

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : How can it be done ?

( Interruptions )

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN ( SHRI V. B. RAJU ) : I am not allowing any discussion on anything else.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Sir, this is a matter of procedure and you cannot allow a particular honourable Member in the House to offer his own remarks without your prior permission and bring the discussion to an abrupt close. Other points of view also are there...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, if he shares my view, then he should be allowed to speak.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN ( SHRI V. B. RAJU ) : Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, I have called you to speak now on the Appropriation Bill. Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, I am not allowing any debate on anything else.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : How can I be, Sir ?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN ( SHRI V. B. RAJU ) : This has to be closed now.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : As I said, Sir, somebody gets up without your permission and says something. This must stop.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN ( SHRI V. B. RAJU ) : This has happened. Now, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, I request you to speak on the Appropriation Bill.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, he also got up without your permission.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN ( SHRI V. B. RAJU ) : All right.

### THE APPROPRIATION (No. 3) BILL, 1972—(Continued)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA ( West Bengal ) : Sir, the Budget Session is coming to a close and it would be worthwhile if we do a little stock-taking. After all, during this Session it was expected that Parliament would take certain steps seriously for the implementation of the commitments made to the electorate at the time of elections of March last. There was the slogan voiced by the leaders of the ruling party including the Prime Minister that they would take

steps to implement the slogan, or, what they call, "garibi hatao". There was again and again the slogan that they stood for growth with social justice and speeches were made sometimes against the monopolists and the other vested interests. Sir, these were welcomed by all sections of the people although many of them may not have faith in some of the leaders of the Congress and in whatever they say in their election speeches. All the same, Sir, the nation rallied to these important slogans which more or less expressed the hopes and aspirations of the vast millions of our people. It is, therefore, reasonable to ask now as to where we stand at the conclusion of the long Budget Session.

Sir, the Budget Session is supposed to deal with the economic policies and should initiate policies and it should be an index of the way things are moving. Therefore, Sir, we are thoroughly disappointed at what has been done and this Session has been more or less a *status quo* Session as indeed, the policy of the Government seems to be, in many ways, one of *status quo*.

We found that the Budget itself was what it used to be called at one time, the Pedestrian Budget. It did not take any action against monopoly capital or other vested interests although it did not go all out in the old way, Morarji style, to attack the people. Even so certain taxes were imposed which affect the common man, his standard of living and his living conditions—such as the tax on kerosene and so on. I would not like to go into all those things.

Then we have other measures. None of them, none of these measures can be regarded as something radical, in conformity with the spirit of the mass movement, the spirit in which the elections have been fought and won against the forces of right reaction and against the vested interests.

Now the Congress election manifesto is there. The Prime Minister or some of her colleagues in the Government who were responsible for the various ministries should have worked out concrete plans for implementing the election manifesto of the Congress in so far as the items relating to the functions and the work of the given ministry are concerned. That was not done. The ministries went on in the old way and the election manifesto and the talk about social justice in this House and elsewhere have remained. Now, is this how we are going to implement the pledges given to the people at the time of the election when the toiling masses had expected prompt and vigorous measures for certain

changes, structural changes in our economy and measures in other spheres of our national life? Now, surely that is not the way to advance or implement the Plan. One of the reasons is that the bureaucrats are having an upper hand and many of the Ministers are really conditioned in the hands of the bureaucrats—not that they have no personality but somehow or other they get more or less conditioned by the environment in which they function. And we find that there is a certain obstruction by the bureaucracy to a few proposals that are being mooted in Government circles for implementing the given pledges for progressive measures to the people and the electorate.

On the top of bureaucracy today is the ICS. I have been told that some are retiring by the end of this year, names have been published, some 14 or so, I am told, are retiring, maybe more, it appeared in the newspaper. And simultaneously we are told that they will be appointed as Governors, many of them will be appointed as Governors. May I know since when it became the commitment by the nation that the ICS people, after retirement must be made Governors and Ambassadors and so on or put as heads of some Government bodies or semi-Government bodies? I strongly protest against this policy of the Government which seeks to appoint retired ICS people as Governors. Now this is, in principle, obvious. ICS people and their functions are subordinate to Parliament and Legislature. And when they go as Governors they become really superior to them in some ways because, after all, they assume the same status in the same way in relation to the State Legislature as the President is in relation to Parliament. We cannot tolerate such a step. Therefore, I think this should be put a stop to. Certain concessions have been withheld, I am told, but why the Bill to abolish the privileges which the ICS enjoys under article 314 is not being brought forward? Tomorrow I shall come back to the subject when the Bill comes here. Privy purses have been abolished but the ICS people are not being taken care of and their privileges continue to the shame of all of us. And this Government does not have the courage to prepare a Bill and bring it forward to get it passed even though they know very well that practically all in this House will support the abolition of the special privileges of the ICS people.

Now here I invite your attention, before I come to some economic points to this. I have got a photostat copy. It is —

# NATIONAL DEFENCE FUND

ANDHRA PRADESH STATE PEOPLE'S DEFENCE  
COUNCIL

Re. 1/-

Chairman

signed by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, the present Chief Minister.

Sir, according to my information these are being sold widely in Andhra Pradesh. They do not contain serial numbers, as this photostat copy will show. They do not contain counterfoils. These are being printed in a private press in Andhra Pradesh. That press is owned by one Shri Bhakur B Hanuprasad and now, Sir, this gentleman is figuring in many scandals in the State of Andhra Pradesh from which you have the privilege of coming. We do not know what steps the Central Government is taking. I am informed that lakhs and lakhs of rupees are being collected by selling this kind of Defence Fund bonds of rupee one denomination. They do not carry serial number, they do not have counterfoils, but carry the signature of the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Mr. Narasimha Rao who happens to be the Chairman of the Defence Fund. The Finance Ministry is directly responsible for it. What are they doing? Have they got any information that such a thing is happening in Andhra Pradesh? I understand the matter has been brought to the notice of the authorities concerned, but no steps are being taken to enquire into this matter. Why should these bonds be without numbers and without counterfoils and why should these bonds be published in a private press rather than in the Government Press? I cannot understand all this. This matter should be looked into. I bring it to your notice and I should like to have a reply from him. Andhra Pradesh has now become, if you permit me to say so, a source of scandal in high waters. Something should be done to put a stop to it. Well, Mr. Brahmananda Reddy may have gone, but the scandals continue. Who is going to remove them I do not know.

Now Sir, with regard to some of the points, I will firstly say something about the monopoly capital. I was very pleased, personally speaking, that many Members in this House from both sides, spoke very strongly against monopolists, demanded action against them and even nationalisation of many concerns coming under the 75 monopoly houses. I do not know what the reaction of the Government is, but if the Government is serious to the Parliament, surely they will respect the opinion, which has been expressed in this House and the other

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta]

House, against monopolists and for nationalisation of the concerns coming under 75 monopoly houses. What the Government has to say about it we should like to know.

Sir, we find the Government is backsliding on this entire issue. Instead of taking any big action, there is a tendency on the part of the Government to justify the continuance of monopoly capital and even to give more concessions to them. Shrimati Indira Gandhi's inaugural speech on March 25 was a shocking performance. I am told that it was prepared by some economist in her Secretariat. Sir, we do not know the ways of the Prime Minister's Secretariat. We are told that there are many eminent people sitting there. Sir, the person who has written the speech should be summarily removed from the Secretariat. He has copied it from an outmoded, conservative, pro-American economist of Pakistan and on the basis of a paper produced by him, his ideas were spelt out to the nation through the so-called inaugural address at the session of the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Sir, this is rather shocking. There are many ideas that they are trying to develop. The first one is that of a joint sector. It is not the joint sector about which we were told in the Dutt Committee's report. It is the joint sector in which an attempt is made to perpetuate monopoly capital with an open, direct patronage by the State, even by participating in them. Now, Sir, it will be a sad day for the country if the Birlas and the Government were to run joint concerns in the country. In our country it would not only be retrograde development, but it will be a clear violation of electoral pledge to the people and of the commitment solemnly made by the Prime Minister and other leaders of the Government. This preposterous idea of joint sector should be abandoned here and now and no quarter should be given to the theses that are being expounded by some people in authority in order to build up a new type of collusion between the bureaucracy and the Government on the one hand and monopoly capital on the other.

