

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report and Accounts (1971-72) of the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers: —

(i) Fortieth Annual Report • and Accounts of the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1971-72, together with the Auditors Report on the Accounts.

(ii) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for not laying simultaneously the Hindi version of the Report mentioned at (i) above.

I. Annual Report and Accounts (1972-73) of the Madras Fertilizers Limited Manali, Madras and Related Papers

II. Notifications under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI OM MEHTA): Sir, on behalf of Shri Shah Niwaz Khan, I beg to lay on the Table:

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956: —

(i) Seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Madras Fertilizers Limited, Manali, Madras, for the year 1972-73, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the Company.

II- A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemical, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955: —

(i) Notification G.S.R. No. 115(E) dated the 2nd March, 1974, publishing the Kerosene (Fixation of Ceiling Prices) Second Amendment Order, 1974.

(ii) Notification G.S.R. No. 116(E) dated the 2nd March, 1974, publishing the Light Diesel Oil (Fixation of Ceiling Prices) Amendment Order, 1974.

I. Appropriation Accounts (1972-73) of Railways in India

II. Block Accounts, Balance Sheets and Profit and Loss Accounts (1972-73) of Indian Government Railways

III. Report (1972-73) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on the Appropriation Accounts of Union Government (Railways)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, a copy each (in Hindi) of the following papers: —

(i) Appropriation Accounts of Railways in India for the year 1972-73 (Parts I and II);

(ii) Block Accounts (including capital statements comprising the Loan Accounts), Balance Sheets and Profit and Loss Accounts of Indian Government Railways for the year 1972-73; and

(iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on the Appropriation Accounts of Union Government (Railways) for the year 1972-73.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

श्री लाल आडवाणी (दिल्ली) : श्रीमन्, मैं आप की आज्ञा से पाईराइट्स, फास्फेट्स एण्ड केमिकल्स लिमिटेड के सम्बन्ध में सरकारी उपक्रमों सम्बन्धी समिति (पांचवीं लोक सभा) के अनतालीसवें प्रतिवेदन में अन्तर्विष्ट सिफारिशों पर सरकार द्वारा की गई कार्यवाही के सम्बन्ध में सरकारी उपक्रमों संबंधी समिति (1973-74) के अड़तालीसवें प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

[Mr. Deputy Chairman in the Chair],

THE APPROPRIATION (VOTE ON ACCOUNT) BILL, 1974

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the

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services of a part of the financial year 1974-75, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

This Bill arises out of a sum of Rs. 1274.15 crores voted by the Lok Sabha on the 20th March 1974 and Rs. 748.59 crores in respect of expenditure 'Charged' on the Consolidated Fund of India, as shown in the 'Vote on Account' pamphlet which has already been circulated to the Honourable Members. As the House is aware, it is usual to seek approval of Parliament for two months' supply pending the completion of the procedure for the voting by the Lok Sabha of the Demands for Grants for the whole year and the passing of the connected Appropriation Bill. The provision indicated in the Appropriation Bill broadly represents 1/6th of the whole year's gross requirements provided for in the Demands for Grants, except for few items where the expenditure is now uniformly spread over the year and larger provision is required to meet the likely payments during the months of April and May. These items have been detailed, along with the explanations for the additional requirements, in the Introductory Note to pamphlet of "Vote on Account".

Sir, I move.

The question was proposed.

DR. K. NAGAPPA ALVA (Karnataka): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Appropriation Bill is for getting the approval of this House for spending the amount in different Ministries and Departments. Sir, at the outset, I must say that the Budget and the Demands are not relevant to the problems and the realities of the situation. Sir, eradication of poverty and raising the living standard of the people, have been the main consideration and the other aspect that has always to be borne in mind is to set right the imbalances, the inequalities and the disparities. But, Sir, I must painfully submit that no serious attempt at all has been made. In spite of the progress that has been made in certain sectors, these imbalances, inequalities and disparities are increasing and the living standard of the people is going down. I can say that not less than 60

per cent of the people of this country live under poverty conditions, below the poverty level and the living standard of about 10 to 15 per cent of the people is miserable.

Sir, there are whims and fancies. Even in the matter of having Ministers for different portfolios there are all sorts of predilections and fancies coming into play. I am happy that Mr. Subramaniam is here today. He eminently fitted in this country as Agriculture Minister; he brought agriculture to international standards. But he was shifted from there and he was made the Planning Minister. Even there he was doing good work knowing the condition of the people, knowing the realities of the situation in rural India. Sir, the farmers are the backbone of the country. He was doing so much there but again he was shifted from there also. Sir, planning must start from the base, from rural India, but nothing is being done. What we see is, rural India is neglected, ignored and insulted. There has been an attempt, a determined attempt, to see that people forget Mahatma Gandhi's name. Sir, rural India must be made self-reliant and (that is the only way of setting things right but what is happening is there is no rural bias at all. On the other hand there is urban bias. What we find is, much of the money, about 50 per cent of the wealth of this country has been spent on sky-scrapers, high buildings and big hotels, where the unaccounted money the black money finds its full play and all sorts of immorality goes on. This is how you are building up the economy of the country. Sir, the Rules owe a duty to this country. In parliamentary democracy, in any system as a matter of fact, there must be responsibility. The responsibility is of the Government and of the rulers of the country to understand the realities of the situation. But they are not receptive. If they are receptive they must be responsive and there must be accountability. Accountability is to the people of the country in a democracy and there is accountability to God also. All these are forgotten. It is being said that there is a rapid expansion of the economy. What is the expansion we find? We find the rapid expansion of black money which is running a parallel economy in the country. Has any attempt been made to combat

inflation? Economic chaos, economic ruin, has been responsible for the fall of dynasties, for the fall of empires, for the fall of kingdoms, for the fall of Governments. Sir, only socio-economic well-being and progress can give stability to the Government but what do we see now? I do not want to speak much on the state of affairs that we have now here. Now take the Gujarat situation. I say there has been a determined attempt perhaps, particularly during the last three or four years, to see that the backbone of the country is destroyed, that is, the farmers, the middle class and the intelligentsia which comprises of students, teachers and others. It is they who are so much frustrated and disappointed about the happenings in the country, who have led the movement and made the Government yield to the will of the people. The middle class and the intelligentsia in the country today are disappointed. The students, the youth of the country is not able to have any bright vision of the future with the present Ministers with the present leaders of the country.

