 188 crores and Rs. 90 crore_s with result that he comparable figures now are Rs. 1104 crores for the period 1978, that is, April to July against Rs. 1247 crores in the corresponding period in the previous year. Undoubtedly, there is a fall. But the trend is upwards and I hope it will continue.

Shri Mukherjee made another point that the Government's reserves with the Reserve Bank have gone down to the extent of Rs. 1500 crores. I do not know what he means by this. But if he is referring to the cash balance of the Government, then I would clarify that the surplus cash balance was utilised to reduce Government's liability with the Reserve Bank and the net effect of this operation on money supply was to that extent neutral. Of course, the Centre had assisted the States to clear their overdrafts and that is one of the main points referred to here. But these overdrafts were built up over earlier years. Here also, there will be no impact on money supply in the current year.

Sir, I shall refer to one or two points made by Shri Raju in this regard. Shri^{Ra}Ju wanted to know how the provision of Rs. 430 crores for special loans to State Governments had been put as a charged item. I may inform him that all loans and advances to the State Governments are charged to the Consolidated Fund of India in accordance with the provisions of Article 293(2) of the Constitution. He also criticised the absence of any control on the borrowing power of the Government of India or on giving of guarantees by the Government of India. My recollection is that the Public Accounts Committee had dealt with these aspects in some detail some years ago and it was then held by the Government that any statutory limit on the borrowings and

guarantees would not serve any useful purpose. Shri Raju referred to the accumulation of foreign exchange reserves. This is perfectly correct. As the House is aware we have liberalised during the current year the import policy in regard to components, spares, raw materials and capital goods. We did this with a view to increasing the production potential of the economy. The impact of this policy will, of course, be felt in due course.

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI (Maharashtra): Funds were freely available for spending also.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: How?

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KUL- >
KARNI: Because foreign exchange reserves are more and you could import anything you liked.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: But we have not done so. We have been careful. This is my point. While we have liberalised the import policy we have liberalised it in a purposeful manner. This is what I am trying to say. We have liberalised imports but we did not import consumer goods except those which are of an essential nature, like the edible oil which certainly we have imported and, probably, will have to import. So, I would like to add, while this is correct that we have our foreign reserves, these are not going down, these are rising, but it does not mean that these reserves are so enormous that we can afford to utilize them in any way. They must be used for the purpose of strengthening the economy and this is what the Government intends to do.

SHRI BUDDHA PRIYA MAURYA (Andhra Pradesh): By importing cement.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: By importing cement, yes, if there is a shortage. There is a shortage of cement and, therefore, to that extent we are importing it and only for the period till

the cement production becomes equal to the requirements of the country.

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: You have allowed import of paper pulp when there is the pulp factory being closed down.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I will be coming to that matter. This is a different matter. On the paper pulp I will explain you the position.

Sir, Shri Raju referred to a point that in the first four months of the current year the Central Government was running a large deficit while the States have shown a large surplus and yet the Central Government was accusing the States that they are not maintaining financial discipline. I am sure Mr. Raju must know that the improvement in the states' position was mainly due to the transfer of funds from the Centre to the State Governments for the clearance of their overdrafts which resulted in a corresponding increase in Centre's deficit. I do not think that any particular exercise of financial discipline can be ascribed or it could, be said to be an example of Centre's financial indiscipline.

Shri Raju referred, I think, to a question of gold. I have dealt with this question of gold time and again. I do not think I need deal with it again because I have nothing to add to whatever I have said before. With this particular policy of gold sales, sales of gold which have accumulated with the Government as apart from the gold held by the Reserve Bank as its reserve, has been the result of gold, confiscated gold and such small quantity of gold as is found in this country, as is mined in this country.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: You have returned gold worth Rs. 4 crores to Maharani of Jaipur and got Rs. 1 crore only. How do you account for it?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: That is not a part of this gold policy at all. That is a separate question and I am sure I will be able to explain that.

SHRI BUDDHA PRIYA MAURYA: You have not explained why the price of gold has gone up.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: That is a different matter. I did try to explain it before. The international price of gold has been rising in these recent weeks and that is bound to have its effect here also. The other reason for the prices going up is that there is not enough gold available and from this I would infer, though you would not agree, that there is a slowing down of the quantity of gold that is coming, that is coming in through the smuggling door. This is what I would say. But the constructive point made by Mr. Raju was with regard to the sales and export of silver and with the money that might be obtained from those sales, to buy gold. Now that is the point he has made and I will certainly go into it, but I may tell you that silver is being exported even today, it is not Government-sponsored exports of silver. The silver is being exported through the STC and presently the quota for exports is a thousand metric tonnes per annum.

