

a very intelligent man, why Mr. Advani missed this opportunity to "put this in this form: I just cannot understand. Mr. Advani, I thought you would do that. If you had talked to me, I would have suggested you to put it like that. Anyhow, Sir, I am moving it also because I do not want it to go on record that any of us in this sphere wanted Feroze Gandhi to be dead even for a single moment. This should have taken effect from the moment he was slaughtered.

The question was proposed.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I appreciate the sentiment behind the suggestion. But all through that period censureship was in operation, and, therefore, it is not a practical suggestion. Besides, sometimes dark spot or mole enhances the beauty.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: (SHRI LOKANATH MISRA): The question

1. "That at page 1, lines 7-8, for the words and figures "the 25th day of March, 1977" the word, "the day on which the Act was repealed" be *substituted*."

The motion was negatived.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI LOKANATH MISRA): The question is:

"That clause 1 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted. Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

I would say that the dark dismal part is over.

At least the first phase of my proposition and my pledge to the country are over.

The question was proposed.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI LOKANATH MISRA): The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

THE CALTEX (ACQUISITION OF SHARES OF CALTEX OIL REFINING (INDIA) LIMITED AND OF THE UNDERTAKINGS IN INDIA OF CALTEX (INDIA) LIMITED' BILL, 1977

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND PETROLEUM (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide, in the public interest, for the acquisition of the shares of Caltex Oil Refining (India) Limited and for the acquisition and transfer of the right, title and interest of Caltex (India) Limited in relation to its undertakings in India and thereby to secure that the ownership and control of the petroleum products produced by the Caltex Oil Refining (India) Limited, and marketed and distributed by the said undertakings, in India, are so distributed as best to subserve the common good, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the main purpose of the Bill is the acquisition of the particular industry and its various functions so as to bring under the control of the nation one of the most strategic elements in the economy of our nation. This, Sir, at the outset I must say, is acquisition of shares, other interests and titles, if I may say so which does not extend beyond, what I say, a take-over by negotiation. The predecessor Government decided to take over these interests through negotiations rather than

[Shri H. N. Bahuguna] nationalise them. They initiated and in the bargain what has been decided form, Part of this particular Bill which I have presented before this House for acceptance.

I can in this matter merely say that the employees' interests have been fully taken care of. We have also taken care to see that this particular concern, the Caltex and its versatile refinery are made to serve this nation's interests by joining up with the mainstream of the petroleum industry which has a creditable record of growth as well as public ownership contributed by a definite policy enunciated by our great Prime Minister, the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. I commend this Bill for the acceptance of this House and I hope the discussions in this House will help us to understand more about it because there is not much more to be done in this sector except to take over a very small or tiny affair now in the shape of Assam Oil and Oil India.

SHRI SRIMAN PRAFULLA GOSWAMI (Assam): "it is pending for several years.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Yes, several years' work could not be done in several days, and I have been here only for a few days. But I am sure that the discussion today will help me in the matter of take-over or acquisition or of bringing that particular sector also within public ownership so as to subserve the best interests of the nation. With these words. I commend this Bill for the consideration of the House.

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI LOKANATH MISRA): Before I call Mr. Nageshwar Prasad Shahi, I would like to tell hon. Members that the total time allotted for this Bill is one hour and there are six speakers. Therefore, I will have to restrict the time to seven or eight minutes per speaker, and I would request the hon. Members to confine themselves

to the time-limit so that I do not have to impose any restriction.

श्री नगेश्वर प्रसाद शाही (उत्तर प्रदेश):

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं बहुत ही कम समय लूंगा। सर्वप्रथम मैं मंत्री जी को इस बात के लिये धन्यवाद दे दूँ कि वह संसद में इस सरकार की ओर से इस प्रकार का समाजवादी विधेयक प्रस्तुत करने वाले पहले मंत्री हैं। उन को इस बात का श्रेय जाता है कि वह इस तरह का विधेयक प्रस्तुत किये हैं जिसके माध्यम से विदेशी कंपनियों का आधिपत्य समाप्त करने, उन के शेयर्स और उन के इस्टेबलिशमेंट को स्टेट के हाथ में ट्रांसफर किया जा रहा है। श्रीमन्, माननीय मंत्री जी को मैं इस बात के लिये भी धन्यवाद दे दूँ कि उन को इस बात का श्रेय भी जाता है कि वह इस सदन को कलंकित होने से बचा पाये हैं। बिरला इस सदन में आना चाहते थे, पैसे के बल पर आना चाहते थे। उन को इस सदन में आने से रोक देते और इस सदन को कलंकित होने से बचाने का श्रेय श्री बहुगुणा जी को है। इस के लिये मैं उन्हें बहुत धन्यवाद और बधाई देता हूँ हालांकि उस कार्य की सजा के तौर पर उन्हें बिना समरी के डिस्मिसल मोल लेना पड़ा।

श्रीमन्, मैं विधेयक के संबंध में निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि कालटैक्स आयल रिफाइनिंग कंपनी के शेयरों के ट्रांसफर के बारे में और दूसरे इस्टेबलिशमेंट और असेट्स के ट्रांसफर के बारे में जो एग्जीक्यूटिव हुआ है उस में तब्दीली होने का तो कोई सवाल नहीं है, उस को तो सरकार आनर करेगी ही, लेकिन इस बात को जरूर देखना होगा कि यह विदेशी कंपनी है। इंटर नेशनल कंपनी है। इस के अधिकारी बड़ी ऊंची तनख्वाह वाले थे। अब उन का वेतन नये वेतन क्रम में और अपने देश की आर्थिक स्थिति के अनुसार और अपने देश के वेतन मानों के अनुसार निश्चित होना चाहिए तथा छोटे कर्मचारियों को सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए।