What is needed today is complete nationalisation of monopoly capital, one and all. Monopoly capital cannot be amended; it has got to be ended. You cannot treat it to good health; it is poisonous, it is ruinous. All that you can do is to do away with it, abolish it, by nationalising the hundreds of concerns

which are under the control of the 75 business houses named in the Monopolies Commission Report, who between them control nearly Rs. 5,000 crores of industrial assets in the private sector accounting for 53 per cent of the total industrial assets in the private sector. That is what should be done. Some of them have grown enormously even after the Monopolies Commission; for instance Mafatal has grown by 174 per cent. Birlas and Tatas similarly have grown enormously. I do not wish to give those figures because they have been given again and again in this House. What the policy of the Government is I do not know except that they are now developing new theses. One point I would like to mention in this connection.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव (बिहार): आप तो दावा अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं कि उनके रिलेशन्स क्या हैं।

श्री भूपेश गुप्त : आप जानते हैं तो ठीक है। Then you should support me.

So far as foreign investment is concerned, non-banking business investment has become a menace. We gave the slogan of Purna Swaraj and economic independence. In our Independence Resolution we stated to the nation that we shall do away with foreign exploitation. In fact, the Swadeshi Movement was conceived with the idea of doing away with foreign exploitation in any form but we find this continues. Even after independence according to the latest document supplied to us by the Ministry of Finance we find the total foreign non-banking business investment comes to Rs. 1,298 crores of which direct investment amounts Rs. 756 crores and the so-called capital investment, the portfolio investments, come to Rs. 463 crores. Now you can understand that this figure is a very high figure and if you compare it to what was the position in 1948 you will find it has risen from Rs. 256 crores in June 1948 to this figure of about Rs. 1,300 crores. Should it happen? Why should we allow such things to happen, I cannot understand. If you look at the break-up of these things, you will find that plantation accounts for Rs. 122 crores, petroleum Rs. 196.4 crores, manufactures Rs. 581.2 crores, chemicals and allied products Rs. 177.6 crores. Such is the position. Vital industries are in their grip. Services account for Rs. 274.1 crores. Now, what are you doing about this? I should like to know what your policy is. You are talking about self-reliance; what

about ridding the country of this kind of exploitation and plunder as a result of which every year we are losing hundreds of crores in foreign exchange which are sent abroad as foreign remittances under various heads like commissions, dividends, interests and royalties and so on. How to save the situation is the question. Now I do not see any policy of the Government, not even an indication that they are going to do anything to curb foreign monopoly exploitation in our country.

Now, Sir, oil should be nationalised; sugar and textiles should be nationalised. Yesterday we heard much about sugar. Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed is so depressing a figure nowadays that the moment he talks hearts begin to sink here. Yesterday everybody pointed out how the sugar magnates are amassing money by plundering the cane-growers on the one hand and fleecing the consumers on the other and how sugar is selling in the black market at a price of Rs. 3.50 per kg., and yet no action is taken. Why the sugar industry should not be nationalised, I cannot understand. But then Sir, sugar should be commandeered; Government has got enough power; Government has got the weapon in its hand. Why the stocks of sugar with the monopolists should not be seized? Why the stocks with the wholesalers should not be commandeered in order that they can be distributed among the consumers at reasonable prices? Why this step should not be taken, we cannot understand.

Now, Sir, again, with regard to textiles no steps are taken. The textile industry should be nationalised, and other industries also. I mentioned three—textiles, sugar and oil in particular apart from other industries, because they are vital industries. Nationalisation of these is long overdue and there should not be any delay on the part of the Government. Therefore I say action should be taken against these monopoly houses. Nationalisation is the demand of the nation today. Congress, Communists and others, whether in Parliament or in seminars or in other joint forums, together raise the voice that these monopoly houses should be nationalised once for all. Why the Government, if it is democratic, if it pretends to be democratic, should ignore the voice of the nation expressed in so unmistakable terms in this Parliament, and also outside in the seminar held in Delhi, when two Ministers of the Government, Mr. Mohan Dharia and Mr. Vidya Charan Shukla, lent their voice in support of the demand for nationalisation?

Sir, then let me come to other points.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, because your party...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Let me proceed and finish the other points

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : Your party has consumed all the time. Your party has already taken all the time meant for your party.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : All the time? The debate has been extended also all the time. Now I am finishing. Why everybody is speaking all the time? And now why are you saying 'all the time'? The debate should have ended two days ago.

Now with regard to other things, one or two things I may just mention. I would not say much about the ceiling business. It is going on; I do not know; it is like the football passed from one player to another and never reaching the goal, from this committee to that committee, from Kumaramangalam Committee to Subramaniam Committee, from the Chief Ministers' committee back to another committee. Dribbling is going on all the time in so far as the ceiling is concerned. Interpretations are being given. Meanwhile, the landlords are seeing to it that the lands are transferred and arrangements are made in order to evade whenever the lower ceiling law comes into operation. Why this kind of thing? Therefore, two things are important. Put a stop to it. Implement the decision as indicated originally, the decision of the Central Land Reforms Committee.

Eighteen acres being the maximum limit, there should not be any discrimination between land which is irrigated from private sources and the land which is irrigated from Government sources. It is an absolutely wrong discrimination and differentiation and that will defeat the very purpose of the ceiling. Besides, Sir, implementation is very important also and steps should be taken. Therefore, this thing should be given retrospective effect from 1969. Somewhere a date should be fixed in the middle of 1969, and everything should be stopped. All the transfers made since that period should *ab initio*, be declared invalid and cancelled, and the land should be seized. Cooperation of the peasant should be taken in order to bring

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta]  
about the redistribution. But then, Sir, our Ministers have violated the ceiling law. Shall I name the Ministers?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa) : Yes, please do if you have the courage.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Many of them had large holdings. Of them, one has admitted, Mr. Narasimha Rao has himself admitted that he was having a lot of land. The others who were also having the same lot of land, seem to have transferred the excess in the names of their wives or somebody else, that way. Therefore I say this step should be taken.

Effective steps should be taken. There should not be any more delay in this matter. Enough has been said. Why should the Prime Minister get angry when Mr. Subramaniam suggested a lower ceiling? Mr. Subramaniam is not a hot revolutionary in this country. Instead of getting angry with him, she should have welcomed his suggestion. I do not understand whether it is a drama or some arrangement between the Ministers to speak in this manner but the fact remains that nothing is being done.

What is going on is sabotage. The landlords' and kulak's lobby is a very powerful lobby and the Chief Ministers of some States are champions of this lobby. The Maharashtra Chief Minister Mr. Naik, is champion No. 1. The Andhra Chief Minister is champion No. 2. There are other Ministers also. The Punjab Chief Minister is kowtowing it. Who are these Chief Ministers? They seem to be the products of kulaks. Kulaks seem to have produced not only foodgrains, but they have brought about a green revolution in the Ministries also having backed the Chief Ministers in this manner. So, we should be very careful about it.

Now, I do not know it. The Tata Zamindari Abolition Bill is being withheld by the Government here. Though the Bihar Assembly has passed the Bill unanimously and though the Bihar Government also stands for the abolition of it, the Central Government is not giving consent. I do not know why the Central Government is not giving sanction.