SHRI V. B. RAJU (Andhra Pradesh): Please repeat.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: From 26th August, 1976, we have been exporting—the export is canalised through the STC—and the quota is a thousand metric tonnes for the current year.

Sir, Mr. Kulkarni referred to the question of pulp.

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: I referred to many things.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Just now you referred to pulp.

SHRI V. B. RAJU: I would not like to intervene—it will be very bad on my part to do so—but I am afraid that you might miss the point. I said not only about exporting silver and re-exporting gold but even in respect of distribution within the country, instead

[Shri V. B. Kaju]. of giving the gold to a selected few dealers who would make money, whether it is possible to organise through the backing system that whoever surrenders silver, within the limits of the Gold Control Order, gold is given in exchange so that there is no hanky-panky business and there will not be administrative problems.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: That is why I have said that your suggestion will be examined. I have merely mentioned it; it is still to be considered.

SHRI V. B. RAJU: Don't brush it aside.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: No, if I were to brush it aside, I will not say I will go into it. But I cannot give you an answer how it can be worked, or whether it can be worked or not. I must say that there is so much demand for gold in the ordinary way that as long as there is the Gold Control Order, gold can only be purchased by either the goldsmiths or the gold-dealers who hold licences. We will have to consider how it can work.

Now, Mr. Kulkarni referred to the paper pulp matter of the Central Pulp Mills which is in Sonagarh between Gujarat and Maharashtra. This mill manufactures pulp from bamboo and employs 10,000 Adivasis. I think this is what Mr. Kulkarni said. I would like to say that the question of granting concessional customs duty on paper-grade wood-pulp was taken up with the Ministry of Finance by the All-India Paper Mills Association and some others. This was then examined in consultation with the Ministry of Industry who stated that in the country there were about 20 large integrated units producing paper with a capacity of more than 10,000 tonnes per annum and 50 units with a capacity of less than 10,000 tonnes per annum, whereas the large ones make their own pulp, the small ones have to rely for pulp on other mills. And this is where the difficulty began. The capacity utilisation of the smaller mills is 50 to 60

per cent only as against 85 per cent of the big units. This is due to the fact that the waste-paper, which is the main material, is in short supply. Therefore, the small paper mills have to supplement their raw material requirement with wood-pulp to achieve a better capacity utilisation. At present there is only one unit in the country, namely the Central Pulp Mills, producing market pulp from bamboo. The selling price is Rs. 3,600 per tonne. With the discount, they offer a price of Rs. 2,880 per tonne. The Ministry of Industry has stated that the pulp produced by the Central Pulp Mills is inferior in quality and strength and therefore, not suitable for supplementing the pulp produced from agricultural residues. Therefore, there has not been adequate demand for the pulp produced by this mill. Further the mill is in the process of building up capacity for the production of paper. This is one of the reasons given by the Ministry of Industry.

Then I am coming to the whole story. Considering these factors, the Ministry of Industry felt it necessary to make imported pulp available to the small mills because of its superior quality and availability of a wide range which would make it possible for the mills to utilise the pulp which is best suited to their requirements. Since the import duty obtaining on wood pulp is 4 per cent and the landed cost on payment of full customs duty would make the wood pulp uneconomic for the use in admixture with the secondary raw materials, the Ministry of Industry recommended a complete waiver of customs duty on the paper-grade wood-pulp. Yet another reason given by them was to encourage fuller utilisation of capacity by the paper industry as well. The Central Paper Mills made representation in June 1978 against any reduction in customs duty. We went into that and we put it to the Industry Ministry which again consider that we should either exempt it from import duty or reduce it to a nominal figure. That is how we came to reduce it to

10 per cent. We worked out the imported cost price and added to it this duty which would put it just a little more than the actual price at which the Central Pulp Mills were selling. The Central Pulp Mills have now again represented. Therefore, we are examining the matter. But we have to do so in consultation with the Ministry of Industry.

You will appreciate that in this matter we have to be guided by the judgement of the Ministry of Industry. But since representation has been made now by the mills, we have found that certain facts which they had submitted to me are fresh facts which were not previously with us. And, therefore, we are going to put it to the Ministry of Industry and see how best it can be done.

Mr. Kulkarni also said about the investment which is falling, that the investment climate generally is not satisfactory. I may tell you that we are going into this question. While there is a feeling that investment is slack it is difficult to support such a hypothesis by any conclusive evidence. The main indicators of investment such as the term lending sanctions, assistance sanctioned and disbursements by the term-lending institutions, capital issued to non-government, non-financial public limited companies, though prospectus etc. present a favourable trend of investment. I will give you some figures here.