What is the main cause? I can say now it is because of the election expenses. Are elections free and fair? What is the amount? Crores and crores of rupees are being used. The governmental machinery is being used. There is rigging of elections and there are all sorts of things. If there are lessons to be learnt from history, there are lessons be learnt from the election results also. I am appealing with all humility, let there be no complacency on the part of the leaders. What happened in the elections in UP? In spite of all the malpractices and misuse of the governmental machinery, there is no majority in the real sense having got only 31 per cent of votes. What happened in Gujarat? About Bihar I say only one sentence. In Gujarat there was so much decency and democracy has been growing there because Mahatma Gandhi, Vallabhbhai Patel and such leaders had laid the foundations, but look at Bihar. Bihar politics have become so rotten, the politics of the ruling party particularly, that

there are instances. The politics have gone down to such a low level that the leaders there are fighting amongst themselves. The Congress leaders are fighting against the Ministers of that State. One example I will tell you, about the losses that we are incurring in such strikes. It has been proved by the Railway Ministry by distributing leaflets and collecting figures that if there is a loss to the Railways, the loss to the nation is ten times. The loss to the Railways in 1973 has been Rs. 72 crores because of agitations, Bundhs, strikes and things like that. It means the loss to the nation is Rs. 720 crores in one year. You must open your eyes to the realities of the situation. Actually we are heading towards economic bankruptcy. Please remember this. It is not by taxation and it is not by deficit financing that you can set things right. There is an attempt actually to hoodwink the people and to try to defend the wrong policies of the Government. The political policies and economic policies, all these are going wrong. They are not in the interests of the people, but actually meant to continue in power. You want to assume power and greater power. The people must understand it. Decentralisation was the thing that was said by Mahatma Gandhi. Decentralisation of power and administration is necessary. Only the inefficiency and corrupt practices of the Government have been responsible, to a large extent, for the present unrest. I say with all humility that there is intellectual dishonesty and scholarly arrogance in the Finance Ministry and the Planning Ministry. I wish those qualities had gone from these two Ministries. I wish and pray that ego and vindictiveness may go from the Prime Minister, the supreme commander in this country, so that she may understand the problems in their reality, so that we may protect democracy, so that we may save democracy from being eroded and anti-national forces in this social and anti-national forces in this country. During the last six years if you will look into facts and figures you will find that there is stagnation. And unemployment is increasing. If we are to be true to ourselves and to the cause of rural India and the people of this country, it is very necessary that we must understand what are the causes which have

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led to the mass upheaval in Gujarat. It is price-rise, unemployment, inflation, scarcity. The students and the intelligentsia have been tolerating enough. They now find it impossible to tolerate any more and it is high time that they must lead a movement of the people. In a way, I feel that God has started working out his ways. Assumption and concentration of power and influence and money at the top and using all this for the continuation and perpetuation of power has created a position in this country by which the political leaders stand condemned before the bar of public opinion. Spiritual forces and social forces which have risen with the people and with their aspirations, they are commanding greater respect. It is necessary that the leaders must be wide awake to the problem of production, greater production and unhampered production which is the only solution. Proper and equitable distribution to the people and particularly to the vulnerable sections of people is the most important thing.

Sir, the other aspect is about tin-¹ minimum needs programme. You have been saying about different factors. Your intelligence you have been using to deceive the people by coining new words. You have been saying, vital sector, critical sector; but what I say is that it is only a chaotic sector in the entire economic policy of the country. How much money you have invested in health, in social welfare programmes or in social security programmes, in nutrition, in the care of the children in this country? It is being cut every time. That means that you have not understood the importance of the well being of the children in this country. Lakhs and lakhs of women in this country shed tears every day, not having a meal to feed their children, to give their own protective food, nutritious food. There is no cloth to wear. What are the sanitary and living conditions of those people? There are the Housing Boards and other programmes. But look at the state of affairs of the rural housing programmes. I am happy that a very intelligent man, Shri Om Mehta, is heading this portfolio. Please look into the realities of the situation. There

are the Housing Boards and other bodies. They are all for urban areas. During the last 26 years, only one per cent or even less than that has been spent so far on rural housing in this country, whereas 99 per cent has been spent for Urban Housing Schemes.

Sir, I will only appeal to the Prime Minister, the Planning Ministry and the Finance Ministry to look into these things. The Planning Minister has talked of the advance action in the last year of the Fourth Plan so that the programmes in the first year of the Fifth Plan may gain momentum. But has he done anything? You value untruth. You value violence today but not non-violence and truth. Instead of having advance action there have been cuts in many of these important sectors, what I call, the neglected sector of economy, the rural economy and other things. So, please open your eyes to the reality. Let the leaders of this country open their eyes to the realities of the situation and see that they build up real economy so that the imbalances, the disparities and inequalities may be set right at the earliest time and the people of this country may live as respectable citizens and they may grow as citizens of the world so that India at the earliest time possible may spread the message of peace, progress and plenty to the rest of the world. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal):
Sir, under our Constitution and convention the Ministers cannot be directors of companies. But here, Sir, I have got some interesting material with regard to the Revenue Minister of Punjab, S. Umrao Singh. Sir, an advertisement appeared in a Punjabi paper published in England on behalf of the Lakshmi Finance and Investment Co. Ltd. This paper is published in Punjabi. As you know, there are many Punjabi-speaking people and they publish this paper. I have seen it there. In their Annual Anniversary Number of 1973 they carried an advertisement about the Lakshmi Finance and Investment Co. The paper is published on behalf of that company. I have got the photostat copy of the advertisement which appeared in the Punjabi paper published

in London. The advertisement gives the names of the Directors of this Finance and Investment Co. Among the names there is the name of S. Umrao Singh, M.A., LL.B., Revenue Minister of Punjab. This is what is there.

Sir, the matter was taken up in the Punjab State Assembly and some explanation was given. The Minister said he did not know these things. Somebody must have made him the shareholder and the Director. Now, I can understand about the shareholder business. But he is Director. Surely he knew that he was a Director. In fact, he became the Director only after signing certain documents. The question arises that this Lakshmi Finance and Investment Co., Registered office at 60, High Street, London, obviously is a sterling company. It is not a Rupee company which was floated. The question arises where did the sterling come for investment in order to become its shareholder and Director. Now, sterling may have been sent from here with the permission of the Reserve Bank but no permission was given which has been revealed in Punjab by the Reserve Bank, nor was any permission sought by S. Umrao Singh. Then, Sir, what happened. Does Shri Umrao Singh have foreign account from which the money was diverted in order to make an investment in that particular finance company?

