

**MOTION FOR ELECTION TO
THE POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF
MEDICAL EDUCATION AND
RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
PLANNING (CHAUDHARY RAM SE-
WAK) : Sir, I beg to move the following
Motion :—

"That in pursuance of clause (g) of section 5 read with sub-section (4) of section 6 of the Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh Act, 1966 (51 of 1966), this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one member from among the members of the House to be a member of the Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, in the vacancy caused by the retirement of Dr. K. Nagappa Alva from the membership of the Rajya Sabha."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO SHRI M.
KAMALANATHAN**

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that a letter dated the 6th May, 1976, has been received from Shri M. Kamalanathan, to the effect that leave of absence from attending the 96th Session of the House may be granted to him on account of his detention.

Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to Shri M. Kamalanathan for remaining absent from all meetings of the House during the 96th Session of the Rajya Sabha ?

(No hon. Member dissented)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

lie Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amend-
ment Bill, 1976

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

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose herewith the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 1976, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th May, 1976."

Sir, I lay the Bill on the Table.

THE FINANCE BILL, 1976

THE MINISTER OF REVENUE AND
BANKING (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)
: Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1976-77, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the Bill has been before the hon'ble Members for nearly nine weeks. During the general debate on the Budget, hon'ble Members made valuable suggestions for improvement of the provisions in the Bill. A number of useful suggestions were also received from members of the public, chambers of commerce, etc. Sir, I am grateful to the hon'ble Members and all others who have made constructive suggestions for the improvement of the Bill. Certain modifications to the proposals contained in the Bill were formulated in the light of these suggestions and these have been incorporated in the Bill as passed by the Lok Sabha. In his speech on the Finance Bill in the Lok Sabha on May 12, the Finance Minister had announced certain new concessions in the sphere of direct taxes.

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These new concessions have also been incorporated in the Finance Bill as passed by the Lok Sabha. I shall confine my observations to explaining the changes that have been made in the Bill during its consideration in the Lok Sabha, starting first with direct taxes.

The main modifications relate to the scheme of taxation of interest and royalties in the case of non-residents. One of the provisions in the Bill specifies the circumstances in which interest payable by a non-resident will be deemed to accrue or arise in India. Under the provision, is introduced, interest payable in respect of any debt incurred or moneys borrowed and used by a non-resident for the purposes of his business or profession carried on by him in India or for the purposes of making or earning any income from any source in India was deemed to accrue or arise in India. It was represented that the proposed provision cast the tax net a little too wide. For instance, if a foreign company intending to invest in the shares of an Indian company borrowed money from a bank in a foreign country, the foreign bank would have become liable to Indian income-tax on interest received from the foreign company. Similarly, if a consortium of foreign banks provided funds to a lead bank for advancing loans to an enterprise in India, the interest paid by the foreign lead bank to the consortium of banks would be chargeable to Indian income-tax. The nexus between the investment in India and the foreign banks in such cases is somewhat tenuous. As the taxation of interest income in such cases would have also adversely affected foreign investment in India, the provision has been modified so as to restrict its scope to cases where interest is paid by a non-resident in respect of any debt incurred or moneys borrowed and used for the purposes of a business or profession carried on by the non-resident in India.

Hitherto, lump sum payments of royalties received by foreign companies outside India for the delivery of designs and drawings relating to any patent, invention, etc. on '-

side India were not chargeable to tax. Other royalty payments received by such companies under approved agreements were chargeable to tax at the rate of 52.5 per cent on a net basis, that is, after allowing deduction in respect of expenses. Under the Bill as introduced, such lump sum payments or royalties were brought within the ambit of taxation. It was, however, represented that foreign suppliers of technical know-how had entered into agreements or had finalised proposals for the receipt of such lump sum royalties with the approval of the Central Government on the understanding that such payments would be exempt from tax. In order to mitigate hardship in such cases, the relevant provision has been amended to exempt from income-tax lump sum payments of this type received under approved agreements made before 1st April, 1976. Lump sum payments received under agreements made after 31st March, 1976 would also be exempt from tax in cases where such agreements have been made in accordance with proposals approved by the Central Government before 1st April, 1976. In the case of foreign companies, this exemption will be available only if they exercise an option in this behalf and where such option is exercised, the remaining royalty income will be charged to tax as if the agreement had been made before 1st April, 1976.

Another important modification made in the provisions of the Finance Bill relates to valuation of self-occupied house property for the purposes of wealth-tax. Under the Bill, as introduced, the value of one self-occupied house property owned by the tax-payer was to be frozen at the value adopted for the year in which the property was constructed or acquired by the taxpayer or the value as adopted for the assessment year 1971-72, whichever is later. It was represented that the market value of urban property may fall in certain circumstances and, in such cases, it will not be fair to adopt a value higher than the current market price of the property. In order to mitigate hardship in such cases, the Finance Bill has been amended to provide

that the special provision for valuation of self-occupied house property will apply only at the option of the tax-payer. Hence, if the market value of the self-occupied house property goes down, the tax-payer will have the option to have the property valued at its current price, instead of the value as adopted for the assessment year 1971-72. I shall now briefly deal with the new tax concessions announced by the Finance Minister and incorporated in the Bill as passed by the Lok Sabha. Hon'ble Members will be happy to note that the additional facilities allowance received by them under the Members of Parliament (Additional Facilities) Rules, 1975 has been made, completely tax free.

Under the existing provisions in the Income-tax Act, 50 per cent of the qualifying amount of donations made by a person to certain funds and charitable institutions is deducted in computing the taxable income of the donor. In order to encourage liberal donations for purposes of promoting family planning, the relevant provisions in the Income-tax Act has been amended to raise the deduction in respect of donations made to Government, approved local bodies and organisations for promoting family planning from 50 per cent to 100 per cent, of the qualifying amount of such donation.

Under a provision made in the Income-tax Act by the Finance Act, 1975, inter-corporate dividends derived by domestic companies from new companies engaged in the manufacture of fertilisers, pesticides, cement, and paper, pulp and newsprint were completely exempted from income-tax. In order to channelise corporate savings into high priority industries, the area of this concession has now been enlarged to include industries engaged in the manufacture of non-ferrous metals, ferro alloys and special steels, steel castings and forgings, electric motors, industrial and agricultural machinery, earth-moving machinery, machine tools, commercial vehicles, ships, tyres and tubes, heavy chemicals and industrial explosives.

I shall now deal with the changes that have been found necessary in the field of indirect taxes. It has been urged that the new rates proposed in the budget for superfine and fine fabrics produced by powerlooms and processed by independent processors have been pitched high and are now almost equal to the rates levied on similar fabrics produced in the composite mill sector. In order to maintain a suitable differential, so that processed fabrics of the powerloom sector are able to compete with similar fabrics produced by the composite mill sector, the rates of duty on fine and superfine fabrics manufactured in powerlooms and processed by independent processors with the aid of power have been reduced from 14 per cent as proposed in the budget, to 12 per cent *ad valorem*. Corresponding adjustment has also been made in respect of superfine and fine handloom processed fabrics by reducing the duty from 12 per cent to 10 per cent *ad valorem*. The revenue effect of these proposals regarding textiles will be a loss of Rs. 1.30 crores in a full year.

Prior to the budget, there was a duty exemption in respect of hand-printed cotton fabrics, which during this budget had been restricted to fabrics which were printed with not more than three colours, since fabrics printed with more than three colours, were generally costlier. However, a large number of representations were received after the budget about the hardship which the hand-printers, who were generally in the decentralised sector, had to undergo. Some hon. Members of this House had also written to me and to the Finance Minister, drawing our attention to this position. As there was some substance in these complaints, orders have been passed restoring the original position.

It has been urged that since Government have thought fit to grant excise duty concessions to passenger cars, the duty on agricultural tractors should be reduced, if not abolished. The two cases are, however, not strictly comparable. Whereas the production of passenger cars went down steeply during 1975, that of agricultural tractors

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has not shown any such downward trend. However, since a number of hon. Members expressed concern about the high price of tractors used for agricultural purposes, excise duty on tyres, tubes and batteries supplied as original equipment for use in agricultural tractors has been exempted. This measure will result in a revenue- loss of Rs. 2.60 crores in one full year.

A number of representations have been received to the effect that the increase in the duty on certain varieties of printing and writing paper has been very steep. Having carefully examined these representations, the duty on certain varieties of cream-laid and cream-woven paper in common use of substance not exceeding 65 grams per sq. metre has been reduced from 25 per cent to 15 per cent *ad valorem*. This exemption will result in a revenue loss of Rs. 3.65 crores in a full year.

Ever since the general 1 per cent duty was levied in the 1975 budget on residuary items, a number of representations have been received from manufacturers of roofing tiles for exemption from the levy of this duty. It has been represented that these tiles are exclusively used in the construction of houses occupied by families who cannot be said to be affluent and should, therefore, not be taxed. Considering all the circumstances, roofing tiles have been exempted from the 1 per cent duty under item 68 of the Central Excise tariff. This will result in a loss of revenue of Rs. 15 lakhs in a full year.

When excise duty on starch, on which 1 per cent duty was levied in the 1975 budget, was increased to 10 per cent in the present budget, there were a large number of representations from manufacturers, especially of tapioca starch. There are essentially two forms of starch, namely, maize starch and tapioca starch, the former being produced mostly in the organised sector and the latter largely in the small scale sector. It has been said that tapioca starch is unable to compete with maize starch, which is superior. Further, the pro-

ducers of tapioca starch complained of hardship in complying with excise procedures, since their activities were on a small scale and their locations were dispersed. Considering these factors, it has already been ordered that small units, whose clearances during the preceding financial year did not exceed Rs. 5 lakhs, may be exempted from duty on the first Rs. 1 lakh value of clearances during a financial year. By way of administrative simplification, the self-removal procedure system has also been extended to this commodity, and tariff value has also been fixed for tapioca starch. The duty on starch of all kinds has also been exempted when such starch is used in the manufacture of glucose or dextrose.

Patent or proprietary medicine was one of the items on which several hon. Members of the House had some comments to offer. During the general discussion of the Budget it was clarified that the excise duty on essential drugs of life-saving nature had not been increased in the budget. Since then some persons have suggested that there is perhaps scope for enlarging the list of essential drugs for which a concessional rate of duty is charged. I have no objection to consider such enlargement of the list. Any specific proposal for inclusion of a drug or medicine in the list of essential drugs or medicines should be taken up with the Ministry of Health who, if they are satisfied, will no doubt recommend the case for favourable consideration.

In the budget proposals certain adjustments had been made in the customs and excise duties on copper mainly with a view to reducing the impact of excise duty on indigenously produced copper and to increase the import duty on imported copper. International prices of copper have, however, meanwhile risen sharply and, as a result, the landed cost of imported copper is likely to be higher than that estimated at the time of the budget. In these circumstances the import duty on copper has been reduced from 60 per cent to the pre-budget figure of 45 per cent *ad valorem*. Corresponding reduction has also been made in respect of certain copper manufactures and copper

scrap. Since the increase in the price of copper will tend to augment revenues, I do not expect that the latest reduction in the rate of customs duty will result in any net revenue loss.

Representations have also been received about the increase in customs duty on alloy and high carbon steel. The case of cold rolled grain oriented steel which is required for manufacture of transformers and of which there is no indigenous production seemed to deserve some special consideration specially since the duty incidence would largely fall on the public sector, including the State Electricity Boards. The duty on such steel has, therefore, been reduced from 75 per cent to 40 per cent. This proposal will result in a loss of Rs. 2.20 crores in a full year.

In the budget speech, the Finance Minister had referred to a new scheme of excise duty relief to encourage higher production. He had then indicated that details of the scheme were being worked out and that he expected that it would be introduced for one year in the first instance. On reconsideration, it has been found that a period of one year may be too short for the scheme to make its full impact and, therefore, the scheme is proposed to be operated for at least three years during which period the results achieved will be watched. It is also proposed to widen the scope of the scheme to cover new units which will be set up during the current and the next two financial years, as well as to units set up in the recent past. This will confer considerable benefit to new capital-intensive units. Further details of the scheme are being worked out and notifications to give effect to it will be issued in the near future.

The modifications referred to above, which have already been announced by the Finance Minister in the Lok Sabha on the 12th May 1976, will entail a sacrifice of revenue of the order of Rs. 9.90 crores in one full year. All these modifications except those relating to higher-production relief have already been given effect to by issue of suitable modifications.

Sir, I commend the Bill to the House.

The question was proposed.

SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA (Bihar):
Sir, I stand here to oppose the motion moved by the honourable Minister. It is not because I am opposed to the various concessions announced by the Finance Minister in the Lok Sabha. Many of the concessions are welcome and many of the proposals in the Finance Bill are also welcome, particularly those which relate to the reliefs to be given to the common people.

[Mr. Deputy Chairman in the Chair]

But I am opposed to the general scheme of finance; I am opposed to the basic concept of finance; and I am opposed to the general trends in the financial policy of the Government as revealed in the Finance Bill. Sir, I will explain my position by referring to the general economic situation.

It was after some stagnation in the economy spreading over a number of years that the recent growth has taken place last year and the situation has improved. But the improvement in the situation reveals two contradictory trends. On the one hand, there has been an eight per cent increase in agricultural production and a fifteen per cent increase in production in the State sector. On the other hand, in the private sector, the same old trend of stagnation and even decline continues. According to the Economic Survey, the average rate of growth for the public sector as a whole excluding the NTC mills was close to 15 per cent during the period April-December 1975 as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. As against this, if we take the case of the private sector, we have the following comments:

"If the average performance of the industrial sector still remains unsatisfactory, it is largely due to a sharp decline in the production of cotton textiles and in a number of other industries such as

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jeeps and motor cars, room air-conditioners, cigarettes, radio receivers, electric fans, dry cells and plastics. The production of mill-made cotton cloth and yarn during the period April—December, 1975 shows a fall of 10.3 per cent and 4.5 per cent respectively as compared to the period April—December, '1974."

So, Sir, we have two contradictory trends in the economy. On the one hand, agriculture has shown a better performance by raising production by eight per cent and the State sector has put up an admirable performance by raising production by fifteen per cent and we must congratulate both the peasants in the agricultural sector and the workers and the management in the State sector who have helped to bring about this increase in production. But, in the private sector, we have the picture of stagnation and decline. Now, if this is the situation of our economy, the Finance Bill should contain proposals to reward the peasantry and the working class and the management of the State sector and to punish or at least to discipline the captains of industry in the private sector. Unfortunately, the Finance Bill does just the opposite. In the Finance Bill, as placed before Parliament, a number of concessions have been granted to the big monopoly houses of the private sector. Firstly, in the case of Income-Tax, the maximum rate has been slashed down from 77 per cent to 66 per cent and when we examine the various slabs, we find the peculiar policy of the Government. For example, the reduction in tax on incomes of one lakh is 11 per cent.

But the reduction in tax on incomes above Rs. 10 lakhs is 19 per cent. So, the higher the income, the greater the reduction. I do not know what is the philosophy of the Finance Minister. He wants to help not only the rich but the richest amongst the rich. The richer you are, the greater help you get from the Finance Minister. Such is the philosophy of this Finance Bill.

Secondly, Sir, investment allowance has been granted. Companies have been exempted from the surcharge on income-tax, provided they make a certain deposit.

Thirdly, Sir, wealth-tax has been reduced. And even in the case of wealth-tax, reduction of tax in the lower slabs is smaller than reduction in the higher slabs. I do not want to quote figures.

Now, in defence of these steps, the Finance Minister, while presenting the Budget, argued that high tax rates led to tax evasion, smuggling, black money operations, etc. And he said that with reduction in the rates of tax it is hoped that there would be better tax compliance. The Finance Minister cited the example of 1973-74 when the income-tax rates were reduced and, he said, it led to better results because the tax collection improved.

Now, Sir, I want to quote here the study made by the Political and Economic Weekly. It shows that this claim made by the Finance Minister is totally unfounded. I am quoting the Political and Economic Weekly of March 13, 1976

"In fact, it is not correct to say that receipts went up in consequence of the reduction in personal income-tax rates. Revenue from personal income-tax was Rs. 747 crores in 1974-75 (RE) as against Rs. 745 crores in 1973-74. Let us see by how much the national income went up at current prices. National income, in current prices, is estimated to have gone up from Rs. 49,480 crores in 1973-74 to Rs. 60,475 crores, implying an increase of 22 per cent. Sn assuming a unit sensitivity of personal income-tax revenues to national income at current prices (theoretically, one should be assuming a sensitivity ratio of more than one for a progressive tax), the receipts from personal income-tax should have gone up by Rs. 154 crores if the rates had been left undisturbed. Therefore, the loss on account of the

decline in personal income-tax rates was of the order of at least Rs. 150 crores. In the circumstances, it cannot be argued that reduction in personal income-tax rates raises revenue or even that it causes no reduction in revenue....".

So, Sir, in 1973-74 we made concessions which meant a revenue loss of Rs. 150 crores. In other words, the Government made a gift of Rs. 150 crores to the monopoly houses in the country. This year, again, the rates have been slashed down from 77 per cent to 66 per cent. And according to a calculation made by the Times of India of March 27, 1976, this would mean a further gift of Rs. 120 crores this year. So, Rs. 270 crores have been gifted away to the monopoly houses in the name of increasing production. The truth of the matter is that they are not increasing production. Rather, they are engaged in restricting production so as to raise prices.