The direct assistance sanction by term-lending institutions which was Rs. 415.8 crores in 1976-77 was Rs. 626.2 crores in 1977-78. Disbursement by term-lending institutions was Rs. 200 crores in 1976-77. It is Rs. 338.4 crores in 1977-78. The amount issued by non-government, non-financial public limited companies through prospectus was Rs. 3,100 lakhs in April 1977 to September 1977. From October 1977 to March 1978 it was Rs. 4,071 lakhs. So it would seem from these indicators that though there is the feeling that investment is not picking up, in fact

certain other indicators would seem to suggest that the investment climate ought to be better and there are other reasons also why I think the investment situation should improve because the public development outlay for 1978-79 has been increased by 17 per cent, over and above the 27 per cent, increase which was effected last year. A larger outlay has been planned for in the budget on power, irrigation, fertiliser. All these should have beneficial effects on the investment climate.

Mr. Kalyan Ray, of course, said many things. He seems to believe that any stick is good enough to beat with.

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: You have not said on District Industrial Centres.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: So far as district Investment Centres are concerned....

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Please talk about District Industrial Centres.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I am sorry. It was slip of tongue. I meant District Industrial Centres. They are intended to go from one point, as it were, whatever information, guidance, the small-scale entrepreneurs, the tiny entrepreneurs_____

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: It is service centre.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: It is service centre. But it is necessary for the decisions to be interpreted to the small man who does not always quite know what Government's policies and what Government's decisions are, where to get whatever assistance that is available. I think Mr. Raju also referred to this. But this is an experiment and we feel that this experiment, if the staff is satisfactory_____

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: At a cost of Rs. 40 crores.
(Interruptions)

SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU: (ffima-chal Pradesh): Productive expenditure at so many levels.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H. M. PATEL: This is certainly a point of view. When we try-out a new experiment, there will be several points of view. If you wait, the way we intend to work it out, I think it should be successful. It is possible, that our judgment may turn out to be faulty.

SHRI V. B. RAJU: We want that you should take note of the feeling of the House and better call them District Industrial Information Centres. An amount of Rs. 40 crores per annum is really big.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I will pass on this suggestion to the Industry Minister.

SHRI V. B. RAJU: The Small Industries Training Centres were there earlier,

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I think, if they will work together, this should produce better results, but it is certainly something to be seen in the future. It cannot be said at this stage.

Now, Mr. Kalyan Roy, as I said, had said a great many things and referred to me personally. I wish, when he made such references, he had at least taken the trouble of finding out what the facts are. He referred to my daughter and said that she was employed in a company called India Press Exchange Limited.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: You heard it wrongly. I said that Mr. Salve, while reading his charges, made a clear allegation—and he demanded an impossible that our judgment may turn ployed in a Birla concern where some money was involved and she was allowed to go free because you showed some concessions to the Birla house.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Now I can only tell you this, that the facts are

totally wrong. If my daughter was in a company which did belong to the Birlas, it was a very remote thing: it was an advertising agency. My daughter left that concern several years ago. And then if you say that any kind of concession has been shown to Mr. Birla, no kind of concession has been shown by any income-tax organisation either to this concern or to any other concern. I think you referred to some other concerns also.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Shaw Wallace.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I think it was Shri Salve who said that a large claim for doubtful debts exceeding Rs. 90 lakhs had been allowed in the case of a Birla company. Now I may set this at rest completely by pointing out that the claim for doubtful debt of about Rs. 90 lakhs was made by the India Steamship Company, a company under the management of Birlas, and this debt was disallowed by the income-tax authorities in the ordinary course. Now, if you had further facts, I may say for your information that the Special Cell of the Directorate of Investigation at Delhi informs me that additions were actually made or were proposed to be made under section 144B of the Income-tax Act to the extent of several crores in the different cases of the Birla group as a result of scrutiny and investigation during the financial year 1977-78. The facts, if you see, really are, far from any special consideration being shown, the House of Birlas is being assessed whatever is their just due—neither special concession nor otherwise.