That is not clarified. If it is so, did he reveal to the Central Government that he has such an account? Sir, according to subsection (2) of section 8 of the Foreign Exchange Act, "no person shall, except with the general or special permission of the Reserve Bank or the written permission of a person authorised in this behalf by the Reserve Bank, take or send out of India any gold, jewellery, precious stones or Indian currency or foreign exchange other than foreign exchange obtained by him from an authorised dealer". This is the law. There are other provisions also which generally prevent such a thing from happening. Therefore, laws have been violated. A Revenue Minister of one of the States

of our country has violated the foreign exchange and other regulations and also violated the Constitutional and legal provision here that a Minister cannot be a Director of a company. Sir, the matter calls for investigation by the authorities, but it has not been done. I think the Punjab Chief Minister should find out himself as to what happened, how he came to be a Director. We have information that he had about 100 shares or more in that particular company and that report also has been published somewhere. Now I am concerned with the documentary evidence, a photostat copy of which has appeared in a Jullundur daily, a photostat taken from the paper which is published in England in Punjabi, which shows the advertisement and the name, at the top of the list, of Mr. 'Jmrao Singh as a Director of that company. Investigate it. Is it the way to deal with it, the way the Punjab Government has dealt with it in the Punjab Assembly? The Minister of State for Finance is here. I should like to know as to what he has to say on the subject. If you commit a violation of the Act, it does not matter whether it is 10,000 pounds or 2,000 pounds or 1,000 pounds. Violation is violation. He has violated, in the first instance, the law of the land, namely, he continues to be a Director when he is Revenue Minister of a State and then he tried, according to me, to mislead the House and get away by saying all these things. Sir, how does one become a Director? Surely he must have signed somewhere. The British Government would not register his name as a Director unless a proper signature has been taken. He cannot, therefore, say "I do not know; somebody has done it". In that case, somebody has forged his signature. Then the forger should be taken care of and the matter should be pursued. I think the Revenue Minister of Punjab was aware of the paper. He must have friends and relatives there. They knew that an advertisement was appearing in the paper with his name as a Director. It must have come to his notice. What steps did he take to clarify the position or to cease to be a Director even after that? He did nothing. Therefore, Sir, it is a serious matter. I hope the department will enquire.

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Another point I would like to bring to your notice; only small things I can do. As you know, we have the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, which is one of the premier technological institutes in the country. Recently, Mr. A. N. Haksar, Managing Director of the India Tobacco Company, which was previously known as the Imperial Tobacco Company, after his retirement, has been appointed as the Chairman of the Board of Governors of this Institute. Now we are getting such people, men of the big business, chairmen of monopoly houses, to come and head the Board of Governors of our technical institutes. We may even have them as Vice-Chancellors and Pro-Chancellors. My friend, Mr. Dutt, will be dislodged by some company thug. I know it. Sir, this gentleman, Mr. A. N. Haksar, is very well known. He has got some influence in very high quarters here. I am not concerned with it at the moment. But how is it that institutions such as these are given to such people who had been all their life associated with foreign monopoly concerns? After retirement he has been appointed as Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Indian Institute of Technology in Kharagpur.

That should be explained. Then, having been appointed as chairman, he appointed another of his blood-brother, namely, Dr. Sharma, who was also an employee of the Indian Tobacco Company Limited, as the Chief Personnel Adviser. Now we are having a Chief Personnel Adviser in an academic institution of this type and that again on a salary of Rs. 1800 per month as from February 1. He has been appointed by the Chairman, Mr. N. Haksar, Chairman of the Board of Governors. Such things are happening. Naturally it has caused very grave contempt among the people there, the students and others, who now sight that invasion of monopoly capital has started now on institutions such as this, such as technological and scientific institutions. How a tobacco merchant can become scientist or an engineer or a technician, I cannot understand. I cannot understand how a man who had worked in the Imperial Tobacco Company suddenly becomes fit for looking after

the employees, scientists, technicians and others who are appointed in institutions such as the Kharagpur Institute. This should be explained by the Government. Such scandalous things are happening. And the manner Mr. N. Haksar is running the Institute now is typically in the company way, that is, with a coterie of his favourites around him, ignoring teachers and students and their points of view. I strongly protest against this. I do not know whether the Institute comes under Mr. Subramaniam. I think it does not come. Then, Mr. Subramanian, you are safe from the tobacco merchant. Whoever is the Minister responsible, he should tell us something about this matter. We will have such people now, enough of them. Yesterday I mentioned but I will repeat it, about Mr. K. K. Birla contesting Rajya Sabha election. Yesterday I mentioned and I will briefly mention it now. Mr. K. K. Birla contested 1971 Lok Sabha election from Jhunjhunuwala and he failed to win. But he spent, we are told, Rs. 2 crores to come to Lok Sabha. Having failed in that adventure, now he is contesting from Lucknow, from UP Vidhan Sabha, to get elected by the Members of the UP Vidhan Sabha, to Rajya Sabha. Last night I was told by a very reliable person that he is spending perhaps between Rs. 10 lakhs and Rs. 20 lakhs, his budget for election...

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI (Maharashtra): That is all!

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: A small amount. It is nothing for Mr. K. K. Birla. I know it. Mr. Subramaniam knows it better. He is spending that money, between Rs. 10 lakhs and Rs. 20 lakhs. Do you know how he has done it? More information has come to me. During Assembly elections Mr. Prakash Vir Shastri was going as a sort of an agent of Mr. K. K. Birla to carry money from Mr. K. K. Birla to canvass some of the MLAs. After all, MLAs elect Rajya Sabha Members. Therefore, investment started in the Assembly election. Mr. K. K. Birla spent several lakhs of rupees to get some people elected from various Assembly constituencies belonging to more than one party, Mr. K. K. Birla has already arranged his electorate that way. I do not know what will happen to

Mr- Prakash Vir Shastri now. He is also a candidate. Probably Mr. Prakash Vir Shastri will go and tell those MLAs who had won with Birla money that the money was his, not Birla's, and so votes should come to him . . .

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Nobody will believe him.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Nobody will believe him. I entirely agree but confusion will start. Now some people will feel beholden to Mr. Prakash Vir Shastri because after all, anybody cannot get Birla's money . . .

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI OM MEHTA): In the process both of them can lose.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am coming to that point. My friend Shri OM Mehta said both of them will lose. We will see that when we meet next time. We will see who lost and who has won. Shri K. K. Birla has not gone to Rajya Sabha election to lose it. I am told that some of the Congress members are also being approached. I know it for a fact that initially it was discussed in Delhi that Shri K. K. Birla should be put up as a Congress candidate with the Congress stamp on his back. Well, Sir . . .