Similarly, Sir, the amount which has been gifted away to companies and corporations which has been estimated by the Statesman owned by the Tatas will be nearly Rs. 100 crores as a result of this Budget. So, Rs. 270 crores gifted away in personal income-tax and Rs. 100 crores gifted away in corporation tax, Rs. 370 crores, have been given precisely to those people who are responsible for stagnation and decline in production. Now, Sir, what is the attitude towards the common people? Our tax system has become more and more regressive. As a matter of fact, out of 7,892 crores of total tax revenue, 4,100 crores are raised from excise duties and 1,509 crores are raised from customs. So, the customs and excise duties together account for more than two-thirds of the tax revenue. The share of income-tax which used to be 14 per cent previously has now come down to 12 per cent. We talk of socialism. The Government also talks of socialism. I must thank the Finance Minister that he has not mentioned the word 'socialism' at all. He

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does not believe in socialism or rather he opposed to socialism. He does not talk of socialism. He talks of concessions to the monopolists. That is good. At least, he is straightforward. But the Government talks of socialism. Our Constitution lays down that our objective is to build socialism. The Five Year Plans lay down that our objective is to reduce disparities in incomes. But the tax proposals in the Finance Bill do not decrease the disparities or rather they increase the disparities. As a matter of fact, when the income-tax rates were first reduced in 1973-74, it was argued that the wealth-tax rates were being increased so as to maintain the parity in incomes and so as not to lead to greater disparities in incomes. This year, the Finance Minister has given up even that plea. He has reduced both the personal income-tax as well as the wealth-tax. The concessions in indirect taxes also point in the same direction. Concessions have been given to ordinary people on some of the items like clothing, some of the soaps, some of the batteries and some cheap cigarettes. Concessions have now been announced on tractor tyres and tubes and batteries. These are all welcome. But the bulk of the concessions are being given to the affluent section. For example, concessions are given on motor cars, refrigerators, raw materials used in producing plastic goods, nylon and terylene commodities, etc. which are consumed mainly by the affluent sections. What was the need for these concessions? On the one hand, the Government talks of restricting conspicuous consumption. On the other hand, it goes on fattening the industries which cater to the needs of these wealthy sections of the population. When there is a crisis, concessions are allowed in taxes so that prices may come down a little and the profitability of these industries may increase. Sir, I would plead that this is a mis-direction of national resources which are so scarce and which should have been directed towards building up of basic industries, agriculture and essential consumer industries. On the contrary, these resources are directed towards building up of industries meant for the wealthy sections

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of the population. So, Sir, the Budget and the Finance Bill, as they have been presented to the House, seek to erode the gains made by emergency. The Government talks so much about the gains of emergency and the discipline that has been infused by the emergency. But the gains are bound to be eroded and are being eroded under the impact of the new Budget and the Finance Bill. For example, money supply increased by 1129 crores in 1975-76 as compared to 709 crores in 1974-75.

So, when the Government talks of discipline and it impounds the salaries and wages of workers and employees, it does not think of imposing discipline upon itself, upon its own spending. And this would have led to a rise in prices but for certain fortuitous circumstances like an increase in agricultural production, an increase in the State sector production, a rise in tax revenues, and greater income from foreign debts. But this year, Sir, the trends are very disturbing. The Government goes on talking of fall in prices, but the latest trend is just the opposite. I am quoting from the 'Times of India' of May 17, which says :

"Within five weeks, March 20 to April 24, the official wholesale price index for all commodities has risen from 282.3 to 290.3, that for food articles from 303.9 to 317, and for industrial raw materials from 240 to 247.5. The rise in the index for manufactures has been relatively small, from 253.3 to 255.2. The recent upswing is about the sharpest since the price index has started declining from its all-time peak of 330.6 touched in September, 1974."

So, such is the result. Prices have again started rising. Prices have started rising not on their own but because of certain actions of the Government. For example according to a comment in the 'Economic Times', money supply has increased by

another Rs. 532 crores in the first two weeks of April, a further rise of 4.2 per cent, and the climb presumably continues. So, money supply is increasing, prices have also started rising. Big business has been granted concession in the hope that it will utilise this concession for greater investment in industry. But the result is just the opposite. There is no greater investment in industry. As a matter of fact, big business is clamouring for more concessions, and recently, the FICCI has demanded more. This is what we told the Government in the beginning. If you allow concessions to monopolists, they are bound to clamour for more. Moreover, it is an absolutely imprudent policy to reward those who have obstructed production, who are responsible for decline or stagnation in production, whose sole policy is to restrict production in order to increase prices. And the moneys that have been gifted away to them are being used for speculation, and as a result of speculation, prices are again rising. For example, the rise in prices of cotton and oilseeds is not due to peasant being paid higher prices. The peasant was paid low prices. The peasant sold all his stocks and the stocks are in the hands of traders. The speculators have concerned the market, and the prices have been increased. So, Sir, the gains of emergency are being eroded and the prices are beginning to rise. Sir, the Budget provides for a deficit financing of Rs. 320 crores, and Rs. 480 crores are to be withdrawn from the fund of the compulsory deposits. As a matter of fact, these Rs. 800 crores represent deficit financing. So, with this heavy dose of deficit financing and heavy expenditure on the Plan outlay, next year there is likely to be a greater inflationary pressure. As a matter of fact, Sir, the Plan outlay goes generally to the heavy industry sector. The money that is spent in the heavy industry sector is not immediately backed by production. There is a time lag, there is a gestation period. Now the purchasing power which is released by the investment in heavy industry sector should be backed by increase in production of consumption goods. The consumption goods are in the

hands of private monopoly sector which is not interested in increasing production.

So, the gap between money supply or purchasing power in the hands of the people and consumption goods available in the market is likely to increase as a result of the budgetary policies followed by the Government and next year we are likely to have a reappearance of the inflationary trend and erosion of financial discipline that was imposed as a result of measure taken during the course of last year.

Now, Sir we have to go to the basic cause of this malady. What is the basic cause of this malady? Why is there sickness in consumer industries? Why is there stagnation and decline in consumer industries? Why are not the goods being sold? It is not because everybody in India has enough cloth or enough oil or enough consumer goods. Actually many are going naked but the goods are not being sold and cloth is not being sold because common people cannot afford to buy cloth at the prevailing prices and the textile mill-owners are refusing to reduce prices because that will reduce their profits. Sir, I would like to remind the House of an observation made by Karl Marx in volume 3 of his *Das Kapital* wherein he has said that the last cause of all real crisis always remains the poverty and restricted consumption of the masses. So this poverty and restricted consumption of the masses is beginning to assert itself and it causes crisis in consumer industries. I do not know why the Government does not realise it. But a spokesman of the capitalist class or rather of the monopolist class has admitted it in the recent meeting of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. One Mr. A. K. Jain stated that he also wanted to end the wage-freeze as a means to bring about demand revival. Mr. A. K. Jain admits that this wage-freeze, this impounding of D.A. and this denial of bonus has led to restriction of purchasing power among the working class. Similarly, fall in the prices of agricultural commodities has led to a decline in the purchasing power of the peasant class. So if the pur-

chasing power of both the worker and the peasant is reduced then who is going to buy your textiles? With the purchasing power reduced there is a glut in the market, there is a crisis in the industry and the observation made by Marx more than about 100 years ago has come true, namely, that the last cause of all crisis always remains the poverty and restricted consumption of the masses and even a representative of big business, Mr. A. K. Jain, comes out with a proposal that wage-freeze should be ended. You must refund the wages that you have deducted under the impounding scheme. You must restore the bonus to the working class. You must ensure fair remunerative prices to the producers and to the peasants and, at the same time, you must ensure reasonable prices for the consumers. You have to see how both can be done; how remunerative prices can be assured to the producers and how reasonable prices can be assured to the consumers. That can be done only by taking over the wholesale trade in foodgrains. The Government is afraid of taking over wholesale trade in foodgrains. Instead of taking over the wholesale trade in foodgrains and disciplining the food hoarders, the Government goes on importing foodgrains. Last year the Government imported 7.4 million tonnes of foodgrains from foreign countries. It imported nearly 5 million tonnes of wheat at prices going up to over Rs. 1600 per tonne. Now that is about 50 per cent more than the procurement prices prevailing in India. We have spent nearly Rs. 11 hundred crores of precious foreign exchange on the import of food-grains but we have not taken over the wholesale trade in foodgrains. This is the price of a pro-hoarder policy that the nation has to pay because of the folly of the Government. So, Sir, I would suggest that this Finance Bill be thrown out. The Government should come forward to withdraw it, it should be recast and all the concession given to monopolists should be withdrawn.

Concessions to the people should be granted concessions to the common people

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should be granted; foodgrains trade should be taken over by the Government; the basic and consumer industries, like textiles, sugar, drugs and also jute, should be nationalised and taken over by the Government and a change should be brought about in the policy so as to conform to the national ideal of socialism and reducing disparities in income. Thank you, Sir.

श्री विक्रम अलो बज्ज (महाराष्ट्र) : आनी जनाब डिप्टी चेंबरमैन साहब, आज यहाँ जो फाइनेंस बिल पेश हुआ है मैं उस की तारीफ करता हूँ। इफरते जर (इंफ्लेशन) को रोकना और जिन्दगी की जरूरत की चीजों की कीमतों में कमी करने के कठिन काम में कामयाबी पर मैं अपनी हकूमत को मुबारकवाद पेश करता हूँ इस सिलसिले में फाइनेंस, रेलवे, जरायत और पावर एंड इनर्जी के महकमों ने काबिलेतारीफ काम किया है। हमारे इस धानदार कारनामे को खुद वर्ल्ड बैंक ने यूँ सराहा है। ("India's anti-inflation programme has been the most successful in the world") अभी कुछ फ्रैंट्स एंड फ्रीगर्स हमारे अपोजीशन के दोस्त यहाँ इस बिल के खिलाफ पेश कर रहे थे।

यही फ्रैंट्स एंड फ्रीगर्स वर्ल्ड बैंक के सामने भी थे। जिनकी राय मैंने पढ़ी है। मैं इस इतिहासबद्ध सूत्रेहाल को इमरजेंसी की दरकत समझता हूँ। इमरजेंसी की वजह से मुल्क में इतिहास की एक लहर दौड़ गयी है। हड़तालें और बंद खत्म हुए। गल्ले के अलावा कोयला, तेल, लोहा और फिटिलाइजर की पैदावार में इजाफा हुआ। हमारी बरामद बढ़ी और कौमी आमदनी में इजाफा हुआ। पुरखमन मकसिद के लिये बेरेखमीन एटर्मी तजुबों और आर्यभट्ट ने सारी दुनिया में हमारी इल्मी और अमली तरकी की साख़ कायम कर दी है। यह बड़ी मुश्किल है कि हमारा एटमी तजुबा हो या आर्यभट्ट हो उस पर हमारे यहाँ के लोग बहुत ज्यादा एतराज करते हैं और कहते हैं कि यह गरीब मुल्क ऐसे बड़े-बड़े काम क्यों कर रहा है। पिछले सालों में, हम ने बड़ी-

बड़ी लड़ाइयाँ लड़ी हैं और उनमें कामयाब हुए हैं, लेकिन मिडिल ईस्ट में हमारे एक न्यूक्लियर एक्सप्लोजन का इन कामयाबी से ज्यादा असर हुआ और उनको मालूम हुआ कि कहां तक हम ने तरकी की है साइंस में और टेक्नोलॉजी में। मगर इन को हमारे दोस्त अहबाब कुछ अहमियत नहीं देते हैं। मुल्क के अंदर नाजूक मरहले पर इमरजेंसी का अहद आफरों पलान कर के हमारी दूरदेश और बहादुर बर्जारे आजम ने जमहूरियत-मुश्मन, फ़िरकापरस्त फ़ासिस्ट पार्टियों के मुल्क में खूरेजी, बदअमनी और बेइतमिनानी फैलाने के खतरनाक मंजूनों को खाक में मिला दिया है। बजारे आजम से मेरी दरखवास्त है कि दूसरी फ़ासिस्ट जमातों की तरह शिव सेना को भी खिलाफ़े कानून कारर दिया जाय क्योंकि यह आर० एम० एस० जैसी नंगे बदन जमात की हमक़दम और हमनवा जमात है। सारी का कौल है :

"अफ़र कुस्तन व बच्चा अज रा निगाह दाख़त करते ख़िरदमंदों नेस्त"

यानी नाग को मार कर उस के बच्चों को पालना अक्लमंदों का काम नहीं है। यह हमारे महाराष्ट्र के जो दोस्त हैं हर तबक़े के और हर फ़िरके के मेरी इस बात को तस्वीम करोगे कि इस फ़ासिस्ट जमात ने क्या हंगामा मचाया बंबई में और उस के सजाफ़ात में और अब यह ख़ामोश है और हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर के 20 प्वाइंट प्रोग्राम की तारीफ़ पर बाल ठाकरे साहब के बयान पर बयान आ रहे हैं। लेकिन इस से हम को धोखे में नहीं रहना चाहिए। इनकी जहूनियत कुछ नहीं बदली है।

इस के साथ मैं बजारे आजम से यह भी दर-खास्त करूंगा कि सेंसरशिप जो हमारे यहाँ इस वक़्त है वह भी उस वक़्त तक जारी रखनी चाहिए इमरजेंसी की तरह जब तक मुल्क में अमनो-अमान पूरी तरह न हो जाय। हमारे अख़बारों की और हमारे कुछ साधियों और कुछ सूबो इंटेलेक्चुअल्स को यानी नक़ली दानिशमंदों की या नक़ली बुद्धिजीवी जो लोग हैं उन को बड़ी परेशानी है इसलिये कि प्रेस की आजादी चली गयी। किस चीज की आजादी थी हमारी प्रेस को? हिन्दुस्तान के आजाद होने के बाद इस प्रस ने कौन-सा बड़ा काम किया? बुरे

कामों के या मजदूरी जगड़ों और दंगों के खिलाफ कमी किसी ने कुछ लिखा ? यह प्रेस चाहता है कि उसको करेक्टर असेसिनेशन की इजाजत मिले । जिसको जैसा चाहो कहो । ये ऐडिटर लीडर बन गये थे और उनके कारसपोण्डेंस अपोजिशन का काम कर रहे थे । इस प्रेस को अब लोगों को इस तरह बदनाम करने की, कल करने की इजाजत नहीं मिलनी चाहिए, यह इक़दाम बहुत सही है और इसे जारी रखना चाहिए । हमारे प्रेस के कार नामे अजीबो-गरीब हैं और जैसे-जैसे वक्त गुजर रहा है, इसकी हकीकत जाहिर हो रही है ।

यहां बहुत से प्रैक्टिस और फ़िगर्स 20 नुक़ानती प्रोग्राम के बारे में दिये गये हैं । हमारे यहां महाराष्ट्र में भी बहुत काम हो रहा है । लेकिन मैं वह कहूंगा कि यहां जिन नेजी और ताक़त से अब काम हो रहा है वह काबिले तारीफ़ है । हमारे चीफ़ मिनिस्टर शंकर राव तिहायत मेहनती और सैक्यूलर हैं । डिप्टी चैयरमैन साहब, महाराष्ट्र में 10 साल से जमीन की तकसीम का काम हो रहा है, लेकिन यह जमीन अमीर लोगों में बांटी जा रही थी । अब यह जमीन 20 नुक़ानती प्रोग्राम के तहत जिनके पास जमीन नहीं है, उनको बांटी जा रही है । यह बहुत बड़ा काम है ।

मैं इस वक्त आपका ज्यादा वक्त नहीं लेना चाहता, लेकिन चूंकि डिप्टी चैयरमैन साहब इस वक्त तशरीफ़ रखते हैं और मैं जो जवान बोल रहा हूं उसने वह वाक़िफ़ हैं, इसलिए पिछले 10 वरस में जो हालात पेश आय मुल्क में, मैंने उनको तस्वीर एक छोटी सी नज़्म में पेश की है, भुलाहूआ हों । हमने दस साल में यह देखा कि डेभोलेसिटी की बुरी हालत यहां थी, जम्हूरियत पर बड़ा ज़ुल्म हो रहा था । मैंने जो पहला जलसा देखा जिसमें प्रेसिडेंट गिरि मौजूद थे । एक साहब सी० पी० एम० के दोड़े और उन्होंने प्रेसिडेंट के सामने जाकर उनका माइक्रोफ़ोन छीन लिया और वहां फ़्री स्टाइल कुश्ती होने लगी । क्या यही जम्हूरियत थी, यही डेभोलेसिटी थी ? बड़ी मुश्किल से साठे और दसरे पहलवानों ने उनपर काबू हासिल किया । यह तमाशा हमारे यहां जम्हूरियत में होता था । प्रेसिडेंट के सामने भी यह काम लोग करते थे । चार साल में कैनी-कैनी

यहां कुश्ती नहीं हुई । सुबह से शाम तक एक फ़ारमूला था । संजय गांधी, मास्ती, और इंदिरा गांधी, बंसीलाल और बेचारे मरहूम एल० एन० मिश्र । लोग यह कहते थे कि ये सोर्स ब्राफ़ करप्शन है । और जब हम यहां से जवाब देने के लिए खड़े होते थे तो अपोजिशन के लोग बाहर चले जाते थे, वाक़ आउट करते थे । पार्लियामेंट में इतना ही काम होता था । अब एक महीने में जितना काम हुआ, मैं नहीं समझता कि यह तीन साल में भी हुआ हो । कैस, ही इन्सैट ऐक्ट जो सबके लिए फ़ायदेमन्द हों, उनके लिए भी तैयार नहीं होते थे । वहां तो संजय गांधी या बंसीलाल पर बहस चलती थी । मैंने जो नज़्म कही है वह यह है :—

शोधक

अहद-आफ़री दस वरस

(1966-1976)

कहीं घेराओ कहीं बन्द कहीं हड़तालें
कहीं खूबेज बनावत की खतरनाक फ़िजा
रात बिफरी हुई तागन की तरह मौज-ए-अजल
तेरा-ए-जल्लाद का सूरज के उजाले पे गुमां
जुल्म को धूम लरजते हुए बाजारों में
शीलाजन मुल्क में तहजीब-ओ-शराफ़त की चिन्ता
बार पर बार सहे डीम ने हमसायों के
अहल-ए-ख़बर अहल-ए-ख़बर मढ़वे तमाशा-ए-मितम

(2)

इस धटाटोप अन्धेरे में सर-ए-राह-ए बफ़ा
एक बेवाक़ अमलमस्त दिल आवेज किरन
आई पुरतूर सवेरे की बशारत लेकर
फ़तह का साज बना फ़र्ज का आराज हुआ
+ + +
अमन का फूल खिला इल्म का तारा चमका
आज फिर ताजा हवाओं से वहकता है चमन

(3)

कौन कहता है किसी आंच में आंसू न रहा
तलमलाता हुआ जलमों से बतन गुज़रा है
अभी दुःख दर्द की भीगी हुई पलकों हैं मगर
मुस्कुराने का सरीबों का इशारा तो मिला
सद अल्फ़ाज़ ने सदियों में जवां पाई है
किसकी हिम्मत से यह दिलदार सहर आई है ?