With regard to industrial and labour relations, the Labour Ministry has failed to help the process of evolving good industrial and labour relations in the country which are urgently called for. The Secretary of the Labour Ministry is a Pro-employer, pro-monopolies man. I am told Mr. Naik or Mr. Nair,

whoever he is, he is the Secretary. He is a pro-imperialist man, a pro-monopolies man. He is sabotaging everything. Why is he not removed from that position? That should be the last place for him to be posted and yet he continues to be there. I cannot understand it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : That will do.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : There is a serious matter which I wish to bring to your notice. I understand a Naxalite prisoner, Mr. Ashim Chatterjee, who is lodged in the Hazaribagh jail is being treated in the old way. The British used to treat prisoners with all kinds of chains around them, fetters around them. We are told that Mr. Ashim Chatterjee who is an undertrial prisoner, is being treated in the same inhuman way in the Hazaribagh Central jail as the British used to treat political workers in the old days. I am told something has been put around him. We call it 'Hashuh' in Bengali. I do not know its English equivalent. He is under all kinds of inhuman treatment. The Central Government should certainly look into the matter and ask the Bihar Government not to indulge in this kind of atrocious behaviour towards a political prisoner. Till he is proved guilty, he is innocent. Nobody should be treated in this inhuman manner and that too in the latter part of the twentieth century.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : You have made your point.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Mr. Tapan Chunder, a political worker and a person belonging to the Baranagar constituency, has been put under arrest under the MISA. I have got a letter from Mr. Shivapad Bhattacharya, M.L.A., and he has drawn my attention to this kind of misuse of authority and power in the hands of the Government. This also may be looked into.

Before I sit down, I would ask the Minister to divulge the names of the film stars, managers producers and others whose homes have been raided and how much has been found. A so-called labour leader of Visakhapatnam seems to have a bank balance of 5 lakhs, apart from a huge sum in cash in his own house. I do not know why the Government should not divulge the names of the film stars and others. In fact, it should be known to the country, the film stars and others if they accumulate money.

**SHRI LOKANATH MISRA** The film stars help them in canvassing for the Congress R and CPI

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA** I do not know but at the moment he is speaking as an ex-film star. Our friend has been a film star and he left it. I wish he had been in the film industry and he would have done better than in the Swatantra Party (*Interruption*) Now, Sir, the Government should divulge what amount has been found, what are the names. We should know it. A halo has been created around them. All right. But they should not get away by evasion of taxes by accumulating black money.

Finally, before I sit down, the only thing that I would like to say is that there is no policy about unearthing the black money, for which purpose we need the demonetisation of the higher denomination notes. Why this is not being done even after the report of the Wanchou Committee, I cannot at all understand and I hope certain steps will be taken in this direction. But as I said before when I started my speech, we are disappointed at the performance of the Government during the Budget Session. Instead of giving a lead, they trail behind the events. In fact, they have done very little to justify the confidence the people reposed in them. Surely it is not the way to implement the mandate of the election manifesto. I again appeal to the Members of the House in whom I have faith. They have fought bravely during the Budget Session, this side and that side, many of them fought bravely for the implementation of the radical declarations and pledges given by the Congress leaders at the time of the election. I hope the battle will continue not only on the floor of Parliament but also outside in a much bigger way, in a united way. Here is an occasion when we should combine together. I am not asking you to implement my party's election manifesto, I am asking you to implement your own party's election manifesto. That is why.

**SHRI LOKANATH MISRA** What about the printed pamphlet of Mr. R. P. Goenk?

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA** Whether it is printed with his money or somebody else's, we are not concerned now with it, we are concerned now with their election manifesto. We are not concerned with the printing press, we are concerned with the manifesto. I do demand. Implement your socialist manifesto. There should not

be any arrangement in the Congress by which the members of the Congress Party are silent. There is an attempt to silence the Congress Party people also. But I am glad that powerful voices have been heard from that side of the House in support of the implementation of the election manifesto of the Congress Party. Intrigues and manoeuvres will not work. We know that the Tatas and the Birlas are working overtime to pressurise the Government and the higher authorities, some of them have even come closer to people in high authority and are pulling wires. I warn the Government—if such things continue, it will be a betrayal of the great confidence that the people reposed in you in this election, for fighting not only right reaction but also for taking the country forward, for bringing forward the measures needed for the socio-economic changes, for radical agrarian reforms, for the elimination of monopoly capital and for justice being done to the down-trodden, suffering and exploited masses.

I thank you.

**SHRI HABIB TANVIR** (Nominated) . There are three or four points which I want to raise, about matters relating to art and culture which, I think, in any case, appear to get very little money in the Appropriation Bill as compared to other heads of expenditure. Even so, whatever money is being allotted to matters cultural, a more organised way of handling these funds could perhaps yield better results. So far, the results have been very unsatisfactory. Matters of art and culture seem to be divided among some three, if not more, Ministries—the Education Ministry, the Information and Broadcasting Ministry and also the Ministry of Tourism. Even the Ministry of Housing and such Ministries as the Ministry of Iron and Steel have got special allocation of funds for cultural recreation, sports etc.

Now, talking about the Education Ministry, there has been a lot of thinking about the Academies. Right now, there is an agitation among the artists, painters—I mean regarding the formation of the General Council of the Lalit Kala Akademi. Last year the Chairman of the Akademi convened a meeting of the artistes, art critics and art historians of established fame from all over the country. They got together and made a 13 member committee and with much thinking and after many deliberations drafted a new Constitution making for electoral colleges which ensure greater control of the affairs of the Akademi by the artistes.

[Shri Habib Tanvir]

rather than the present method of forming the General Council in the manner that many people totally unrelated with matters of art get represented on the General Council and conduct its affairs. That Draft is before the Khosla Commission which, as far as I know, was to submit its report soon after April. I believe they are now going to submit it by August.

While this is happening, right now the General Councils of all the Academies are being formed apparently on old lines. I know the artistes are very worked up about it. I feel equally agitated because what they have evolved can be of use to other academies also. We have got certain ideas about this regarding drama and music also. So the Sangeet Akademi and the Sahitya and Natak Akademi should be put on a different footing. It is the wrong type of structure which will result in a lot of waste of funds despite very good intentions.

Sir, I am not going into the details whether the moneys as allocated to these academies are being utilised properly or not or how far they are being utilised with satisfaction, with vision and some kind of justice. The statistics are before me. But when one looks at their heads of expenditure one finds that out of about Rs 23 lakhs allocated for the Sangeet Natak Akademi, one comes to realise that about two-thirds goes towards establishment only leaving just one-third for the promotion of art and culture of the entire country. This strikes one as very startling and a bit unfair, to put it mildly. The Lalit Kala Akademi if I am not mistaken, is paying Rs. 4 lakhs annually towards rent of offices. It would appear to a layman—and I consider myself a layman in this matter of statistics—as fantastic because the Government gives the money by one hand and takes it away by the other hand. With this much money in a few years an excellent new building could be made. These are affairs which need to be corrected. The artistes' opinion should also be considered for what it is worth as to how the Akademi should function. The Khosla Commission are still considering the functioning of the Academy. I am not saying they must expedite it though they have taken some time over it. Till the time they submit their report, perhaps some *ad hoc* arrangement for conducting the affairs of the Akademi at the present moment might be more suitable than to go ahead with the formation of the General Council which will

come to stay for as long as their constitution demands, maybe, perhaps five years.