मैं एक शब्द इस कम्पनी के उत्पादित माल के दाम के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। एक तो आयातित तेल का जब दाम बढ़ा तब सरकार ने भी अपनी ओर से उस पर टैक्स रख दिया उस से पेट्रोल बहुत ही महंगा हो गया। उस के पीछे ध्येय यह बताया गया कि इससे कंजप्शन कम होगा और हम को आयात कम करना पड़ेगा। लेकिन, श्रीमन्, यह नीति मैं उचित नहीं समझता। इससे अच्छा यह होता कि पेट्रोल का राशन किया जाता, उस का डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन कंट्रोल किया जाता ताकि जो मध्यम वर्ग के लोग हैं और जो स्कूटर इस्तेमाल करते हैं उन को यह मुसीबत न झेलनी पड़ती और जो पेट्रोल ऐश और आशाइश के लिए इस्तेमाल करते हैं उन को ज्यादा दाम देना पड़ता। तो, श्रीमन्, यह ज्यादा अच्छा होता।

श्रीमन्, मैं डीजल के दाम के बारे में भी कहना चाहता हूँ क्योंकि कृषि के उत्पादन से यह सम्बन्धित है। अपने देश में तेल का उत्पादन म्बई हाई से बढ़ा है लेकिन सरकार के सामने जब कभी यह मुद्दा दिया गया कि डीजल का दाम कर दिया जाय तो सरकार ने नकारात्मक उत्तर दिया। मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि एक तरफ जहाँ किसानों को अपने उत्पादन का कम दाम मिलता है, वहाँ कम से कम उन की आवश्यकता की जो चीजें हैं उन का भाव कुछ गिराना चाहिए ताकि उन्हें राहत मिल सके। डीजल उन के ट्रैक्टर और ट्र्यूब वेल में इस्तेमाल होता है। इसी तरह से किरोसिन आयल जो गांव का गरीब इस्तेमाल करता है उस का दाम कम करने की ओर हमारे योग्य मंत्री जी अवश्य ध्यान देंगे ताकि उन्हें राहत मिल सके। मुझे विश्वास है कि माननीय बहुशुणा जी के अन्दर क्षमता है और योग्यता है, वे गरीबों को राहत दे सकते हैं।

दूसरी बात, श्रीमन्, मैं पेट्रोल पम्पों के एलाटमेंट की पोलिसी के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। मैं एक-एक मिनट में अपनी बात कह लूंगा। पेट्रोल पम्प के बारे में भारत सरकार की यह

नीति है कि इस समय एक्स आर्मी इन को पेट्रोल पम्प का लाइसेंस देते हैं। एक पेट्रोल पम्प को एस्टेब्लिश करने में 50 हजार, 60 हजार खर्च होता है। होता यह है कि साहूकार लोग और ऐसे वाले लोग इन को एक्सप्लाइट करते हैं। लाइसेंस बनते हैं एक्स-आर्मी इन के नाम पर लेकिन उन को एक्सप्लाइट करते हैं ऐसे वाले आदमी। मेरा सुझाव यह है कि माननीय मंत्री जी एक्स आर्मी इन को देने की जगह कोओपरेटिव बेसिस पर दें। अगर दस एक्स-आर्मी इन अपनी कोओपरेटिव बना लें तो उस को लाइसेंस दे दिया जाय। इससे मुनाफा दस लोगों में जायगा और ऐसे वाले लोग शोषण नहीं कर पायेंगे।

एक और निवेदन मैं कर दूँ। पेट्रोल पम्प बैंकवर्ड एरियाज़ में नहीं हैं। वहाँ सरकार अपनी इस नीति में कुछ ढिलाव करे। सौभाग्य से मंत्री महोदय हमारे पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश के हर भाग से यहाँ तक कि हर व्यक्ति से बहुत अच्छा तरह से वाकिफ हैं। गोरखपुर से बड़हल गंज की नेशनल हाईवे में 40 मील की दूरी में कोई पेट्रोल पम्प नहीं है। अगर वहाँ कुछ सुविधा देकर कोई पेट्रोल पम्प लगवा दिया जाय तो यह दिक्कत जो है कि गाड़ी रुक जाने पर आदमी आदमी को 20-30 मील जाना पड़ता है, दूसरी गाड़ी से पेट्रोल लाने की वह समस्या समाप्त हो जायगी।

एक दूसरी बात मैं और कह दूँ। कालटैक्स के कई अधिकारी उन की जो. ब्रांचेज और एस्टेब्लिशमेंट्स दूसरे कंट्रीज में हैं वहाँ के लिए इंडिया में इंजीनियर्स और टेक्नीशियन्स की भरती करते हैं। इस में, मुझे ज्ञात हुआ है, भारी करप्शन है और उनकी भरती में काफी पैसा उन बेचारे बेकार इंजीनियरों से लेते हैं। आशा है आप इस पर निगाह रखेंगे। हिन्दुस्तान से टेक्नीशियन्स और इंजीनियर्स को रिक्त कर के बाहर भेजने में इस तरह का जो भ्रष्टाचार है, जो पैसा कमाया जाता है वह बन्द होना चाहिए। आखिरी बात मैं यह कह कर बैठना चाहता

[श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शास्त्री]

हूँ कि पिछले दिनों में पब्लिक कंसन, पब्लिक कम्पनीज कुछ खास लोगों को नाजायज फायदा कराने के लिए एक एक छोटा छोटा गैर भण्डार पत्रिका को विज्ञापन देकर लाखों रुपये का फायदा कराते थे। जैसे सबेरे हमारे साथी ने कहा कि एक 'सूर्य पत्रिका' है उसे एक पेज का विज्ञापन देने के लिए 30-30, 40-40 हजार रुपया इंडियन आयल कम्पनी स्टील अथारिटी, माइन्स अथारिटी की ओर से विज्ञापन द्वारा पैसा दिलाया गया। मैं मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करूंगा कि कृपया वह देखें कि उनकी कम्पनी जो पेट्रोलियम से डील करती है, इंडियन आयल वगैरह उनकी ओर से इस तरह का भ्रष्टाचार न हो कि किसी खास व्यक्ति को लाभ पहुंचाने के ख्याल से लाखों रुपया दे दिया जाए।