Mr. Kalyan Roy thinks that because the number of seizures and searches has been reduced, the income-tax organisation is now not as efficient or acting with as much energy as it called for. I am afraid. I would like to say without any hesitation, we do not think these searches and seizures are the only way of running the income-tax organisation. We will carry out searches and seizures. They are

being carried out wherever there is very satisfactory and adequate information actually available so that the searches and seizures result in our finding out something on the basis of which we can proceed or take further action. To judge the efficiency of any administration by the powers it exercises, the excesses it commits is not proper.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: When you are speaking in reply, would you say that it is not a fact that your gross arrears of income-tax have exceeded Rs. 1,000 crores, which had never happened earlier?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I will explain to you. I have got some figures with me.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: It will be difficult for you to answer it. You can go over to the other point.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: What is the difficulty in that? I think you had mentioned that the gross arrears of income-tax had gone up to Rs. 1404 crores. Actually, you missed the figure. The figure given was in reply to Question No. 34 answered on 25th April. The figure of gross arrears reported in the reply was Rs. 1,00401 crores, which is the correct figure. One has to understand the difference between the gross arrears and the net arrears.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Leave aside the net arrears, come to the gross arrears. This is the highest in India in the last 30 years. Is it a fact or not?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The net arrears are...

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Is it necessary?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: It is necessary. The net arrears are Rs. 720.62 crores. The difference of Rs. 283 crores between the gross arrears and the net arrears is made up by cer-

tain amount, not falling due, which is about Rs. 75 crores, the amount pending adjustment of pre-paid taxes, Rs. 12 crores, the amount for which the stay orders have been granted, Rs. 151 crores, the amount for which instalments have been granted, Rs. 43 crores; and so on. This is how this difference is accounted for. This is what you should have really taken note of. These were the figures as on 31st December, 1977. Now, if you see the figures for the 31st December, 1976, they were Rs. 998.27 crores and Rs. 698.90 crores respectively. There is thus a marginal rise of about Rs. 6 crores in the figures of the gross arrears as between the 31st December, 1976 and the 31st December, 1977. The figures of gross and net arrears have come down to Rs. 986.19 crores and 630.60 crores, respectively. I need not explain to you the difference of Rs. 355 crores. The amount not fallen due is Rs. 179.86 crores, the amount pending adjustment is Rs. 9 crores, the amount for which stay orders have been granted is Rs. 136 crores and the amount for which instalments have been granted is Rs. 30.64 crores. The Government is thus keenly aware of the problem of rise in the arrears of income-tax. Now action plan targets ----- (Interruptions). Certainly,

I am very deeply concerned at it. We are taking steps and I want to show that we are actually getting somewhere. Our recovery of arrears has improved, is better. And I wish to show much better results. Sir, I do not know what other things you wish me to talk about.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: What about rural development? (Interruptions)

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Sir, I want your protection. Mr. Patel, if you do not mind, I mentioned a particular case, the case of the ex-Managing Director of Shaw Wallace, Mr. Hayward.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I will come to that. Now, in regard to Shaw Wallace, I want to mention that Mr.

(Shri H. M. Patel) Kalyan Roy had put questions. , (*Interruptions*). There was a question put by Mr. Kalyan Roy on the 1st August, 1978. He had earlier put a question...

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Also on the 29th November, 1977.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: A very lengthy reply was then given and I would like to read it out to you again. The facts are clearly stated there.

SHRI N. G. RANGA (Andhra Pradesh) : Give us a summary. Give us the conclusions.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Briefly, if you like, I would say that the charges against Shaw Wallace and Company were thoroughly gone into. The Enforcement Directorate went into those charges and they were found to be not calling for any further action.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Exactly that is not true. You had admitted in this House that Mr. Guha, who carried out the searches, on the basis of his scrutiny found out.....

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Sir, I don't think he will make another speech. Therefore, I am sorry I will have to read out the whole reply so that at least the House may be aware of what the facts are. I had then said:

"Consequent to the searches conducted in November/December, 1972 of the premises of Shaw Wallace and Company and its three Directors by the Enforcement Directorate a large number of documents were seized and the Directorate had investigated the matter regarding the sale of 1,22,869 shares held by M/s. Shaw Wallace & Company Limited to M/s. R. G. Shaw & Company Limited London between 17-9-71 and 23-11-1971 at prices ranging between £5 and £6.25 per share which were based on the range of prices ruling in the London Stock Exchange. Soon after the sale, the price quoted in

the London Stock Exchange for these shares rose up to £11 between 24-12-71 and 1-1-72. There was a merger between R. G. Shaw and Company, U. K and Sime Darby, Singapore about January, 1972. In September, 1972 it appeared that the Directors of Shaw Wallace and Company began to feel that they have been deprived of the benefit of the merger and began to consider legal remedies to claim compensation. During a trial of one Mr. D. W. Pinder of Sime Darby in Singapore, which concluded in October, 1975, some documentary evidence could be collected by the firm, and their Counsel gave a legal opinion and thereupon a formal approach was made to the Government of India in January, 1976 by the Company for release of foreign exchange for obtaining legal opinion in the United Kingdom. After consulting the Counsel in London, the Company's Advocate suggested to them to take action against M/s. R. G. Shaw and Company, London, and Sime Darby, Singapore, and the matter was accordingly taken up by the company with Sime Darby, who, however, expressed a desire to settle the matter out of court. As a result of settlement, a sum of £8,50,000 was received by Shaw Wallace and Company in May, 1977. The Director of Enforcement was kept fully informed by them about this matter and the action being taken by them.