†पेटमी तजुबा

†आर्य भट्ट

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Sir, now with your kind permission, I would like to read out the English translation of this poem by my friend Sardar Khushwant Singh, editor of the *Illustrated Weekly of India* :

1 P.M.

The Epoch-making Decade
(1966—76)

It was gherao or bandh—and stoppage of work,

Creating atmosphere of bloody violence—
Night, black as a serpent coiled to strike
Day, fiery as the gleam of the sun on the
executioners scimitar;

Noise of the oppressor's blows and the
cries of the innocent, in the streets,
shaking with fear

The country was on fire.

The funeral pyre of civilization
and good manners was lit.

Grievous blows that our neighbours
aimed at us, did we bear,

But the rich and news-makers looked on
as at a fun fair.

There was one with unbridled faith who
found the way,

The one who knows no fear, no
compromise with might

One who pierced the pitch-dark
night of untruth like a ray

She came like the thunder in the
early hours of the dawn.

Drums of victory sounded,
the age of duty began.

Thus blossomed the flower of peace;

Thus rose the star of wisdom;

Thus a fresh breeze blew
across our garden—

Who says we wiped every tear from every
eye ?

Our motherland has passed through a
terrible period of suffering.

Tears of sorrow still do our eye-lids pain.

The poor have at least been encouraged
to smile. Words entrenched in the
mute cold
silence of centuries have found speech.
To whose courage do we owe this
vision of heart-warming future ?

Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House
stands adjourned till 2 p.M.

The House then adjourned for
lunch at one minute past one of the
clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at
three minutes past two of the clock, Mr.
Deputy Chairman in the the Chair.

THE FINANCE BILL, 1976—*contd.*

DR. RAMKRIPAL SINHA (Bihar) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, while speaking on this Finance Bill, I would like, to draw the attention of the Government to some problems. The first problem which strikes me is that of the time of our financial year. It is high time that the Government thought deeply about changing our financial year. The financial year starts after March; that is, the year begins in the month of April. And still we are discussing the Budget, we are still on this Finance Bill. The work starts in the month of June. Rains will set in then and three months will lapse. And if we have to do any constructive work on roads, bridges, houses and so on and so forth, the work will start in right earnest after the rains, in the month of October. Then the financial year closes in March and they will hardly get four or five months for work. In the month of March, most of the offices are engaged in paper work. Particularly in the States where there are heavy rains—for instance in the eastern and southern States—it is very difficult to finish the work of a particular financial year within that year. This is my humble suggestion. The Government should think very deeply. It is not always good to stick to old traditions. Sometimes we should be bold enough.

courageous enough to see things in proper perspective, and if there are valid reasons, a practical and pragmatic approach should be taken. So this is my suggestion that the Government should change the financial year: the financial year should start after the rains, say, in October or November. This is the first suggestion that I have to make.

The second thing that I would like to say is, there is talk that the prices have gone down. The prices of some of the commodities, of course, have gone down. Particularly, the prices of agricultural produce have gone down to an uneconomic depth, the prices particularly of grains, wheat, paddy, etc. Now I would like to warn the Government regarding its price policy on agricultural commodities. Sir, Russia has been a socialist State for more than 60 years now. They are going to complete 60 years as a socialist State, and they are much more advanced in science and technology. They have a very small population, hardly one-third of our population or 40 per cent of our population. And because of its disincentives to farmers, what is the condition of Russia now? Even in the year 1976, Russia is purchasing grains from the United States, from Canada, from Australia. So, this is the great warning. After 60 years as a socialist State, with advanced technology and with a smaller population than ours, they are not in a position to feed their population with their own grains. And this is a great, I think, slur on that State. We should take a lesson out of that. Ours, of course, is a very big population. But our farmers are very hardy and laborious. What they require is a little encouragement from the Government on the price front. You are importing grains and making a buffer stock of imported grains from the United States. And whatever they charge from us, either in the shape of shipping or things like that, the prices are too much, but on the other hand, we do not pay that much price to the Indian farmers. This is telling very badly upon our agricultural health. When the bulk of

the population in the villages, the agriculturists, have more purchasing power, there will be more demand on industrial goods, and the recession or glut which we face in the industrial sector at times will not be there. Our internal market is so big that there will be a boost in production provided the villagers have the purchasing capacity. So this price policy in the agricultural sector is playing havoc with farmers. This must be borne in mind while formulating any policy. In this connection, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the agricultural income-tax. I know in a village near my village there are people who own hardly 10 acres of land or five acres of land. Their land is damaged by floods, they are hit by drought; and then they have a notice from the agricultural income-tax office and they have to run to the court. I know that they are not in a position to pay it because the produce is not that much. They should not be liable to pay agricultural income tax. When you want to levy agricultural income-tax, the officers will go on giving them notices asking them to run to their offices. In this way they are put to great torture. This is highhandedness. Who are the agriculturists capable of paying this tax? They should be very carefully screened. In the villages we do not have the joint family system. It is breaking up. There is only one agriculturist . . .

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : This is a State subject and do you want to bring it here?

DR. RAMKRIPAL SINHA : You have given certain concessions in agricultural income-tax in this Finance Bill. I am giving an example. There are so many taxes, duties and cesses on the farmers, such as land revenue, enhanced water rates, road cess, educational cess and health cess. Then the prices of agricultural inputs are rising. But the produce which they offer get a very meagre price. This is crushing the agricultural economy. And the Government is helping in crushing

(Dr. Ramkripal Sinha)

their economy by making purchases from foreign countries in the name of buffer stock. This policy should change.

What about L.I.C.? Shri Pranab Mukherjee heads that Department. But how does it work? I think he should apply a little bit more of his mind and devote some more time to the functioning of the L.I.C. Formerly the L.I.C. used to make the policy paid-up after two years. If the policy-holder was not in a position to continue his policy. Now, this was increased to five years. Out of this device the L.I.C. was able to earn about Rs. 500 crores in a single year. This is very hard on the policy-holders. I think the Minister should take this up seriously in the interest of a large number of policy-holders and see to it that the old system, under which the period prescribed was only two years, is restored. Nowadays it is not very much profitable to invest in the L.I.C. Now you have other schemes such as cumulative time deposit and other savings schemes. Of course, L.I.C. cover certain risks. But as far as profit or bonus is concerned, it is just a promise. The rate of interest charged by them on housing and other loans taken by persons belonging to the middle-class category is very high. At times they charge 12 per cent and I think it is very high. The L.I.C. should devise some scheme for advancing loans to the middle-class and lower middle-class income group at cheaper rate, say 6 or 7 per cent. Sir, the Wealth-tax exemption is only up to one lakh of rupees. Now, what is this amount of one lakh of rupees in these modern times? The same land in a city or a town, which was formerly valued at, say, ten thousand rupees, would be valued now, because of certain changes in the price structure or because of change in the mode of valuation of urban property in that particular area, at a higher rate and, therefore, that particular house or that particular piece of land can be valued at more than a lakh of rupees. Now, if you have been residing in such a house for, say, fifteen or

twenty years, the value of that building would have undergone a change and its price would have gone up now. Therefore, I think that the Wealth-tax exemption should be extended up to at least five lakhs of rupees. In other words, persons owning houses which have been assessed at five lakhs of rupees or below should not be compelled to pay any Wealth-Tax at all

Then, Sir, a few words regarding the working of banks: The Government has declared a moratorium on the realisation of private loans in the villages. Well, I welcome this. But, Sir, the Government has not side by side declared any new scheme or devised any new plan for providing alternative sources of loans to the poor people. Now, this is playing havoc with them. There are banks located in the urban areas and these banks are not in a position to finance the poor people in the rural areas and they do not have any scheme for this or for replacing the rural *mahajans* and even the branches of the banks which have been opened at the block level are not coming forward to grant loans, consumption loans or housing loans, to these people, that is, the people who are having less than two acres of land or one acre of land or the landless labourers. It is high time that the Government took a serious note of this and devised some schemes to ask the banks to advance such loans to the poor peasants and others who are now refused such loans by the private, *mahajans*.

Sir, in this connection, I would also like to request the Government to look up to the working of the banks particularly in relation to the loans advanced to the farmers. The loans advanced to the farmers are not in very large numbers. In this Very House, I asked for figures relating to the loans granted to the farmers in my district. In my old district, there were 4,100 villages and it is Muzzailarpur. Now, Sir, the district has been split into three districts, namely, Sitamarhi, Vaishali and Muzzaffarpur. In all these three districts

with 4,100 villages, hardly 1,400 agriculturists were advanced loans by the banks, not even one person from one village! This is the figure and this was the answer given to me in this very House. This is the position now. The banks are very shy of advancing loans to the farmers and this information we gather from many people. If we want the banks to serve the rural masses, to serve the labourers, to serve the people engaged in cottage and village industries, then it is high time that the honourable Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, devoted some of his time to this particular problem. I must congratulate him—and the whole country congratulates him—for the action he took in December last for bringing out black money through raids and through the Voluntary Disclosure Scheme, etc. It is a very good gesture. Also, I think it had some bearing on the price level as well. But I think he should take more steps. Again and again, Sir, I have informed him through you that things were not done in the same way in which they were done in the other parts of the country. Rig smugglers, hoarders, black-marketeers and people indulging in all sorts of nefarious economic activities were let loose to indulge in all sorts of things as if there was no emergency, as if there was *no* Prof. Pranab Mukherjee heading the Ministry and as if that particular area just like an emergency shadow area, so to say . . .

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI (West Bengal) : Is it your area?

DR. RAMKRIPAL SINHA : It is within the jurisdiction of the Minister. I would like the Government to come forward with some drastic measures . . . (*Time bell rings*)

The Government now say that prices are going down. I would request the Government that the the poor employees' money which they have mopped up through Compulsory Deposit Scheme should be released. It is no use advancing that scheme in the next year as well.

That should be stopped. Regarding bonus also, mopped-up by the Government, it should be released, specially to labourers, because the purchasing power of the labourers and employees drawing less than rupees one thousand should be increased. At the same time, the purchasing power of the farmers and villagers should also be increased because when the purchasing power of the bulk of the population increases, the glut which we have in the textile market and the glut which we have in so many other markets should recede. And when they have more purchasing power, there will be more industrial activity (*Time bell rings*).

Only one thing more. Sir. In this House, Member after Member has reminded the Government regarding the activities of multinational corporations. It is high time the Government took some drastic steps regarding 'Indianisation' of these multinational corporations. The Government have given some concessions to big industrial houses and corporations, including foreign firms.

As far as giving concessions for the sake of making further investments in our economy is concerned, I accept that; I welcome that. But the taking away from this country of large amounts of money in the shape of so many other things should be restricted. So, . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Please wind up.

DR. RAMKRIPAL SINHA : So, Sir, with these words, I would again request the Government to think a bit deeply regarding advancing loans to farmers and also revising the LIC rates particularly in the interest of policy-holders when the life expectancy in this country has increased because of health measures and so many other things. Therefore, the rates of LIC should also be reduced.

I think the Government will take a serious note of these things.

Thank you.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी खंडावत (राजस्थान) : उपसभापति जी, फाइनेंस बिल जो पेश किया गया है, इसका मैं स्वागत करती हूँ। साल डेढ़ साल से जो वित्त मंत्रालय ने कदम उठाये उन कदमों से हमारे देश की आर्थिक स्थिति में एक जबरदस्त सुधार हुआ। साथ डेढ़ साल में जो आर्थिक स्थिति थी उससे बढ़कर आज हमारी आर्थिक स्थिति बहुत सुधार पर है। हमारे रुपये की कीमत बढ़ी है। जो मुद्रा स्थिति हमारे देश में फैल गई है, उसके ऊपर हम काबू पा सकें, यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण बात है।

जब कि दुनिया के दूसरे देश अपनी मुद्रास्फोटि के रूप कंट्रोल नहीं कर पाये तब भी हमारे रुपये की स्थिति में अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में मजबूती आई। हम देखते हैं कि दूसरे देशों की करेंसी जो मजबूत करेंसी मानी जाती थी इटली का लीरा और ब्रिटिश का पाउंड पिछले 20 महीनों में यह 25 परसेन्ट नीचे गिरा है और हमारा रुपया आज अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में एक मजबूत करेंसी के रूप में माना जा रहा है। इसके अलावा हमारे उद्योगों में भी बड़ोतरी हुई है, खासतौर से जो हमारे सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उद्योग हैं उन्होंने बहुत ही अच्छा काम किया। बड़ा शुद्ध मुनाफा कमा कर दिखाया है। हरेक मामले में हम काफी उत्पादन कर पाये हैं। मैं मंत्री जी को ज्यादा तो नहीं गिना पाऊँगी क्योंकि समय नहीं है लेकिन जो कुछ मंत्री महोदय ने कदम उठाये हैं उनके लिये उनकी तारीफ करती हूँ, उनको बधाई देती हूँ। यह आशा करती हूँ कि आने वाले वक्त में इसी तरह से और भी अच्छे कदम उठाये जाएंगे।

कुछ और बातें मैं आपके समाने पेश करना चाहती हूँ। निजी क्षेत्र में वित्त मंत्री जी ने काफी रियायतें दी हैं और इसी दृष्टिकोण से दी हैं ताकि वेष्ट का उत्पादन बढ़े, लोगों को रोजगार मिले, लोगों को चीजें सस्ती मिलें। निजी क्षेत्र के उद्योगों को एक के बाद एक रियायत दी गई है। सीमेंट पर से उत्पादन शुल्क कम किया गया। सूगर की की जो नई मिलें खुली उन्हें भी रियायत दी गई। ती, पटसन और कपड़ा मिलों को भी रियायत दी

गई। सूती मिलों को कंट्रोल का कपड़ा बनाने से रियायत दी गई और इसी तरह से निजी इन्कम-टैक्स में भी बहुत बड़ी छूट दी गई। साथ ही साथ हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी ने यह जरूर कहा कि अब इतनी छूट देने के बाद उद्योगपति अपनी जिम्मेदारी समझें और ज्यादा से ज्यादा प्रोडक्शन बढ़ायें।

वित्त मंत्री जी मैं आपका ध्यान इस बात को और दिलाना चाहती हूँ कि पूरी रियायतें तो मैंने नहीं गिनाई—लेकिन इतनी रियायतें देने के बाद भी निजी उद्योग वालों को अभी संतुष्टि नहीं हुई है। उनकी मांगें एक के बाद एक बढ़ती जा रही हैं। अभी जो अधिवेशन हुआ था उसमें उन्होंने एक लम्बी सूची रियायतों की रखी थी। उनमें से कई तो बिल्कुल ही बेतुकी थीं। उन्होंने यहां तक कह दिया था कि 5 प्रतिशत से लेकर 10 प्रतिशत तक चीजों के दाम बढ़ाए जाने चाहियें। उन्होंने उत्पादन शुल्क हर उद्योग में दिये जाने की मांग रखी और इन्कम टैक्स की रियायत की मांग रखी। मैं यह देख रही हूँ कि मिरमा की मुंह की तरह, जितनी आप रियायतें देते जा रहे हैं उतना उनका मुंह और खुलता जा रहा है। इस बारे में आपसे निवेदन करूंगी कि इन पर आप अनुशासन के साथ, सख्ती के साथ निगरानी रखें। क्योंकि हमने यह देखा कि वे अपनी जिम्मेदारी को नहीं समझ पा रहे हैं। उनका ध्येय, उनका लक्ष्य, उनका मोटो ज्यादा मुनाफा कमाने का है। यह उनका ध्येय नहीं है, लक्ष्य नहीं है कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोगों को रोजगार दिया जाए या ज्यादा से ज्यादा प्रोडक्शन बढ़ाया जाए।

आजकल लॉन पानिसी क्रेडिट पालिसी की बात चल रही है। ज्यादा से ज्यादा इजी क्रेडिट दिया जाए मैं इसके पक्ष में नहीं हूँ। एक छोटा सा उदाहरण, लेकिन है वह बड़ा ज्वलंत उदाहरण, मैं आपके सामने पेश कर रही हूँ। अभी राजस्थान में एक मर्कन्टाइल बैंक या जिसे कोऑपरेटिव संस्थाएं चला रही थीं, उस बैंक में गड़बड़ हुई। मैं गड़बड़ मन्द न कह कर यह कहूंगी कि उसमें लूट हो रही है। इसमें हर तरह के बेइमानी के माधनों का प्रयोग किया गया। कोई भी काम उन्होंने नहीं छोड़ा उन्होंने उस बैंक को बिल्कुल नीचे बैठा दिया।

[श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारि चूडावत]

उसमें फ्रीड किया गया, चींटिंग की गई और मिस-एप्रोप्रिएशन किया गया। उसमें चार-सौवीसी की गई। उसमें एक ही व्यक्ति के द्वारा सब कुछ नहीं किया गया बल्कि सभी के सहयोग से मुनियोजित ढंग से इस बैंक में कार्रवाई चलती रही और वर्षों तक चलती रही। मैं बताना चाहती हूँ कि उनको चलाने वाले कौन थे? उनको चलाने वाले उस बैंक का मैनेजर, उस बैंक का वाइस प्रेजिडेंट, उस बैंक का डायरेक्टर है। इन सब ने मिल कर इस बैंक में खुली लूट मचा दी। यह ठीक है कि पुलिस में भी केस गया हुआ है लेकिन इसका नतीजा यह निकला है कि को-ऑपरेटिव संस्थाओं से जनता का विश्वास उठ गया है। तेजी के साथ लोग उन बैंकों में से अपना रुपया निकाल रहे हैं। जिन लोगों ने अपना रुपया डिपोजिट किया था उनमें ज्यादातर विधवा औरतें थीं। उन्होंने अपनी पूंजी वहाँ पर जमा की, लेकिन उनके साथ एक बहुत बड़ा फ्रीड कर दिया गया और उनका रुपया व्यर्थ चला गया। वहाँ पर छोटे-छोटे मजदूर लोगों ने भी अपनी रकम जमा कर रखी थी। यह बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आती कि जितने भी को-ऑपरेटिव बैंक होते हैं रिजर्व बैंक के अधीन होते हैं। इतने वर्षों तक जिस तरह से फ्रीड चलता रहा और रिजर्व बैंक क्या काम करता रहा, यह एक बड़े आश्चर्य की बात है। राजस्थान सरकार का को-ऑपरेटिव विभाग भी इस बात को किस प्रकार ने दर-गुजर कर गया, यह सोचने की बात है। वहाँ पर 10-15 साल तक कोई चुनाव नहीं किये गये और जिस तरह से वहाँ पर फ्रीड किये गये हैं उसके एक नहीं, अनेक मिसालें हैं। वहाँ पर चार लाख रुपये जमा किये गये और नेजर बुक में चार लाख रुपये की रकम दिखाई गई लेकिन केस में सवा लाख रुपये कम हैं। इसी तरह से बैंक चुराता कर दिये गये हैं लेकिन लोगों को रुपया नहीं मिल। इस तरह के वहाँ पर अनेक केस हुए हैं जिनमें फ्रीड किया गया है। मैं आपसे दवास्त करूँगी कि रिजर्व बैंक इस तरह के को-ऑपरेटिव बैंकों के ऊपर विशेष रूप से ध्यान रखे। इस प्रकार की हरकतें आज तक क्यों होती रही हैं इस पर

ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है। वहाँ पर जो मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर थे या भा वोटिंग आफ डायरेक्टर्स के सदस्य थे उनमें सबसे ज्यादा संख्या आर० एस्० एस्० के लोगों की थी और कई लोग तो ऐसे हैं जिनको डी० आर्डी० आर० के प्रन्दर एकड़ा गया था। इसलिए मेरा कहना यह है कि ऐसे मामलों के ऊपर विशेष रूप से ध्यान दिया जाय और इसकी जांच कराई जाय। दूसरे बैंकों में इस तरह के मामले न हों, इसके लिए आवश्यक है कि रिजर्व बैंक अपना निवन्त्रण कड़ा करे और भविष्य में इस प्रकार की बातों को रोकने के लिए इस तरह के कदम उठाये जायें जिससे इस ढंग की हरकतें न हो सकें।

दूसरी बात बैंकों के संबंध में मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहती हूँ कि अभी तक हमारे बैंकों में इस प्रकार के अजीब कायदे कानून चल रहे हैं जिनमें कोई महिला अपने नाबालिग बच्चे के नाम डिपोजिट नहीं करा सकती है और न ही वह अपने मिनेजर से रुपया निकाल सकती है। मैं समझती हूँ कि ये बड़े आश्चर्य की बात है कि एक तरफ तो हमने अपने संविधान में महिलाओं को बराबरके अधिकार दे रखे हैं, लेकिन दूसरी तरफ इस प्रकार की स्थिति है। आप जानते हैं कि पिछले वर्ष ही हमने "महिला वर्ष" मनाया है, लेकिन हमारे देश में बैंकों में एक माता अपने नाबालिग बच्चे के नाम पर पैसा बैंकों में डिपोजिट नहीं करा सकती है। अभी 15 रोज पहले की बात है, जयपुर के स्टेट बैंक में एक महिला अपने नाबालिग बच्चे के लिए खाता खोलना चाहती थी, लेकिन उसको ऐसा करने से मना कर दिया गया। मैं स्वयं उसको साथ लेकर बैंक में गई और बैंक के जनरल मैनेजर से बातचीत हुई। बैंक के जनरल मैनेजर ने बताया कि नियम ऐसा है कि नाबालिग बच्चे का गार्जियन पिता ही हो सकता है और इसलिए माता नाबालिग बच्चे के लिए बैंक में रुपया जमा नहीं करा सकती है। वहाँ पर जो उनके कानूनी सलाहकार थे उन्होंने भी इसी प्रकार की राय दी। उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि सन् 1956 के हिन्दू माइनोरिटी एक्ट की धारा 6 में इस प्रकार का प्रावधान है। बच्चों को बैंकिंग ट्रेनिंग देने के लिए उसी बैंक ने एक योजना बनाई उसमें दस साल का

[श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी बूढावत]

बच्चा अपना खाता खोल सकता है पांच हजार की रकम तक का। यह कितने आश्चर्य की बात है कि 10 साल का बच्चा तो बैंक में पांच हजार रुपयों तक की रकम जमा करा सकता है, लेकिन उस 10 साल के बच्चे की मां बैंक में उसके नाम पर पैसा जमा नहीं करा सकती है। समझ में नहीं आता कि इस प्रकार के कायदे अभी तक बैंकों में क्यों चलाये जा रहे हैं। मैं श्रापसे कर्तुंगी कि आप इस प्रकार के कायदों को समाप्त करें। मैंने इस संबंध में इस सदन के प्रसिद्ध एडवोकेट श्री डी० पी० सिंह जी से पूछा तो उन्होंने कहा कि इस एक्ट की इस प्रकार की मंशा नहीं है। इस लिए मैं चाहती हूँ कि इस प्रकार के कायदों में सुधार किया जाना चाहिए। बैंक वालों का कहना है कि अगर उपर मे ऐसी कोई आजा निकले तभी हम स्त्रियों को यह इजाजत दे सकते हैं। इसी तरह से मैंने देखा कि एल० आई० सी० में भी इसी तरह के कुछ कायदे कानून बने हुए हैं जहाँ कि औरतों को पूरे अधिकार प्राप्त नहीं हैं। पहले तो बैंक वाले ने कहा कि अगर बकिंग औरत होगी तो वह अपने बच्चे के लिए खाता खुलवा सकती है लेकिन दूसरे लोग कहते हैं "नहीं"। एक बकिंग औरत है वह भी अपने बच्चे के लिए अकाउण्ट नहीं खुलवा सकती है। मैं पार्लियामेंट की मेम्बर बन सकती हूँ, महिलाएं यहाँ की मिनिस्टर बन सकती हैं, हमारे यहाँ की एक महिला प्राइम मिनिस्टर हो सकती है लेकिन नाबालिग बच्चे के लिए वह 100 ०० तक की रकम जमा करने की, निकालने की, अधिकारिणी नहीं है, इससे बढ़कर नासमझी का कोई कायदा कानून नहीं हो सकता है। आप भी खुद जानते हैं, हर एक व्यक्ति जानता है, कि बच्चों की भलाई का खयाल जो मां के दिल में होता है वह दूसरों में नहीं होता है। प्रश्न पूछा जाता है : जब बाप मौजूद है तो मां को जरूरत क्या है वह खाता खोले ? एक अजीब प्रश्न है। माना कि बाप होता है लेकिन अपने घर में बचत होती है, वह किसी भी कारण से हो, मां अपने बच्चों के बेलफेयर के लिए, भलाई के लिए, हर एक कदम समझ से उठाती है और उससे आज हमारी बहिनें बंचित रखी

जा रही हैं। तो मैं इसकी तरफ आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहती हूँ और मुझे उम्मीद है कि ये कायदे-कानून जो असमानता के चले आ रहे हैं, जो हमारे संविधान के बिलकुल विपरीत हैं, उसके लिए सरकार कोई सकारात्मक कदम उठाए और ऐसा कुछ आर्डर निकालें।

SHRI S. RANGANATHAN (Tamil Nadu) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, at the outset may I congratulate Shri C. Subra-maniam and his colleagues in the Ministry and the Government for the Budget that they have introduced this year? It is all the more praiseworthy as Shri Subra-maniam had to work on the Budget when his health was not particularly good. May he have many years of good health to serve the country. The day after the presentation of the Budget a leading newspaper published in Madras noted for the sobriety of its expression observed editorially and I quote : "For the first time in years those who came to scoff and to grouse may remain to welcome and even to laud the annual Budget presented by the Union Finance Minister". Many will endorse this sentiment. Apart from the merits of the various proposals in the Budget what one is struck by is the very definite change in the trend of policy. It is easy to get kudos from a highly vocal, but a small section of the public by presenting a 'soak the rich' budget. Mature consideration will, however, make one realise that this is no sound policy, and it would not in the least go to help the poor and the weaker sections of the population. \judicious milking of the so-called rich thereby augmenting the resources available to Government both directly and indirectly for investment in the private sector, to be used for securing social benefits 'is what should be aimed at. My submission is that this Budget is an attempt towards such an end.

There will of course be many who will, while appreciating the concessions made in taxation, ask for more. Oliver Twists will never cease to exist.

I specially welcome the announcement that has been made that a committee is proposed to be set up with a view to go into the existing structure of the indirect tax system and advise Government on the steps to be taken. I hope the terms of reference of this committee will be sufficiently wide for it to consider the multiplicity of the stages at which indirect taxes are levied on components and raw materials which go into the final product and heavy excise duty is also levied on the final finished product offered for sale. Following this trend of thought, I wonder if it will be too much to suggest, whether this committee confined, as I believe the intention is, to central excise only, should not be supplemented by a commission with a much wider terms of reference to examine the incidence and impact of indirect taxation measures whether by the Centre, the States or local bodies. I have in mind something on the lines of the enquiry conducted by the Taxation Enquiry Commission presided over by Dr. John Mathai in the year 1953. Such an enquiry will help in attempting to secure uniformity in the incidence in different States on similar commodities and also for pressing on the States to raise their legitimate quantum of resources.

In a budget of this magnitude, an odd item or two may have slipped in, resulting in the imposition of higher duties, without possibly the intention to do so. Someone brought to my notice some kind of a special steel which is not manufactured in this country at all, but on which the import duty has been enhanced, not covered by the latest concessions. Such matters could, however, be examined and easily remedied on representations from the persons affected by the issue of the necessary notifications and no legislative effort would be required. I hope the Board of Customs and Excise will pay quick attention to such representations, when received. I may here straightway say how warmly the public welcome the further concessions announced by the Finance Minister in his speech in the Lok Sabha on the 12th in-

stant, an example of healthy responsiveness to changing circumstances and unbiased consideration of representations received from interests adversely affected.

Unless I have read my papers wrongly, I think the customs duty has been reduced to 40 per cent from 60 per cent on computers and the auxiliary and countervailing duties have also been withdrawn. I think we have enough capacity in the country to manufacture computers, computer sub-systems and components. If for some time some imports may be necessary of components or sub-systems, any concession given should more appropriately be limited only to those and not to computers generally. I would request that this may be examined further.

I also welcome the courage underlying the departure from long-existing practice involved in the change that has been made in the method of taxation of the Life Insurance Corporation. The new proposal is at once more rational and equitable, particularly as there is now only one life insurer in the whole of the country.

I may, perhaps, permit myself one comment without detracting from the general acceptability of the budget as a whole, and that relates to the investment allowance. I doubt whether this would be adequate, having regard to the high and mounting costs of replacements of machinery items. This would merit further consideration as it is subject to practically all the conditions imposed on development rebate.

I now propose to venture on a somewhat controversial field at the risk of being accused of rushing in where angels fear to tread. I would suggest for the consideration of the Finance Minister a reconsideration of the policy regarding the interest rates. I do not propose to be dogmatic about whether there are recessionary forces already at work or not; but it is fairly obvious that over a wide field demand has not picked up, and I venture to submit that a lowering of the interest

[Shri S. Ranganathan]

rates might induce a greater consumer demand. I am at one with the large volume of praise and due appreciation that has been pouring in on the successful efforts of Government in having grasped the nettle of inflation; but everyone would agree that in this attempt, forces in the opposite direction should not be set up. Now that inflation appear to be effectively under control, is there need for both a quantitative restriction in money supply and also a very high rate of interest to depress the demand for such money? This is a question, I would earnestly request the Finance Minister to consider in consultation with his experts. I frankly admit that I am not an expert. Further to argue that a high interest rate is necessary for banks to augment their resources by attracting deposits and that, therefore, the lending rates cannot be lowered, does not appeal to me. To compete with banks, the private sector non-banking institutions push up their return on deposits also and thus there is a race for pushing up rates of interest. It may not be easy to operate a differential interest rate system on an extensive scale and that is why I suggest a closer study of the problem as a whole.

Before concluding I would like to refer to a piece of legislation, which has, I am afraid, been rushed through no doubt for understandable reasons.

I am not suggesting that the policy underlying this legislation is not sound. I refer to the Urban Land Ceiling Act. This is full of ambiguities in the sense that there could be diverse interpretations of many of the material sections. For example, I would like to refer to section 2(q)(i) and (ii). This affects especially those existing residential plots on which houses have been standing for many years. Some of these large areas pertaining to individual houses have been utilised in a manner to accord with the then existing bye-laws when the houses were constructed. Roads, electrical cables, sewage and water supply pipes have been laid and any attempt to

hive off what may now be called surplus areas in such compounds by a rule of thumb would result in material hardship. I hope in the administration of the Act, enough discretion would be given to some sufficiently high-powered and impartial persons to decide the issues having regard to equitable considerations. I know this does not fall directly within the purview of the Finance Bill or the Finance Ministry, but as it is one of the items embraced by the overall economic policy of the Government, I thought I would take this opportunity to mention this here.

I should also mention that there is a large volume of public enquiry as to what the Government propose to do with the large compounds attached to many of the Government bungalows in New Delhi. I am aware that Government are alive to the practical complexities involved in administering this measure. I would like to suggest that it would be of great help to the public if a large number of copies of the Act, the rules made thereunder and the guidelines are made available to the public at reasonable prices.

In conclusion, I would like to again pay a tribute to the Finance Minister for the manner in which he permitted almost a public debate, without of course giving up the needs of secrecy, on the Budget proposals as they were being formulated. I quote what a distinguished former Finance Secretary wrote in an article in a newspaper of Delhi on the 28th February. He said :

"Reading the newspapers, one gets the feeling that the Budget of 1976 is coming into shape under the public eye. Practically gone is the traditional atmosphere of mystery and impending doom which used to characterise the pre-Budget months."

I can fully vouch for this both as one who had worked in the Finance and other Ministries of the Government of India for many years and also as one who has

had the privilege of having been called in for consultations along with others prior to the finalisation of the Budget proposals. This readiness on the part of the Finance Minister to listen to suggestions and proposals from persons who are likely to be affected is a welcome departure from the earlier tradition and I hope this would be followed in the years to come. I once again congratulate the Finance Minister for the Budget that he has presented and support the Finance Bill.

श्री कल्पनाथ राय (उत्तर प्रदेश) : आदरणीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं वित्त विधेयक का समर्थन करने के लिये खड़ा हुआ हूँ। आज 20-सूत्री कार्यक्रम का सम्पूर्ण देश में विगुल बजा है। हमारा आवाहन हुआ है शस्त्र उठाने के लिये नहीं हालांकि हमें शस्त्रास्त्रों की आवश्यकता है, हमारा आवाहन हुआ है समर भूमि में जाने के लिये नहीं हालांकि हम समरंगण में हैं बल्कि हमारा आवाहन हुआ है हजारों वर्षों की गरीबी को हटाने के लिये, बीमारी उदासी को मिटाने के लिये। हमारा वर्तमान बजट गरीबी हटाने की दिशा में एक महान कदम है या नहीं? निश्चय ही सिंचाई विजली को प्राथमिकता देकर गरीबी हटाने की दिशा में एक महान कदम उठाया गया है। मुद्रा-स्थिति को रोककर भारत के रुपये की अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में कीमत बढ़ाकर वैलेंस प्रिन्सिपल की चुनौती का मुकाबला करके आयात बढ़ाकर कृषि एवं औद्योगिक सामानों की बढ़ोतरी करके हमने अपनी आर्थिक स्थिति को सुदृढ़ किया है। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उत्पादन में 15 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है। राष्ट्रीय आय के विकास की दर साढ़े पांच प्रतिशत हो गई है। औद्योगिक उत्पादन की विकास दर साढ़े चार प्रतिशत बढ़ गई है। महान देश की महान नेता श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी ने राजनीतिक स्थायित्व को कायम कर बीस-सूत्री कार्यक्रमों का क्रान्तिकारी आर्थिक कार्यक्रम लागू कर करोड़ों बेरोजगार गरीबों, भूमिहीनों, आदिवासियों, हरिजनों के दिलों में आशा का चिराम जलाया है। लोगों के दिलों में विश्वास के अंकुर प्रस्फुटित हुए। 30 जून तक भूमिहीनों में भूमि

के बंटवारे का ठोस एवं समय-बद्ध कार्यक्रम लागू कर प्रधानमंत्री ने समाजवाद की दिशा में एक महान कदम उठाया है। गांवों के समन्वित विकास की राजनीति अपना कर वित्त मंत्री ने सराहनीय कार्य किया है। लेकिन उपसभापति महोदय, वित्तमंत्री जी ने अपने बजट में देश के पिछड़े इलाकों के चतुर्विध सर्वांगीण एवं समन्वित विकास के लिये कोई ठोस एवं समयबद्ध कार्यक्रम नहीं घोषित किया है। एक तरफ पंजाब एवं हरियाणा के घर-घर में बिजली पहुंचाई जा रही है वहीं दूसरी तरफ बिहार एवं उत्तर प्रदेश पिछड़े-पन के गहरे अंधकार में पड़े हुए हैं। इन पिछड़े प्रदेशों के लिये बजट में व्यवस्था नहीं की गयी है।

उत्तर प्रदेश आबादी के लिहाज से सबसे बड़ा राज्य है। इसमें 55 जिले हैं। इनमें से 20 जिले आर्थिक दृष्टि से अत्यधिक पिछड़े हुए हैं, अर्थात् आर्थिक विकास की सबसे निचली सीढ़ी पर हैं। 28 जिलों में से 8 पहाड़ी जिले हैं, 5 बुन्देलखंड में और 15 पूर्वी जिले हैं? पहले दो पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में उत्तर प्रदेश के विकास की उपेक्षा हुई। 1951 में योजनाएं शुरू करने से पहले उत्तर प्रदेश में प्रति व्यक्ति वार्षिक आमदनी 259.52 रुपये थी जबकि राष्ट्रीय औसत 247.50 रुपये था। लेकिन, 1971 में जब चार पंचवर्षीय योजनाएं पूरी हो चुकी थीं और तीन वार्षिक योजनाएं भी लागू हो चुकी थीं तब उत्तर प्रदेश में प्रति व्यक्ति आमदनी 276.05 रुपये थी जब कि राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर यह आमदनी प्रति व्यक्ति 247 रुपये थी। इसका कारण था, उत्तर प्रदेश की उपेक्षा। केन्द्रीय सहायता की राशि प्रति व्यक्ति इस प्रकार है—उत्तर प्रदेश, 106 जबकि इसी अवधि में अन्य राज्यों को—पंजाब 343.00, उड़ीसा 203.00, राजस्थान 190.00 मध्य प्रदेश 155.00, काश्मीर 405.00, आसाम 189.00 का आवंटन किया गया। राष्ट्रीय औसत और उत्तर प्रदेश के बीच 141 रुपये का अन्तर है। इन आंकड़ों से मालूम होता है कि समृद्ध राज्यों के साथ पक्षपात किया गया है और

[श्री कल्पनाथ राय]