एक चीज और कह कर समाप्त कर दूँ कि जिस के० डी० मास्त्रीय, भूतपूर्व पेट्रोलियम मंत्री, ने टैंडर को इग्नोर करके मास्ति लिमिटेड का टैंडर स्वीकार कर लिया, सारी मर्यादा और सारे नियमों की अवहेलना करके, वह यह कहते सुने जाते हैं कि मैंने तो दबाव में आकर किया। उन्होंने तो हमारे मित्रों से यह भी कह दिया कि मेरे पास प्राइम मिनिस्टर के लैटर हैं जो कि मैंने हिफाजत से रखे हैं, जब उनके विरुद्ध जांच होगी तो वे पेश कर देंगे कि मुझे तो हिदायत मिली थी। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इमरजेंसी समाप्त हो चुकी है, कृपया वह अपनी कम्पनी की ओर से और अपने दस्तखतों से इस तरह के कुकर्म नहीं होने देंगे कि जिससे पब्लिक का पैसा, गरीब देश का पैसा चन्द लुटेरे लोगों की पाकेट में जाए। धन्यवाद।

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी (राजस्थान): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, नवम्बर, 1976 में जो सरकार ने समझौता किया, उसके आधार पर बनाया हुआ यह बिल है। इसलिए यह जरूरी है कि इस सरकार को भी सरकारी

स्थान से दिये गये इस वचन को मान्यता देनी पड़ रही है नहीं तो इसमें बहुत सी ऐसी चीजें हैं कि भविष्य में भी इस प्रकार के कदम उठाते समय इन पर बड़ी गम्भीरता से विचार करना जरूरी होना चाहिए।

श्रीमन्, 13 करोड़ रुपया तो इन शेयर्स के कम्पेंसेशन के लिए है। उसके साथ ही एक करोड़ से अधिक रुपया ब्याज के निमित्त इसमें खर्च होगा। यह भी पाबन्दी हम पर आयद है कि जो भारत के टैक्स इन ट्रांसफर्स के अन्तर्गत चुकाने होंगे उनकी भी जिम्मेदारी हमारे ऊपर रखी है और वे भी 4.29 करोड़ की है। अब क्योंकि यह बिल पास करना ही है, इस सरकार को, इसलिए इसके सम्बन्ध में मुझे कुछ विशेष जोड़ने की आवश्यकता नहीं है? मैंने मंत्री जी से निवेदन किया ही है कि यह प्रश्न इस प्रकार की कम्पनियों के बारे में देश का ही अधिपत्य ऐसे संस्थानों पर हो या कई और क्षेत्र हैं जिन पर अनेक मंत्रालय और विभागों में ये प्रश्न उपस्थित होंगे। प्रयत्न यह किया जाए कि भारत की जनता पर अनावश्यक बोझ उसका न पड़े। ऐसी जिम्मेदारियाँ कम्पनियों को ही निभानी चाहियें टैक्सों को चुका कर।

यह सच है कि इन सब कार्यों से पेट्रोल की कीमतों पर असर पड़ेगा लेकिन फिर भी हम चाहेंगे कि पेट्रोल प्रोक्वेड्स की कीमतों के बारे में दुबारा से सारी बातों की जांच की जाए। विशेष कर कुकिंग गैस जिसका हर साधारण से साधारण घर से संबंध है। यह जरूरी हो गया है कि कुकिंग गैस की कीमतों में हम कितनी राहत दे सकेंगे इस के ऊपर विचार किया जाए। लेकिन जब मैं और चोर्जों की बात करता हूँ तो मैं लारियों की बात भी करता हूँ। मैं यह चाहूंगा कि यह जो लारियों के जरिये पेट्रोल पहुंचाया जाता है तो ट्रांसपोटों की दरों को काटते समय लारी अनास पर अन्याय नहीं होना चाहिये। कई क्षेत्रों में विशेषकर गोवा-पंजिम के लारी आनर्स

की हड़ताल की वजह से पेट्रोल की सप्लाई के संबंध में कठिनाइयां पैदा हुई हैं। मैं चाहूंगा कि इन सवालों को तय करते समय अधिक व्यापक दृष्टिकोण हमें अपनाना चाहिये।

लेकिन इन कम्पनियों में जो एक्जिस्ट करती थीं और अब जिनको सरकार ले रही है उनमें अनावश्यक रूप से बड़ी तनखाहों पर बहुत लोगों की भरती की हुई थी। मैं समझता हूँ कि कम्पनी लेने के साथ-साथ हम पर यह मजबूरी आयद न होगी। क्या उन सब लोगों को भी हमें टिकार रखाना है या उन सब की तनखाहों को मजबूरी तौर पर हमें उन्हे देना है, मैं चाहूंगा इन सारी बातों पर दुबारा से विचार हो। जो उच्च पद हैं जो अनावश्यक दिखाई देते हैं और प्राइवेट कम्पनियों में, हम यह समझते थे कि उन्होंने अपने मुनाफे को कम दिखाने के लिये जबरदस्ती कुछ जगहें पर रखीं थीं उनको भी दुबारा से देखा जाए। क्योंकि अब यह पब्लिक यूटिलिटी की सर्विस हो जाएगी। मैं चाहूंगा ऐसे पदों पर जल्दी से जल्दी विचार किया जाए ताकि इस नाते से खर्च में कमी की जा सके। मैं इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I welcome this Bill to take over Caltex Oil Refinery and its marketing operations. The takeover of Caltex virtually marks the completion of the process of national acquisition of giant foreign oil companies like ESSO and Burmah-Shell which was started sometime in 1974 and completed in 1976 by the then Congress Government. With nearly 96 per cent of the country's petroleum industry in the public sector, the country is poised for an important step forward in the growth of the oil industry. Under the foreign monopolies, the industry had a very restricted growth mainly because the companies

were run in order to further the interests of the international monopolies. We were badly let down by these companies during critical times such as war with Pakistan. They had also reservations about processing Russian crude. The reasons were best known to them. But, Sir, all this is now a thing of the past. The petroleum industry can now very well look after the national interests.

Another important aspect of the take-over of the foreign oil companies including Caltex is that they were not nationalised by governmental actions but they were taken over through negotiations, during which both parties had a free and frank exchange of ideas. While many companies are taken over all over the world through unilateral acts of nationalisation, it stands to the credit of our democratic traditions that we have taken over foreign companies through negotiations.

Sir, now there remains only one more small foreign oil company, and that is Assam Oil Company which is still not under the control of the Government and is owned by Burma Oil Company belonging to the international seven sisters. It is only a matter of time and the Assam Oil Company will also have the same future as other foreign oil companies. As it is reported, the negotiations for terms of agreement are afoot with Mr. Cooke of Assam Oil Company. I wish the hon. Minister goodspeed in finalising the agreement.