The other thing I wanted to ask was as to how much of the moneys of the Sangeet Natak Akademi was going towards the promotion of folk culture, folk art and folklore and the conservation and preservation of the folk culture of this country. My reading is that towards recording of folk music and filming of folk dances etc, not even 2 per cent. of it goes. Now I do not claim that it is possible for one centralised body to do the whole thing. One single body can hardly look after the entire field of this multifarious, multi-linguistic and rich culture with over so many distinct intricacies, with ever so many dialects and shades. It requires to be visualised on a much more decentralised and much more autonomous basis; at the State level, at the district level, and at the village level, this needs to be organised. Now the Akademi can hardly look after this properly as long as they remain so centralised as they are to-day. If the State Akademi are not responding, there must be some kind of a change brought about so that they feel more responsible, there is more incentive and this thing really goes to the district level. Or if this is not practicable, the only other alternative is to establish a new national Akademi of folklore as distinct from the Sangeet Natak Akademi, because, as I said previously, this country, by and large, is a country of rural culture, being an agrarian country, and this needs to be not only preserved but further perpetuated, promoted and developed. I think, the Education Ministry should be able to do something in the matter, on similar lines as for instance the Itihas Parishad. Also in the matter of social studies and anthropological surveys, there are separate bodies looking after these subjects. I do not see why the Sangeet Natak Akademi's work in folklore should not really be delegated to a separate body looking after the folklore of this country. Even in the matter of classical music—it is so academic a work—I am inclined very strongly to believe that universities such as the Banaras Hindu University probably will have a richer store of the recordings of classical music than the Sangeet Natak Akademi, for which once again I do not blame the Sangeet Natak Akademi. I feel the work that is being given to them is perhaps wrong. Perhaps universities having special departments could be delegated the responsibility of looking after these things. I hereby the Akademi work could be lightened and much better results could perhaps be produced by them.

Regarding the records of folk music, the Education Ministry, under the cultural exchange programme, buys records and books. These records are being prepared by gramophone companies with very heavy foreign interests. They are dominated by foreign interests and whenever these gramophone companies are making records for private institutions which are looking after folk research and folk music, they do not give them the right to sell these records on a commercial basis. So these people gain nothing. But if these private institutions doing research in folklore were given the right to make their own records, then the Education Ministry can buy from these institutions the same records of classical music and folk music and thereby the profit which now goes to these foreign-interest-dominated gramophone companies, can go to these institutions, to the great advantage of the workers in the field of research in Indian folk music and folklore. (*Time-bell rings.*) One more point I am finishing. The rest I will take up on another occasion. In reply to an unstarred question of mine, the Information and Broadcasting Ministry has come out with information regarding exclusive recordings of several great Ustads and classical musicians like Faiyaz Khan, Bhairo Khan, Bundoo Khan, Bade Ghulam Ali Khan, Thakur Onkarnath and so on. Out of these, the recordings of Thakur Onkarnath and Rasoolan Bai have been played in the National Music Programme for 90 minutes each during the last three years. Now I do not see why the I & B Ministry should not go in for making commercial records of these themselves, thereby depriving the foreign-interests-dominated gramophone companies of their huge profits, and letting the people enjoy more of our great music. Today classical music is very, very, lucrative. It is being sold all over the world and these gramophone companies are minting money by classical music. Sir, if you allow me a minute more I will wind up. The same stands for the Song and Drama Division, the condition of artistes in the Song and Drama Division, the rent for their inadequate office premises Rs. 9½ thousand per month and more than 80 lakhs annual expenditure—I am not questioning this expenditure—much more money is required, no doubt—but the results are poor. And there are some glaring deficiencies in the service conditions of artistes. There is discontent amongst the artistes of the Song and Drama Division. I will just cite one example, and that is in the case of confinement due

to maternity of young ladies. While the ordinary law is three months' leave, it cannot apply to the actresses because theirs is hard physical work and it is very demanding and during pregnancy they are not expected to and they cannot possibly undertake acting. So there must be a different law for them in regard to granting more leave with salary to them so that they are protected, so that they do not take recourse to irregular methods of taking leave. Alternatively, scrutiny and screening must be done before actresses are enlisted not only for work on the stage, but also in the wardrobe in the matter of sewing and stitching costumes so that during pregnancy they may be given work which they can comfortably do. Therefore, I request that a different law be made for them so that during that period they do not lose their job, they do not lose their salary.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, I am thankful to the honourable Members who have taken part in the debate on this Appropriation Bill. The debate has been extensive. The debate has been lifted to dimensions of policies. The debate was characterised by the performance of some of the new Members who have adorned this House. I am quite sure the House, listening to a great writer and dramatist, Shri Habib Tanvir, must have been benefited by the various problems that are confronting us in the cultural field. Shri Harsh Deo Malaviya, who comes to this House with some knowledge and experience of the various problems which socialist movements in this country and outside face, also made a significant contribution. I am sure the House enjoyed the performance of the two lady Members whose expertise on the problems of tourism was placed before the House and it would surely help the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism; I am sure the Ministry would take advantage of some of the very important suggestions that they have made. As I said, the debate was lifted to new dimensions and though very many concrete issues have been raised, by and large, it has been a debate on matters of policy. We are conscious, the Government is conscious, and the party that is running this Government is conscious, that the people of this country have given us a mandate, a mandate which signifies structural changes in our society, signifies radical transformation of various institutions, signifies



[Shri K. R. Ganesh]

a breakthrough in realising the objectives for which the nation has stood. Shri Bhupesh Gupta asked in the House that we should implement our Manifesto and that he was not asking us to implement the Manifesto of the Communist Party of India. May I submit in all humility that we have made a very serious attempt to implement the Manifesto. I could bring to the notice of the House that the General Insurance has been taken . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : That was done before your Manifesto.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Will you permit me to speak ? The Nationalisation Bill has to come before the House. The Coking coal mines have been taken over . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : That was also before the Manifesto.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Discussions are taking place on ceiling on land and urban property and Members have got a little disturbed or concerned—some genuinely and some basing on their own political attitude—on the question of urban ceiling as well as land reforms. I can state here categorically, that this Government . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : The trouble is that we are concerning . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : Let the Minister speak undisturbed.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, there is no going back from the election Manifesto of introducing ceiling in this country ranging between 10 and 18 acres. The Conference of the Chief Ministers and the Party and Government leaders with the presence of the Prime Minister, to which the hon. Member Shri Bhupesh Gupta referred, was a very serious conference. Shri Bhupesh Gupta must realise that in a matter like ceiling and agrarian reforms, many forces have got to be confronted. Nowhere in the world has it been done in the manner we want to do it. It is a most serious question of India's development and this meeting was a serious effort to come to a consensus and to come to grips with this problem. I can state here that most State Governments have their ceiling legislations on the anvil and there is no question of going back on the ceiling law

and other agrarian reforms. Like Shri Bhupesh Gupta and other democratic forces in the country, we are conscious of this fact that agrarian reforms . . .

AN. HON. MEMBER : You are describing him as a force.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : The hon. Member does not like this kind of formulations. There is now a change in the Government and I hope the hon. Member will realise that. Yesterday one of the hon. Members from that side was saying that we are all quacks. I may submit that two years ago we tried to do away with quackery when some of the hon. Members from this side have gone over to that side. We have now come down to consider our problems relating to economy and social life on the basis of certain scientific understanding, after having done away with quackery. I was trying to submit that this Conference to which Shri Bhupesh Gupta referred has taken serious decisions about land reforms. He was not properly informed when he said that the Prime Minister became angry with some remarks made by an hon. Member or a senior Minister of the Government. It was not what the Press might have reported. The fact remains that serious discussions took place and the various difficulties that are there before implementing this decision were taken into account. Coming to the ceiling, the hon. Member from the Jan Sangh side said that his Party also stands for ceiling.

[Mr. Deputy Chairman in the Chair]

3 P. M.

But, Sir, he tried to confuse ceiling with the question of income of the farmers in the rural areas and he tried to confuse the other issue of ceiling on income and partly between the rural incomes and the urban incomes. Sir, this is the best way of scuttling any genuine land reform. Sir, land reform is a basic question of India's development and land reform means, Sir, liberating millions of people . . .

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : श्रीमन्, लोक सभा में कमल नाथ तिवारी ने क्या कहा था—याद है ?