पिछड़े राज्यों की धोर उपेक्षा की गयी। इस कठोर उपेक्षा के कारण उत्तर प्रदेश एक पिछड़ा हुआ राज्य बन गया है और कम से कम दो पंच-वर्षीय योजना पीछे पड़ गया है। इस बात की पुष्टि नेशनल सैम्पुल सर्वे की इस बात से भी हो जाती है जिसमें कहा गया है कि उत्तर प्रदेश की 60 प्रतिशत आबादी की प्रति व्यक्ति खपत की औसत 1970-71 की कीमतों के आधार पर 37 रुपये से कम है। राष्ट्र की सबसे धनी आबादी वाले राज्य की दशा कितनी दयनीय है।

1958 में व्यावहारिक आर्थिक अनुसंधान की राष्ट्रीय परिषद् ने लगभग 300 जिलों का सर्वेक्षण किया था और इनमें से 58 जिले आर्थिक रूप से सबसे अधिक पिछड़े हुए पाये गये। इसके बाद से इन जिलों के विकास के लिए कोई खास प्रयास नहीं किया गया है। ये 58 जिले कई राज्यों के हैं लेकिन इनमें से सबसे अधिक उत्तर प्रदेश के, अर्थात् 23 जिले हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश के 4 पहाड़ी जिले, 4 बुन्देलखंड के और 15 पूर्वी जिले हैं। 4 पहाड़ी जिले अब 8 जिले बन गये हैं और बुन्देलखंड के 4 जिले 5 जिलों में परिवर्तित हो गये हैं। पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश के 15 जिलों का इकट्ठा इलाका है जिसकी आबादी लगभग 4 करोड़ है। ये पूर्वी जिले इस प्रकार हैं—इलाहाबाद, मिर्जापुर, वाराणसी, जौनपुर, गाजीपुर, बलिया, आजमगढ़, देवरिया, गोरखपुर, बस्ती, बहराइच, गोंडा, फैजाबाद, मुलतानपुर और प्रतापगढ़।

इन जिलों के निवासी आजादी की लड़ाई में मोर्चा लेने वाले बहादुर सिपाही रहे हैं। 1857 से 1942 तक स्वाधीनता की लड़ाई के इतिहास में इनकी तपस्या एवं त्याग की शानदार कहानियाँ देखने को मिलती हैं। यही कारण था कि अंग्रेज शासकों ने इस क्षेत्र को बड़ी उपेक्षा की, लेकिन आजादी मिलने के बाद भी इस क्षेत्र की उपेक्षा हुयी। इस उपेक्षा के कारण आर्थिक प्रगति की रफ्तार निम्न स्तर पर पहुँच गयी है। इन जिलों

की औसत आमदनी 146 रुपये है। पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश गरीबी का सबसे बड़ा इलाका है। जून 1964 में लोक सभा में पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश की गरीबी का मासिक चित्रण श्री विश्वनाथ सिंह गहमरी ने किया। पी० नेहरू ने जून, 1962 में योजना आयोग को सुझाव दिया कि पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश की तेज रफ्तार एवं समन्वित विकास के लिये सावधानीपूर्वक जांच की जानी चाहिए। परिणामस्वरूप योजना आयोग एवं उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के परामर्श से पटेल आयोग बना। इस आयोग में केन्द्र और राज्य सरकार के अधिकारी, व्यावहारिक आर्थिक अनुसंधान की राष्ट्रीय परिषद् का एक प्रतिनिधि शामिल था। पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश के 15 जिलों में से 4 जिले जौनपुर, गाजीपुर, आजमगढ़ और देवरिया चुने गये जिनकी आर्थिक स्थिति का ब्योरेवार अध्ययन किया गया। पटेल अध्ययन दल की रिपोर्ट और उसकी सिफारिशों जनवरी 1964 में सरकार के पास पेश कर दी गईं। सिफारिशों पर कुछ प्रारंभिक काम किया गया लेकिन कुछ समय बाद इसे भी छोड़ दिया गया। इसके बाद समय समय पर संसद के दोनों सदनों में क्षेत्रीय असंतुलन के मामले पर वाद-विवाद होता रहा। इससे पहले पी०एस० लोकनाथन समिति ने पिछड़ेपन और आबादी के घनत्व के मामले पर विचार किया था। समिति ने यह सिफारिश की थी कि आबादी का कुछ भाग हटाकर बुन्देलखंड में बसा दिया जाए। पटेल अध्ययन दल के अनुसार इन जिलों की आबादी के घनत्व का औसत प्रति वर्ग मील के हिसाब से 109.4 है जब कि कुछ अन्य जिलों की आबादी का घनत्व इससे भी अधिक है। इन जिलों के पिछड़ेपन का स्थूल सूचक इनकी शहरी आबादी है जो 7.4 प्रतिशत है जबकि उत्तर प्रदेश की शहरी आबादी 12.9 प्रतिशत है। इसके अलावा इन जिलों के 1970 के आस पास इस क्षेत्र या अन्य पिछड़े हुए क्षेत्रोंका पिछड़ापन दूर करने के लिए एक जोरदार अभियान चलाया गया जिसके चलते योजना आयोग के अधिकारियों ने पिछड़ेपन की अजीबोगरीब परिभाषा पेश की। उन्होंने एक नये शब्द का आविष्कार किया है कि आर्थिक पिछड़ापन पिछड़ापन नहीं है बल्कि औद्योगिक दृष्टि से

ही पिछड़ा है। इस परिभाषा के अनुसार बिहार प्रान्त पिछड़ा क्षेत्र नहीं है, क्योंकि वहाँ उद्योग धंधे हैं। क्षेत्रीय असंतुलन को बरकरार रखने के लिए योजना आयोग ने यह नयी परिभाषा निकाली है। अभी लगभग 60 जिले हैं जो आर्थिक दृष्टि से पिछड़े हैं, लेकिन उनके समन्वित विकास के लिए सरकार धन जुटा सकती है। यदि औद्योगिक दृष्टि से पिछड़े जिलों को लिया जाय तो उनकी संख्या 225 होगी जिसके लिए साधन जुटाना सरकार के लिए कठिन है। यदि किसी जिले में एक उद्योग है, लेकिन वह आर्थिक दृष्टि से पिछड़ा इलाका है तो अधिकारी उसे पिछड़ा इलाका मानने को तैयार नहीं। बिहार राज्य में बहुत से उद्योग हैं इसलिए वह पिछड़ा हुआ नहीं है। इसी तरह पूर्वी जिलों में गोरखपुर और मिर्जापुर में एक एक उद्योग है, इसलिए वे पिछड़े हुए नहीं हैं। प्रति व्यक्ति कम आमदनी और कम शक्ति में कमी उनके हिसाब से पिछड़ेपन का सूचक नहीं है।

इसके साथ ही आर्थिक पिछड़ापन भुबमरी और अन्य आर्थिक कष्टों का कारण होता है। इसलिए इन पर तुरन्त ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए। यह बाद में देखा जाएगा कि यदि औद्योगिक पिछड़ापन है तो उसे भी दूर किया जाएगा। उद्योगों का विकेंद्रीकरण या बिखराव उन्हीं स्थानों पर संभव है जहाँ विकास के वैकल्पिक उपाय हों। देहाती क्षेत्रों में भारी उद्योग स्थापित कर अर्थव्यवस्था आगे नहीं बढ़ायी जा सकती बल्कि छोटे और कुटीर उद्योगों के द्वारा और परम्परागत उद्योगों को विकसित तरीकों से चलाकर ऐसा किया जा सकता है। अन्ततः देहाती और शहरी अर्थव्यवस्था का समन्वय करने के लिए समन्वित विकास कार्यक्रम बनाया जाए और ईमानदारी से उस पर अमल किया जाय। यदि इन क्षेत्रों की अब भी उपेक्षा की जाती रही तो पता नहीं भविष्य के गर्भ में क्या है जब शताब्दी के अन्त तक देश की आबादी 100 करोड़ तक पहुँच जाएगी। फिर स्थिति पर काबू पाना कठिन हो जाएगा।

माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी, बीस सूत्री कार्यक्रमों के अन्तर्गत करोड़ों करोड़ गरीबों को कर्ज से मुक्ति दिलाई गई परन्तु करोड़ों इंसानों को रोजमर्रा की ज़िन्दगी में कर्ज देने के लिए कोई ठोस उपाय नहीं किया गया।
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सात लाख गांवों के करोड़ों करोड़ इंसानों की कर्ज की समस्या को हल करने के लिए फ़ीरी तौर पर पच्चीस हजार ग्रामीण बैंक खोले जाने चाहिए।

“पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश के सर्वांगीण चतुर्दिक विकास के लिए, पहली शर्त है कि वित्त मंत्री जी एवं योजना आयोग पूर्वांचल की सभी छोटी रेल लाइनों को बड़ी रेल लाइनों में बनाने के लिए बजट की व्यवस्था करें तभी प्राइवेट सैक्टर या पब्लिक सैक्टर के कारखाने खुल सकते हैं। छोटी रेल लाइनों को बड़ी रेलवे लाइनों में बदलने का मुझाव पटेल आयोग ने भी दिया था। जब तक छोटी लाइनों को बड़ी लाइनों में बदला नहीं जाएगा तब तक पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश की आर्थिक स्थिति ठीक नहीं हो सकती है।”

वित्त मंत्री जी ने देश में गृह निर्माण के लिए बीस करोड़ रुपये की बजट में व्यवस्था की है। अरबन सीलिंग के कारण देश में गृह निर्माण का काम बन्द हो गया है। गृह निर्माण से करोड़ों लोगों को काम मिलता था एवं सैकड़ों उद्योग चलते थे। आज सरकार की वर्तमान नीति से आवास समस्या उत्पन्न हो गई है। दिल्ली में प्रति वर्ष दो हजार आवास निर्माण की योजना है जबकि प्रति वर्ष चार हजार मकान गिराये जा रहे हैं एवं मकानों की खोज में हजारों इंसान घूम रहे हैं। आवास योजना को बजट में प्राथमिकता देनी चाहिए एवं बीस करोड़ की जगह दो सौ करोड़ की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए तभी हम समाजवादी समाज के निर्माण के सपने को साकार कर सकेंगे।

आरक्षणिय उपसभापति महोदय, अन्त में मैं सरकार की कृषि नीति एवं दाम नीति के संबंध में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। किसानों के द्वारा पैदा की गई चीजें माटी के दाम पर बिक रही हैं। पूँजीपतियों के कारखानों की चीजें सोने के दाम पर बिक रही हैं। पूँजीपतियों के कारखानों के मालिकों के टैक्स पर भारी क़सेजान दिया गया। उनके द्वारा उपयोग किये जाने वाले कार, टेली-विजन रेफ़्रिजरेटर का दाम घटाया गया परन्तु किसानों का, वाहनकारों का क्या हुआ ? साल में दो ही महीने बिजली का इस्तेमाल करने वाले किसान को बारहों महीने बिजली का बिल 4-4 पैसे प्रति यूनिट के हिसाब से देना पड़ता है।

[श्री कल्पनाब राय]

24 घंटे बिजली का इस्तेमाल करने वाले पूंजीपती को 6 पैसे युनिट के हिसाब से देना पड़ता है। क्या कोई मारजीनल फार्म, स्माल फार्मर, 18 एकड़ का फार्मर 60 हजार का, 65 हजार का ट्रैक्टर खरीद सकता है? क्या कोई 144 रुपये की ड्राई खरीद सकता है? तीन सौ रुपये बिबंटल उन्नतीशील बीज खरीद सकता है। उपसभापति महोदय, पिछले तीन सालों में किसान पर साढ़े बारह सौ करोड़ का टैक्स लगाया गया है। हिन्दुस्तान के बैंकों में 63 परसेंट रुपया गांव वालों का जमा है और इस रुपये को पूंजीपतियों को इंडस्ट्री खड़ी करने के लिये दिया जाता है। एक तरफ पूंजीपतियों को कन्सेशन दिया जाता है, दूसरी तरफ गांव वालों के रुपये को पूंजीपतियों को इंडस्ट्री बिल्ड-अप करने के लिये दिया जाता है और तीसरी तरफ किसानों के खेतों में पैदा होने वाली चीजों को सस्ते दाम पर बेचने के लिये कहा जाता है। क्या सरकार की यही नीति है। उपसभापति महोदय, खेती के संबंध में और खेत में पैदा होने वाली चीजों के संबंध में सरकार ने कोई नीति निर्धारित नहीं की है।

आज यदि हम ट्रैक्टर खरीदना चाहें रुस या अमेरिका से तो हमें वहां से 12 हजार या 14 हजार में मिल सकता है। यदि कोई अमेरिका में या रुस में किसी का रिश्तेदार रहता है और वहां से ट्रैक्टर मंगाना चाहता है तो उस पर भी सरकार ने इतनी एन्साइज ड्यूटी लगा दी है कि वहां पर वह 60-65 हजार में पड़ता है।

मैं आपको पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश के आंकड़े देना चाहता हूँ। पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश में 90 परसेंट किसान ऐसे हैं जिनके पास दो एकड़, एक एकड़, या डेढ़ एकड़ ही जमीन है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि किस हैमियत से, किस कीमत पर वे 90 परसेंट किसान ट्रैक्टर को इस्तेमाल कर सकते हैं। वे किस कीमत पर 144 रुपये की ड्राई का इस्तेमाल कर सकते हैं। जब खाद का दाम बढ़ाना होता है तो 50 रुपये से एकदम 105 रुपये बढ़ा दिया जाता है और जब अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में खाद की कीमत ड्रॉप हो जाती है तो हमारे यहाँ उसकी कीमत उतनी ही रहती है। यह है हमारी सरकार की नीति।

आदर्शपूर्ण उपसभापति महोदय, हिन्दुस्तान में जब इतना जबर्दस्त गल्ला पैदा होता है तब भी सरकार को

अमेरिका से एक हजार करोड़ रुपये का अनाज खरीदना पड़ता है। हिन्दुस्तान के किसानों से तो सरकार 105 रुपये बिबंटल के हिसाब से अनाज खरीदेगी और उसी गेहूँ को अमेरिका से 156 रुपये बिबंटल के हिसाब से खरीदेगी। यह है सरकार की नीति। मैं सरकार को बताना चाहता हूँ कि यदि हिन्दुस्तान के किसानों को भी 156 रुपये बिबंटल के हिसाब से दाम दिये जायें तो जितना अनाज हम अमेरिका से खरीदते हैं उतना ही अनाज हमारे देश के किसान अपने खेतों में पैदा कर सकेंगे।

मेरा एक सुझाव यह भी है कि हिन्दुस्तान के गांवों का बैंकों में 63 परसेंट रुपया जमा है। इन गांवों का रुपया चतुदिक विकास के लिये खर्च किया जाये। गांवों के विकास पर वित्त मंत्री महोदय, जब ऐसी नीति अपनाई जायेगी तभी हिन्दुस्तान के सात लाख गांवों में विकास हो सकेगा। आज गांव उजड़ रहे हैं। गांव की दशा दयनीय हो गई है। हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार और हिन्दुस्तान के मंत्री लोगों से मेरा निवेदन है गांवों की तरफ विशेष ध्यान दिया जाये। देश के गांवों की स्थिति जाननी चाहिये। आज किसान की कमर टूट चुकी है। जब इस देश में अकाल पड़ेगा, भूखमरी होगी, तभी इस देश में गल्ला सवा दो सौ रुपये बिबंटल बिकेगा। जब किसान से कहा जायेगा तुम ज्यादा गल्ला पैदा करो तो उस बकत गल्ला सस्ते दाम में बिकेगा। उस बकत सबसे दुखी किसान ही होगा। जो चीजें किसान इस्तेमाल करता है उसके दाम घटाये नहीं जाते हैं और जो चीजें पूंजीपति या बड़े-बड़े लोग इस्तेमाल करते हैं उसके दाम घटा दिये जाते हैं। आपने फाइन क्लायथ के दाम घटा दिये हैं। मेरा कहना है कि मोटे कपड़े के दाम क्यों नहीं घटाये जो कि किसान इस्तेमाल करता है। आज जब कि पूंजीपतियों को इतना कन्सेशन दिया गया है तब भी उन्होंने इन्वेस्टमेंट नहीं बढ़ाया। उन्होंने अपने कारखानों में बनने वाली चीजों के दाम नहीं घटाये। बाजार में सरकार की तरफ से रुई के दाम बढ़ाये गये हैं जब कि किसान के घर में रुई सस्ती होती है। कपास के दाम बढ़ाये गये हैं जो कि किसान के घर से सस्ते दाम पर ली जाती है। जो भी चीज किसान के घर में पैदा होगी वह बाजार में तो ज्यादा दाम पर बिकेगी लेकिन सरकार उनसे सस्ते दाम पर खरीदेगी। किसान जो गेहूँ पैदा करता है उसे सरकार 105 रुपये बिबंटल

खरीदती है और 200 रुपये बिबंटल बाजार में बेचती है। अभी सरकार ने टेलीविजन पर कन्सेशन दिया है, रेफरीजरेटर पर कन्सेशन दिया है, अम्बैसटर कार जिसको बड़े-बड़े लोग इस्तेमाल करते हैं कन्सेशन दिया है लेकिन किसानों के खेतों में पैदा होने वाली चीजों के दाम नहीं बढ़ाये हैं। किसान सीमेन्ट इस्तेमाल करता है, किसान मोटा कपड़ा इस्तेमाल करता है, किसान बीमारी में दवाएं इस्तेमाल करता है उनके दाम नहीं गिराये गये हैं। किसान जो भी चीज इस्तेमाल करता है उन सब के दाम बढ़ा दिये गये हैं। जो चीज किसान पैदा करता है चाहे वह आलू हो, चाहे वह प्याज हो, चाहे वह गन्ना पैदा करें चाहे वह कपास पैदा करें या रुई पैदा करें, सभी के दाम सरकार द्वारा निर्धारित नहीं हैं। जीवन की आवश्यक वस्तुओं का दाम बांधा जाये। सरकार को दाम बांधो नीति पर चलकर समता पर आधारित अर्थ व्यवस्था का निर्माण करना चाहिये या जो पैदा करें, या चना पैदा करें उन सभी चीजों के दाम बहुत कम होने हैं और वे मिट्टी के भाव पर बाजार में विकते हैं। किसानों को पैदावर को चाहे स्टेट गवर्नमेंट खरीदे या एफ० सी० आई० खरीदे, सरकार ने किसानों से चीजों को खरीदने के संबंध में कोई ठोस नीति नहीं बनाई है। इसलिये आदरणीय उप-सभापति महोदय, मैं वित्त मंत्री महोदय, से यह प्रार्थना करूंगा कि वे हिन्दुस्तान के पिछड़े इलाकों पर, विशेष कर हिन्दी भाषा-भाषी इलाकों पर जिनमें उत्तर प्रदेश, मध्य प्रदेश, बिहार और उत्तर प्रदेश का पूर्वी क्षेत्र आता है, उनके लिये बजट में विशेष रूप से प्रावधान करें और किसानों तथा गांवों के आनुदिक विकास के लिये एक दाम नीति निर्धारित करें। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMNAD (Kerala) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, this year's Budget has been applauded and hailed by the rich people as well as the poor people, thinking that it is their Budget. And you will see that the rich people are really glad and happy that their financial burden has been relieved. Many incentives have been given to the industrialists to boost their production. Concessions have been given to the rich man to relieve him from his wealth-tax as well as income-tax burden. The reduction in

wealth-tax is so high. So we can say that this is more a rich man's Budget than a poor man's Budget. Sir, in regard to income-tax, the exemption limit for the lower income group should be raised from Rs. 8,000 to Rs. 10,000. I suggest to the hon. Finance Minister to consider raising the exemption limit from Rs. 8,000 to Rs. 10,000 so that only people above Rs. 10,000 need pay income-tax. As far as wealth-tax is concerned, the first one lakh of rupees is exempted from wealth-tax. My friend from this side has said that the wealth-tax exemption should be raised to Rs. 5 lakhs. I do not agree with that proposal. But at the same time, what I would like to say is, though the first one lakh of rupees is exempted from wealth-tax, if a man has a wealth of Rs. 2 lakhs or Rs. 3 lakhs, he has to pay wealth-tax on the entire wealth. I think if the exemption limit is Rs. 1 lakh, that Rs. 1 lakh should be exempted completely; that is, if a person's wealth is Rs. 5 lakhs, he should be asked to pay wealth-tax only on Rs. 4 lakhs. That exemption should be given completely as it is done in the case of income-tax. That procedure should be followed in the case of wealth-tax also. That is my first submission.