SHRI OM MEHTA: His name was proposed by a Swatantra Party member. We have nothing to do with that.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I know that. Why don't you listen? It was initially discussed in Delhi. I know it for a fact that Shri Om Mehta knows I know it and he also knows the fact of Shri Bahuguna coming and Shri Uma Shanker Dikshit coming and declaring that Shri K. K. Birla's name was not sponsored in high Congress circles to be nominated as a Congress candidate officially. Sir, out of seven names, the Congress Party published six names. Thus, there are surplus votes from the Congress. I agree that some Congressmen took exception to it. They made representation here and elsewhere. Now there is agitation in Lucknow. Ultimately Shri K. K. Birla's

name was dropped. Dropped as official candidate. Let me tell the story. Shri K. K. Birla is not the Congress candidate officially. But some secret deal is there with some people. There are Birla's friends in this House. Were you there at that time? I think you had not come. I revealed a photostat copy of a letter which was written by one of the Birlas—I think he was Shri R. K. Birla—from Washington to Shri Satya-narayan Sinha, then very influential man in the Government as the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs. That letter revealed that Shri Satyanarayan Sinha—now Governor of Rajasthan or somewhere, I do not know . . .

SHRI OM MEHTA: In Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Yes, Governor of Madhya Pradesh. He was passing information to Shri Birla. Shri Birla in the letter which he wrote from Washington to Shri Satyanarayan Sinha asked him to try to get Durgapur steel project for him. Then, Shri Sinha seems to have written to Shri Birla: I have tried my best to get you the Durgapur steel project which was discussed. But I have failed in this matter. These are in the proceedings of the House. Shri Satyanarayan Sinha did not deny that letter. He came here and sat with Shri Jawaharlal Nehru by his side. He said: Yes, he wrote such a letter. He was interested. It was there. This is the connection of the Birla family after Independence with the Ministerial circles. That Shri Satyanarayan Sinha has gone away from the seat does not mean that a vacuum has been created. Some other people are here. If Shri K. K. Birla comes here, he will corrupt many people. He knows how to trade on politicians of other parties. He knows how to buy MLAs and MPs. Shri Gulzarilal Nanda one day made a public statement in which he said—he was then the Home Minister of the country and therefore very knowledgeable—that Birla had got 45 M.Ps. in his pocket or something like that. Forty-five M.Ps. were there. I do not know how many MLAs our friend Shri K.K. Birla has managed by now or how many M. Ps. or Ministers he has at his command and back and call. That will be revealed. Therefore, I strongly protest against this kind of thing. I want a

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thorough public inquiry as to where and how his name came to be sponsord. I say it was not sponsord in Calcutta where Shri K.K. Birla resides and where he looks after his Texmaco and other industries. It was not proposed initially in Lucknow either. It was proposed initially and considered very seriously in Delhi and not in Swatantra Party circles, but in another circle. I may tell you again.

Sir, I asked Mr. Bahuguna before he fell ill. He came to my house and met me. I asked him: "What about Mr. K.K. Birla?" Mr. Bahuguna was good enough to tell me: "Well, the Congress will not adopt him as a candidate now." I agree that he said that. But I wanted more than that. But everybody knows that in the Rajya Sabha you do not require a symbol to contest the election. In the Rajya Sabha, whether you stand as a party candidate or an independent, you stand in the same way and no symbol, nothing, and the votes are secret. I think this is a serious matter, Sir, and . . . (*Time bell rings*) ... he will ruin our parliamentary institution. Sir, do not ring the bell now. You may be a casualty of Mr. K.K. Birla's money. I do not know. But I would like you to be elected. I do not know whether Mr. Birla shares my view. If he comes to you saying that these are the votes held by the Congress Party, his money can talk to them more effectively than by your ringing the bell or your sweet smile which you know very well. Sir, I am speaking on a matter which may interest you and everybody in the House, because we would like you to be in the House since you have been an excellent Deputy Chairman and I would like to see you returned even if Mr. K. K. Birla encroaches upon your field. Sir, I wish to tell the UP Assembly that if Mr. K. K. Birla gets elected, it will be a stigma on the U.P. Assembly and it will defame them and the people will think that the biggest Assembly of the biggest State in the country, which has produced three Prime Ministers, known for their high political tradition of struggle and many other qualities of culture and patriotism, has sent one of the Birlas, Mr. K. K. Birla, the nephew of Mr. G. D. Birla, to the Rajya Sabha . . .

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Why I are you making him the nephew of Mr-^ G. D. Birla? He is son of Mr. G. D. Birla.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, I beg his pardon- I am very very sorry that I made a mistake. He knows them better. Brothers know brothers. Sir, I am very grateful to him. I am very grateful to him for telling me that he is the son of Mr. G. D. Birla.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: You will know Mr. K. K. Birla very well when he comes here after the 28th March.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I know that my friend has faith in him. He has given this information and the House is grateful to him. We do not have the Birla family tree ready here. So, Sir, I stand corrected: Mr. K. K. Birla is the son of Mr. G. D. Birla. Sir, Mr. G. D. Birla paid, in 1970-71, Wealth Tax of Rs. 137. Only Rs. 137! He paid only this much as Wealth Tax during 1970-71!

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: What is wrong in that?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, Mr. G. D. Birla is at the bottom of the list of tax assesseees and you know very well that his son is coming here. Sir, we do not want tax evaders, we do not want black marketeers, . . .

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: He is not a tax evader.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: . . . we do not want black money, we do not want monopolists of his type and we C'O not want people who are corrupting and polluting our public life and our political life. We do not want in this House Mr. Birla's physical presence. It is bad enough to have the American presence in the Indian Ocean and it would be no better if we have Mr. Birla's presence here in the Rajya Sabha. Sir, we do not want it. Therefore, I appeal to the U.P. Assembly members, the Congress members and the other democrats who are anti-monopolists and who stand against degradation in public

life and who are for preventing of buying of MLAs in this manner and who would like to say that the way to the Rajya Sabha is open to all and not to those who know how to throw lakhs and lakhs of rupees to come through indirect election having lost the direct election by buying politicians, to stop this and I hope the U.P. Assembly members, the Congressmen, the Communists and others who stand for certain norms and standards in public life would create a situation when no one would dare to vote for tycoons. Every vote for Mr. K.K. Birla will be a vote bought, for how much money, I cannot say. Sir, Mr. K. K. Birla does not have a single follower in the newly elected Assembly and he must be having some secret followers. Sir, vigilance is called for. Sir, now the U.P. Assembly and the people of U. P. have been put on a test today and I hope, on the 28th of this month, they will demonstrate by their action that whatever may be the differences amongst themselves, the democratic and healthier elements among them and in the public life of U.P. will ensure that this man of the big business, K.K. Birla, this tycoon imported from Calcutta, would not be allowed to come and discredit our House and defame the name of the great Uttar Pradesh Assembly which has been newly elected and which has yet to begin its functions . . .