Sir, in a poor energy-starved country like ours, we have specifically planned our petroleum industry with our long-term aim to free ourselves from the need to import oil. Although we may not be able to attain that aim of self-sufficiency, there is no doubt that we can steadily reduce our oil imports. Our Petroleum Ministry's effort in achieving the objective through various oil explorations and exploitations is highly commendable and

[Shrimati Sushila Shankar Advokate]

meritorious. With this takeover of Caltex, we do hope now that certain amount of bipartisan agreement will emerge on the approach towards policies for petroleum exploration, exploitation, refining and marketing issues because we have to pursue them relentlessly. Sir, the long promised reorganisation of oil industry and specially integration of marketing throughout India has not yet taken place. This requires the immediate attention of the Ministry so as to ensure that the consumer gets prompt and efficient service now that the acquisition of the last major foreign oil company is finalised.

The oil companies have done excellent work the last two years in rural marketing by distributing essential commodities through their outlets. This effort, in my opinion, should be further strengthened and now that nearly 1300 outlets of Caltex are also added to the existing outlets, it would add further help to this policy. Sir, we have to remain vigilant about sophistry and dissimulation adopted by these big international companies to defeat their attempts, if any, to destabilise the economy of non-aligned democratic and socialistic countries. The hon. Minister is known for his alertness and vigilance. If I mistake not, when he was the Minister of Communications, he had been instrumental in exposing a transnational deal regarding crossbar telephone exchange and it will not be too much to expect that he will maintain the same vigilance in the present case to see that the foreign oil companies should not leave any Trojan Horses for us. Takeover alone is not enough. What is more important and necessary is the Indianisation and Swadeshi-karan with complete delinking from the parent trans-nationals.

Sir, I would like to remind the hon. Minister for speedy completion of the socialisation of Oil India Ltd. It is unfortunate that we have yet not reached any agreement with the

foreign owners of the stock of AOC & OIL. This delaying tactics of foreign owners is only to secure more benefits which we should not allow and no doubt the hon. Minister will take speedy action in this direction. The delay in complete takeover of OIL is creating frustration amongst the technical staff who are patriotic-minded persons and have rejected offers of transnational parents to take positions abroad. (*Time bell rings*). The international oil companies are trying to take away first class Indian experts for their operations elsewhere. While we need this talent and skill to develop a strong and durable public sector in our country as they are our best assets. We cannot afford to have any such brain drain in such a strategic and vital industry as petroleum.

Lastly, Sir, with this takeover of Caltex which is one of the best oil companies in the country, there will be visible improvement in supply of certain products, especially LPG cooking gas, the price of which is ever increasing and the availability is always decreasing. Cooking gas is no more a luxury item. This is a necessity in every family and more so with the working women. I would request the hon. Minister to take up this matter on a priority basis.

Sir, with the hope that the Government will soon come out with an exhaustive white paper, outlining clear proposals for restructuring the entire oil industry in different sectors, I welcome this Bill.

SHRI KALYAN ROY (West Bengal): Sir, I would be very brief. In the beginning, I would like to pay a tribute to Mr. K. D. Malaviya who had the courage to challenge the big oil cartels who have neither interest in finding oil in this country nor developing the petroleum technology. He had the courage to challenge them and he had to pay even the price. At a certain stage of our oil history, these oil cartels ganged up in order

to throttle the development of indigenous oil industries. At the same time, Sir, I am happy that this Ministry is now being headed by Mr. Bahuguna whose commitment to socialism, to public sector is second to none.

Sir, my first question would be about the quantum of amount which is being paid to this Company. Sir, it is known that these oil cartels not only were interested in making profits ruthlessly in the developing countries which are the real sources of petrol, but they dominated the politics of the two-thirds of the world because of their manipulations or manoeuvres. It is a good step, it is a right step that these oil cartels are finally driven out from the soil of India. But I fail to understand why compensation to a company which might have been remitted to the tune of nearly 80 to 90 crores of rupees in the last 25 years, since the days the refinery was set up. They have failed to invest a single penny in the country. Why are they paid such a huge amount of Rs. 14 crores as compensation or whatever you may call it? I am surprised and why is it that there is a provision in this Bill that this Company was not to pay any income-tax? I do not know what amount of income-tax evasion is there by this Company. For the failure to pay the income-tax, there will be a penalty. I am not sure. Who is going to bear it? They are going. You are not going to catch them after you take over. So, what steps have you taken? Why have you fixed such a huge amount for them? Similarly, as the other hon. Members mentioned and Mr. Bahuguna himself might have discovered, there are quite a few big elephants in the organisation whose salaries and perquisites, etc. came to about Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 15,000 per month. They are given posh flats, cars, *chaprasis*, bearers, etc. But there are very low wages at the bottom. The disparity was never so glaring as it is in the oil cartels.

Sir, I have studied in the Janata Manifesto that they are interested to reduce the disparity in incomes. Here is an ideal chance, a challenge to you. What are you going to do about it? Restructuring the whole organisation of the oil Company is absolutely essential. I would like the hon. Minister to give—today he would not be able to give in detail—just a bare outline, if he can. It will not only make the people conscious about the loot which had taken place in the past but it will also inspire the staff and the workers and the employees who are working there.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri V. B. Raju) in the Chair]

I do not know whether Mr. Bahuguna is aware that largescale retrenchment took place in the Caltex Company in Calcutta and other places, rather the jobs were handed over to contractors. Now, what is the policy of the present Government towards these retrenched employees, who are in hundreds? Are they going to be taken back? Are they going to be reinstated? Are they going to get back their jobs as are being given, to the employees' in the railways and the P & T Department? What policy are you going to follow in relation to the staff which was thrown out illegally and without any justification.

Similarly, I would like to know a little about as to what your policy and attitude is regarding offshore drilling and what about the role of multi-national companies which are highly interested in offshore drilling in Bombay and in the Bay of Bengal. Are you going to stop that as is demanded by the non-aligned countries, which are saying that there should be no manoeuvring and no manipulation by the multi-national companies in this field? So, I would like to know a little bit about that also.