Now, more powers have been given to the income-tax officers with regard to searching of the houses, with regard to vigilance and so on. More powers are being given to the income-tax officers for the effective implementation of the tax laws. Power corrupts a man. It is a well-known theory that power corrupts a person and more power corrupts a person more. In order that this power may not be misused by these officers against persons whom they dislike or against whom they have a prejudice, I submit that there should be a check on the officers. This should be done to see that the extra powers that you have given to them may not be misused to harass people, especially the lower income people because we know the officers may not harass the higher income people as they are above harassment. My suggestion is for ensuring that especially the people who pay lower income-tax like

[Shri Hamid Ali Schamnad]

Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 2,000 may not be harassed by the extra powers that have been given to the income-tax officers to implement the income-tax laws effectively. The best of judgment is given to them. That best of judgment in each case should be in the best interests of taxation. The powers you have given to them should not be used to harass the assessees.

The income-tax laws are becoming more and more complicated. Those with marginal incomes are not in a position to consult auditors and get their advice. For that I suggest that free technical advice should be given to them on the procedures to be followed for filing their returns. I would also suggest that when a return is filed, that return should hold good for three years. This should be particularly so in the case of those assessees who pay only marginal tax, say, Rs. 1,000/- or so. Such assessees should not be asked to file returns every year unless their income changes every year. If the income-tax authorities feel that a particular return thus filed does not represent the correct income of the assessee, then such an assessee can be asked to file a fresh return. Otherwise, normally, one return filed should hold good for three years. This should be adopted particularly in the case of lower income group persons. This would save lot of administrative work also.

Much has been said about agricultural income-tax. I know it is a State subject. Yet, one thing I would like to submit for the consideration of the Finance Minister. There is no uniform policy in the case of agricultural income-tax. Kerala collects this tax at a very high rate from the farmers whereas in Punjab and other Northern States this source is not tapped at all. I would request the hon. Minister of Finance to conduct a survey and find out how the rate of this tax varies from State to State.

He should see to it that agricultural income-tax is levied on a uniform rate.

With regard to L.I.C. my suggestion is this. As it is, before a policy matures, the policy-holder cannot draw the amount*. If he draws it, then he has to forego one-fourth of the amount that he has already paid. After five years or so, if he makes his policy paid-up, then he should be able to draw the amount whenever he requires, provided he has paid his premium. This suggestion may be considered. This would encourage people to come forward and insure themselves.

With regard to banking, we have already passed a law in this House for constitution of a Public Service Commission to recruit officers for the nationalised banks. What has happened to it? The Public Service Commission has not been appointed so far. Recruitment of officers is being made to Canara Bank, Syndicate Bank and other nationalised banks month after month, with no consideration shown to merit. People are appointed according to the whims and fancies of the Directors. I would like to submit to the Finance Ministry to see that the Service Commission is appointed and only through that Commission the officials of the banks are recruited. I would even say that corruption prevails amongst many bank directors particularly when recruitment is made. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary that, in the interest of the smooth working of the banks, the Service Commission for the banks should be set up immediately and before the Commission comes into being, the Finance Ministry should ask the directors of the banks not to make any recruitment at all and, if at all any recruitment is made, it should be subject to the approval of this Commission. Sir, we have already enacted some law in this connection in this House. Even that enactment is not applicable in the case of the lower-grade officers like the junior officers and the clerks and so on. I would like to submit that every employee of the banks should be appointed only through the Service

Commission and this arrangement would infuse confidence among the people. In many States like Kerala, Sir, even a peon is appointed through the Public Service Commission and even a Collector has no power to appoint his own peon in the State of Kerala. Only the State Public Service Commission can appoint the peons or even the top officers. So, the same thing should prevail in banks also. I would like to say that the officials and the entire administrative staff of the banks should be appointed only through the Service Commission. Then, Sir, coming to the question of giving due representation to the various sections of the people, I would like to state that some people have a monopoly so far as jobs are concerned in the banking system of the country today. These jobs should be distributed amongst the various sections of the country, various communities of our country. I would like to say specifically that the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe people do not find a place in the banking administration and so is the case with the Muslim minorities who are very backward educationally, economically and socially. They should also be given a proper place in the banking administration and they should also be recruited for appointment in the bank?. So, Sir these are my submissions so far as recruitment to the posts in the banks is concerned.

Then, coming to the question of land reforms, I would like to say that even though these reforms are being brought about by the various States one after the other, there are some loopholes in the laws especially with regard to the definition of the term "family". A husband, his wife and his unmarried children would constitute a family. So, once the ceiling is fixed, no person can transfer his property. But, as far as the Hindu Undivided Family is concerned, they can partition their property and even the child in the womb gets the right over the family property. On the other hand, people who follow other Personal Laws like the Christians or the Muslims, do not have this kind of thing and a major boy does not get the property

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of his father unless the latter dies and, also, Sir, the major boy, if he is married, is not entitled to get the property. What happens in such cases is that the father is asked to surrender the excess land that he has. If he has excess land of about twelve or fifteen acres, he is asked to surrender that land to the land pool. The major children and the married children are not entitled to get the property of their parents. On the other hand, in the case of the Hindu Undivided Family, the family can partition its property even when the parents are not dead because every son has got a right over the property of his father. So, this difficulty is there. Even in Kerala, after 1970, many parents had given their property to their major children thinking that their property would go to them because their major children were entitled to get their property. So, they gave their property as gift, not to avoid the land reform measures, but as gift to their major children. But the Kerala High Court held that, after 1970, when the land reform laws were brought into force, the parents had no right to transfer the property and that all the excess land vested with the Government. So that is the position now taken by the Kerala High Court. These disparities are therein the undivided families even today. If the son is 50 years old, and if his father is alive, if he is 70 years old, the son is not entitled to get equal property unless the father dies or the father gives by way of gift. He is not able to make a gift because of the land reforms. This could be examined by the Law Department to see that justice is done in this matter . . .

(Time bell ring-:;)

Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Khurshed Alam Khan.

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN (Delhi): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill, 1976. Sir, the financial year 1975-76 has been a momentous year all over the country.

[Shri Khurshed Alam Khan]

Various measures which have been taken in this year brought about a spectacular success. Therefore, we can look back at 1975-76 as a year of achievements and performance of a very high order. During the last nine months it appears that a miracle has taken place in this country. This is obviously the result of a good approach through the taxation proposals and the Finance Bill of 1976. We are all happy and look forward to the beginning up of a new era of prosperity and well-being.

Sir, at the outset, it may be said that special care has been taken this time to see that the country's economy is boosted up and it is on its way to self-sufficiency. The provision of Rs. 7852 crores for Plan expenditure is a clear indication in this behalf.

Sir, now, I would like to mention that the Prime Minister's 20-point economic programme, which aims at improving the lot of the weaker sections of society, has given a fillip to the new climate of self-confidence, hope, faith and discipline. Now the co-operative sector in the rural areas has to play its important part, as perhaps it would take a little more time for the rural banks to cover the entire rural areas, while the co-operative network is already existing which can help the poor farmers through the co-operative banks.

Sir, the economy now is definitely in a better shape and financial proposals as presented by the Finance Minister reflect a bold step and, therefore, there is every hope that the country and the nation will not be faced with the type of problems we faced during 1975-76 which were not very creditable so far as our financial performance is concerned.

Sir, there was definitely the need for the growth and a result-oriented Budget, and the present proposals definitely seek to increase the production both in the farm and factory. It is a well-timed economic policy,

and I am sure the dividends will be as expected. The new package of proposals offered by the Finance Minister will go a long way in re-shaping the nation's economy. By all accounts, 1974-75 and about three months of 1975-76 were a period of unprecedented economic and political strain in the country's history. But we have turned the corner, and this is a big achievement. However, it was also a period of determined action on the part of the Government which clearly indicates our capacity and strength of our political system to deal with such critical situation and such critical times. The mood of confidence and hope which our fiscal measures have generated is universally accepted and hailed. The most heartening achievements are reflected in the general price fall of essential commodities. A good and another great achievement is that we have been able to contain the inflation, which is a great achievement actually for the country. This is conspicuously evident in our national economic life. Its importance cannot be under-rated. Price stability was our first priority. We are glad that we have achieved this objective to a greater extent and we are on our way to self-sufficiency. The Indian economy is still predominantly agricultural. As we all know, nearly 70 per cent of the people are dependent for their living on agriculture and allied sectors. Its importance in the national economy cannot be overstressed. Of the net area under cultivation, 22.7 per cent is irrigated. Besides, we have to bring under irrigation another five lakh acres of land in pursuance of the new economic programme announced by the Prime Minister. So, irrigation facilities must get special priority and special attention so that we are free from the vagaries of weather and we do not have to depend on the weather gods. Indeed, the food situation at present seems to be very cheerful and we are likely to exceed the present target of 114 million tonnes. But let there be no complacency on this account because we all know that fat years and lean years is a cycle and we should prepare ourselves to face a lean year when we are passing through the fat year.

Sir, agro-industries corporations have been set up in various States. The object of these corporations was very laudable and the purpose for which they were set up was really very good. But it is rather unfortunate that agro-industries corporation are not functioning as they should and the Central Government has to intervene because it has contributed almost 50 per cent of the share capital of these corporations. Therefore, it is our duty and responsibility to ensure that they function according to the objectives laid down for them.

Sir, as a result of the new economic programme, the landless have been allotted lands and rural indebtedness has been removed. But much is yet to be done. In this connection, I would say that if we give the tools and means to our farmers, I am sure they will deliver the goods. Let us give them credit facilities which will help them to stand on their feet. In this connection, as I have already mentioned, irrigation is the first target. Irrigation should get the highest priority. Then the farmers should get the facility of tractors and implements used for tilling and sowing. It is obvious that the small farmer cannot afford to buy these implements. He cannot buy even a pair of bullocks. Therefore, there should be mechanised units all over the country in the rural areas which should help them in tilling and harvesting their products.

Sir, our metropolitan cities are fast becoming places difficult to live in. It is the same story whether it is Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi or Madras. There is overcrowding and every public service is strained to breaking point. Let us see the writing on the wall. I am sure the minor surgery is not going to do any useful work as far as our metropolitan cities are concerned. Therefore, we should be prepared, mentally and in other ways, for a major operation as only a major operation can RP* things right. Sir, in this connection, I would particularly like to mention, let us try to have a roof over every head in our metropolitan cities, let them have clean water and

let them have at least healthy and clean atmosphere where they live.

Now, Sir, a word about public sector. Our public sector has over the years come to occupy a prominent place in the economic development of the country. The public sector today is fast emerging as the core of the Indian economy and industrial progress. Only Central public enterprises today aggregate to about 122. The investment is more than Rs. 62,370 millions in 1973-74. Their profit after tax deduction was about Rs. 644 millions. They provide employment for more than 1.3 million people. But all of them are not completely out of the woods. The difficulty is that our public sector undertakings are managed not entirely as a private company. They do not have all the advantages of a private company. At the same time, they do not have the advantages of departmental working. And, therefore, it is necessary that a view is taken to see what the hindrances are, what the difficulties are, what the working problems are which should be removed as early as possible.

Sir, the Government's policy regarding nationalisation is a well accepted and universally understood fact. But in regard to taking over of private sector units, we need some second thoughts. Are we to take over only the sick factories and sick mills? Are we going to act only as a clinic or a nursing home for all the sick mills and sick units? For instance, Sir, take the sugar industry in U.P. and Bihar. Indecision and uncertainty for a long period has been the cause of ill of the sugar industry in these two big States. Less production this year by about four to five lakh tonnes is entirely due to this uncertainty and indecision. Sir, we must take some policy decision and come to some conclusion. Otherwise, this uncertainty will cause more damage, more harm to the industry to the people who are working there and to the consumer, who will eventually suffer.

Sir, the situation regarding the trade balance of payment is not very cheerful. In fact, it seems quite disturbing and

[Shri Khurshed Alam Khan]

dismal. Besides the outlook for 1976-77 is also not very optimistic. Something has to be done to correct this situation, to correct this imbalance. We have to find ways and means to ease this situation. There are many ways and means to do it, and one such way is the enormous prospects that are available to us by increasing the trade and commerce with the Gulf countries. A large number of traditional and non-traditional items can be exported. Besides exports of commodities, sale of services is also possible. This can be really a very substantial source of earning foreign exchange. Sir, only one item I shall mention. Mutton is being sold at the rate of Rs. 40 per kilo in these countries, and we are surely capable of exporting as much mutton as they need.

Sir, many other hon. Members have also mentioned about it and I would like to mention a word about the Urban land Ceiling Act which was recently passed by the Parliament because we find that power and money are playing havoc in the matter of implementation of this legislation. And it is now for the Government to see that the good intentions are not destroyed by these people who are trying to really take advantage of many loopholes.

Now, Sir, a little nearer home, I would like to say that Delhi which is the city of growth and challenges, is always very much in the public eye. The main problem of Delhi is its multiplicity of authority. We know that no unified set-up will be given to us and we have always asked for it and drawn a blank. There are many possibilities and some alternatives should be found out so that the people of Delhi do not have to face all those problems which they are facing today as a result of multiplicity of authorities. (*Time bell rings*).

Sir, the Union Territory of Delhi has been given an outlay of Rs. 165.30 crores for the year 1975-76. We are happy that this allocation was made but I must add that this allocation is not really adequate

although it is Rs. 23 crores more than what was given last year. Today we need for Delhi at least another Rs. 10 crores. As you know, recently many developments have been taking place in Delhi and therefore Delhi needs much more financial assistance.

Sir, Delhi was a sleepy town of about 6 lakh people in 1938-39. Now it has already crossed the four-million mark and by 1991 its population will be more than 5 millions. Therefore, something has to be done for the population of Delhi. One way of finding a solution to this problem was to have the National Capital Region scheme. Unfortunately this scheme has been under consideration for the last several years. No doubt Rs 20 crores have been provided in this year's Budget but then the sense of urgency is still lacking and therefore, something has to be done about it.

Sir, Delhi's civic services are outstripped by its requirements. Besides the medical services in Delhi are most inadequate and they need augmentation without further delay.

Sir, the D.D.A. has done a great deal of good work in cleaning Delhi and its squatter resettlement plan was the biggest peace-time resettlement plan. But, here, I would like to mention one thing about Ajmeri Gate-Delhi Gate clearance plan. Sir, this plan was suggested by one of the very prominent persons of Delhi, I mean late Mr. Asaf Ali. But his suggestion was that this area should be redeveloped. It was not the question of squatters being removed from the area. It was the question of congestion and the question was of redevelopment. Therefore, why is this redevelopment being delayed?

Sir, another important thing which Delhi needs very urgently is that Delhi should be declared a dry port. We have already about 100 acres of land for this purpose. About 40 crores of rupees have been invested in the remodelling of Tughlaqabad

yard. Therefore, all the infra-structure is available and Delhi should be declared a dry port. It will be helpful not only to Delhi but to all the adjoining States also.

Sir, Shahjahanabad, the imperial city of Shahjahan, was built for 60 thousand people initially but today more than half a million people are living there. These are the people whose forefathers were living a gracious life but today they are really deprived of fresh air, fresh water, clean atmosphere and even sunshine. Something has to be done and done quickly for them. They have waited for a very long time and I do not know how long more they will be kept waiting to see better days. (*lime bell rings*).

Sir, I will be finishing in a minute. Sir, 40 acres of land for Shahjahanabad people was reserved in the Minto Road area. I do not know why there is delay in completing the multi-storeyed flats in this area. If these were constructed the overflow of population could be shifted to this place.

Sir, another important thing about metropolitan cities is that there should be autonomous metropolitan transport authorities so that the metropolitan cities transport problems are solved. Otherwise there will be so much congestion a few years hence that our cars or buses or any other vehicles will not find road space to move about and the amount of time that will be lost will be colossal in terms of money or in terms of the number of hours lost. In the end, it must be said to the credit of the Finance Minister that he accepted the fundamental principle that high tax rates were self-defeating. It is heartening to find that duties on tractors and other implements have been cut down and the Finance Minister has agreed to give relief in indirect taxes of the order of Rs. 9.9 crores. It is all in keeping with the spirit of the tax proposals. The Finance Minister has played his part and now it is for the nation and the tax-payers to play their game and be fair in their dealings.