(Time bell rings)

Finally, Sir, towards the end, about Mr. K.K. Birla you will naturally ask why I am saying so much. I knew him in 1946, as I said, in tram conciliation, where he was representing the employers and I was for the union and the workers, and Mr. J. C. Gupta, the then Deputy Leader of the Congress Party, was of course the Chairman of the Conciliation Board. I knew K K. Birla . . . (*Time bell rings*). Sir, is it not a fact that there was an investigation against the Birlas for using leakage of devaluation, whereby they got one million sterling? It is a well-known matter. It has been exposed in this Parliament. Sir, the people who had investigated are being persecuted. Mr. B. K. Guha, who was on deputation from the Revenue

Department under the Directorate of Foreign Exchange Enforcement, has been brought back and removed from that position. Twenty-five cases of tax evasion are pending against the Birla family. There are many others. Now, you know how the funds of the Jiyaji Cotton Mills were taken away through the Pilani Investment only to indulge in speculation. It is well known. You know the case of the General Insurance Co., and the New Asiatic Insurance Co., about which there was a CBI report. It was exposed in the House. You are aware of the many charges brought by Mr. Chandra Shekhar in a memorandum against them. You know various other things involving the Birla family. Are we to take such a man now in the Rajya Sabha? Well, Sir, it is an affront to us and to the Uttar Pradesh Assembly. It is an affront to everybody, to the conscience of the country and the common decency of public life that K. K. Birla should have at all dared—dared—to contest the election in Rajya Sabha. Sir, I am thinking now that we must do something about Rajya Sabha elections. We are for abolition of the upper House, as you know. The election can take place openly so that people know who are getting votes from whom. Again I say that I want a probe into this election of K. K. Birla. It may reveal so many things. I am told that for the last few days people are going with a lot of money, offering on behalf of K. K. Birla to the MLAs belonging to various parties. This is the report that has also come to us—Let us call for an investigation in the public interest.

Before I sit down, I do hope, I honestly hope, that the Uttar Pradesh Assembly, which has been newly elected, which roused so much hope because of the victory against right reaction, will not permit these things to happen that K. K. Birla is elected from there. Sir, he will shame the Assembly. In this matter, naturally the majority party, the Congress Party, has a great responsibility. I know Cong (O) will support him. Others will support this kind of thing. I am sure he is approaching some Congress men also. I think, Sir, that the Congress Party should give a stern warning to its members that anybody suspected of having supported K.

[SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA.] K. Birla would be summarily suspended from the party. It is for them to decide. But I think it is necessary that the Congress Party should be on guard. Sir, I say this is a serious matter; it is not a small matter. It is a serious matter that in the year 1974, 22 years after the starting of this House, of all the people, Mr. K. K. Birla son of G D. Birla, should have come forward to try his way in the Rajya Sabha, and get into this House in order that he can contact the Ministers and politicians to get more licences, more permits, more foreign exchange sanction and to cover up the crimes and sins he has committed.

Even without his being here you know how difficult it is to deal with the Birla family. Once he is here, the problems will be more difficult. I do hope such calamity will not overtake either our parliamentary institutions or our country.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN (Kerala): Sir, various Finance Bills brought forward by the Government including the Vote-on-Account, Appropriation Bills, all of them expose the myth that the Congress Government of the Centre is pursuing a policy of developing socialism or *garibi hatao*. Instead of *garibi hatao* or instead of bringing socialism what the Government has done through the Budget and now this Appropriation Bill is to perpetuate the rule of those who have money, those who control our industry and landed assets. Mr. K. K. Birla's name has been brought into this discussion. I would like to refer to a speech which Mr. K. K. Birla made in an election tour in Rajasthan during the last election where he said that he believes in Scandinavian type of socialism as practised in Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia and Singapore. Then, Mr. J.R.D. Tata in a speech in the Rotary Club in Bombay, said that he believes in twentieth century socialism. Mr. J.R.D. Tata, the high priest of Indian business, Mr. K. K. Birla and the Congress leaders and the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister are all on one side of the fence and the people working for the liberation on the other side. This Appropriation Bill will only further perpetuate the inequalities in this system because

the allocation of resources between various developmental and non-developmental expenditures is such that larger and larger allocations are made for wasteful non-developmental expenditure and so on. On the contrary expenditures which should have been made on the working people to improve their living conditions have not been made and deliberately and blatantly anti-labour policies are being pursued even in the allocation of the Budget and the Appropriation Bills. I would only give concrete instances to prove my contention that while on the one hand the Government's allocation policy through the Appropriation Bill is positively in favour of big business and high officials, on the other, allocation to improve the living conditions of the working people is a pittance. In the Fifth Five Year Plan about Rs. 250 crores have been provided to enable big officers of Government to purchase automobiles, cars and other vehicles. While this type of unnecessary expenditure is going on, the coir industry in Kerala is struggling to revitalise and maintain its employment potential and when the Kerala Government asked for Rs. 15 crores, the Central Government could provide only Rs. 1 crore after years of struggling, years of pressurisation from the people of Kerala and the State Government. While Rs. 15 crores are not available in the Budget to be provided for revitalising a traditional industry of Kerala like coir or other industries, the Central Government provides Rs. 250 crores for enabling Government officers to purchase cars possibly to help the Maruti Company Limited, we do not know. Even when oil prices are going up, when petrol prices are going up, Rs. 250 crores are explicitly provided in the Fifth Five Year Plan. On the other hand, let us take the lowliest employees in India, extra-departmental workers as they are called in the Posts and Telegraphs Department who today get a monthly wage of anywhere between Rs. 45 and Rs. 80. This is a section of the community called extra-departmental workers or ED workers, a system based on a practice in the British days. Many of them work for eight hours, sometimes ten hours, a day and they are paid only at the rate of half the salary, even less than half the salary. ^

Sir, there was a Committee appointed by the Government which submitted its report in 1958. And in 1960, a very slight increase was made in their salaries. Even at that time, the extra-departmental workers in the P&T, consisting of about 1,25,000 people, were given an extra benefit of hardly Rs. 50 lakhs. During that period, the extra-departmental workers were getting a salary of something between Rs. 20 to Rs. 70. And after 14 long years, when prices rose by something like more than 200 per cent, no rise in pay was given to the extra-departmental workers. Ultimately, the Govt. of India appointed Madan Kishore Committee, a Committee which spent lakhs of rupees on its sittings and TA and DA bills. But ultimately the Committee produced an appalling report which suggested a saving of Rs. 2 crores in the expenditure on extra-departmental workers. Sir, no increase in pay has been effected for the E.D. workers even after several months after the Government of India took decisions on the implementation of the Third Pay Commission's Report. Even today, Sir, the extra-departmental workers in the P&T Department are denied the benefits arising from the Third Pay Commission's Report. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister that if he still professes socialism, if he still professes *garibi halao*, let him seriously look into the question of the lowliest workers in the P&T. And these E.D. workers of this governmental sector still live on peanuts of Rs. 40 to Rs. 80 per month.