श्री के० आर० गणेश : मैं जो कह रहा हूँ, गवर्नमेंट की बातें कह रहा हूँ। वे कहते रहें।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : वे कांग्रेस की बात कह रहे हैं। आप तो अभी कांग्रेस के क्वैक्स में से ही हैं।

SHRI K. R. GANESH : That is the Government's point of view.

SHRI J. P. YADAV : You have not yet completed your Congress life.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, I heard the honourable Members for ten hours and I think it is my time now. Let them also hear me. Sir, there may be formulations which may be very bitter to them.

Sir I was trying to say that the Jan Sangh Member was trying to confuse the basic question of agrarian reforms with the question of ceiling, with the question of income. Then, Sir, another honourable Member said that you won't have much land to introduce any ceiling law and so, why have the ceiling law? Now, Sir, I was submitting that this is the best way of diverting the attention . . .

SHRI J. P. YADAV : What is your opinion? What is your opinion about it? Have you decided on it?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Yadav, he is dealing with his opinion and yet, you go on asking about his opinion. He is giving his opinion now.

SHRI J. P. YADAV : Sir, he is confusing the matter.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, may I submit one thing? I have very categorically stated here without any equivocation that this Government and the Congress Party stand for ceiling on land as given in the Election Manifesto of the Congress Party and there is no going back from it. I have stated that very categorically . . . (Interruptions) . . . My words are very clear.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : It has stood for ceiling all these twenty years. But, what has been done to implement what it has been standing for? You have taken twenty years.

SHRI J. P. YADAV : You have not been able to decide at the Chief Ministers' Conference.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Yadav, let him continue.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, I was trying to submit in answer to the point raised by Shri Bhupesh Gupta . . .

अरे भाई, बोलने दो। कहां की यह डमोक्रेसी है, जरा हमें बोलने दीजिए। रोज सुबह से शाम तक आपकी सुनते जाते हैं। जरा आप भी सुनने की आदत सीखो। डिमोक्रेसी बोलने से नहीं आती। डिमोक्रेसी सीखो।

Sir, I was submitting that there is no going back from the question of agrarian reform as as has been indicated in the Election Manifesto.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Let him complete, please.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, the honourable Members belonging to the Jan Sangh, Svatantra, CPI (M), etc. have given a picture of India. . .

SHRI J. P. YADAV : Not CPI.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : . . . have given a picture of India in which there is unemployment, in which there is price rise; in which there are various problems. Sir, there is no disputing these facts. Sir, the Government is not disputing that there are these problems; the Government is disputing that there is poverty in this country; the Government is not disputing that there is price rise; the Government is disputing that we have the phenomenal problems of unemployment; the Government is not disputing that there is black money. We have supplied you figures also. No doubt, Sir, there is black money and the Government is not disputing that. Sir the point is what strategy we should follow to solve these problems. Some programme . . . (Interruptions) . . . Sir, may I seek your protection?

Sir, the Government is not disputing that these problems exist. The point is what is your strategy.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Does the soap-box speech need any protection ?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE : (Uttar Pradesh) : What is a soap-box speech?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I was submitting. . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : He needs soap because there is so much dirt in his linen because Mr. Lokanath Misra works in the Swatantra Party.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : There is a difference between a soap-box speech and a theatrical performance. And soap-box oratory has come into the vocabulary of political thinking. Some hon. Members give theatrical performances also but that is a different thing.

I was submitting that a picture of India has been given by some of the hon. Members in which they see nothing but darkness, in which they see nothing but stagnation, nothing but failure of the Government in solving the problems. But I submit another picture of India.

During the last 2½ or 3 years the people of this country have risen with a new hope. There is a new awareness, there is a new dynamism, there is a desire for social change, there is a desire for pushing the country forwards the objectives that we have set before ourselves. Now the great political developments that have taken place, the great change that has taken place and which has manifested itself in the Mid-Term Election, which has manifested itself in the elections to the various State Legislatures, which has manifested itself in the new hope and awareness of the people is also the picture of India. It is on this picture of India, it is on this positive picture of India, it is on the basic strategy picture of the Government with a policy and programme for national re-generation that we wish to build a new India of our dreams. Those who see only darkness and in that darkness cannot see light, cannot be the builders of the nation. They can be good critics, they can be good orators on the soap-box or be theatrical but they will be good only to that extent. But when it comes to the question of building up a new India you have to see the positive side of it and I have tried to place before this House the positive side of it.

The Appropriation Bill and the Budget which this House has discussed is only one instrument in the hands of the Government to bring about and achieve certain desired economic and social objectives. I would submit for the consideration of Shri Bhupesh Gupta that the total strategy the Government has been following may not be to the entire satisfaction of the hon. Member but it is an honest strategy which we have been following and that has got to be seen. In this connection I may cite the action of nationalisation of general insurance, the action of taking over the coking coal and copper, the action for conversion of loans into equity, the action of participation in management of enterprises, the action of credit orientation of nationalised banks and the action for differential rate of interest. I may also cite the determination of the Government to introduce agrarian reforms and urban property ceiling, the setting up of the Committee for studying the problem of Agricultural Income-tax, the Taxation Law (Amendment) Bill which has passed through the Select Committee and also the various recommendations which the Government will accept as far as the Wanchoo Committee is concerned and which will be formulated in the form of a comprehensive taxation law Bill, and various other measures which are there. All these represent the total strategy which the Government is following.

In our election manifesto we did not call for the taking over of the 75 monopoly houses. What we had called for is attacking the concentration of economic power in a few hands and to see that concentration of economic power does not take place and selectively taking over those industries which are necessary in the interests of national economy and allowing in the present transitional stage of our development the growth of productive forces

Sir, I wish to submit that during the last few years, since the change has taken place, since we got rid of some of our old friends and since the new desire in the country has arisen, a new hope and a awareness are there.

I would submit Sir, that the social investment which the Government has been making in various 'Heads' constitutes a very formidable figure. This social investment goes to save the purchasing power of the people, to help one section of the people, or the other to help the vulnerable section of society and

this itself constitutes a very significant budgetary allotment that the Government has been making

Then, Sir, we have given interim relief in two instalments amounting to Rs 106 crores in one instalment and Rs 38 crores in another instalment. The food subsidy that has been given amounts to Rs 100 crores and may go to about Rs 200 crores. A provision has been made for the dry farming areas, for nutrition, for the crash unemployment programme for unemployed and educated unemployed, and the drought and flood relief. More than about 22 per cent of credit has gone to the private sector during the last three years. Then, there have been various other agreements that have been entered into by the workers with their employers. There have been the wage awards and the bonuses. All these things reflect, I may submit in all humility, social investment made to help the working masses, to see that the erosion of the conditions of living of the working masses are not affected by price-rise and this amount itself constitutes about Rs. 300 crores to Rs 400 crores which should not be lost sight of because with the revised strategy of development and distributive justice, an attempt is made here and now to see that this distributive justice percolates through a larger section of the society as far as possible.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA** What about the Defence Fund?

**SHRI K. R. GANESH** I will come to that

There are certain concrete issues which the hon. Members have raised. I would like to give some reply to them.

Sir, the hon. Member, Mr. Kaul, raised a point whether it was correct to appropriate from the Consolidated Fund of India the corpus that was raised.

This is a financial matter. I would submit that this is not the first occasion when the corpus of the Contingency Fund has been increased without recourse to an Appropriation Act. In 1970, the corpus was raised from the original of Rs. 15 crores to Rs 30 crores. The Ministry of Law was consulted on that occasion on the specific issues whether the amendment to the Contingency Fund of India Act raising the corpus of the Fund from Rs 15 crores to Rs. 30 crores should be followed by an Appropriation Act under article 114 of the Constitution or whether the law itself should be

sufficient for the purpose of transfer of the Funds from the Consolidated Fund to the Contingency Fund. The view expressed by the Law Ministry was that the law creating the Fund itself could provide for the necessary transfer of Fund from the Consolidated Fund to the Contingency Fund and that no separate appropriation was necessary. The Comptroller and Auditor-General was also consulted in the matter and he agreed that no separate Appropriation Act was necessary for the withdrawal of money from the Consolidated Fund for enhancing the corpus of the Contingency Fund.