With these few words, I again, Sir, support the Bill.

श्री इब्राहीम कलानिया (गुजरात) :
माननीय उपसभापति जी, इस वर्ष की अर्थ व्यवस्था संबंधी फाइनेंस बिल को वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने जिस सूझ-बूझ के साथ सदन के सम्मुख रखा है वह निश्चय ही हमारे समाजवाद के लक्ष्य की ओर बढ़ता हुआ भारत सरकार का एक और सही कदम है। हम इसकी सराहना किए बिना नहीं रह सकते हैं।

फाइनेंस बिल के प्रस्ताव पर विचार करते समय हमें कुछ उन प्रश्नों पर भी विचार कर लेना उचित होगा जो इस वर्ष की बजट मांगों के फलस्वरूप दिखाई पड़ने लगे हैं। बातें बहुत-सी हो सकती हैं, परन्तु समयाभाव के कारण मैं संक्षेप में कुछ प्रश्नों के बारे में ही कहना चाहूंगा।

पहला प्रश्न देश में खाद्य पदार्थों की बरबादी का है। खेतों में चूहों तथा बिल-जंतुओं द्वारा जो कुछ नुकसान होता है उसकी अक्सर चर्चा होती है, परन्तु हमारे घरों में खाने-पीने की बस्तुओं की जो बरबादी होती है उसका यदि सर्वेक्षण किया जायें तो वह करोड़ों रुपयों का हिसाब बैठेगा। इसे बचाने के लिए जहां प्रचार के माध्यमों से देशव्यापी आन्दोलन की आवश्यकता है, वहीं इस वैज्ञानिक युग में हमें कुछ ऐसे साधन भी जुटाने होंगे, ऐसे उपकरणों की व्यवस्था करनी होगी जिनकी देश के हर साधारण परिवार को आवश्यकता होगी। कुछ ऐसे साधन हैं भी, परन्तु उनका उपयोग कुछ सम्पन्न परिवारों तक ही सीमित है। मेरा मतलब है कि वातानुकूलित पेटियों यानी रिफ्रिजरेटर्स से मेरा विश्वास है कि यदि आवश्यक हो तो इस प्रकार के उपकरणों पर बजाय टैक्स लगाने के उनके निर्माताओं को कुछ सरकारी अनुदान देकर इतना सस्ता कर दिया जाए कि वह हर वर्ग के परिवार का खाद्यान्न संरक्षक बन सके। आप इस पर विचार करके देखें। इस मुविधा से जितने खाद्य पदार्थ की बर्चत हो सकेगी वह सरकार के इन उपकरणों से बसूल किये जाने वाले करों से कहीं अधिक मूल्यवान मावित होगा। इसे कैसे किया जायें, उसके लिए मंत्री महोदय खुद समझदार हैं।

[श्री इब्राहीम कलानिया]

दूसरी बात जो मैं कहना चाहता हूँ, वह प्रचार तथा शिक्षा से संबंधित है। फिल्मों तथा रेडियो टेलिविजन के माध्यम को इस दिशा में सर्वोपरि माना गया है। बजट के बाद टेलिविजन सेटों की कीमतों में किसी हद तक गिरावट तो आई है, परन्तु वह जनसाधारण की सीमा से बाहर की बात है। साधारण वर्ग के परिवार इस संबंध में आज भी हमारे आरक्षण वित्त मंत्री को गुजरात भाषा में कंजूस कहते हैं। यदि सचमुच में हमें अपनी बात जनता के हर वर्ग तक पहुँचानी है उन्हें सही रूप में शिक्षित करना है, उनमें राष्ट्रीयता की भावना जाग्रत करनी है तो हमें ऐसे टेलीविजन सेट मार्केट में लाना होगा जो देश के हर घर की अर्थ-व्यवस्था के योग्य हो। आखिर दूसरे देशों में जहाँ की मंहगाई की अक्सर चर्चा होती है पांच सात सौ रुपये बराबर के मूल्य में टेलीविजन सेट कैसे मिल जाते हैं। उनके यहाँ हर जन उपयोगी उपकरण एक्सपोज़ करों से मुक्त है। हमारी सरकार को भी इस दिशा में फिर से विचार करना चाहिए। जरूरी नहीं है कि हर किसी को 20 इंची स्क्रीन का ही सेट चाहिए। साधारण परिवार के घरों की व्यवस्था को देखते हुए 12 इंच की स्क्रीन का टेलिविजन सेट बहुत उपयोगी और सस्ता हो सकता है।

हमारा देश फिल्म निर्माण के क्षेत्र में सब से आगे है। करोड़ों रुपये की लागत से लगभग चार सौ फिल्में हर वर्ष बनती हैं। परन्तु उनके प्रदर्शन के साधन इतने कम हैं कि लगभग आधी से भी अधिक फिल्में डब्बों में ही बंद पड़ी रह जाती है। कला के नाम पर करोड़ों रुपयों की बर्बादी होती है। फिल्म फाइनेंस कारपोरेशन तथा चिल्ड्रेन फिल्मस सोसाइटी आदि इसके प्रत्यक्ष उदाहरण हैं।

यदि देश में समुचित फिल्म प्रदर्शन की व्यवस्था न होने की बात कह रहा था। हमारे देश की 62 करोड़ की आबादी के लिए छोटे-बड़े केवल 8000 के लगभग सिनेमा घर हैं। देश में छोटी आबादी वाले इलाकों के लिए छोटे सिनेमा-गृहों के निर्माण को प्रोत्साहन दिया जाए; उसके लिए 16 मिलीमीटर के फिल्मों तथा सिनेमा उपकरणों का इस्तेमाल किया जाए जिससे छोटी पूँजी वाले

हजारों लोगों को रोजगार मिलेगा; साथ ही फिल्म निर्माताओं को और सरकार की अर्थ-व्यवस्था को भी लाभ होगा। प्रधान मंत्री के 20-सूत्री कार्यक्रम का यह एक उपयोगी साधन बन सकता है।

उपसभापति जी, आप जानते हैं कि गुजरात में 12 मार्च को राष्ट्रपति शासन आया। हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी ने गुजरात के लिए 193 करोड़ 25 लाख रुपये विकास खर्च के लिए रखे। गुजरात राज्य के राज्यपाल ने इच्छा जाहिर की है कि उनके लिए 25 करोड़ रुपये और बढ़ाया जाए, जैसे आपने ताम्रिननाडु राज्य के लिए बढ़ाया है। इस पर माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी सहानुभूतिपूर्वक विचार करें, ऐसी मेरी प्रार्थना है।

आपने देश में ग्रामीण बैंकों की व्यवस्था के लिए सुझाव रखा। पिछली दफा जब गुजरात में जनता मोरचा की सरकार थी, जनता मोरचा के चीफ मिनिस्टर जाम्नाभाई पटेल ने उस टाइम पर आपको बताया था कि गुजरात में कोऑपरेटिव्ह सोसाइटी, क्रेडिट सोसाइटी, सभी काम करती है इसलिए गुजरात में ग्रामीण बैंक की आवश्यकता नहीं है। मगर आप देखेंगे तो गुजरात में 21 लाख लैंड-होल्डर्स हैं, उनमें से 40 प्रतिशत 2 हेक्टेयर से नीचे के हैं, 20 लाख खेत मजदूर हैं और 8,000 कोऑपरेटिव्ह क्रेडिट सोसाइटीज चलती हैं; वे 100 प्रतिशत कुलक लाबी के साथ हैं। और 8,000 में कितनी सोसाइटीयों ने घोटाळा किया जो आज भी डिफक्ट हैं। तो हमारा जो 20-सूत्री कार्यक्रम है इसमें जो ग्रामीण जनता है, देहाती का कारीगर है, उन सब लोगों को जो क्रेडिट देना है, एड्वांस देना है, उसके लिए कोऑपरेटिव्ह क्रेडिट सोसाइटीज का जो कानून है वह काफी नहीं है। तो मेरी आप से प्रार्थना है कि अभी गुजरात में राष्ट्रपति शासन है इसलिए वहाँ पर आप ग्रामीण बैंक की स्थापना कर सकते हैं जिसके द्वारा आप देहात के कारीगरों को और दूसरे गरीब किसानों को हर तरह का क्रेडिट दे सकते हैं। आजकल गुजरात में साहूकार हैं जो गरीब लोगों को कर्ज में पैसा देते हैं। वे लोग ग्रामीण देहातियों से ज्यादा ब्याज लेकर रुपया कर्ज पर देते हैं। फिफाद गाँव, मेरे पास भावनगर जिले के सांवरकडला ताल्लुक निवासी कौरमाय फिफाद की शिकायत आई है,

जो साहूकार है और उसने वहाँ की गरीब जनता को रुपया कर्जा देकर उनकी जमीन को अपने कब्जे में ले लिया है। आज भी वहाँ के साहूकार लोग ग्रामीणों को रुपया एडवान्स देकर उनकी जमीन ले लेते हैं। इसलिए मेरी आप से प्रार्थना है कि आप वहाँ की जनता को इन साहूकारों के चुंगुल से बचाने के लिए वहाँ के गांवों में ग्रामीण बैंक की स्थापना कीजिए ताकि गरीब जनता इन बैंकों से कर्जा ले सके।

गुजरात में करीब 18,000 गांव हैं और करीब 4 हजार गांवों में पीने के पानी की व्यवस्था नहीं है। इसी तरह से भावनगर, अमरेली और जूनागढ़ डिस्ट्रिक्ट में पीने के लिए पानी की व्यवस्था नहीं है। भावनगर को आबादी करीब 3 लाख है और आज भी वहाँ पर पीने के पानी की व्यवस्था नहीं है।

आप इस बात को अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं कि गुजरात में 1972 के बाद में अतिवृष्टि हुई, अभावृष्टि हुई साइक्लोन आया था और बाढ़ भी आई थी। गुजरात की जनता इन आफतों से इतनी पीड़ित हो गई कि वहाँ पर जो विकास का काम करने की था वह काम नहीं हो सका। 1972 में जो वहाँ पर पापुलर गवर्नमेंट थी, उस गवर्नमेंट को खत्म करने के लिए वहाँ कुछ लोगों ने एक आन्दोलन किया और वहाँ के विधान सभा के सदस्यों को इस्तीफा देने के लिए मजबूर किया। इस तरह से गुजरात विधान सभा भंग कर दी गई। इसके बाद वहाँ पर चुनाव हुए और उस चुनाव में जनता मोर्चा विजय नहाकर निकला। 182 विधान सभा की जगहों में से 86 जगहों पर उसका गज्रा हो गया। उनका विधान सभा में बहुमत नहीं था, फिर भी उन्होंने किमलोक की सहायता ली और गुजरात में जनता मोर्चा की सरकार कायम कर ली। कुछ समय के बाद किमलोक ने भी अपना सपोट वापस ले लिया और जब वहाँ बोटिंग हुई तो जनता मोर्चे की हार हो गई। गुजरात में पापुलर गवर्नमेंट बनाने के लिये लोगों ने मतदान किया था फिर भी आज वहाँ पापुलर गवर्नमेंट नहीं है। वहाँ का तब पुलिस तब है और इतना ज्यादा जुल्म वहाँ किया जा रहा है कि जिसकी कोई भिगत नहीं। सदन को मालूम है कि विधान सभा के सदस्यों का त्यागपत्र लेने

के लिए घेराव हुआ, पुलिस ने कुछ भी मदद नहीं की। 1969 में कम्युनल राइट्स हुए। सदन को मालूम है कि इनमें माइनारिटी कम्युनिटी की इतनी जनहानि हुई जितनी देश में कभी नहीं हुई। यह राइट्स अहमदाबाद में हुए। फिर 1972 के बाद बड़ौदा में, बोरसड में और मुडासा में भी कम्युनल राइट्स हुए और उसमें मुसलमानों के ऊपर गोली चलाई गई और उनकी हत्या की गई। उपसभापति जी, आर० एस० एस० पार्टी के जितने सदस्य हैं उनका आज भी साबरमती जेल कैम्प चल रहा है, मुबह शाम उनका नित्य कार्यक्रम होता है तो मैं बिन मंत्री के द्वारा गृह मंत्रालय से अपील करता हूँ कि आज वहाँ राष्ट्रपति का आसन है और इसलिए इस बात का पता लगाए कि जहाँ पर पुलिस सेकुलर नहीं है, आपका अनुभव है कि वह सेकुलर नहीं है जो चुने हुए सदस्यों को बचा नहीं सकी उनको माइक्रोस्कोप से देखकर उनको बदली कर दीजिए या उनका प्रि-मेच्योर रिटायरमेंट कर दीजिए। थोम महेता जो जब गुजरात आये थे तो उन्होंने बताया था कि आपने 400 कर्मचारियों को प्रि-मेच्योर रिटायर किया है। मेरा कहना यह है कि इस लिस्ट में, प्रि-मेच्योर रिटायरमेंट की लिस्ट में आई०पी०एस० अफसरों का नम्बर ज्यादा नहीं है। तो जो पुलिस अफसर सेकुलर नहीं है उनका नाम प्रीमेच्योर रिटायरमेंट लिस्ट में रख दीजिए या हो सके तो और स्टेट में उनका ट्रांसफर कर दीजिए।

आज सौराष्ट्र में जो गुजरात का एक रीजन है, पीने के पानी का इंतजाम नहीं है। इसके लिये आपके कई इरीगेशन की स्कीम हैं जैसे कि मूधुदरी इरीगेशन स्कीम, सुखमदर इरीगेशन स्कीम, सानी इरीगेशन स्कीम, घेड इरीगेशन स्कीम, उंड इरीगेशन स्कीम, रजवाल इरीगेशन स्कीम, याजी (नं० 2) इरीगेशन स्कीम गोडाफी इरीगेशन स्कीम। बहुत से स्थानों पर पीने का पानी हमेशा मिलता नहीं है। इसलिए मेरी आपसे प्रार्थना है कि ये जो इरीगेशन स्कीम आपके सामने पड़ी हुई हैं उनको शुरू कराये।

अन्त में मैं आपके माध्यम से गृह मंत्रालय से कहूँगा कि जनता मोर्चा के समय में जो मीसा में चार सौ व्यक्तियों को पकड़ा गया था, उनमें से जनता मोर्चा सरकार ने दो सौ व्यक्तियों को रिहा

[श्री इन्द्रदीप कलानिया]
 कर दिया था। आज के समय में माइनोंरिटी कम्युनिटी के व्यक्तियों को जो पकड़ा गया है उसकी 4 P.M. संख्या ज्यादा है। गुजरात को जो आबादी है उस में दस प्रतिशत मुस्लिम कम्युनिटी है मगर जनतामोर्चे ने जिन लोगों को मौसा में बंद किया है वह 50 प्रतिशत है। तो मैं आप के माध्यम से गृह मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि मोर्चा सरकार ने राष्ट्रपति शासन के पहले जिन लोगों को पकड़ा है उन सब को रिहा किया जाए। जैसा आपने तमिलनाडु में किया है, वहाँ की सरकार ने जिन लोगों को पकड़ा था उन को आप ने रिहा करवाया है, उसी तरह गुजरात में जनता मोर्चे को सरकार ने अपने समय में जिन लोगों को पकड़ा है उन को भी रिहा कर दिया जाए। यही मांग मैं रखता हूँ। धन्यवाद।

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri Lokanath Misra) in the Chair]

SHRI GOVINDRAO RAMCHANDRA MHAISEKAR (Maharashtra) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I stand to speak on the floor of this august House for the first time and I therefore deem it a privilege and a pleasure! I stand to support the Bill and also to congratulate the Finance Ministry for its magnificent performance, during last year. It has taken certain steps, particularly certain stern measures and actions against the tax-evaders and the smugglers to expose? Had mo'i.-v Thus, it has smashed the natalle ocorom of this country at least partially. I am coniidnt that if this exposure of black money continues successfully, the parallel economy founded on black money would be smashed completely. Sir, there are certain other steps which the Ministry has taken based on savings—compulsory savings and compulsory deposits. They may, to a certain extent, appear to be a little harsh to some persons but they have definitely helped in reducing inflation in the national economy and the national economy has definitely been showing deflationary trends. The authorities of the World Bank and the authorities of the International Monetary Fund have, in their evaluation, appreciated in very clear terms the progress that the Indian economy has made during

the last one year. How has this happened? This has happened because the forces of reaction and the allied forces which were guided by perverted intellectuals have been held at bay because, of the emergency. And therefore, for the first time in the history of the world, I would say, it has been shown particularly by our beloved Prime Minister that in a political emergency there can be a dynamic economic policy also and that the country's economic policy can absorb shock after shock and recover and recouperate and load towards the progress and development of the country. Therefore, through you, Sir, I congratulate the Finance Ministry and the associated Ministries for it.

But, Sir, there is much to be done in a number of fields. I would very humbly submit a few points here for the consideration of the Finance Ministry. Firstly, I come to the economically underdeveloped areas, the backward areas, of our country. The Planning Commission and many of the States which have established their own State Planning Commissions and Development Councils have decided upon certain economic norms, certain economic indices to determine the backwardness or the economically underdeveloped character of a particular-district.

And the Planning Commission of this nation has decided upon the names of the districts in each State which are backward in economic character. I can cite, for example, that as many as 13 districts of Maharashtra State out of 26 have been declared as economically under-developed. But while deciding upon the economic indices, attention has mostly been paid to the back-log in terms of money, to the backlog in terms of per capita income. Sir, I submit, through you, that more attention should be paid to the back-log in terms of physical achievements, to the back-log in terms of consumption of basic goods like electricity, for example, which is an index of advance in the 20th century. And these indices should be used to see whether a certain area or a certain district or a certain State is economically developed or not. I would particularly

draw the attention of the Finance Ministry because I feel that certain policy decisions which the Finance Ministry has taken in relation to the backward areas have not been sincerely implemented by the nationalised banks. Take, for example, the soft loan policy of the Finance Ministry. I know the Finance Ministry has taken a decision to provide soft loans to the backward areas, that is, loans carrying four per cent less interest than ordinary loans. But the nationalised banks are after issuing first their loans to these areas, instead of first disbursing these soft loans and reimbursing them from the Reserve Bank. Now, here what is required is an honest implementation of the policy of the Planning and Finance Ministries. The banks should themselves take in hand the process of education, take in hand the initiative of going to the entrepreneurs, I would say, the small entrepreneurs; I never talk about the big people here. Therefore, I am bringing, through you, to the notice of the Finance Ministry that this decision which they have already taken is not being implemented by the nationalised banks. I further feel, Sir, that additional amounts should be earmarked by the Finance Ministry for the development of these areas. There are different organs, different agencies through which this money can be spent. There are a number of area corporations that have been established by different States. These area corporations are looking after the development of their areas. I can understand that the State Governments are earmarking amounts for the development of these areas. But I have not yet come across any special amount that has been earmarked for these developmental corporations by the Union Government or the Planning Commission. I would request in all earnestness that this particular matter be taken up by the Finance Ministry.