The matter regarding the sale of shares as revealed in the seized documents was brought to the notice of the Reserve Bank of India who, after making certain enquiries with the firm and the London Brokers, were of the view that the sale had been effected in accordance with the terms of Reserve Bank's approval.

The issue was also examined with a view to finding whether the statements made by the company

to the Reserve Bank of India in their application for permission for the sale of shares abroad, was in order, and whether there will be a case for the prosecution of the company and its Director for having obtained Reserve Bank's permission on the basis of false statements. ."

SHRI KALAN ROY: That is exactly the point.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: "On a careful consideration....."

SHRI KALYAN ROY: What careful consideration?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: It is quite clear. The whole position is very clear to me....

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Very mysterious to me. It is an enigma surrounded by mystery.

SHRI H. M. PATEL:

"On a careful consideration of the submissions of M/s. Shaw Wallace & Company and its Chairman, Shri Hayward, the material evidence gathered during the investigations, and taking into consideration that fact that whatever loss of foreign exchange was there was more than made good by the Indian Company bringing to India the amount of £8,50,000 and in consultation with the Ministry of Law, it was considered that there was no case for prosecution of the firm and its Directors, including Mr. Hayward, under Section 23 of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1947 read with Section 120B of the Indian Penal Code. The Director of Enforcement has been accordingly advised."

Sir, I have given a full reply in regard to whatever is necessary. There will always be certain differences of opinion...

SHRI KALYAN ROY: I am not challenging your *bona fides*. What I want to say is that it has been found after investigation that the shares which were sold were sold at a throw-away price. Ultimately, therefore, the British company had to repatriate more than £800,000 to the Indian company. Now, how does this question arise? Because, Mr. Hayward, according to the Enforcement officer, Mr. Guha, gave a false representation. The analogy is if I commit a dacoity and am found out, if I hand over the booty, then the case would be dropped. That is the case here. Is it not a fact that Mr. Guha, the Deputy Director, wrote a letter asking the Finance Minister to take strong action and to prevent Mr. Hayward from leaving the country? On 29th November in this House Mr. Satish Agarwal said that the question of impounding his passport would be examined by him. Today there are cases pending against Mr. Hayward. And yet, how is it that, after careful consideration, he has been allowed to go abroad? What happened in between? What was the consideration? Whom did he meet? How did he go? These are the questions we would like to know.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: As far as I know there is nothing pending against Mr. Hayward. I thought I made a very detailed reply and made it very clear. What happened was Shaw Wallace were taken for a ride by Mr. R. G. Shaw & Co. Mr. R. G. Shaw had apparently already been considering, at that moment, merging with a Singapore firm, Sime Darby. Because of that knowledge, in the Stock Exchange, after the sale was concluded, the price shot up. This information came to the knowledge of Shaw Wallace only when a certain employee of Sime Darby Company at Singapore was arrested and was tried, and following upon his conviction certain papers were found which showed to Shaw Wallace ' that something wrong had happened.

[Shri H. M. Patel]

On that Shaw Wallace took legal opinion and asked the Government of India for foreign exchange to engage a lawyer to file a suit...

SHRI KALYAN ROY: After the searches.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Now, Mr. Deputy Chairman, I think that I have given a very satisfactory explanation, to my mind, and if Mr. Roy remains unconvinced, well, it is just unfortunate. (*Interruption*). I trust that the House will be a little more convinced. Now, I come to Mr. Kalyan Roy's other question...

SHRI KALYAN ROY: What about Amin Chand Pyarelal?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: So far as he is concerned, there is no case in which any concession has been shown to him. I think I have got some detailed information regarding him also here. But anyway, the point is Amin Chand Pyarelal has been shown no consideration whatsoever. In all the cases that are there, that are pending against him, action is being taken _____

SHRI DEORAO PATIL: What about financial assistance to Maharashtra?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: What about deficit financing?

SHRI KALYAN ROY: You are talking about deficit financing!

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Then, you said something about some £43,000...

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Eight charges were pending. In November you said, "They are being looked into". In August you replied, "We are getting information". I am told it is going to be hushed up and suppressed.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I can tell you that it is not going to be hushed

up and nothing is going to be suppressed. I can say nothing more than that.