Sir, I would again like to say that even in the Posts & Telegraphs Department, there is continued victimization against workers. Wherever they remain and struggle for their demands, there is very serious victimization. Sir, break-in-service and so on are imposed on P&T workers in Kerala and other States. And as a result, their promotions are withheld. And in spite of repeated requests at all levels, break-in-service continues, causing innumerable sufferings to the P&T employees.

Sir, the P&T employees in Calicut and also the Confederation of the Central Government Employees and Workers Unions in Calicut region submitted a memorandum to the Government, to the Prime

Minister and also to the Finance Minister in which they suggested that Calicut should be upgraded as Class B-2 city for purposes of grant of house rent allowance and city compensatory allowance, which are available to the Central Government employees. Sir, on 1st December, 1973, an item of news appeared in the Press to the effect that certain cities have been reclassified, keeping in view the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission. And I quote from that Report, Sir: "Urban agglomeration should be treated as one unit of population for the purpose of determining the class to which a city belongs." Sir, among the cities so reclassified on the basis of the principles enunciated by the Third Pay Commission are Bangalore and Ahmedabad as Class-A cities, Salem and Trichy and so on as Class-B cities. On the same analogy, the case of Calicut city should have been considered on par with other cities which have now been upgraded. But, in fact, a discrimination has been effected by not upgrading Calicut city. I would also like to show that according to the latest figures of the cost of living index available from the Government statistics, Calicut is one of the costliest cities in India. One of the costliest cities is Calicut. According to the figures available from the Government, now it is costlier than Bombay and such other Class-A cities. Therefore, Calicut assumes, in fact, according to these figures, at least the 5th or the 6th place in the list of costly cities in India.

Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister of State for finance that certain benefits accruing to the employees in the Laksha Dweep, arising from the Third Pay Commission's recommendations, are being denied to the employees of the Laksha Dweep.

Sir, according to the information available with me, the Lakshadweep Administration authorities have received instructions from the Home Ministry not to implement the revised pay scales announced by the Ministry of Finance pending issue of specific instructions from the Ministry of Finance after considering Pay Commission's recommendations contained in Paras 101 and 102

[DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN.] of Chapter 47 of the Report. Therefore, the result is that employees cannot draw their pay in the revised scales in the near future, unless this instruction of the Home Ministry is revised. Most of the Departments working on the mainland have fixed the pay of their employees in the revised scales and arrears have also been paid to the employees. But, unfortunately, the Home Ministry has discriminated against the employees in the Lakshadweep.

Sir, in this connection, I would also like to mention the plight of work charged employees in the Lakshadweep. There are at present no rules which cover the employment of work charged employees in the Lakshadweep. C.P.W.D. Rules are not implemented in the case of these employees. Leave sanctioned to work charged employees is hardly ten days while ordinary employees get 33 days. Sir, you know the Lakshadweep is an island from which you take some time to reach the mainland. The boats moving between the Lakshadweep and mainland do not move every day. There are only casualships moving between the two places. So, ten days' leave is taken only in reaching mainland. Entire leave period is taken only in transit. Sir, I would like the hon. Minister to look into the plight of the large number of work charged employees and permanent employees of the Government of India in the Lakshadweep.

Lastly, Sir, I would bring to your notice another point. We have a great project under the Department of Rehabilitation, namely, the Dandakarnya Project. I can demonstrate with the help of facts and figures that Dandakarnya Project is being neglected by the Central Government deliberately. Memoranda after Memoranda have been submitted by the employees over a long period. But, the Government is sitting on the pinnacle of power with inaction. The Dandakarnya Project Administration is not willing to give the Central pay scales to all categories of staff. They are not prepared to pay Central pay scales. There was an agreement (that certain principles will be implemented. The agreements were dated December 22, 1972, May 23, 1973 and May

24, 1973. Despite the fact that agreements were entered into between the authorities and employees, till today they have not been implemented. As a result the employees and workers of the Project have gone on a serious agitation. An agitation has been going on for several days. But, the Ministers concerned with solving this problem, the Department of Rehabilitation and the Ministry of Finance are keeping mum. Possibly they are more worried about infights in Bihar, infights in their party in Gujarat and the problems of the employees of Dandakarnya Project Administration go unnoticed. They have not done anything at all in the case of about two thousand work charged employees who were retrenched in 1968-69. They have done nothing about settling the compensation cases of daily rated workers. They are still dodging the implementation of the Minimum Wages Act and other labour laws in respect of the employees of the Dandakarnya Project.

I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to kindly look into these matters. A number of memoranda have already been submitted to the Government, the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister. I will once again enumerate their main demands for the benefit of the Minister. Their demands are very legitimate and simple. They have got three demands, namely. (1) Central pay scales should be given to all categories of workers doing similar jobs as in other Central Government organisations like Delhi Administration with a provision of 15 per cent of the posts being in the Selection Grade

Sir, secondly, that the staff and workers who are rendered surplus due to decisions of the Government to transfer assets, institutes created by the Dandakarnya projects to respective State Governments, etc., be given the benefit of redeployment to the Central Personnel Cell of the Department of Personnel. Thirdly, that the Department of Rehabilitation and the Dandakarnya Project Administration implement the two agreements reached with the Dandakarnya employees—non-gazetted—on December 22, 1972, on May 23, 1973 and on May 24, 1973. (*Time bell rings*).

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Sir, I conclude by again urging upon the Government that while they continue to profess along with high priests of big business like J.R.D. Tata and K.K. Birla the slogans of *xuribi hatao*, and socialism as of their politics of camouflage, let them at least take care of these specific questions affecting the low-paid employees; let them at least take some concrete steps to prove their credibility. In fact their credibility has been so low that people in Bihar, people in Gujarat, people in the entire country are agitating to replace not only their State Governments but even the Congress Government at the Centre. Sir, unless, therefore, (hey see the warning, the writing on the wall and take steps to solve the problems of the employees—I gave very specific instances—it will not help. Let them, if they have courage, take concrete steps to solve these problems rather than coming to this House with the grandiose schemes and grandiose Appropriation Bills which really protect a>"d help the cause and interests of the monopolists and landlords. Tha' k you, Sir.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT (Haryana): Mr. Deputy Chairman. Sir. Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, while speaking on this motion today, referred again to the story of Mr. K. K. Birla, son of Mr. G. D. Birla who wants not only indirectly to control the political angle of the country but also directly by coming to the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha. To Lok Sabha they had come earlier for one term and ultimately they were defeated. Now again, Mr. K. K. Birla, the supposed champion of democracy and free views, is trying to win over votes from different political parties for coming to Rajya Sabha. Sir, I am referring to this because something happened when Mr. Bhupesh Gupta was speaking about it. Four members of the Congress Party and four members of the CPI in the U.P. Assembly have jointly issued a statement—and the Finance Minister of U.P. also has clarified—that Mr. Birla is not a Congress nominee and he will not get Congress support. But still Dr. Mathew Kurian and Mr. Bhupesh Gupta spoke. I would like to clarify the position.