Lbnri Kalyan KoyJ

Similarly, may I know what is your programme about oil exploration? I do not want to go into great details because you have taken over just now. I have been told that the exploration, of oil in the eastern part of the country has come to a halt, *i.e.*, in West Bengal, Tripura and Sunderbans. Are you going to seriously look into this problem and see that whatever obstructions are there, they are removed? I know that the American companies are not interested in helping developing countries or underdeveloped countries to build their own oil technology, or their own refineries, unless they get a share. There is a very strong, powerful international vested interest group which Mr. Malaviya had to fight all the time. How will you change it? How will you challenge it? It is not only an economic proposition; it is a political proposition also. They have their men inside the Government. They have their men at the decision-taking level. So, this is a political question, which you have to tackle very seriously.

As I mentioned in the beginning, I would like to know from Mr. Bahuguna about the total investment made by the company so far. In relation to that I would like to know whether the compensation that you are paying, is justified; and, if it is not justified, whether you would take some steps to reduce it.

Lastly, I would like to know whether it is possible to reduce the price of oil because oil price is determined internationally, and I know the difficulties there. The OPEC countries are all the time talking of helping underdeveloped countries. I must say that I absolutely share the agony of the Prime Minister Fidel Castro of Cuba, who stated very clearly that while the developing countries are all out to help the Arab people in their fight against Zionism and Israeli aggression,

feeling was being reciprocated by the Arab countries. Have you started some dialogue with the Arab countries so that this country, which is a developing country, gets oil at a reduced price, at a price which is less than what is being asked for from the Western European countries or the United States? This is a very serious problem. How are you going to tackle it?

From that I come to a very important though not a significant question and that is about the cooking gas, which is becoming very popular even among the middle classes and I agree that it is no more a luxury. I want to know whether the price of gas cylinders can be reduced. It is a problem which is being faced even by me and many others. I want to ask the Minister whether he has noticed lately in the press—I have written about it to Mr. Malaviya twice—that for the last eight months quite a few housewives were killed in Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi on account of defective gas cylinders which burst. Only the other day, I saw in the newspapers ^{that} there were some accidents on account of cylinder bursting. I do not think that much has been done to rectify these defects. What is the Minister going to do to allay the fears in the mind of the public regarding these cylinders? Then there are bottlenecks regarding supply of gas cylinders and agencies. All these

things are there. I hope Mr. Bahuguna, with his commitment to socialism, will seriously take a look into all these problems. Regarding advertisement policy I agree that it was channelised into certain directions, which were not very healthy. I would also like to know whether he would investigate into the activities of the 'officers responsible. Lastly, Sir, I fully welcome the Bill minus the amount part which is being paid to a cartel which has so far exploited us for the last thirty years.

شہزی سکندر علی وجد (مہاراشٹر):

شالی جناب وائس چیرمین صاحب
میں کال ٹیکس انڈیا کے قومیا نے کے
ہل کی ٹائڈ اور خیر مقدم کرتا
ہوں۔ اب تک یہ کمپنی آرامکو کے
لئے افسروں کی ریکورٹنگ کام بھی
کرتی رہی ہے اور یہاں آرامکو کے لئے
ڈاکٹر نوسہن انجینئر اور دوسرے
معاونین کو ریکورٹنگ کیا جاتا ہے۔
ان ریکورٹنگ کرنے والے افسروں کے خلاف
کئی سال سے یہ شکایت چلی آ رہی
ہے کہ یہ لوگ ماحصب (Communal)
اور رشوت خور (corrupt) ہیں اور قیمتی
توفعے اور رشوت لے کر لوگوں کو آرامکو
بھیجتے ہیں۔ آرامکو ایک بڑی کمپنی
ہے سعودی عرب میں۔ آئل کی سب
سے بڑی رہنمائی ہے وہاں تھنواہیں
بڑی اچھی ہیں۔ عربیوں کو یہ بتایا
جاتا ہے کہ ہندوستان میں مسلمان
تعلیم یافتہ نہیں ہیں اس لئے ان
کو وہاں نہیں بھیجا جاتا ہے
اس طرح ہمارا ملک عربستان میں
بدنام ہوتا ہے اور حقدار اور لائق لوگوں
کا حق مارا جاتا ہے۔ کچھ عرصہ
پہلے کال ٹیکس دلی کے جنرل

مہاراشٹر نے خود منجھ سے کہا اور
ڈاکٹر سید محمد سے جو ہمارے لا
میسٹر تھے کہا تھا کہ میں بارہ
مسلمان لہقی ڈاکٹروں کو آرامکو
بھیجنے کی گنجائش نکالنا ہوں۔
انہوں نے درخواستیں منگوائیں اور
درخواستیں آئیں۔ کپڑے سے بہت سے
لہقی ڈاکٹروں کی درخواستیں آئیں۔
ہم جنرل مہاراشٹر صاحب کے پاس
گئے۔ ایک مرتبہ نہیں گئی مرتبہ
ان کے گھر گئے اور دفتر کے چکر لگائے
لیکن وہ ہم کو ٹالتے رہے۔ آخر میں
تلگ آکر ہم خاموش ہو گئے۔ یہ
کال ٹیکس کے افسروں کا عمل ہے
پارلیمنٹ کے ممبروں کے ساتھ۔ میں
چونکہ بھٹی کا رہنے والا ہوں اور
وہاں ریکورمنٹ ہوتا ہے رہا، یہ
پروپونٹا ہے اور عربستان میں بھی
ہے کہ ہندوستانی مسلمانوں کو عرب
لینا نہیں چاہتے اور ہندوستانی
مسلمان کچھ جانتے نہیں ہیں۔
یہ بات غلط ہے ظاہر ہے کہ یہ بات
بالکل جھوٹ ہے۔ خود ہمارے اورنگ
آباد کے کئی ڈاکٹر انجینئر فارسی
آہنسر اچھے دوستوں اور عزیزوں کے ذریعے
سعودی عرب گئے ہیں وہاں اچھا