A number of States had also raised the corpus of their Contingency Funds by Ordinances followed by an Act but without having recourse to Appropriation Acts.

Immediately after Bangla Desh had achieved its political freedom, the Government of Bangla Desh was faced with the stupendous task of rehabilitating its economy. For this the Government of India had to offer assistance in a big way and speedily. As the available budgetary grants and the Contingency Fund could not accommodate fully the heavy commitments which Government had to make by way of aid to Bangla Desh, an immediate augmentation of the corpus of the Contingency Fund became necessary. Hence an Ordinance was promulgated by the President on 9th February 1970 to raise the corpus of the Fund from Rs. 30 crores to Rs 100 crores during the period from 9th February 1972 to 30th April 1972. Before the Ordinance in question was issued raising the corpus of the Fund from Rs 30 crores to Rs. 100 crores the Ministry of Law was consulted. However, as the hon. Member has expressed some doubt about the legality of the procedure we have no objection to have the matter re-examined. In fact the matter has already been taken up with the Ministry of Law for further consideration.

**SHRI MAHAVIR PRYAGI** (Uttar Pradesh) The Ministry of Law is also part of Government and they already stand committed to the policy as mentioned by the hon. Minister and if their opinion is sought again they will support what they have said. So it must be some independent authority who should examine the Constitutional provision and then decide. If the same Law Ministry's advice is sought you will get only a repetition of their earlier opinion.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Tyagi they have not taken the opinion of the Law Ministry on this occasion.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : He said that the Law Ministry's opinion was obtained.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : That was on an earlier occasion in 1970 ; not on this and that is why it is being referred to the Law Ministry.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, much has been said about the preformance of the public sector enterprises. Shri Misra raised it and other hon. Members also raised it. The performance of the public sector enterprises has been discussed time and again in this House. . .

SHRI B. K. KAUL ( Rajasthan ) : Can I have a copy of the opinion which you have read ?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : It will be in the record.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Yes ; I have read verbatim.

The performance of the public sector enterprises has been raised here time and again. For some hon. Members public sector enterprises are responsible for all the ills that are there. It has become like a whipping boy and they go on whipping it whenever they feel like it. We have given facts and figures to show that the public sector enterprises constitute the basic economic foundations on which the economy of the country has to be built. It is true they have got many problems and those problems have got to be solved. The Government is conscious and aware of those problems but there are certain positive facts which I thought I could submit for the information of this House. In 1968-69, 41 enterprises earned a profit of Rs. 66 crores; in 1969-70, 48 enterprises earned a profit of Rs. 71 crores ; in 1970-71, 50 enterprises earned a profit of Rs. 74.9 crores.

श्री नवल किशोर : स्टील की क्या पोजीशन है ।

श्री के० आर० गणेश : स्टील की पोजीशन साफ है । उसमें लास हो रहा है । उसकी पोजीशन कोई नई नहीं है ।

श्री नवल किशोर : श्रीमन्, जो इनकी आदत है किसी चीज को दुर्लक्ष नहीं कर पाते हैं, ऊपर से गुस्सा करते हैं ।

I would request you and through you the hon. Minister that he should not lose his temper.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I am not losing my temper.

श्री हर्षदेव मालवीय (उत्तर प्रदेश) : आप की बात का जवाब दिया है, टेम्पर नहीं लूज किया है ।

SHRI K. R. GANESH : That is the way of my. . .

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : रजत जयंती जो होने वाली है उस पर भी बता दीजिये कि क्या खर्च हो रहा है ।

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I was saying about enterprises incurring profits. As far as losses are concerned in 1968-69, 32 enterprises incurred loss ; in 1969-70, 33 enterprises incurred loss.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI (Uttar Pradesh) : Why don't you give the figures of losses ? In the case of profits you gave the figures.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I will give the figures. In 1968-69 it was Rs. 94.18 crores ; in 1969-70 it was Rs. 75.9 crores ; in 1970-71, 37 enterprises incurred a loss of Rs. 78.3 crores, leading to a net loss of Rs. 3.4 crores. Apart from this the public sector enterprises have made a gross profit in 1970-71 of about Rs. 342 crores and because of large provision for depreciation which is Rs. 187.7 crores, interest is Rs. 126.3 crores and social costs is Rs. 22.9 crores, the overall net loss is lower by about Rs. 1.5 crores as compared to 1969-70.

Sir, apart from this, many enterprises have reduced their losses, and some enterprises have gone in the red. They were there, and the figures relating to them have already been supplied.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI (Maharashtra) : May I know from you how many enterprises have eroded their capital completely, or to what extent ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I will give you that figure.

Now, Sir, as far as foreign exchange earnings are concerned, foreign exchange earnings amounted to Rs. 364.8 crores in 1970-71 as against Rs. 316.1 crores in 1969-70 as per the details that are there.

Now, as far as employment is concerned, the total number employed from 1968-69 to 1970-71 has increased from about 5 lakhs to about 7 lakhs. The total emoluments paid have increased from Rs. 250 crores to Rs. 337 crores and the per capita earnings have increased from Rs. 4,264/- to Rs. 5,430/-

Now, Sir, my only object in placing these figures is that hon. Members should not merely go by the difficulties that the public sector undertakings are facing today. The public sector undertaking have to be placed in a commanding position if we have to make any dent in and reduce the concentration of economic power. And even those public sector undertakings which are facing difficulties, managerial difficulties, difficulties of utilisation, difficulties of industrial raw materials, and various other market factors that are there, even they should play a very important role in building the edifice of the economy that we want to build. But I may not be able to convince those hon. Members who are basically opposed to the public sector as such.

Sir, the hon. Members have raised the question of black money and arrears and evasion of tax in connection with this Appropriation Bill also. Now, this has been discussed. Even yesterday the question of the Wanchoo Committee was discussed. Government is aware and conscious of the fact that black money is playing havoc with our economy with our social life, with our morals, . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I may tell you; one of your Ministers here in Delhi was trying to buy a house worth Rs. five lakhs by asking the people, the prospective seller, to show it as Rs. three lakhs something, and probably on the condition that remaining portion will be paid in black. Now I would not try to bring more facts to the notice of the House. I am just waiting. I will take the House into confidence. I have got definite information that the approach was made by that money, was advanced for buying a house worth Rs. five lakhs by showing it as worth Rs. three lakhs and odd with the condition that the rest would be paid in black.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, you are unnecessarily taking the time of the time of the House by bringing in this matter.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Then the deal did not go through because one of the sellers refused to sell. And then the advance money was refunded. Now this has been done by a Member of your Government. I am now informing you of this. I will try to find out who he is. If you do not, it will prove that you are incapable of knowing your own man, and later I shall divulge the whole thing on the floor of the House.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, when you get more concrete proof, you can give it to the House.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Though I am in possession of very concrete proof, deliberately I have not given the facts and figures. I have just indicated it today. I would watch for the Government, what the Government does with regard to this matter.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : You are a barrister but you are now functioning as an accomplice by not divulging the truth. He is a barrister himself but he is functioning as an accomplice now.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Please do not carry on a personal debate here.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : On a point of personal explanation, Sir, when I was a barrister, I do not remember. There is no accomplice business here. I will reveal it in due time. But, for the time being, this is enough.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : All right.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, I was submitting the problem of black money and saying that the Government is conscious of the presence of the black money and that the Wanchoo Committee was set with the object of finding ways of dealing with the black money. That Committee's report is there and it is under the consideration of the Government.

The Consultative Committee of Parliament is going to discuss it, and a conference. . .