Then, you asked a question about £43,000/-

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Not only that, but purchase of ships and illegal sale of foreign exchange in violation of the law.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Here is the question which you put. I gave you my reply to it on the 22nd August... (*Interruptions*). You can put the same question and I can also repeat the same answer.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Would you function in this way?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Here is the reply. On the basis of a complaint received in 1967 against M/s. Stretchlun Private Ltd., Bombay and M/s. Amin Chand Pyarelal Group, investigations were initiated and the premises connected with APJ Group in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Delhi and M/s. Stretchlon Private Ltd., Bombay were searched and some documents were seized. The investigations in the matter have since been completed and a Show Cause Notice has been issued to M/s. Amin Chand Pyarelal and Shri Jit Paul on 18-5-78 for selling £42,998.14.1 at the rate Rs. 32 per pound in contravention, of section 4(1) and 4(2) of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1947. Show Cause Notice has also been issued to M/s. Stretchlon Private Ltd., Bombay and Shri H. K. Jain for buying £42,998.14.1 at the rate of Rs. 82 per pound in contravention of sections 4(1) and 4(2) of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1947.

To the other questions you put I said that on the basis of documents seized on 4-9-1967 and 5-4-1968 from the premises connected with APJ Group, investigations were initiated

into the matter of alleged excess payment in connection with the purchase of 4 ships by M/s. Surendra [Overseas Private Ltd. from West Germany. The investigation is in final stages and is likely to be completed shortly.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Now I seek your protection. Is this not shocking to you? All this started in 1968. Ten years are over. What is the progress they have made?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I do not think that the Janata Party has been in power for ten years. Let us have some reasonable sense of proportion.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: You have been in power for one and half years.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: A good deal of progress has been made. I do not think I have anything more to say on this subject.

Some general questions were raised by Shri Kalp Nath Rai. He felt that the Indian economy was never as stable as it stood on the 23rd March 1977. Whatever statement he makes, Indian economy now is as stable as it was at any point of time before. His main point was that the Government's policies are such as to make the country poorer. This is a matter of opinion. I would like to ask him which particular policy of ours he thinks will result in making the country poorer. It is a fact that we have made a definite shift towards rural development.... (*Interruptions*). I have listened to you when you spoke. I am only trying to reply to your points. This is a major change in our policy. This is a subject on which I cannot give you a complete reply within a few minutes. But I will be very happy to discuss this with you on any other occasion. I have no desire to find fault with anybody. I am only saying what this Government has tried to do. It has tried to change a certain emphasis in so far as agriculture and rural development is concerned. It

has, therefore, allocated more fund* for rural development. It has set out other schemes which ought to result in improvement of agriculture, greater production and greater productivity and increase in the living conditions of the people in the rural areas. Then, drinking water is one instance and the provision of approach roads is another instance. Various other schemes are there like the dairy development programme which started, of course, much earlier and which is going on at a faster pace. There are other similar steps which have been taken for achieving improvements in the rural economy. We want to use, and we have also sought to use, not only the government machinery, but other things also, and we are inviting even the private houses to bring in their managerial skill and put it to use for rural development I may also say that this experiment, though proceeding slowly, certainly seems to be proceeding soundly and I think it might achieve something. In these matters of rural and agricultural development, results can only be seen at some later point of time and they cannot be seen immediately. There was a reference also to the policy of pricing the agricultural products. Our policy has been, I think, to follow generally the same principles that were followed earlier. The Agricultural Prices Commission. I think, is there, which existed for sometime and which is still existing and it makes recommendations. We consider those recommendations and fix the prices, either support prices or purchase prices or procurement prices, for the purpose of building up of buffer stocks. We have made certain changes certainly. We have made some changes and we have said that there will be not several zones, but only one zone, for wheat. We have similarly said that there will be only one zone so far as rice is concerned. This, to our mind, has had a good effect. Whether it is so or not, one cannot say now. We have now decontrolled sugar and

[Shri H. M. Patel] that has come in for criticism. But again it is a policy decision taken a few days ago and it has to be seen how it works out. The intention is certainly not that the cane grower should suffer or that the consumer should suffer. But we feel that this policy should, on the whole, result in the producer not suffering or the consumer not suffering or the grower not suffering and it is a policy which is a balanced policy. Now, that is what we have said today. I do not know whether it will work out according to our expectations. I see no reason why it should not so work out.

Then, so far as the cotton price policy is concerned, a reference was made to the Maharashtra policy, to the Maharashtra Government's desire to have monopoly procurement and so on.