[شری سکندر علی وجد]
 کام کر رہے ہیں اور اچھی تنخواہ پر
 رہے ہیں بلکہ ہندوستان کا نام اونچا
 کر رہے ہیں - خود سلطان خالد کے
 استغاثہ کا ہمارے اسٹیشن ڈائریکٹر قاضی
 مسجد الدین اورنگ آباد کا دھننے والا
 ہے جو کئی سال سے ہمارے ملک کا
 نام روشن کر رہا ہے - ڈائریکٹر مورتی الدین
 کو آپ بھی جانتے ہونگے وہ اور وہاں
 کئی ڈائریکٹر اور انجینئر اچھا کام کر رہے ہیں
 لیکن بمبئی اور دہلی کے ڈیپارٹمنٹ افسروں
 کی نظر میں ان کی کوئی عزت
 نہیں ہے - میں چاہتا ہوں کہ یہ لوگ
 جی ان ڈیپارٹمنٹ افسروں کو اپنے
 منہ پر لیں تو ان کی بڑی
 سخت اسکریننگ کریں ان کو بے ایمانی
 کی عادت ہو گئی ہے ان کے منہ کو
 رشوت کا خون لگ چکا ہے - اب یہ
 کمپنی ہماری کمپنی ہو گئی ہے یہ
 کوئی بیرونی کمپنی نہیں ہے - ان
 افسروں سے آپ کو اس کمپنی کو
 صاف کرنا ہوگا اور اسے کرپٹ
 اور کمپنل لوگوں کو وہاں سے نکال
 دینا ہوگا - اس طریقہ سے ہمارے
 ملک میں اور ہندوستان میں ہمارے
 ماہرین کی عزت بڑھے گی یہاں کی
 بے روزگاری میں بھی کمی قدر کمی

واقع ہوئی - دیا آپ ہم کو کبھی
 بتائیں گے کہ ایک چھوٹی سی رپورٹ
 سے کہ ان پانچ سالوں میں وہاں کس
 طرح ڈیپارٹمنٹ ہوا - کس انداز پر
 ڈیپارٹمنٹ ہوا کن لوگوں نے کیا اور
 کس طریقہ سے کیا اس لئے کہ اب یہ
 پبلک سیکٹر کی بات ہے - اس ادارے
 کے سلسلہ میں ہم کو کچھ شبہات
 ہیں ہم چاہیں گے کہ ان سارے
 شبہات کو آپ رفع کر دیں - یہ
 پبلک سیکٹر ہے تو واقعی پبلک
 سیکٹر ہے اور جو پبلک سیکٹر کا
 فرض ہے وہی انجام دے - بے ایمان
 آفیسر بے کار افسر رشوت لینے والے افسر
 یہاں نہ رہ سکیں -

یہ میری نہیں بلکہ سارے تعلیم
 یافتہ پروگراموں کی ہی قہماندہ ہے -
 یہ کام بہت جلد گہرائی اور ایمانداری
 سے کرنا جائے تاکہ کرپٹ اور کمپنل
 افسروں کا پوری طرح صفایا ہو جائے -
 امید ہے کہ موجودہ حکومت پبلک
 سیکٹر کو اور زیادہ بڑھائے گی اور
 پچھلی حکومت سے بھی زیادہ بڑھائے
 گی - بہت بہت شکریہ -

†[श्री सिकन्दर अली बज्द (महाराष्ट्र) :
 आली जनाब वाईस चैयरमैन साहब, मैं
 कालटेक्स इण्डिया के कौमयाने के विल की ताईद
 और खेर मकदम करता हूं। अब तक यह
 कम्पनी आरामको के लिये अफसरों की रेक्यूटिंग
 का काम भी करती रही है और यहां से आरामको
 के लिये डाक्टर, नर्स, इंजीनियर और दूसरे
 माहरीन को रेक्यूट किया जाता है। इन
 रेक्यूट करने वाले अफसरों के खिलाफ कई
 साल से यह शिकायत चली आ रही
 है कि ये लोग मुत्तस्सब (Communal)
 और रिश्वतखोर (Corrupt) हैं और
 लोगों को आरामको भेजने हैं। आरामको
 एक बड़ी कम्पनी है सऊदी अरब में। आयल
 को सबसे बड़ी रिफायनरी है वहां, तनख्वाहें
 बड़ी अच्छी हैं। गरीबों को यह बताया जाता
 है कि हिन्दुस्तान में मुसलमान तालीमयाफ्ता
 नहीं हैं—इसलिए उनको वहां नहीं भेजा जाता
 है। इस तरह हमारा मुल्क अरबिस्तान में
 बदनाम होता है और हकदार और लायक लोगों
 का हक मारा जाता है। कुछ अर्सी पहले कालटेक्स
 दिल्ली के जनरल मैनेजर ने खुद मुझ से और
 डाक्टर सैयद मुहम्मद से जो हमारे ला
 मिनिस्टर थे कहा था कि मैं बहरा मुसलमान
 लेडी डाक्टरों को आरामको भेजने
 की गुंजाइश निकालता हूं। उन्होंने दरखवास्तें
 मंगवाई और दरखवास्तें आई। केरल से बहुत
 से लेडी डाक्टरों की दरखवास्तें आई। हम
 जनरल मैनेजर साहब के पास गये—एक मरतबा
 नहीं, कई मरतबा उनके घर गये और दफ्तर
 के चक्कर लगाए लेकिन वह हमको टालते
 रहे। आखिर में तंग आकर हम खामोश
 हो गए। ये कालटेक्स के अफसरों का अमल
 है पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बरों के साथ।
 मैं चूंकि बम्बई का रहने वाला हूं और
 वहां रेक्यूटमेंट होता है वहां यह
 प्रोपोगण्डा है और अरबिस्तान में भी है
 कि हिन्दुस्तानी मुसलमानों को अरब