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : Sir, may I ask for one information ?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Sir, I would request. . .

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, I cannot go on like this.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Sir, a serious allegation has been made against a Minister.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Lokanath Misra, we are not having a debate on what Mr Bhupesh Gupta has said. He has said that he will come to the House at a later stage.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I may give this information. The house actually is valued at Rs. 5 87,500 and it has been registered at the instance of the Minister, who was going to buy it, at Rs. 3,25,000. The balance amount of Rs. 2,62,500 was promised to be paid in black.

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MAIHUR (Rajasthan) : He must be asked to give the name of the Minister.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No, no.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Later on.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Unless you have got documentary proof and show it to the Chairman, you cannot offhand come and say it. I am sorry, it will go off the record if you persist.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : I want to seek one clarification.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Let him continue.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : The Minister has referred to the Wanchoo Committee's recommendation with regard to black money. There was one point which was raised, but the Minister has not yet replied. Are the Government going to take any steps to amend the company law to browbeat the companies into contributing to the parties' political funds? Would they also agree that all the political parties should be required to submit accounts?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The Minister has just started replying. You do not know

what he is going to say. Please have some patience and let him continue. If you are not satisfied, at the end of his speech you may ask for clarification.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, I was submitting that the Wanchoo Committee has made recommendations dealing with the problem of black money. Now, the question of considering the Report of the Wanchoo Committee is being seriously taken up by the Government. A special cell has been set up. This I have said only yesterday in Parliament. The Wanchoo Committee has made some very important recommendations. These will be discussed at a meeting of the Consultative Committee. It will be discussed at a seminar of eminent economists, chartered accountants and other academicians who are interested in this problem and the Government will come to conclusions. All recommendations that are necessary to deal effectively with this problem of black money, wherever it may exist, will be considered and I am sure the Government will take steps. We are conscious of the fact that the problem of black money has to be got tackled. Otherwise, it will give a very distorted picture of the entire economic and social life of our country. As a result of the interim recommendations of the Wanchoo Committee, the Taxation Law (Amendment) Bill is there. It is meant to take care of the Benami transactions that take place. When that Bill becomes law, the Government will have statutory power to take control of the property which has been sold in a Benami transaction through under-valuation and in which black money passes and is converted into white money.

As the House is aware of the information we have given from time to time, the tax arrears have been reduced. This year about Rs. 70 crores have been collected in cash. The total arrears have been reduced by Rs. 100 to Rs. 110 crores. Collection of the current taxes also has been speeded up. As the House knows we have reached the target of about a thousand crores, as far as this year is concerned. In this connection, the hon. Member, Shri Bhupesh Gupta, had asked the names of film artistes. Tomorrow I will reply to a question in the other House.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Which?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : On this particular question about the names of the film artists,

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I have asked for it.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : You will please agree that it is not possible for me to remember all the names that are there.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Give some, whichever you remember. I am not blaming you. You can give whichever names you remember.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra) : The names of Mr. Dev Anand and Mr. Shakti Samanta have already appeared in the papers. What is the secret, I do not understand.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : At least three names. On a point of order. I do not want to harass him. As you know very well, the hon. Minister has not taken the stand that he will not divulge it. He has said that he will reply to a question and the names will be given in the other House. Now, the Government is not seeking protection, and Government is in a position to give the names. I have raised a very relevant point in connection with the debate on this Appropriation Bill. Therefore, you give some names.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I will submit that we are answering a question. It will be very difficult for me . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : This is treating this House with discourtesy.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Why are you intolerant, absolutely intolerant ? I am giving you the information. But it is not easy to remember the names of all the artists.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Give at least some.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I will give some names—Dev Anand, Om Prakash, Dharmendra, Shakti Samanta, Asha Parekh. The other lady's name, I do not immediately remember.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You do not even remember the lady's name ?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : You will not remember the lady's name ?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : He is not a cinema fan. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. R. GANESH : There was a specific question he had asked about a trade unionist whose house was searched. The name of the trade unionist is B.A.G.A. Narasinga Rao. He is an ex-MLA. He is the President of the Dock Workers' Union, Visakhapatnam. Sixteen thousand rupees in cash, besides evidence of six deposits worth about Rs. 5 lakhs in bank . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Wonderful. To which union he belongs ?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Dock Workers'.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You do not know. On a point of order. Are Mr. Ganesh and his Government so incompetent that they went to search the house and discovered money but did not ascertain to which trade union he belongs ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : It is not our job. Our job is to get at the cash, to catch the documents or money.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : He has given you the name of the trade unionist. What else do you want ?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Obviously, he is an INTUC man.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Does he deny that he belongs to the INTUC ?

SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT (Madhya Pradesh) : I can say that he is not an INTUC man.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Not an INTUC man ? So, you have disowned him ?

AN HON. MEMBER : May be of your union.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : What about the Defence Fund ?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE (West Bengal) : Let him answer. He is not allowed to complete his speech.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You continue with your reply,



SHRI K. R. GANESH : I was submitting just now that the Government is determined to deal with the problem of black money for which steps have already been taken. Other questions like unemployment, prices, non-Plan expenditure, overdrafts, Centre-State financial relations, all these general questions have been raised for which answers have been given from time to time. There are two or three specific...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Mr. Ganesh, I asked specifically about the National Defence Fund.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : He has not yet finished. And do not anticipate what point he is not going to say.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, there are two other specific questions which have been raised. One is about the Surveyor-General of India, which was raised by Shri Lokanath Misra. The information that I have got which I will share with the House is, the previous Surveyor-General, Brigadier J. S. Paintal, was retired recently, in April last. While making arrangement for filling up this post, it was considered desirable to take into consideration the recommendation of the Committee on Scientific Research which under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Bhagwantham had reviewed the working of the Survey of India for 1969-70. This Committee recommended that the post of the Surveyor-General should be filled by open selection of a person having high engineering, academic background and managerial competence. This recommendation of the Committee is still under Government's consideration, pending a final decision on the Committee's recommendation and pending a regular appointment to the post of Surveyor-General. Dr. Hari Narayan, Director of the National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad, has been appointed to hold interim charge of the post of Surveyor-General, in addition to his own duties. This arrangement is purely temporary. It is envisaged that there will be open selection for the post, in which scientifically qualified persons of the Survey of India would have equal chances with outsiders for being considered for this post.

SHRI MAN SINGH VARMA (Uttar Pradesh) : Why not Col. Sinha?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : We are not bothered about any particular person. That is

a very wrong way of putting things in the House. That is not our job.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Another question was raised...

SHRI MAN SINGH VARMA : On a point of order...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order. In the first place you should not name any person for a job...

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Mr. Varma is fully within his right when he asks, "What about Col. Sinha?" because Col. Sinha comes next to Mr. Paintal. Therefore, everybody expects that he would be in the temporary charge rather than a person from Hyderabad. Therefore, he made the enquiry.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The Minister said that there is going to be open selection and a competition.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Sir, when the Chairman is not there is it the Deputy Chairman who should take the Chair or any one out of the panel of Vice-Chairmen even when the Deputy Chairman is present in the House? Supposing one of the Vice-Chairmen takes the Chair how would you feel about it?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You need not say that here.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Where else can we say? On the railway platform?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Lokanath Misra, you should not use the forum of this House to canvass for any particular person.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : We are not advocating for any particular person. But with great astonishment I am now to remark that the Chair is making such an aspersion on the Member's version. What was sought to be said was that Col. Sinha is next to Brig. Paintal. When Brig. Paintal retires, Col. Sinha should be automatically in charge.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : If he is next he comes in automatically.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : He does not.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : In the competition he will come in automatically.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : I would request you to listen with a little patience. What has been said here is that when one person retires, according to the recommendations of the Committee they have decided to call for applications from outside and select a more suitable person. That is accepted. All right. We have no quarrel with that. But when the question of making interim arrangement comes the most obvious suggestion would be that the man next to the person who has retired should be given the interim charge till a permanent arrangement is made. This practice has not been adhered to. And a new practice has been introduced. If an hon. Member here points out this thing, I do not think he is trying to build or promote the interest of any one person as such. We are only asking about the practice.