SHRI DEURAO PATIL: Not monopoly procurement. It is only the procurement scheme, the Maharashtra Government's procurement scheme.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The Maharashtra Government really wants only monopoly procurement. What you may desire, I do not know. But the policy last year was the policy under which the option was given and the Maharashtra Government said that under that policy they were able to obtain relatively less cotton than they would have obtained otherwise and that also not good quality cotton. Therefore, they would like the Union Government to agree to their monopoly procurement policy and that we should also provide funds to enable them to do so. And, Sir, that is a proposal which has been under consideration and we have turned it down last year and it is a good policy again and we would look into it in the light of the experience that has been gained. Now, for instance, the Cotton Corporation of India is there. So far its policy has been to go into the market for

purchasing cotton to meet the requirements of the NTC mills only. , But we feel that the Cotton Corporation of India should be made better use of in order to maintain the cotton prices at a certain level so that the cotton prices do not go below a certain level thereby ensuring that the farmers' interests do not suffer and also to see that they are not allowed to go higher than a certain point so that the users, that is to say, the textile mills' and also the consumers' interests may not suffer and that means that the operation of the Cotton Corporation of India will become a matter of much greater importance. If there is monopoly procurement in Maharashtra, there is monopoly procurement in Punjab also and we are trying to do it. May be the problem-" will get a little more complicated. But we will have to find out how to fit it in with our scheme.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: What about crop insurance?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Quite right.. Shri Kalp Nath Rai spoke about it. It is perfectly true. We have been trying to find out, and I think my hon. friend must be aware that this question of crop insurance is not something which has been given thought of only now. We have tried our utmost. In fact, I have been personally rather more interested in it because I had tried out this experiment when I was in Gujarat; we tried it out only in a few tehsils, but it did not succeed. But that did not mean that I came to the conclusion that it cannot succeed. The scheme has been worked out by the General Insurance Corporation. This scheme was sent to the various State Governments. And it would be of interest for you to know that except the Government of Gujarat, all others have yet to respond to this scheme. The Gujarat Government has laid down certain conditions. I am trying to persuade the Gujarat Government not to impose any conditions;

let us try it out, because some experiment must be there in order that you may know how it can be extended further. It is a kind of laboratory experiment in a limited area.

SHRI N. G. RANGA: What about my points? Yesterday, I made some points. Have you forgotten them, or (*Interruptions*).

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I have not forgotten____ (*Interruptions*) /

SHRI N. G. RANGA: I raised the question of utilising our foreign ex-change and various other points.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Yes, you made the point about food for works scheme not succeeding. I began by saying—Prof. Ranga was not here then—that I really could not take the responsibility for answering questions for all the Ministries satisfactorily— I can only make an attempt to give you some information which I may possess. Prof. Ranga made certain points. I have jotted them down here. You said 'rice for work'; you said, why not rice? Now, we will have to find out whether we can afford to give rice for that purpose or not. We will certainly go into that. I cannot give you the answer immediately. This will have to be considered. Then he referred to Centre-State relations. You must have seen in the papers that only the day before yesterday there was a meeting of the Committee of the National Development Council which was attended by the Chief Ministers of all the States. And there the Chief Ministers represented their views, as a result of which we have appointed small working group to consider the proposals and to see to what extent they can be met. The main Committee will meet some time in October and then we will take a final decision. Your point that the Prime Minister is not very democratic...

SHRI N. G. RANGA: I raised the point about employment abroad.

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SHRI H. M. PATEL: That restriction on employment had to be put only because there were many malpractices going on. Many poor people who were going out were finding themselves completely stranded there.

SHRI N. G. RANGA: There are doctors, engineers and professors.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I entirely agree with you there, that there should be as few hurdles or difficulties in the way of those who would like to go. But it is only in respect of those who would like to go. But it is only in respect of those who cannot look after themselves. But it must not be given in such a way that actually it becomes an harassment to them. I agree with you and I think that that is the direction in which we are working, I think I have covered all the points.

SHRI V. B. RAJU: Sir, my important point has not been answered I understand that all points cannot be answered. But this is a very important point. Sir, the Government has identified 289 corporate industrial units which have the eligibility of borrowing, more than one crore of rupees; they have become sick. The bank finances involved in these are 860 crores of rupees. I requested an inquiry into the lending policy.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Sir, I remember that this is a point which was made. It is not a question of inquiry because it is continuously being inquired into. We ourselves want to find out how units get sick and why they get sick. The fact is that there are 200 and odd units which are sick and to whom so much money has been advanced. We want to know to what extent the money was advanced in a sound way and whether it has been advanced at a pro-I per time. Sir, the real difficulty, as I stated in another context, is that units sometimes become sick because

[Shri H. M. Patel]

they do not receive financial assistance at the right time. I have mentioned at the Consultative Committee meeting also that a great many units become sick because there is mismanagement and malpractices. But this apart, there are others which become sick for various other reasons.