As we in the Congress Party understand, he is standing for the Rajya Sabha. The

U.P. electorate has given a very clear verdict this time that in spite of so many parties standing they have voted for the party and not for individuals and Independents. That is why very few Independents have won. And Mr. Birla could not get people to support him, to propose his name, and only Mr. Piloo Mody's party—probably on Mr. Piloo Mody's instructions—found one Swa-tantra Party member to propose his name. I can understand his standing if there are some 40 Independents and some of them voting for him. But knowing fully well the present political situation in Uttar Pradesh if he is trying to stand and win over votes, it can be possible only by inroads into other parties by getting cross-voting. And I learn that he is giving one lakh per vote.

SHRI P. K. KANJACHEN (Kerala): He is coming in defence of Birla. Shame!

श्री सुलतान सिंह (हरियाणा) : मेरा प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है कि बिरला, डालमिया या किसी भी पूंजीपति को कंस्टीट्यूशन ने खड़ा करने के लिए डिमक्वालिफाई नहीं कर रखा है। एज एन इंडवीजुअल आज कोई भी देश में इलैक्शन लड़ता है तो हम को इस हाऊ का सहारा लेकर इन्डाय-रेक्ट कनवेंसिंग करने को इजाजत नहीं होनी चाहिए। यह मेरा प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है और मैं इस पर आपकी रुलिंग चाहता हूँ (Interruptions) मेरा बिरला से कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है। हर एक को राइट है खड़ा होने का। मैं इसमें आपकी रुलिंग चाहता हूँ।

(Interruptions)

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN: Why do you come to his defence, after all? . . . (Intemptions) . . . Why do you come to Birla's defence? You can at least maintain silence.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, my hon. colleagues Mr. Sultan Singh and Mr. Ranbir Singh may have their independent views that this Parliament, this Rajya Sabha should not be used for canvassing against a candidate, should not be used as a forum.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RANBIR SINGH (Haryana): If anything can be proved in the case of elected Members, their election can be set aside-*(Interruptions)*. Therefore I have every objection even to the speeches of Mr. Chandra Shekhar, Mr. Krishan Kant and others.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Now you understand our apprehension?

SHRI OM MEHTA: What the two Members from my side have said is something different, they are referring to the question of principle, but I again repeat that the Congress Party has nothing to do with Mr. K.K. Birla.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: I would like to say on the floor of this House, irrespective of whatever my friends from my party have said, there is the present danger of pollution of political life in the country which is very real. What happened in Gujarat and what is happening in Bihar is condemnable but it must be understood why that situation has arisen. That situation has arisen because our political life is being corrupted by vested interests. This is the clear position. In a House of 424 Members where there are no independents or where there are only three or four independents, when a moneyed businessman stands there, with whose support is he standing? Is it not the right of this House and of the Lok Sabha to be vigilant about the situation? Why is he standing? Well, we have had such an experience in Bihar. Our colleague in the Congress Party, Mr. Sheel Bhadra Yajee stood for election and he was defeated. He filed an election petition and the ballot boxes were opened and it was found how Members from different political parties had voted. He went to the extent of getting it proved that money has changed hands. Is it not right at this moment of time when Gujarat was burning and when Bihar is burning that we

should see that corruption of political life is prevented? Is it not the duty of the Members of this House for which Mr. Eirla is seeking election to examine with whose support he could come? Is it not pollution of our political life? Is it not the duty of this House to raise the matter and say we should be alive to the situation? Every vote got by him will be an insult to parliamentary democracy, will be an insult to the whole system which we want to save. My friends here say everybody has a right to stand for election. Yes; everyone has a right to stand for election. If it was Lok Sabha one could understand that because there are masses of people who will be voting. Here out of 424 people there can be no method of »inning unless there is cross voting, unless there is inroad made into political parties. I want to save my political party; I want to save my political colleagues in the State Assembly.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You wanted seven minutes and you have taken seven minutes.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: There were interruptions. Congress and CPI members jointly issued a statement, and it has come in the papers today, that it is a danger. Mr. K. K. Birla told the students who went there that we want freedom. You should allow me to stand. This is not freedom to corrupt. This is nothing but freedom to corrupt as has happened in the country. It is a danger to parliamentary democracy. Democracy will not survive. Neither I will survive nor you will survive. There will be some kind of dictatorship . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: It is clear that he wants to use black money to purchase MLAs in what is called Darul-Shaf, sitting in MLAs quarters. One lakh per vote he is trying to give. There must be a voice against this form this august House whose Member he is trying to become.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I have demanded an investigation.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: It should be investigated. Sir, I want to say that the Congress party has put up seven candidates in co-operation with CPI. We want to get all the seven candidates elected. As regards Mr. K. EC. Birla we have not given him any support, as was clarified by the Finance Minister of U.P. in the Vidhan Sabha if some MLs cross-vote, many Congressmen are going to oppose them and revolt against them. Those who cross-vote should not be allowed to remain in those parties whether it be the Congress party or any other party because the whole credibility of the parliamentary democratic system is under challenge. When I am speaking here, it is not a question of one man standing and then things are judged. The point is how does that person dare to stand when there are only three independent members and he knows it. That is why I want to say that the Congress has nothing to do with it and it can still continue with other parties. I think he must get a good lesson that henceforth these vested interests do not dare to enter the political life and try to corrupt it with black money.

SHRI RANBIR SINGH: On a point of personal explanation . . .

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI (Uttar Pradesh): Will the hon. Member be pleased to say if your party has taken any subscription for the U.P. elections from Mr. K. K. Birla and others?