Sir, growth centres can be taken up in rural areas. Yesterday in this august House there was a lot of discussion about what part of the loans has been given to the rural areas and what has been given to the urban areas and so on and so forth. I do not want to go into that point again. But if growth centres are located on decentralised basis, I

am sure they would help three problems. First, they would divide the aid between rural and urban areas. Secondly, they would help the backward areas to develop. And thirdly, they would also help the weaker sections of the population to develop.

Sir, then I feel the agro-industries "require" a particular boost, a particular incentive in the under-developed areas. They require a liberalised licensing policy. To-day there are a number of under-developed areas which are mainly sustained by agriculture. And if agriculture develops there because of State Governments' measures, agricultural produce will increase on all sides.

Agro-based industries develop only when there is a liberalised licensing policy followed by the Union Government. In this connection, I am told many times that the liberalised policy is not being followed because of certain physical targets decided upon by the Ministries concerned. I would say that in order to see that the agro-based industries develop, a liberalised licensing policy should be followed.

Now I come to the Twenty-Point programme. Our beloved Prime Minister has given us a basic programme. This basic programme is the minimum that is required in the economic field for a take-off. There are quite a few points that have not been seriously taken note of. For example, the janta cloth of which my friend has been talking. We are talking of sick sugar mills. There are sick textile mills which the National Textiles Corporation has taken over. I am told that about 80 sick textile mills have been taken over by this Corporation. If this is true, why not we use those mills for producing janta cloth which has been so emphatically mentioned in the Twenty-Point programme? Then this janta cloth can be made available to our farmers, to our villagers and to the poor people. But we have not been able to do it.

The second point is about exposing black money. I would speak of it later on.

{Shri Govindrao Ramchandra Mhaisekarl

My third point is about employment issue. I would like to say that 38 per cent of our rural population are wage-earners and out of this 38 per cent, 68 per cent is below poverty line. Why is this happening? It is partly because they get only seasoned labour. In other words, it is partly because they are under-employed. If we have to do something for them, some effective steps have to be taken by the Government. In this connection, I would like to say that the Maharashtra Government has started an employment guarantee scheme. Under this scheme, wherever twenty workers demand work, they are given employment at the nearest spot possible. What is more, this employment guarantee scheme is related to productive activity. They are trying to relate it to planned productive activity mentioned in the Five Year Plan. Last year they provided Rs. 50 crores from their own budget for this purpose. This is what the Maharashtra Government has done. I wish the Union Government and the Finance Ministry take up this scheme in hand for the whole nation. If Maharashtra Government could provide Rs. 50 crores from their own budget for their population of 4 crores, can we not provide fifteen times that amount for a massive plan of Rs. 7,500 crores? This will be round about 12 per cent of the Plan outlay. Can we not have at least Rs. 350 crores for providing subsidised employment for the whole nation? I submit this for the consideration of the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry. It is only when you give minimum wages and employment under the employment guarantee scheme to the 38 per cent wage-earners in this country, both in the rural area and the urban area, their purchasing power and standard of living can be increased. This solves one more problem. This, for instance, reduces urbanisation. It reduces the speed of urbanisation at least. This has been our short experience for one year and four months. It has reduced in Maharashtra the rate of urbanisation of our population. The flow of the poor people from the villages to bigger cities in search of labour

has been reduced. Their mobility has decreased. I, therefore, feel that this is the solution for what Mr. Khan was talking. It may not be a complete solution. But it is a solution. If urbanisation is to be stopped, this is one solution.

I now come to another important point, namely, agricultural prices. There are two submissions I want to make in this connection. One is that before we decide upon agricultural prices and a policy about the agricultural prices, we should be sure about our cost of production data.

Sir, I have gone through, in my own humble way, the Annual Report of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation. Of course, I did not speak on agriculture. But then I found that they are now processing the cost data for the years 1972-73, 1973-74, 1974-75 and 1975-76 and then we are preparing our budget for the year 1976-77. Now, Sir, we must expedite somehow or other the processing of the cost of production data in respect of agriculture so that we may be able to decide upon the prices and also the support prices for the agricultural produce of our country. May I submit here for the consideration of the House something about a particular scheme which was started by the Government of Maharashtra and which has been lost in vagueness now? It is the cotton monopoly purchase scheme. The Maharashtra Government was purchasing the whole of the cotton there for the last two years. Unfortunately, it could not get money from any corner and it found itself in a very critical position. Naturally, it could not give money to the farmers though it could give proper price to the farmers for the cotton it was purchasing from them. I wish the Union Government lent its support to this scheme and, Sir, it is not subsidy and it is not any grant, but it is just a loan which is to be reimbursed afterwards. I can understand if the Union Government charged what we call management expenditure on it, not interest, of course, and get the money reimbursed later. Is there any scheme in any other State, apart from Maharashtra, which has been started to support the prices of agricultural commodi-

ties and to see that the prices of agricultural commodities stand in the market ?

Then, Sir, I came to another point which is very important and it is about the weaker sections of the community and the minorities. I feel that you have to provide some breathing time and a healthy atmosphere for the minorities in the country. The socially weaker sections, the economically weaker sections, the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe people and the Muslim friends, all of them, Sir, should feel that there is a healthier atmosphere in the country now. My friend, Shri Khan, said the other day that there was frustration in the hearts of the educated Muslims. Why ? It is because they are not finding a place in the developing economy of our country. Why do I mention this ? It is because of the fact that you have to find some checks and balances to see that there is no lopsided development of a part of the community and it is not good. Any imbalance in development of a community is injurious and, therefore, we should see that social equality and economic justice are assured and these two things must be our basic values and there is scope for taking effective measures and steps in addition to what exists today so that these communities find themselves sharing and involving themselves in the economic development of the country.

Then, Sir, I come to the last point and it is about resource mobilisation. Sir, we have embarked on a very large, I should say, a massive Plan, the Fifth Five Year Plan, on account of which we have made a provision of Rs. 7,500 crores in this year's Budget for this year's Annual Plan. Naturally, when this is taken into account keeping in view the concessions—I would not say concessions—rather the reduction in the rates of direct taxes that has been granted afterwards and the concessions that have been granted and the exemptions that have been given in certain duties, one is afraid whether once again there would be a resort to a large amount of deficit financing. Where from will the resources come ? After having made a revision, of the plan

or after recasting the estimates of the Annual Plan—with all restraint, I am asking, Sir—would we be in a position to say positively today that, with our resources as they stand today, with all the reductions in the direct taxes and with all the exemptions granted, we would be able to muster the required resources and see that this massive plan provision target of Rs. 7,500 crores is achieved without resorting to deficit financing, I mean, large-scale deficit financing ? Therefore, Sir, I feel that some steps will have to be taken. Number one should be the mobilisation of resources, the most important of which is the collection of all arrears of income-tax and other direct taxes. There have been arrears of crores of rupees of income-tax and other direct taxes. Stern and stringent measures should be taken to recover them. I would request the hon. Finance Minister that, if required, legislation should be passed in order to see that all arrears which are there for years together with big houses are collected, so that we are not short of resources. Rationalisation of indirect taxes should be done with a view not to reducing the taxes but seeing that administrative expenditure on these taxes is reduced. We have got a lot of indirect taxes which bear no relation, no proportion, from State to State. The other day there was a lot of discussion in this House on the Raj Committee recommendations about the tax on agricultural income. We found that out of so many States only eight States had come forward and they had given one or the other pretext, stating that they could not implement it because of this and that. Sir, I would request the Finance Ministry earnestly to see that some steps are taken so that a uniform method is found out and untaxed money is not left in the market. Therefore, if the Raj Committee recommendations do not suit us today and you will have to find out some other alternative see that no income in this country is left untaxed compared to the taxed income.

Next, of course, as I said, Sir, is the exposing of all black money that remains

[Shri Govindrao Ramchandra Mhaisekar] even now and is likely to damage the economy.

Now, Sir, I come to crop pattern. Wherever there is irrigation water, canal water, available, the three-crop pattern should be made compulsory. That only can add to the production.

Lastly, Sir, I would support what has been stated by one of my colleagues, Mr. W'ajd, namely, that no forces of regionalism, communalism or casteism should be allowed to develop, as also any 'Sena' including the Shiv Sena, if they are fascist. They should be banned. As I said, my point No. 5 is to provide a healthy atmosphere for the growth and development of our nation as a whole.

Thank you.

SHRI N. K. BHATT (Madhya Pradesh)-
Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I rise to welcome this Bill. The financial year 1975-76 is indeed a milestone towards our journey to economic self-sufficiency. A number of concessions have been granted by the hon. Finance Minister, particularly for powerloom and handloom sectors, reduction in the price of tractors, etc. All these show as to what a great extent the Government is prepared to give relief to the people boost up our economy.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, prior to the declaration of the national emergency, the country witnessed widespread indiscipline and attempts by various interests to convert the rights granted under a democratic set-up into licences for themselves, for their own benefits. Democracy itself was utilised to undermine democracy, and it appeared almost that we were heading towards anarchy. The number of mandays lost in the year 1974 went up to staggering millions, unprecedented in the history of our country. People were, therefore, awaiting some radical, firm action by the Government to arrest this trend. Declaration of emergency was the most timely action to save the country, followed by the 20-point economic programme.

It was universally welcomed and there was a stupendous support from all sections of the society. This gave us a new direction as it was designed to restructure the society with several programmes to help the underprivileged, particularly the rural poor. These actions greatly helped to generate a new enthusiasm and hope among the people. The galloping inflation was not only contained, but a substantial fall in prices has been achieved.

One of the most important feature of the Twenty-Point Programme was and is the provision for workers' participation in the management of industries. So far, this conception has been more or less a slogan. But after the declaration of emergency and the announcement of the bold economic measures, a serious thought has been given with the result that in all the public sector organisations wherever workers' participation scheme has not been introduced, quick measures are being adopted to introduce this scheme. The mere word 'participation' cannot help us in achieving the objectives that we have. What is required is the involvement of the workers at various decision-making bodies light from the top to the bottom. As a matter of fact, it should start from the bottom. Sir, the workers today are as much conscious as anybody else so far as their role in bringing about a climate of self-reliance in our economy is concerned. Unfortunately, there is not that much of realisation in the private sector. They are still lagging behind the times and in spite of the efforts made by responsible sections of the working class, no due attention is being given to this aspect. The result is that production is not increasing as it should increase which is the most important thing for any society which is faced with a number of challenges from all sides.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, there is another section of the people in this country who swear by the Twenty-Point Programme on the one hand and pronounce from high rostrums that they agree with the policies of the Prime Minister. But so far as their

actions and activities are concerned and so far as their attitude and approach is concerned, they are quite different. There are instances of violence. There are instances of indiscipline. To our dismay, the authorities responsible for maintaining the law and order are not taking the action which they should take. There is terror in a number of industrial sectors. In the coal mining sector and especially in certain areas in Madhya Pradesh from where I come, there are cases of stabbing and violence. Still those friends claim that they want to support the Twenty-Point Economic Programme and that they want to increase production. If the production has gone up and if productivity has increased, it is not because of the hollow assurances which we get from those who call themselves friends, but in practice they are acting in altogether a different manner. They are the people behind the communal trade unions particularly led by the Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh and the C.P.(M) who do not believe in the democratic fabric. They are all combined together and they are doing their utmost to disrupt production and to see that we do not achieve our production targets. Sir, by and large, the overwhelming majority of the workers stand by the Prime Minister and come what may, they are standing as one man to implement the economic programme even if the Government machinery responsible for law and order does not come forward, and the managements concerned continue to have a hawkish approach. And production figures, if any proof is required, are conclusive enough to show that the working class in this country is bent upon giving a concrete shape to the realisation of the aims of the 20-point economic programme.

Mr. Vice Chairman, Sir, some positive measures have to be taken. And among them the first and the foremost is the 12-point programme of prohibition enunciated by Acharya Vinoba Bhave. The aim of the new economic programme is to help and improve the conditions of the backward classes and that section of the society which

has been suffering for ages and is ignorant and illiterate. What is required is that an all-out boosting should be given to all those agencies which are engaged in propagating prohibition and also working in the backward areas in their fight against illiteracy.

Mr. Vice-Chairman. Sir, the Finance Minister has been good enough to give a practical realisation to the programme of family planning. He has assured that the necessary amendment is being made in the Income-tax Act for raising the deduction in respect of donations made to Government, approved local bodies and organisations from 50 to 100 per cent of the qualifying amount of such donations while computing the taxable income of the donor. This is indeed a very good gesture and it will help us a great deal in fighting the problem of population explosion.

Sir, after making these few observations. I would now come to a particular matter to which I want to draw the attention of the Finance Minister. Sir, while we are doing what we can to increase production and productivity, it is unfortunate that a section of officers placed in high positions are quite indifferent to our efforts. In point, Sir, I have before me an undertaking of the Ministry of Finance itself. I am referring to the Bank Note Printing Press at Dewas. Sir, this is a very sensitive and one of the best security printing presses in the world and I think the top best in Asia. We are proud of this unit and would do everything to increase its efficiency. The production has already increased. The workers have shown great efficiency in spite of all the provocations that are coming from the top in disturbing the working of the only single recognised union which has got the overwhelmingly large membership. The management is bent upon systematically victimizing all the officebearers of the union right from the top to the bottom. Sir, this is an attempt to demoralise the workers, this is an attempt to play into the hands of those sections in that part of the country which have been communal, which have been the RSS elements

[Shri N. K. Bhatt]

and which are not at all in agreement with the policies that we have. There have been protests from the MLAs, there have been protests from the District Congress Committee, there have been protests from several non-political and other associations. But I am sorry to say that the Ministry of Finance has turned a deaf ear to this question. I can only assure you that come what may, the workers are determined to observe discipline and to increase production and they are not going to fall a prey to the machinations of interested anti-social elements. I wish the Finance Minister would himself look into the matter before it is too late. Because it is emergency we are committed that no trade union action will be taken but all the same discipline and cooperation does not mean that injustice and victimisation will continue for all times to come. Enthusiasm of the working class as well as other benefits arising out of the emergency need to be consolidated and put on a firm, stable and lasting footing so that even if the emergency is revoked tomorrow the working class and the state of industrial relations will not lapse to the old position. It is necessary to think of positive measures for consolidating the gains of the emergency so far as the working class are concerned.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I would like to point out while making all these observations that in the provisions of the Bill not much consideration has been given to the economically backward States in the country. I am referring to those States about which the Government stands committed with regard to the development of their communications, with regard to giving them sufficient financial aid for increasing their irrigation potential and other requirements. I am afraid that so far as Madhya Pradesh is concerned not much attention has been paid to it; I cannot say about other States.

Lastly, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to

one important point. Nationalisation of the coal industry was a very courageous and bold step and time has shown that this step has proved not only useful but it is giving dividends. The importance of coal has been realised more particularly after the oil crisis and today workers all over the country engaged in the production of coal are doing their maximum and our targets and achievements are increasing day in and day out. It was a good idea, Sir, to have one single organisation for coal industry.

I want to draw the attention of the Government to the non-coal side also. It is a happy augury that our country is reaching near self-sufficiency in zinc in the very near future. As one connected with the Hindustan Zinc Ltd. the premier producer of zinc in the country since 1967, as a workers' representative and having passed through various struggles in safeguarding and promoting this State-owned undertaking on the one hand and protecting the legitimate interests of the workers on the other, I would like to reiterate that these are the very workers who have all along been working day in and day out for the success of this base metal undertaking. This experience has posed before us the question of our policy towards non-ferrous metals like zinc, copper, cadmium, magnesium, nickel, titanium, etc. which are of crucial importance for the overall development of the country's industrial and other allied requirements. Even in aluminium due to under-utilisation of installed capacity for want of electric power India was all set to start imports of this metal in 1974-75. The tables have been turned; thanks to the better utilisation of capacity consequent upon the eased power position and India has turned out to be an exporter of aluminium. The only public sector organisation BALCO is commissioning three new plants in its

smelter in 1976-77 to produce another 75 thousand tonnes of aluminium which, from indication available, will further increase our export potentiality. It is in the fields of zinc, copper, lead, etc., which are vital base metals in the non-ferrous group, where

Government has yet to take a bold initiative.

With the impact of slowed down industrial activity copper has suddenly become surplus in the country. The installed capacity in copper smelting is about 45 thousand tonnes which represents only 60 per cent of the demand pattern in early 70s. The Hindustan Copper which has the monopoly of producing copper from mining to smelting has not touched even half of this capacity. Its mines are yet to be developed to meet the smelting needs but due to the slump in the copper market the company is, perhaps, not under pressure to pull its mining activities fast. It is in fact being allowed to import concentrates from the Philippines to run its smelters. All the attention that copper received a few months back seems to have been abandoned which is because even what is produced is not sold.

Aluminium metal capacity in the country is adequate. Aluminium and specially alumina offers a great scope. We are rich in bauxite but it has to be found and found fast. In the non-ferrous fields, India is now having a positive existence. Here is the opportunity for us to quickly reorganise ourselves so that in the next three to four years' time, we get ready to meet the 'war' of shortages and create a surplus which has a heavy foreign exchange dimension. I would request the Government, Sir, to examine these aspects of the present-day climate in regard to organising the non-ferrous sector. We should have a large and a dynamic public sector enterprise to take care of all non-ferrous metals, namely, copper, aluminium, zinc, magnesium, tellurium etc., and I am sure, Sir, given due

thought to this particular aspect, the country would be able to achieve something much more than what it could do so far.

With these words, I support the Bill and thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI LOKANATH MISRA) : There is a message from Lok Sabha.

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill, 1976

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

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 19th May, 1976, agreed without any amendment to the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill, 1976, which was passed by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 1st April, 1976."

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI LOKANATH MISRA.) : The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at fortyone minutes past four of the clock till eleven of the clock on Thursday, the 20th May, 1976.