SHRI V. B. RAJU: I do not want to enter into an argument. But I wish that I am not right. I understand that the banks, to make a unit eligible for borrowing, do not take into account the book value of the assets. They take into account the market value of the assets. We are actually involving public finances. ...

SHRI H. M. PATEL: If this is found to be the case, than in any case we will certainly take steps. I can assure that this is under watch and review and if there is anything that has not been properly done, we will certainly take steps.

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK: May I request the hon. Minister to bear in mind that by 31st March night, almost all over the country, there is a "Burglery and indulgence" in every office? May I request him that he should have a "clamp" down on every agency to have a time-bound programme to spend the money? If any agency is not able to spend the money, it should be penalised for that. The second point is that we should lay down some provisions for regional imbalances. That must also be done. My third point is that a competition is going on among the urbanised States for claiming more money for the development of their cities. Here I demand and the States which have not been urbanised should rather be given more money to start new townships. It is just like carrying fuel to new castles. I will request the Finance Minister to see that the weaker States are given more assistance so that all the States may be at par.

I There is another request I have to make. There is inflation in the first half of the month because of the people who get their money on the first. May I request that the hon. Minister should start banking service in every office so that they put all their money in the bank and gradually go on drawing so that automatically the money surplus with the country will be more and artificial scarcity that we see every month will be checked. In some of the employees will also be enhanced by the interest they earn through this Banking.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: We will examine the suggestion.

श्री शिवचन्द्र झा : उपसभापति महोदय, रुपये का डीवैल्यूएशन क्यों किया गया इसका जवाब आपने स्पष्ट नहीं दिया ।

SHRI H. M. PATEL: There has really been no devaluation of the rupee. There is no such thing as a fixed exchange. You can call it a floating exchange. Actually, our exchange is linked to a basket of currencies so that we know precisely how it fluctuates against each. But sometimes when it goes beyond a certain limit, then we have to make a change in respect of one currency rather than all. So, at a given point of time it may appear that there has been, using the old term, devaluation. Actually, it is just revaluation in regard to one currency. But, on the other hand, there is appreciation in regard to others.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1978-79, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted. 5 P.M. MR.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 1, 2, and 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

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

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be returned."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1972

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, as reported by the Joint Committee, be taken into consideration."

Sir, hon. Members are aware that it was in December, 1972 that a Motion was made before this House for reference of this Bill to a Joint Committee. It will be remembered that in pursuance of its terms of reference the Law Commission had in its 42nd Report submitted in June 1971, suggested numerous changes in the Indian Penal Code, both verbal to remove ambiguities and anomalies and substantive to improve and modernise the law. Unlike the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Commission recommended an amending legislation instead of new Code. An Amending Bill, based largely on the recommendations of the Law Commission, was introduced in 1972 and because of its importance, was referred to a Joint Committee. The Committee held its first sitting on 23rd December, 1972. It invited opinions from various individuals, Bar associations, organizations including trade unions, political parties the Law Officers of the Government of India and the States, the Supreme Court, the

High Courts, the Indian Law Institute, Universities, the State Governments and others to give their views on the Bill. After examining 256 memoranda and 129 witnesses and holding 97 meetings, the Committee presented its Report to the Parliament on 29th January, 1976. Sir, I have briefly mentioned these statistics only to indicate the detailed consideration which the Joint Committee has given to the various provisions of the Bill. The Report of the Joint Committee secured a remarkable degree of concurrence from its Members and it is not worthy that although the Bill has as many as 204 clauses there are only three minutes of dissent, only one of them advocating retraction of the proposed legislation, the other two merely confining themselves to disagreement with a few clauses.

Sir, in one of these minutes of dissent a point has been made that Lord Macaulay's monumental statute should be left undisturbed as it has not only stood the test in this country for over a hundred years but has also served as a model piece of legislation for other countries. There cannot be two opinions on the excellence of the drafting of the Penal Code. For this reason, as also because the meaning of the words has been well understood and applied by the courts over a long period, changes in the wording had not been made in the Bill as introduced except where such changes had been considered necessary to remove doubt arising from conflict of judicial decisions or from other like considerations. It will, I am sure, readily be conceded that over a long passage of time, especially when the society in which these laws are being enforced is not static, changes in such a statute become necessary not merely to remove ambiguities which are discovered in the course of its application but also to reflect to the extent practicable changes in concepts of penal law as well as to meet the special needs of the times. The substantive changes in the law proposed