लेना नहीं चाहते और हिन्दुस्तानी
 मुसलमान कुछ जानते नहीं हैं। यह बात
 गलत है। जाहिर है कि यह बात बिल्कुल
 झूठ है। खुद हमारे औरंगाबाद के कई
 डाक्टर, इंजीनियर फारिस्ट अफसर अपने
 दोस्तों और अजीजों के जरिए सऊदी अरब
 गए हैं। वहां अच्छा काम कर रहे हैं
 और अच्छी तनख्वाह पा रहे हैं, बल्कि
 हिन्दुस्तान का नाम ऊंचा कर रहे हैं।
 खुद सुल्तान खालिद के स्टाफ का हार्ट
 स्पेशलिस्ट डाक्टर काजी मजीदुद्दीन
 औरंगाबाद का रहने वाला है जो कई साल
 ने हमारे मुल्क का नाम रोशन कर रहा है।
 डाक्टर मौसक उद्दीन को आप भी जानते
 होंगे, वो और वहां कई डाक्टर और
 इंजीनियर अच्छा काम कर रहे हैं लेकिन
 बम्बई और दिल्ली के रेक्यूटिंग अफसरों
 की नजर में उनकी कोई इज्जत नहीं
 है। मैं चाहता हूं कि बहुगुणा जी इन
 रेक्यूटिंग अफसरों को अपने महकमे में ले
 तो उनकी बड़ी सक्त स्क्रीनिंग करें। उनको
 बेईमानी की आदत हो गई है, उनके
 मुंह को रिश्वत का खून लग चुका है।
 अब यह कम्पनी हमारी कम्पनी हो गई
 है, यह कोई बेरुनी कम्पनी नहीं है।
 उन अफसरों से आपको इस कम्पनी को
 साफ करना होगा और ऐसे करण्ट और
 कम्प्युनल लोगों को वहां से निकाल देना होगा
 इस तरीके से हमारे मुल्क में और अरबि-
 स्तान में हमारे माहरीन की इज्जत बढ़ेगी
 और यहां की बेरोजगारी में भी किसी
 कदर की वाक्या होगी। क्या आप
 हमको कभी बताएंगे—एक छोटीसी रिपोर्ट
 से कि इन पांच सालों में वहां किस
 तरह रिक्लूटमेंट हुआ, किस अन्दाज
 पर रिक्लूटमेंट हुआ, किन लोगों ने किया
 और किस तरीके से किया। इस लिए
 कि अब यह पब्लिक सेक्टर की बात है।
 इस अदारे के सिलसिले में हमको कुछ

[श्री सिकन्दर अली वज्ज]

शुबहात हैं, हम चाहेंगे कि इन सारे शुबहात को आप रफ़ा कर दें। यह पब्लिक सेक्टर है तो बाकई पब्लिक सेक्टर रहे और जो पब्लिक सेक्टर का फ़ज है वही अनजाम दे, बेईमान अफसर, बेकार अफसर, रिश्वत लेने वाले अफसर यहां न रह सके। यह मेरी नहीं बल्कि सारे तालीमयाफता बेरोजगारों की भी डिमाण्ड है। यह काम बहुत जल्द गहराई और ईमानदारी से किया जाए ताकि करप्ट और कम्युनल आफीसरों का पूरी तरह सफाया हो जाए। उम्मीद है कि मौजूदा हुकूमत पब्लिक सेक्टर को और ज्यादा बढ़ाएगी और पिछली हुकूमत से भी ज्यादा बढ़ाएगी—बहुत बहुत शुक्रिया।]

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to the Members for welcoming this Bill and paying tributes both to my predecessor and the previous Government for having followed a really good policy with regard to the development and ownership of this particular sector, namely, oil. • However, many doubts have been raised and many questions have been raised with regard to certain basic features of this Bill. The first one, Sir, is about the amount paid for acquiring the shares and functions of this particular organisation, which is a multi-national operating in India. As the House knows, Sir, I had, at the outset, said that this was by way of a bargain struck between the predecessor Government on the one hand and Caltex on the other.

Now, a number of questions were raised as to what really the Caltex had invested in India and how much profit they had repatriated. I have those figures. But I do not think any purpose would be served by giving those figures because I have no doubt in my mind that this nation has the power to take over any industry or avocation or business in view of the amendment of the Constitution which this august House and the other House made after the Congress Government came to

power in the wake of the 1971 elections. We could determine the amount that had to be paid and not negotiate the whole thing. It was within the competence of the Government. But for reasons, and quite weighty reasons, which may not be acceptable to those who have a socialist view, but who know that this country has a mixed economy and that, for some time to come, we will have to depend on many types of situations and bear with them, negotiations were entered into. In the ultimate analysis, it came down to Rs. 13 crores. This was the amount determined. It is true that Caltex was exempted from the payment of capital gains tax etc. on that amount, which did mean Rs. 4.29 crores. But Sir, this obviously means payment in rupee and not in dollars. In effect, this is a book adjustment by which the nation neither loses nor gains, except that Rs. 13 crores, in all, is to be repatriated outside this country. Now, there is no option, since it is a part of the bargain, it would be a breach of trust and faith for which this country would not have any justification and it is not in the way of things acceptable either to this side or that side of the House. We do not mean expropriation of any property. We do want to pay something. Obviously, Sir, the amount determined by the predecessor Government was Rs. 13 crores. True, it is paid in instalments, and for good reasons. It is paid in instalments because we do not want the total foreign exchange to go out all at once. Some advantage is there in it. So far as the question raised by the hon. Member, Shri Kalyan Roy, is concerned, about the liabilities of these people to pay past taxes or past liabilities before the date of takeover, the relevant date, all that is being taken care of and the Caltex people have agreed to make such payments as become due against them within 60 days of the claim made against them. Now these liabilities for 1975 and earlier years are taken care of.

So far as this capital gains tax is concerned, as I have said, it is paid in

rupee and, therefore, though we save the foreign exchange, but it is true that the Caltex gains all the amount of Rs. 13 crores in take off. The question was raised as to how much they invested. The earlier dollar investment of Caltex was 20 million and in addition an interest free loan of three million pound sterling was extended to the Indian company by the Caltex U.K.

It is true that the Caltex India had in their supervisory hierarchy officers with very high scales of pay, including extra-ordinary perks which did not have any comparison with our oil company official pay structure and, therefore, we will have to see and we have made a provision in this very Act. While we have covered every workman, his rate of pay, his conditions of service, even in the case where he is a temporary worker, have made it plain that with regard to officers who do not come within the purview of this particular provision which gives protection, who is beyond that, we have clearly said that we reserve the right to screen them. We reserve the right to absorb them. But we also reserve the right to offer them those salaries which parallel designations carry in our existing organisations. If these officers feel that they cannot work within these conditions, well, they would be most welcome to choose retirement. We are not bound to take all of them. The law makes it abundantly clear. However, it will be our endeavour to see that brain-drain does not take place. This will not apply to managerial staff but so far as very good scientists and technologically eminent people are concerned, it will be our endeavour to see that these people are not taken away and we do not suffer on that account.