SHRI MAN SINGH VARMA : I do not know who is Col. Sinka.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : That was an unhappy remark from the Chair.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I was submitting that there is another specific problem that was raised about the amendment to the Aligarh Muslim University Act. In the light of the Gajendragadkar a comprehensive proposal is being brought Committee forward . . . (*Interruption by Dr. Bhai Mahavir*) He wanted information on this and I gave the information. If the reply to the debate is converted into question hour, Sir, I will be sorry. I may very humbly submit that some hon'ble Members are trying to convert the debate into question hour. I have given specific information about specific points which the hon'ble Members raised that this is absolutely a temporary arrangement that has been made pending examination of the various recommendations that were made by . . .

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Does the hon'ble Minister think that by getting excited he will be able to meet the argument ? You are introducing a novel practice.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : It is his way of speaking.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Why should he introduce a new practice ? If he is not able to meet an argument, let him say that it has been done as a result of their whim.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : How am I to reply ? I must submit for your kind consideration that I have been continuously interrupted at every sentence. It is the way to reply to a debate. Then the hon'ble Member comes and says that I am getting excited. I am not getting excited. It is my way of speaking. It is a very straight way, a very honest way of speaking. Therefore, the hon'ble Member need not try to halt me at every step at every moment and then complain that I am excited. This is a very ingenious way of taking the time of the House.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : I am sorry if the Minister has taken us wrong. We did not mean to hurt him, we did not mean to cast any aspersions on him. What we are saying is, a new practice has been introduced. Neither the Chair nor the Minister should think that any Member is trying to promote the interests of any particular individual. We are only asking the Minister whether he has any explanation why a new arrangement, a special arrangement, was made by bringing a person from Hyderabad for an interim charge. Now, if there is no special reason, he can say that there was no special reason. We thought that it could have some special reason. If there is one, we would be happy to know about it. If there is no special reason, we will draw our own inference.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Bringing a new person from Hyderabad was an act of favouritism on the part of the Government.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : That is the obvious inference.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, I have given a reply to that. Coming to the high prices of steel . . .

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY (Tamil Nadu) : How can a poor Minister answer a question about Government's intentions ?

SHRI J. P. YADAV : He is answering for the Government.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY : On the spot he cannot answer for the Government. He must be given notice.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : A question was also raised about the High prices of steel. I

[Shri K. R. Ganesh]

would only give the reply that the hon. Minister gave in reply to the Steel debate, when a number of general allegations and statements had been made that our steel is very costly, why we are producing so little and so on. I would only appeal to hon. Members to appreciate that, by and large, our steel prices in the country do correspond very favourably with the international prices of steel and if we are able to bring up our production from the 65 to 67 per cent level, which it is to-day, to the level of 80 to 82 per cent, which we aim at, I have no doubt that we shall be able to bring our steel prices among the cheapest in the world. This is not my opinion alone. World Bank experts who have come and looked around have undoubtedly expressed their regret regarding the present level of production, but they have also said that on the basis of the present skill and organisation which we have got in our steel plants, if we are even able to go up to 80 to 82 per cent, we should be able to bring down the cost of steel substantially, and also substantially less than that in countries like Japan and the U. S. A.

Sir, the question of All India Radio has also been raised. I would only submit that All India Radio seems to have become an object of attack by some hon. Members and some parties because All India Radio is required to play a dynamic role in the situation that is developing in the country. It is not a partisan role or the role of any party, but a role in consonance with the Directive Principles of the Constitution, in consonance with the national objectives, in consonance with the socialist policies of the country. All India Radio has got to play a role as the mobiliser of the largest action of the masses so that they get involved in the task of national reconstruction, in the task of social transformation, in the struggle against communalism, in the struggle against all the naked forces of communalism, in the struggle for building a better society. In this All India Radio has to be an instrument and since All India Radio is becoming such an instrument, it is becoming the object of attack by some hon. Members. Sir, I think I have . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : What about my point ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : About the point the hon. Member raised, it will be communicated to the National Defence Fund Committee.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : It is called Andhra Pradesh State People's Defence Council.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : All the points that the hon. Member has raised will be communicated to the Prime Minister as the Chairman of this Committee.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I have produced the original of one of the receipts which contains no counterfoil and no serial number. It carries the signature of the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. I am told it is being sold widely. Where does the money go ? What is shocking is that it is printed in a private press owned by a former Secretary of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Thakur B. Hariprasad, who seems to be a hot favourite of the present Chief Minister. It should be investigated by the CBI. A CBI investigation is called for. It is a serious matter. Poor people pay for national defence. Now there is a strong suspicion that these spurious things are done to make money. This is printed in a private press. Why should it not contain a serial number ? You examine it. I am told it does not have a counterfoil. In every Andhra town these things are being sold. Chief Minister's signature is here, it is printed, "Chairman of the Fund", "Andhra Pradesh State People's Defence Council", "P. V. Narasimha Rao". It is signed here . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Anybody could get hold of a block. It is a fraud.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : No, this is a very wrong thing you are saying. Anybody can get a Deputy Chairman also. That is not the point at all. The matter has been reported in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly. It has appeared in the newspapers and responsible people have sent me. Now, the matter should be investigated by the Government. What is the use of drawing the attention of the Andhra Pradesh Government to it ? They know it very well. The matter came up in the Andhra Pradesh Legislature.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I have already replied to that question. The honourable Member had raised the same question. This matter will be brought to the notice of the National Defence Fund Committee of which Prime Minister is the Chairman . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Then convey it to the Prime Minister . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : He says there will be an inquiry into it.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Mr. Bhupesh Gupta knows. . .

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I say a CBI investigation is called for. You seem to be coming to his rescue. He is quite capable of defending himself. I say a CBI investigation is called for. Do you support it ? You get up for sugar cooperatives . . .

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Conscious of the responsibilities that this mandate has given to this Government, conscious of the new forces that have come up in this country, conscious of the new unity that has been achieved between all the democratic forces even though some Members on that side may not like it, conscious that a historic role has got to be played and our people have got to be mobilised in their hopes and aspirations, I am sure this Government will implement the various mandates that the people have given with these words I commend this Bill to the House.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE : Just want to say that the honourable Minister has not spoken a word about economy and austerity nor has he pointed out any positive steps taken so far in that direction. May I know from him whether there would be any ceiling on Government expenditure, that is, on the money being spent on the upkeep of the Ministers and other high dignitaries of the Government, and on their pomp and show ?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, do you want to say something ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : No, I have said enough.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, one point I raised about the Minister trying to buy a house. I would ask him to request the Prime Minister to call for an explanation from every Minister as to whether. . .

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1972-73 as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now we shall take up the clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

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

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

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir. I move :

“That the Bill be returned”.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

### DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 176

SUICIDE BY DR. V. H. SHAH, SENIOR AGRONOMIST,  
INDIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE,  
NEW DELHI, AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES  
RELATING THERETO

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : Before I take up the discussion, I have one submission to you. When this matter came up I suggested that we should be given chance to move a resolution for the appointment of a committee also or at least a chance to record our recommendation to the Government that Members of Parliament should be associated with the inquiry that may be conducted. Now, Sir, under this Rule, after the discussion nobody can give amendment to a Resolution of this kind. Therefore, let the discussion take place. But at the end of the discussion, you can give us permission to move a Resolution in order that we can recommend to the Government that the Members of this House should be associated with the inquiry. This, I think, is a reasonable demand and a compromise.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : But under this rule, there can be no amendment.