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: No, no. Nothing.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

श्री रणबीर सिंह : आन् ए प्वाइन्ट आफ पर्सनल एक्सप्लेनेशन, सर । हमारा इस बात से कोई संबंध नहीं है कि के० के० बिड़ला का हमारी पार्टी ने खड़ा नहीं किया है किसने किया है उससे हमारा सम्बन्ध नहीं है, हम दोनों इस बात के हक में हैं कि हमारी पार्टी के नामिनी जीते । जो मैंने कहा

उसका यह मतलब था कि जो हमारा चुनाव का कानून है उसकी तहत कहीं ऐसी बात न हो कि कल हमारी पार्टी के जीते हुए—जिनमें आप भी होंगे—नुमाइंदे जो आएँगे, कहीं उनके खिलाफ कल को बिड़ला या कोई और करप्ट प्रैक्टिस के नाम से कोई इलक्शन पेटीशन फाइल करके हमको जगड़े में न डाल दे । इसलिए यह बात अर्ज की गई । यह तो, जैसा वह कहते हैं, पार्लियामेंट के फोरम का अधिकार है लेकिन पार्लियामेंट के फोरम को अधिकार है कानून को बदलने का । चुनाव के कानून को हम बदलें, इसके लिए हम उनके साथ हैं, भूपेश गुप्त जी के साथ हैं, लेकिन चुनाव के कानून के तहत कहीं हमारे जीते हुए प्रतिनिधि, जिनमें हमारे डिप्टी चैयरमैन भी होंगे, उनके इलक्शन को कोई सेट असाइड न कर दे इस बहाने से, यह एप्रिहेन्शन है, जिसकी बेसिस पर हमने पोइन्ट आफ आर्डर रोज किया । तो हम तो चाहते हैं कि चन्द्रशेखर जी और आप जीत कर आएँ और मेम्बर रह सकें, कोई डिमक्वालिफाई नहीं कर सके, इसीलिए हमने यह अर्ज किया है ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, now the Minister will reply.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think on this question of Shri K. K. Birla, the position has been made specifically clear by the hon. Member from the side of the Congress party and if it requires to be stated again I would state that Shri K. K. Birla is not a candidate on behalf of the Congress Party.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN: What about the enquiry?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: We have brought to your notice a number of allegations and repeated them. I am sure you are aware of them. Are they wrong allegations that we have made and brought forward?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is replying to you.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Whatever allegations against a certain industrial house have been there, they are in the process of investigation; they will continue to be investigated; there is no point of getting out of it. The difficulty is, when you raise a question like that, instead of raising a general question of norms, propriety and values of parliamentary democracy, you try to lump together the Congress Party—Mr. Iyagi tried it. Instead of raising the issue to a higher level, you are defeating the very purpose. What is the use of talking about corruption in 1974, coming as a virtuous group of political persons, as if there was no corruption in your time? The question of corruption would have to be fought at the level at which it would have to be fought, instead of your thinking that corruption can be fought by putting everything on the Congress Party and not isolating it—and I appeal to my friend, Mr. Krishan Kant—from the other general basic political questions. There are very dark forces in the political life of this country today which want to utilise this question, because it is a general question. You can always want to utilise it. What happened in Patna and partly in Gujrat. That is so far as that question is concerned. There are certainly...

SHRI RHUPESH GUPTA: Many things I have said. You should tell us at what stage is the investigation about foreign exchange, etc.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: So many times I have indicated and I have answered this question. These investigations will continue.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: Do not forget that there is a saying 'Physician, heal thyself.'

SHRI K. R. GANESH: I put that to you also. I am a Minister for the last few years. You also have been in power for a long time. Do not talk of corruption and teach us all that. We are carrying a very important load. Don't bother. There is one more important question of investigation. About the question about Mr. Guha, yesterday I answered this point—this had been coming up for the last two

or three days—in the debate in the Economic Offences (Inapplicability of Limitation) Bill. As far as Mr. Guha is concerned, he belongs to the Income-tax Department; his tenure was finished. He got promotion in a substantive post. He was brought back to his department. Sir, there is another answer—as I indicated yesterday, he is vigorously pursuing whatever investigation are to be pursued.

Leaving these aside, there are specific questions which the hon. Dr. Kurian has raised. He mentioned about the extra-departmental workers. I can assure him that I will personally look into it. As far as Calicut City is concerned, Mr. Gopjan and Mr. Swamy also mentioned to me about it. Calicut City will not justify it because the Census figure as published does not give any urban...

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN: I said that Calicut and Feroke should be under one agglomeration under the same principle.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: I will personally look into this because extension and reclassification are being done on the basis of the 1971 urban agglomeration to which Calicut today does not justify because it has not been mentioned. I agree with him that dearness, high cost of living, at Calicut is there. It is a matter which I think will have to be taken at a different level from the present technical level.

As far as Lakshadweep is concerned. I do not have the information about the work-charged employees. As far as the application of the pay-scales not only to Lakshadweep, but also the Andamans, Delhi and all the Union territories are concerned, they are being separately processed. There is no question having any Pay Commission for them. There has been a delay but a Special Officer has been appointed, and it is being processed as early as possible.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: What about the other point about Mr. Umrao Singh?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: You have asked us to look into it and we will look into it

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN: Danda-karanya?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: I will and out.

Sir, these are some of the points raised. I commend this. . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The lion. Minister has said that he would look into the matter. It is a serious matter about the Revenue Minister of Punjab. He should tell the House, if possible before ve adjourn, what is the result. He can look at the photostat. Mr. (Jmrao Singh is a director of a company.

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from -and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 1974-75, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now lake up clause •onsidera-tion ol the Bill.

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

Clause 1, the Enacting Form id a and the Title were added to the Bill.

SH111 K. R. GANESH: Sir, I .vove: "Ihat the Bill be returned."

The question was put and the motion was adoptuT

ANNOUNCEMENT RE. GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MI DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have Jo inform Members that the Business Advisory 4 ommittee at its meeting held today the t 6t March, 1974, allotted time as

follows for Government Legislative Business to be taken up during the current Session of the Rajya Sabha: —

Business

Tinu allotted

1. Consideration and return of t.h. following Bills, as passed by the l" k

Sabha : -(i) The Railway

Appropriation

Bill, 19743 hours

(it) The Railway Appropria.- *)
lion (No. 2) Bill, 19741 1 hour

it) The Railway Appropria- f
lion (No. 3) Bill, 1974 J

(w) The Appropriation Bill,
19711 hour

(!•) The Gujarat Appropriation "
(Vote on Aci->un f) Bill,
1974

II hour

"30 minutes

(vi) The Gujarat Appropriation Bill,
1974J

The Committe recommended that in order to be able to complete the Business, the present Session be extended and the House should sit on Monday, the 25th March and Tuesday, the 26th March, 1974 and that there would be no Question Hour on those days.

We adjourn till 2-30 P.M.

The House then adjourned for lunch at twenty-seven minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-three minutes past two of the clock. The Vice-Chairman (SHRI V. B. Raju) in the Chair.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 176 RE. SITUATION IN BIHAR

श्री योगेन्द्र शर्मा (बिहार) : उपसभा अध्यक्ष जी कल गृह मंत्री का जो ध्यान बिहार की स्थिति पर हुआ उसको हम लोगों ने बहुत ही ध्यान से सुना । उस बयान में यह जो बात कही गई है कि वहां पर स्थिति अभी बहुत ही गम्भीर है अभी भी बहुत ही चिन्ताजनक है मुझे अक्सर के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि वहां