Sir, some questions were raised about the very structure of petroleum prices etc. It is true, Sir, that these are » very important segments, wherein our middle class, town-folk and even the common man sometimes is very much involved, but I am greatly worried, in fact, about kerosene oil, which covers more households than both; of these

items (cooking gas and petrol) put together. And yet I am not in a position to say today what shall be the position of this important and very strategic raw material or input in the life of our people. Nevertheless, it will be our endeavour to reduce the cost of production to the extent desirable to rationalise market, to reduce costs on all counts but I cannot say today whether it will be possible for us to do anything in the matter of reduction of price. ^

A point was made by my friend, Shri Bhandari, about the operational cost, the transportation cost and he said that the whole thing, should be looked into realistically. I am sure we do mean business. We shall have to look into it very realistically. But a number of claims are being made by a number of people. For example, the petrol pump owners want something more and everybody wants, more. Whereas the consumer wants things at a lesser price, the distributors or the people involved in operation are asking for more. The two are contradictory in nature. Nevertheless, I do not mean that one sector should suffer for the benefit of the other. And yet the people of India should have the very best out of us. I can only assure the House that I have been in this Ministry for hardly a week, but I will try to bend my energies in the direction in which the House expects me to do.

Sir, a talk has been made about Indianisation of our entire organisational structure. I am sure this is the most welcome suggestion made and we will have it. This particular takeover or acquisition is one step, a big step in that direction. So far as the other small companies are concerned, I have not yet made up my mind as to what really should be the policy, how we should approach the question. But it is sure that we do mean to try to make this company also come within the basic fold of ownership of this whole industry by the people of India. What will happen, how it will be done

[Shri H. N. Bahugima]

and achieved, will certainly be known to this House at the appropriate time.

Now, Sir, questions were raised about the compensation. I have said very plainly that this was in the bargain and it would not be either correct or possible for this Government to go back on this, since this is a commitment with a foreign company, already entered into by way of agreement between the Government of India, our predecessor Government, approved by the Cabinet and every one and those people who own Caltex in India. Therefore, we have to defend on it.

So far as the question of off-shore and on-shore drilling and the licensing of some people for Bay of Bengal, Kutch area or Sunderbans Area is concerned, I am looking into it. I would not like to make any more comment than this that the matter is under active consideration.

So far as what my hon. friend, Shri Kalyan Roy, said about the retrenched employees is concerned, I made a commitment in the Lower House which I would like to make here also. We cannot take back all the retrenched employees or any retrenched employee in the Caltex itself. But those who have been retrenched, if they are willing to serve in the new refineries which will come up and if we have a place for them, we will certainly give them a consideration and would certainly like to have them and make use of their capabilities. But due to computerisation, if some people became surplus to requirements and they have been retrenched, it is no more possible to load them on to this particular industry. However, if there are younger people and if there are vacancies due to natural wastage, certainly that can be looked into in case the person is suited to the requirements of the job.

One thing more and I have done. It is about the gas cylinders. As of now, we have enough capacity for manufacturing gas cylinders. It has

been brought to our notice in the House here that some accidents have taken place. I really do not know who controls this right now. I must beg the pardon of the House that I cannot say that the quality control, or control of Indian Standardisation specifications, or whatever it is, looked after by which Ministry. But I will certainly also have this taken up by my Ministry, or the Ministry concerned, so that this type of tragedy which the hon. Member, Shri Kalyan Roy, referred to does not take place. It will be our endeavour to see that we serve our people to the best of our capacity.

So far as the question of ownership of this particular type of industry is concerned, I am very happy that the previous Government, as I said, has followed the path shown by Shri Jawaharlal Nehru and I can assure the House that the same path shall be consistently followed in relation to this particular sector. I have no doubt in my mind that the country will move forward, find more oil, become self-reliant. But obviously, Sir, in oil one has to have pluck and luck.

I wish the House all luck, the country all luck and I hope I too will have some luck in being able to find some more oil.

With these words, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members who have given their views on this Bill with candour.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): The question is:

"That the Bill to provide, in the public interest, for the acquisition of the shares of Caltex Oil Refining (India) Limited and for the acquisition and transfer of the right title and interest of Caltex (India) Limited in relation to its undertakings in India and thereby to secure that the ownership and control of the petroleum products produced by the Caltex Oil Refining

(India) Limited, and marketed and distributed by the said undertakings, in India, are so distributed as best to subserve the common good, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration".

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 24 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

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

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be passed."

Sir, I want to give only one assurance. My hon. friend has raised the point as to what sort of policy we would have with regard to officers in this concern. Not only in this concern, Sir, but in the whole Ministry the policy will be that any person who is not secular or any communal element shall have no place and we shall see that secular people alone are allowed to function here.

The question was proposed,

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, on a point of inquiry. Sir, we hear that the British pipes which ONGC was buying from England was importing them through Indian Tube, after the visit of one of the executive personnel, Mr. Charles Gordon, to this country during the period of emergency, the sole agency has been transferred to some other concern. There is a question and I hope he will give an answer to it. But why could *not* these pipes be imported through the public sector undertaking? One Mr. Jhunjhunwaia, I am told, met Mr. Charles Gordon.

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when he visited this country and virtually prevailed upon Indian Tube— I am not bothered about Indian Tube—to transfer the sole agency to some other concern. This is not good. Tatas should go, undoubtedly, from the sole agency. But there is no need for spurious companies being patronised and favoured and I think when answering questions on Monday he will give the facts about the position of the pipes from British Steel, whether Mr. Charles Gordon came to India during the emergency, whether he was met, what was the result of the negotiations and whether the sole agency has been transferred from the company to another spurious company. I am not naming it for a variety of reasons. I think on Monday he will clarify this position.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): Mr. Minister, have you anything to say?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Sir, I am grateful to my hon. friend for telling me the supplement in advance. I will see whether I have all the material on the file. I will prepare myself for that. I can assure my friend that so far as I am concerned I will not allow any spurious people to come anywhere near me or my Ministry.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): The question is:

"That the Bill be passed!"

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. on Monday.

The House then adjourned at thirty-five minutes past six of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 11th April, 1977.